



The Roberts'

Brazil Update



February 2011

Dear friends,

Welcome to this month's newsletter – we hope that you're all well. Unfortunately, there's no video news this month! Sorry to disappoint you all. The video news will be back next month. Read on for some important changes to our updates. Hope you enjoy the newsletter – thanks for all your support!



With two of our five nephews and nieces...

New Changes

We're changing the way we keep in touch with you all. We've created a blog/website which will become the main way we keep in touch. We'll be updating it regularly (every few days) with short stories and updates with what's happening in Brazil. We'll also be putting the newsletters and videos on the site to be downloaded/watched. This means that we'll be able to reduce the size of this newsletter (and also the time it takes to write).

CMS would also like us to send out four 'Link Letters' a year – basically this means that for four months of the year you'll receive this newsletter (still written by us) via CMS rather than directly from us. Also it will be in a slightly different style...

So please do check out the blog regularly, click on the link below or copy it into your browser window to go to our blog. For those of you in the know you can also subscribe to our blog to be told automatically when we update the blog. Thanks guys!

www.andyandrose.posterous.com

Brazil Life

Carnival is upon us here in Brazil. You might remember from other updates that carnival is a pretty hectic time here. It might seem very beautiful from the outside (and it is) but carnival also hides some very nasty things on the inside. Lots of drinking which leads to high violence on the streets. Some years we've taken a group from church into the carnival to do some evangelism through dance/drama, but for the past few years we've run a camp out at the farm. This year's camp starts on Friday and it should be a good few days away of growth, rest and fun. I'm leading the session on Saturday morning on Christ's Return and Rose and I are both dorm leaders.



Previous camps at the Farm...

Youth Work in Living Waters

The youth group is going well – we’re basing our meetings on the 5 Ws (check out the blog for the story) and so each person is responsible for a particular bit of the meeting which they’ve enjoyed. All of them will be going out to the Farm with us on the camp which will be good.

The Football Ministry is going well and into its third month. We consistently get around 40 young guys along each week (aged 14 – 25) – there are some hairy moments (again check out the blog!) but it’s been great to build some good relationships with them. Around 14 of them came along to the monthly youth event at church – hopefully that number will increase once we’ve got some proper games booked up.



Goodbye meal for Rodrigo with Rose and his younger brother Gabriel

The Project

The main news from the project this month is that Rodrigo has left to go to São Paulo. Thankfully we were able to get all the right documents sorted before he travelled and he left the project in the right way – in celebration of what God has done in his young life. It’s good to know that it was the right call to delay his flight last month. It was an emotional day when Rodrigo left, the boys prayed for him and there were a lot of tears before Rose and I took him to the airport. He’s arrived safe and sound at his Aunt’s house – he’s not liking the colder and wetter weather too much but he’s started school which he’s enjoying and looks to have a job already! We talk to him on the

phone each week which is good. His full story is up on the blog and is well worth a read!



Saying goodbye at the airport.

In the New Year some of our other boys also left to go back to their families – two brothers, Wemerson and Jonathan have gone to live with their Aunt. They’re both doing well and it was great to see them settled in their new home when we went to visit them the other week.

There are a few spaces now in MFH and so Jefferson and I have been busy finding other boys who could come along to MFH and sorting out the necessary paperwork. We’re trying to get the younger brother of two of our boys into the project and so have been visiting his family regularly to try and make it happen. A new boy has arrived in the project – Artur - don’t know too much about him since he only arrived this week. Plus we have another (much older) boy who’s arrived in the project – our next volunteer from the UK, Charles Barlow. Charles will be with us for six months – he’s settling in well and we’re very happy to have his help around. Do pray for him as he settles in and learns the language.

Easy Fundraising

I’ve come across two very simple ways to fundraise for MFH – at absolutely no extra cost to you! Firstly, if you register us as your charity (do it here <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/mfhp/>) and do your online shopping by following the links then MFH will receive a percentage of your purchase – at no extra cost to you!

Secondly, set this page as your homepage <http://mfhp.easysearch.org.uk/> and use it to search the web – we get some pennies for each search you make! If as many of you as possible do it then it will all add up. Easy money.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the workers and boys in the project – strength and wisdom for the workers and for peace and transformation for the boys.
2. Pray for those boys who have left the project – for protection and that they may settle in well to their new families. Especially for Rodrigo in Sao Paulo.
3. Pray for Simea and the church as they help those who have been affected by the closure of the rubbish dump.
4. Pray for Rose in her uni work.
5. Pray for the camp at the Farm this month – that it will be a great time of growth and relaxation.
6. Pray for the project as we continue the search for a new property.

Thanks again guys for all the prayer and support that you are showing us and the project.

Prayers.

Andy and Rose ☺

Contact Details and Useful Info

I thought it might be worth adding these details on the end... they might come in useful!

Project Address –

Casa de Meu Pai
Av. Ministerio Marcos Freire 5615
Rio Doce
Olinda – PE 53130540
Brazil

*Our **new** apartment's address –*

Edf. Marinas Apt 901
Av. Ministro Marcos Freire 4287
Casa Caiada
Olinda - PE 53040 - 010

Brazil

Phone Numbers –

You can call me for 2p/min from an English landline using the following number 08444621621 then just dial one of the following numbers.

Project – 00558134312255

Our apartment - 00558134322814

My Cell – 00558191962959

Rose's Cell - 00558191596058

Bank Details

Project's Charity Account –

Service of Hope Charity

For info please contact Roger Atkinson on roger_atkinson@yahoo.com