

Goa Anglican Centre News

(April 2019)

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this April edition of the Goa Anglican Centre News. It's a busy month ahead for our charity with the annual festival coming up in a few days. Please do join us if you possibly can as this is the best opportunity in the year to catch up with our progress, share your suggestions, pray with us and meet other members of our charity family.

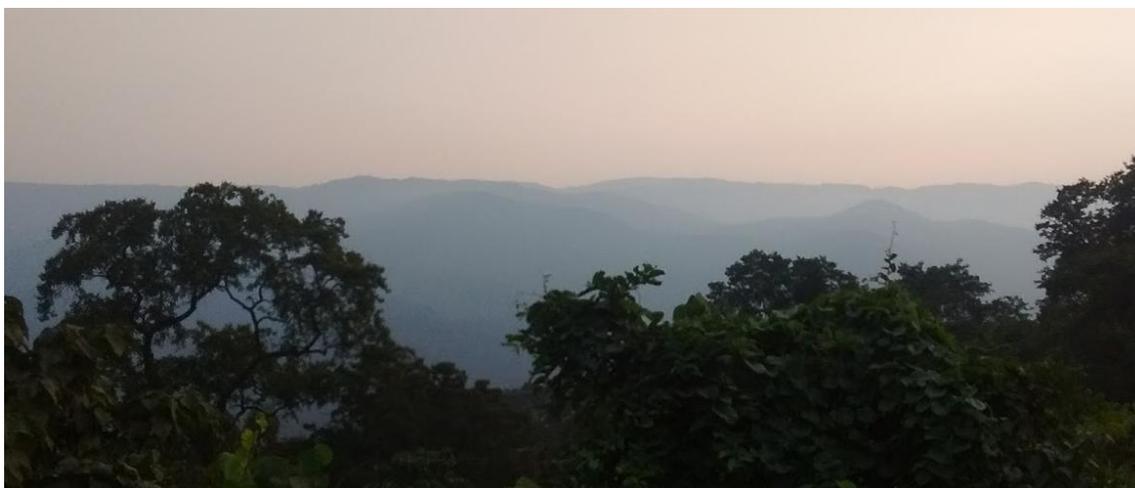
Out in Goa, Barry has completed another very successful stay as a volunteer. His football coaching is such a gift to the children. We so often think of poverty purely in financial terms but a lack of hope and self belief is every bit as damaging and often leads people into a cycle of alcohol or drug abuse. International volunteering gets a lot of bad press for being nothing more than a feel good holiday but volunteers like Barry play a really important role in breaking the cycle of poverty for hundreds of young people and their families. Thanks to your generosity, the Goa Anglican Centre was able to support Barry during his placement. He and I and all the people he has worked with in Goa will always be grateful for that.

Last but not least, for our members in the North of England, please note that there is no Mass with prayers for the Goa Anglican Centre in York this month. The other three cells meet as usual and you are always very welcome to take part, pray for our work and meet other members. Thank you as always for all your support in so many ways and I hope to see you at a Goa Anglican Centre event very soon.

With all best wishes,

Richard Lees

Richard Lees,
Development Officer
The Goa Anglican Centre



The Goa Anglican Centre News is the monthly newsletter of the Goa Anglican Centre, a Registered Charity in England and Wales. Charity Registration Number: 1152714.

Dates for your diary

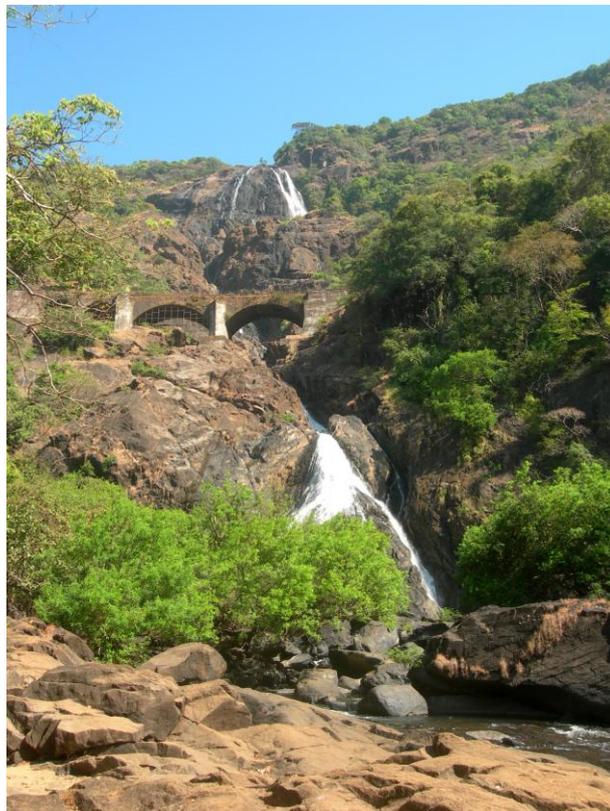
Tues 23 April 7.30pm – Barnet Cell
Thurs 2 May 10.30am – Bath Cell
Sun 5 May 10am – West Midlands Cell
✝

Goa Anglican Centre Annual Festival
26 – 28 April 2019
St. John's Church, Coventry CV1 3AY

Prayer Focus: Sattari and Sanguem

Sattari and Sanguem regions are the two most inland areas of Goa. Our whole state is a narrow strip of coastal land and so moving inland leads rapidly up in to the heights of the beautiful Western Ghats mountain range. The mountains stretch from the edge of Mumbai all the way down the western side of India to Kerala in the south. They are one of the greatest regions of biodiversity in the world and a significant part of the mountainous area of Goa is protected as a nature reserve. This includes the stunning Dhudsagar waterfalls, the third highest in India and one of the famous tourist sights of Goa.

The inland part of Goa is a beautiful and fascinating area to explore but it is also an area that is very much in need of our prayers. It is very much poorer than the coastal tourist region and a large percentage of the local population are living hand-to-mouth farming tiny plots of land with just one or two animals. The area is also changing fast. The main road and rail links out of Goa to the East are being upgraded for the transport of heavy freight like coal from the ports of Goa to cities like Bangalore. Some of the unprotected hills have also been mined for their iron ore, leading to erosion and degradation of the natural environment as well as a loss of farmland. The mining has now been stopped for investigation but this has led many people into ruin as they sold all they had and took large loans to invest in trucks and other machinery to support the mining industry.



Sattari and Sanguem have many challenges ahead as the people and local government try to balance the economic needs of the local population with the need to preserve the beauty and diversity of nature. There is increasing understanding of the potential for wildlife and nature tourism but this too will need to be carefully managed. Thankfully there are wonderful people developing sustainable tourism and farming that can provide a good standard of living into the future. Please pray especially for the staff and students of Don Bosco College of Agriculture, Sulcorna (pictured left) and all those who are working hard throughout this lovely region to improve lives and preserve a beautiful place for the future.



The Goa Anglican Centre National Festival 2019

'Eucharistic life'



Friday 26th April

6.30pm

Rosary

Fish and Chips (£5)

Compline

Saturday 27th April

11am

Sung Mass

Buffet Lunch (£5)

Talks and Discussions

Tea and cake

Evensong and Benediction

Sunday 28th April

10am

Sung Mass

Tea/Coffee

All events will be at Saint John's Church

Fleet Street, Coventry CV1 3AY

For further details and to book places:

- ✓ Email richard_lees85@yahoo.co.uk
- ✓ Call 07470382960

For accommodation suggestions please call or email.

Please note: There is no charge for the festival but accommodation is not included and meals are priced as above. A collection will be taken at the Saturday Sung Mass to help to cover the festival costs.

The Friends of GAC

I am grateful for all those who can support us in prayer. We have a cycle of prayer for our work and surroundings (printed below) which you are more than welcome to join in with. **Please pray especially for our events in England this year.**

Monday: People in need in Satari and Sanguem regions, for all who are hungry and starving and for the homeless

Tuesday: People in need in Quepem and Canacona regions and for peace between India and her neighbours

Wednesday: People in need in Mormugao region, for all visitors to Goa and for those who live and work at the Goa Anglican Centre

Thursday: People in need in Salcete region, for the unity of the church and for all visitors to the Goa Anglican Centre

Friday: People in need in Bicholim region, for the faithful departed and for all who are isolated or lonely

Saturday: People in need in Tiswade region and for all prisoners and those who are falsely accused

Sunday: People in need in Bardez region and that the churches in Goa may be an effective witness to God's love

Diary

Tues 23 April 7.30pm	St Marks, Barnet	Mass with intentions for the work of the Goa Anglican Centre
Fri 26 April 7pm – Sun 28 April 12pm	St John's, Coventry	Goa Anglican Centre Annual Festival. See poster for further details
Thurs 2 May 10.30am	St John the Baptist, Bathwick, Bath	Mass with intentions for the work of the Goa Anglican Centre. Coffee and biscuits after Mass
Sun 5 May 10am	Emmanuel, Wylde Green West Midlands	Sung Eucharist with prayers for the work of the Goa Anglican Centre. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available in the church hall after the service

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