

Naomi Keefe

Location: **Olinda, BRAZIL**

Mission: **Church-based community development and evangelism**

DECEMBER 2021 / JANUARY 2022



Beberibe congregation are really excited about using the M&Ms in their street evangelism programme and are praying, in the words of one elder, for "a good catch of fish." After the training session on being 'Fishers of men' and using different strategies of 'Fishing' it is a real thrill to see them applying what they have learnt in their prayers and actions.

Coming up to Christmas things have been very busy with organising and facilitating the various events and training sessions with volunteers. I also been purchasing panettones - the equivalent of Christmas cake here, (I never want to see one again for a long time) and buying school bags and school note-books for the children of the Good News club (as government schools unfortunately don't always give the children all the school material that they are entitled to, hence the reason why we make sure that each child in the club has at least the basics to go to school).

Going around the city centre stalls with a mask on and then carrying all the stuff in bags and boxes in over 30 degrees Celsius was hot to say the least. Rosa and myself were very thankful for the arrival of the taxi driver and his air-conditioned car which was then filled to capacity with Rosa and myself carrying boxes of panettones on our laps. Needless to say plenty of water was purchased to keep us going.

The children and teenagers who went to the book fair in the shopping centre had a great day out and it was really encouraging to see the books that they were now choosing. Each of them was given prize money to spend on whatever books they wanted for themselves. The list of books/novels they chose for themselves included, 'The Jungle Book', 'Tarzan', 'Little Women' and the 'Winx Saga' books. None of the children were interested in the colouring books or picture books as they all now wanted what I would call "proper reading books"! The woman at the cash desk was very impressed by their choices of books and also the discussion that some of them had with her about certain books they had been reading and what they thought of them.



Some of the children sitting in the book fair proud to be carrying their bags of books.

Prayer points

- Give thanks for the enthusiasm of the volunteers and continue to pray for all the evangelistic events that we will have a "good catch".
- Pray for plans for the 'Reading in the Park' which hopes to start up again in the New Year.
- As covid cases and deaths have decreased considerably here and travel has opened up again please pray for my plans to spend some time relaxing with family over Christmas and the New Year in Ireland.