



Global Vaddo Charity

Providing hope and inspiration for the children of Goa, India

Newsletter....

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www.gvc.org.au

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Learning centre opens!

The 3 March 2009 was an auspicious day for the Global Vaddo Charity (GVC). We are pleased to have opened the first learning centre in Goa. Around 50 locals gathered in the classroom to be greeted by eager smiles of little boys and girls smartly dressed in their newly acquired clothes, shoes and hats provided by the GVC. The children aged between 3-7 years of age were gathered in their bright, spacious and colourful classroom with their teacher Rufa D'Cruz on contract with the GVC, Arifa Haji as teacher's aide and volunteer Dailia Fernandes.



Children at GVC's new learning centre

The official opening of the centre took place at the recently renovated GVC house in the small rural village of Cantorlim, Tivim in Goa, India. The centre was formally opened by prominent parliamentarian and member for Tivim, Mr. Halankar (MLA) and attended by local guests and other dignitaries. Assisting Mr Halankar on this momentous occasion was the local Panchayat (Mayor) of Tivim, Mrs Mrs. E. Ferrao

Prior to the opening, the children and their parents were interviewed to ensure they met specific criteria prior to admission. The children selected had not previously been to school and had spent their days 'hanging about' local rubbish sites. The children come from various religious backgrounds and are from the lowest socio-economic areas. The parents of most of the children have migrated from various parts of India and earn an average of \$30 per month all of their expenses, including rent and food.

On behalf of the GVC I welcomed the local Parish priest Father Fr. D'Silva and his assistant. The ceremony commenced with the blessing of the premises, and a prayer for the prosperity of the centre, the health and wellbeing of the children, their teachers and benefactors. This ceremony was followed by the cutting of the ribbon and opening of the Centre by Mr. Hallankar and Mrs. Mrs. E. Ferrao.



Official opening by Mr. Hallankar and Mrs E. Ferrao.

The learning centre opened with five children and within a period of two months the number of students grew to 12. This is the maximum limit for the current building we are operating from due to space restrictions. A register of children have been placed on a waiting list and at the end of June, half a dozen children had registered.

The GVC provides the children with free education, two snacks and one main meal per day from Monday to Friday. They are also supplied with all education materials, clothing, shoes and health care. At the end of May, the children were all bought a pair of sandals and raincoats to use during the monsoon months. Providing a secure environment is paramount, the children are provided with transport to and from school in the company of their teacher and teacher's aide.

Recent assessments on the progress of the children at the learning centre indicate very good progress. It is most likely that four of the 12 children will be prepared to move to mainstream school in the year 2010.

Evelyn Pereira é Robertson, Chairperson

Growing need...

Early statistics demonstrate an urgent need to help many more underprivileged children. The learning centre provides an opportunity for the children to gain an education that will help break the cycle of poverty within their families and the community at large.

The number of children who can attend the GVC learning centre is currently restricted due to the lack of building space. Our long-term vision is to operate the learning centre from a larger premise to allow us deliver broader educational services to a greater number of underprivileged children.

We need your ongoing support to help us raise funds to relocate to a new premises that will help so many more than the 12 children currently receiving education at the centre.

If you are interesting in running any fundraising events on our behalf please contact us at contact@gvc.com.au

GVC FINANCIAL REPORT

In accordance with the GVC Trust Deed and in compliance with the Corporations Act 1986, the GVC presented its 2007/08 financial records/statements for an independent audit through Abacus Accounting & Booking P/L in Hobart, Tasmania. The audit was undertaken for the period of 12 months (1 July 2007 - 30 June 2008).

The GVC first Annual Report was produced and can be accessed from our website at www.gvc.org.au. During the reporting period the GVC Trust raised a total \$47,022, being:

- \$4,423 Quiz Night
- \$15,507 Banquet Night
- \$4,027 Chocolate Drive
- \$13,000 Donations

An amount of \$5,208 was expended on operating costs and fundraising events in Australia and an amount of \$10,030 was transferred to the GVC's bank account in Goa, India.

The \$10,030 transferred, has been primarily used in preparation to set up and establish the GVC Early Learning Centre and other recurrent expenses.

As at 30 June 2008, the net earnings of the GVC were \$31,784.

Nigel Robertson, Member - GVC Finance & Audit Committee

Wine, cheese and laughter...

Please join us for a light-hearted celebration of the good things in life with our favourite MC and funny man, Gavin Baskerville. What better way to banish the economic blues than a glass of wine, a platter of cheese and a barrel of laughs in the company of friends? Talented singer/songwriter James Parry will entertain us with his distinctive brand of songs for the heart. A surprise item will be auctioned

GVC Fundraising Event

Date: Sunday 8 November

Time: 4 to 6 pm

Entry: \$15

Venue: TBA



Entry includes a glass of fine wine, cheese, crackers and six wine tasting tokens. A cash bar will also be operating, courtesy of Bream Creek wines.

Come along for a great evening - we'd love to see you there. All proceeds of course go to the GVC, making a better life for underprivileged children of Goa.

Reserve your ticket now at contact@gvc.org.au

Gail Cork, Member – GVC Fundraising Committee

Get involved!

In Australia

In Australia, GVC has established a number of sub-committees, including education and training, fundraising, and audit and risk.

If you have the skills and interest in assisting in the above areas, please register your interest by sending the following details to contact@gvc.org.au.

Overseas

GVC is currently compiling a register for volunteers in Goa, India. In particular, if you have skills and an interest in teaching English, maths or computer studies, please register your interest by sending the following details to contact@gvc.org.au:

- your full contact details;
- what skills you have to offer;
- your availability; and
- what you would like to do