

NEW DESTINY NEWS

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Life means hope



We recently received the sad news that two teenaged brothers who came to one of our camps last year, are now in prison for possession of arms and drug trafficking.

For many of these children, an experience at ND helps them to take a positive step in the right direction and marks the beginning of change. For others it is a significant turning point, a moment where they choose not to go into a life of crime and drugs or get involved with a drug trafficker.

Some seem colder, harder to read, but even they could one day find themselves crying out to God and clinging on to the words of hope that were spoken into their lives at camp.



Vanessa is 16 and lives in care. She came to ND for the first time a couple of weeks ago. Her dad

was murdered when she was seven and her mum died of AIDS when she was ten. She has been in several childrens homes, not to mention the two failed adoption processes, where both families changed their minds due to her being a 'difficult girl'. She said she feels very angry and frustrated inside and that the time at ND was very special for her. She can't wait to come back. Vanessa would like to go to Uni one day and study Administration.

We know that even in an over-crowded and dark prison cell God can remind two boys of the things they heard here at camp, and remind them that they are not alone. **For as long as there is life there is hope!**



If you pray, please pray for Vanessa and the two boys.

The rights of a Brazilian child

We now have magazines which we give out to the children at each camp, informing them in simple language about their legal rights as written in the '**Brazil Statute for Children and Teenagers**'. Many times they don't even know they have rights, so are completely oblivious to the abuse and other crimes which are committed against them.

Bringing the website to Brazil

We are very grateful to Ramin Lolachi and Luke Moodley who set up our **ND website** in 2005, and especially to Ramin who has continued to update and maintain it for the last couple of years. We really appreciate all the time and effort that has been put in to it. Thanks Ramin.

However we recently came to the decision that it would be easier for our team here to keep the website updated and make changes to it, if we had a web designer / technician here in Brazil. We are very blessed to have a volunteer called Rafael, a local lad, who is also skilled in this area. He has agreed to take on the commitment and is in the process of **transferring it to Brazil**. It is great to know that Ramin is still happy to help us if we have any problems!

Training



Ângela (far left) and Edilson (far right) receiving their course certificate.

In mid March, we held a marriage training course for all the couples on staff. It was an inspiring weekend led by Laurenildo and Filomena Santana, who spoke on the course that Fábio and I did in Curitiba in January. Everyone found it really challenging and encouraging.

We plan to run more **training courses** in the future.

Our goal is that these courses will help to raise awareness about our work with the children, as well as finance, and perhaps provide future staff, not to mention being a great resource for the people who participate in them.

At this moment we don't have the staff to develop this area to any great extent, as the team

here are committed to the work of the Adventure Centre as a priority, but we believe that God can bring the right team together and even a separate venue if needed, perhaps even the farm on the other side of the road which the Adventure Centre could also use for canoeing and other activities it would be a perfect site. **We are daring to dream big!**

Coming soon to a screen near you!

Luke Moodley arrives this week from Scotland, to film and edit a **New Destiny DVD** which will help us with advertising both inside and outside Brazil. It will be pretty much 24/7 filming and editing as he can only get 10 days off work. Thanks Luke – hugely appreciated!

We are also very excited about the projector, donated in response to a recent appeal, which will be arriving in Luke's suitcase which is to be used in the Adventure Centre and in future training courses. We can't wait to start showing films on a big screen at the camps!

Teddies from Down Under

The children at one of our February camps had a nice surprise when they were each given a really gorgeous cuddly toy. There were giraffes, camels, rabbits – you name it, and the kids loved them!!! Marcelle, an Australian friend of ND who was living locally for a while, received hundreds of them through the post from a contact back in her home town in Australia, who wanted to help disadvantaged children in Brazil.



We handed them out on the Saturday afternoon and the children (even the older ones) carried

them everywhere – to the dining table, to the pool side, on the hammock, they even showed up at the evening service! And on the Sunday as the bus drove off they waved them out the windows. Thanks Marcelle.

2008 Building plans

The plan is that by the end of 2008 we would be able to build **two more houses** on the farm, one for single staff (which we have desperately needed for a while) and one for a staff family.

We have been on the search for an **architect and /or engineer** who would be willing to come out some time soon, for a week or two, and help us to do the design plans for these two houses. We don't actually have the money to build them yet, but we are planning ahead in faith that we will be able to raise or access this money somehow.

Often **businesses and organizations** ask us if they can rent our facilities, which would be a huge fund-raiser, but they are always put off when they discover that our accommodation is so basic and for such few people.

We hope that the architect / engineer may also have time to do some drawings for three other buildings here at the Centre, which need to be renovated in order for us to improve and develop the accommodation and facilities for the camps and to attract paying groups which would help us finance more of the work.. Although these renovation plans would be for the future, it makes sense to get them done now, so that when we are at that stage, we can go ahead with the work.

It has been so encouraging to receive such positive feed back in response to this. We are glad that noone has taken offence to us asking! Hopefully by the time we send out the next newsletter, we will be able to tell you that the professionals are on their way!!!

New Activities

Fábio has just finished working on **the zip wire**. It looks great. In this activity the children have

to wear safety equipment and life jackets, as the wire stretches over a large pond.



The team has been acting as guinea pigs but this weekend we hope to run the activity for the first time ever at one of our camps!

Nick Robbins is a volunteer from Oxford who arrives at the end of April. Amongst other things he hopes to build a **wooden adventure playground**. He is fund-raising for the materials. One of his self-set challenges has been a 40 hour fast! We are really excited about him coming. Thanks Nick.

The team is growing

We are looking forward to the arrival of Waldir tomorrow. He is a Brazilian who first heard about ND when he was on staff at the Abernethy Outdoor Centre in Scotland! When his visa to go back to the UK was turned down earlier this year, he got in touch about coming to work here for a couple of months to start with, and then we'll see the emails have been going back and forward for some time and we eagerly await his arrival. He has **various adventure sports qualifications**, and has about **ten years experience working in childrens camps**.

Edilson and Angela (and their two children Jonathan and Nyara) have now officially confirmed that they are coming to join the team at the beginning of 2009. Apart from having seven years experience of running a childrens home in Belo Horizonte, he is presently doing a buildings and construction course at university and has lots of experience working as a **builder and site project manager**.

There are a couple of other possible staff members who may come to join the team in the not too distant future, which is why we so desperately need more staff accommodation. The bigger the team the more camps we can run which means more young lives impacted at ND – that can only be good!

How can you help?

If you would like to give a donation or become a monthly sponsor please see bank details below, and email or call our UK REP before or after as this helps us with our accounting. Thanks.

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Sort Code 83:22:19
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(*Remember that because this is our New Destiny Trust charity account, we get 28% tax back on every gift – a huge help to the work.)

Thanks for helping us to do this work.



Love from Morven & the New Destiny team .x.

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