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Plans for Building project



We are very excited about the recent visit from Bob Watts and his partner Jeannette. Bob has his own architects firm in Leven, Fife.

He came out to draw up plans for **two more urgently needed staff houses, the renovation of our big barn and for the house which provides accommodation for the children.**

Our plan is to renovate the house we already have so that it can sleep about 40 children instead of the present 18, and to turn the barn into a refectory, kitchen and big hall.

We are very encouraged by the way Bob has committed himself to this project and by how quickly he has caught our vision for the work here. Not only that but he is doing it all out of the goodness of his heart and at no financial gain for himself. His experience of thirty years in architecture is invaluable to us. I think it is

the first time though that he has drawn up designs for something where most of the money still needs to be found to do the work! We are just trusting that the money will come in once we have professional plans that we can send to possible sponsors. **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY CONTACTS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN HELPING FUND THIS PROJECT.**

It is going to make a huge difference to our work with the children.

Bob and Jeannette spent just over a week with us and now Bob is working on his plans back in Scotland. It was great getting to know them and welcoming them into our ND family, which just keeps growing!

We will keep you posted about any new developments.



More help arrives

Claire May arrived as a volunteer on 7th October and hopes to stay for two months. She has been an absolute Godsend and we don't know what we will do when she leaves, especially me as she is such a great help with my little boys Angus and Arran. She is doing a number of other things too such as trying to help me access trust funds that could help us financially with the building project that the architect is currently working on. She also helps with all the camps, throwing herself into the activities despite the language barrier. She has been building great friendships with all the Brazilian staff who are teaching her Portuguese. On Thursday afternoons she gives an English lesson to some of our staff which apart from being useful is proving to be the cause of great hilarity! We are all praying that she might feel called here in the future more long-term!!! (hint hint Claire) but are just grateful to have her for this period of time at least.



Alison Steel and **Dave Wands** (two staff members from Barcaple Outdoor Centre, Scotland) arrived on Tuesday for just over two weeks. They are helping us work on a couple of activities for the children. Thanks so much guys for the fundraising you are inspiring and have done yourselves. Great to have you with us!



Working with broken families

In October we received two families who a Project called 'Criança Feliz' (The Happy Child Project) have been working with. All the children have been in and out of childrens homes, and 'Happy Child' have been helping the parents to receive the children back in their homes again, which has obviously involved much counseling and psychological support. One of the girls was sexually abused by someone outside the family and one of the boys has been subjected to a lot of emotional and physical abuse, but they have all suffered the consequences of unstable and violent home situations, not to mention the heart wrench of having been separated from their other siblings and put in different childrens homes.

Sadly, one of the dads who was supposed to be bringing his four children, didn't turn up, and the couple who did turn up ended up coming alone with all the children. It was so sad. However we made sure it was a very special weekend for all, especially for the children who came without either parent. The oldest boy of this family is called Rafael and we discovered that it was to be his birthday a few days later and that he had never in his life had a birthday cake, present or party of any kind! Can you believe it? He is 15 years old. Desperately sad. So on the Sunday afternoon we threw a **surprise birthday party** for him and presented him with a

huge cake with his name on it and of course a present for him to open. As he walked in the door, we all sang happy birthday over and over getting faster and faster (as goes tradition here). He was so stunned that he couldn't even get any words out. We all hugged him and prayed God's blessing over his life – I don't think there was a dry eye in the place. Renan stood behind him with his hands on his shoulders and gave a little speech about the way we were all so impressed by his care and love for his younger brothers and sisters and the way he is such a great example. Renan encouraged him to never give up even when times are hard and to trust in God to help him through, always reaching out for his full potential. It was very moving.

Working with the whole family goes one step beyond helping the child and we will be continuing our work with families in the future.



Encouraging letters

Over the last year we have received a lot of letters from staff of social projects working in the cities, thanking us for the work of New Destiny which is complementing the work they are doing with children on a regular basis. These letters remind us of **the value of the work here at ND** and motivate us to continue developing the Centre in order to bless more children. Here is one such letter (which I have translated into English obviously!)

Dear Morven, we are already missing you all. I can tell you that the rain did not spoil anything for our children, it didn't bother them at all. They absolutely loved the camp and haven't spoken about anything else since. They already want to know when they can go back. Can I book three more groups in for next year? Well done for the amazing work you all do, you have no idea how much the children got out of it. They loved the story about Pieter – it touched each one of their hearts and when they got back they went round telling all the other children and everyone else here that they are really special. Isn't that amazing? Once again thank you so much for your love, attention and dedication. We desire to see God blessing all of you so that you can continue with this beautiful work for these children who so desperately need love, care and so much else, they so need the work you are doing.

It was a huge joy to meet you all and come to the beautiful farm. Lots of hugs and love from Jussara and all the children at ABAFE

(ABAFE is a community centre in one of Belo's poorest areas.)

Some staff news

Ted and Deirdre Collington (surrogate parents/grandparents to all on the farm!) are just back from a few months in the UK. They hope to be able to stay in Brazil until April 2009 when they will return to the UK again to apply for **missionary visas**.

Romeu and Michele's son Igor is nearly one already! They are all well. Michele is finishing her second last year at nursing college in Belo.

Me (Morven) and my family are coming back to the **UK in April 2009** for a couple of months with Morven's parents Ted and Deirdre. Please do get in touch with me on the Centre email address **if you would like me to speak about**

New Destiny eg in your church, work place or school.

The next **Santos baby** (this time it's a girl!) is due on 8th January.

Renan has begun a **recycling project** at the Centre with two motives in mind – for us as a community to become more eco-friendly and in order to teach the children about playing their part in looking after the earth.

He has also started up a **youth group** for the teenaged children of our staff workers.

Bookings for 2009

We now have bookings alternate weekends and in some months every weekend, right up to **September 2009**.

Please consider becoming an **ND monthly sponsor** so we can have a bigger staff team and run more camps. The need is great!

All you need to do is email our UK Rep Moira Gray, loriandmo.gray@virgin.net or me (Morven) at ndaventura@gmail.com and we can advise you how. Thanks so much.

A huge thanks to those of you who have supported the work in 2008. We really value the emails of encouragement, the donations, the prayers and our monthly sponsors who give so faithfully.

Thank you

I just wanted to mention a couple of specific gifts that ND has received these past couple of months.

We were so encouraged by the recent **sponsored swim** that Abigail Metcalfe and her friends did for ND. They raised over £500 – well done girls!!!

Thank you for the **video camera** donated by a friend in Scotland. Now we can film the kids during the weekend and show them an edited video of their time at the Centre before they leave.

Thank you too for one of the first specific gifts we have received towards our **building project** – (see first paragraph) and for **a couple of new monthly sponsors**.

If you pray, please pray about:

- **Morven and the boys** now that Fabio has left permanently
- **Fabio**
- Safe and healthy delivery for **Morven and baby** (Jan 8th)
- For **Claire, Dave and Alison** (our current volunteers)
- Thank you that we now have some monthly support for **Renan**
- **Bob Watts** – for inspiration as he continues to work on the plans for building project
- **Funding** for our building project
- **Thank you for our team unity** – pray for continued protection

May God bless you.

Love from Morven & the New Destiny team .x.