

Musical outreach in India

Supported by The Royal Society of St George, the Toby Davies Fund, the Norfolk Community Fund and generous friends.

Jenny Clarke and Matthew Higham, two young people aged 17/18 had a wonderful life-changing experience working for six weeks and training inexperienced young musicians in a highly deserving musical charity in Goa, India called 'Child's Play'.

Matthew and Jenny planned their project carefully in consultation with their teacher, Alison Cox and ran fundraising events for almost a year before the project. Thanks to their own efforts plus some help and support from generous trusts, they raised all the funds needed to cover the cost of their travel, accommodation and subsistence.



Matt and Jenny with some of the children they were teaching, just after their first concert together.

Matt – *'Everything is incredible here! Luis and his wife look after us so well, and we're loving the food. We are busy running a choir and a string group and I'm teaching flute and clarinet. It's absolutely brilliant.'*

Jenny – ‘The children are amazing. They are so keen and work so hard. I’d like to bring some of them back with us!’



In the UK, just before they travelled to India, Matt persuaded a company called Nuvo Flutes to give him three instruments to take with him to Goa. The teachers at Child’s Play were delighted. You can see one of the flutes being played in this picture.



Performance with pupils in ‘A Monsoon Concert’ on August 20th



This was a wonderful project. Thank you so much to Luis Diaz, Director of Child's Play and his wife, and all the young musicians in Child's Play.

Other young musicians might easily be able to follow Matthew and Jenny's enterprising example and replicate an overseas outreach project of this kind

**Documentation by
Matthew Higham, Jenny Clarke and Alison Cox**