



PLUS

October, 2008

Kishor



Kishor Sanas, 1976-2008

Kishor came to work for the network in December 2005, as a volunteer, working as a Peer Treatment Educator in Satara. In June the following year he was appointed to the paid staff of the Satara network as a Treatment Educator Officer.

Three months later, Avert wanted to set up a Drop In Centre (DIC) in Satara, and Kishor became Project Coordinator. He became involved in making appointments, putting workshops together and other duties. He had a very good relationship with the Avert staff.

In 2007 he took a two month Leadership and Management training course. He also helped arrange a media workshop for NSP+ and Avert, and gave a characteristically brave and honest public declaration of his status.

In April 2008 he was appointed State Advocacy Officer for NMP+. In the few short months in this job he played an important part in the setting up of the district network in Garhchiroli. He worked on advocacy with MSACS and Avert, working on quacks, transport subsidies and other issues. He helped many districts with governance problems, travelling widely and becoming known and loved throughout the network. He died on the 10th October after an infection contracted through a wound in his leg led to staphylococcal toxic shock syndrome.

He was a stalwart member of staff, always supportive to anyone who needed help with any problem. We all miss his charm, his laughter and his friendship.

Ganpatti festival, Aurangabad

Using a “video van” and working in cooperation with the Breakthrough Society, the Aurangabad district and in particular the Swapnapurti Drop In Centre staff put on a splendid 5 day publicity drive at the Ganesh festival in September. This was a HIV/AIDS awareness programme aimed at rural areas.

In the video van the programmes included clips on HIV / AIDS, Jawan Hun Nadan Nahin, Jagar (Video), and a play on domestic violence and HIV. Information material was distributed. The van visited Sillod city, Tilak Nagar, Shastri Colony, Bharadi Market, Sillod taluka and villages, and many other places.

In each programme more than 1000 above people of all ages attended. **Below**, the Aurangabad team with the video van



New phone number for Taal

The phone number for Taal Pharmacy, Pune, which has moved a short way along Laxmi Road to a more accessible location, is **020 64017128**. **Below**, Mrudul Patil from our partners Emcure, Shilpa Ghume from NMP+, and Taal pharmacist Archana Kadus prepare the new premises.



World AIDS Day

1st December is the 20th World AIDS day. It is a great opportunity to get our messages across to the community, and to contact people with HIV. You can get more information and record your events on the website:

www.worldaidsday.org.in

Or ask Vincent for help.

Stop AIDS, keep the promise

Right Sanju Kale from Parbhani sent in this photo from the quarterly progress report meeting at Elysium Hotel at the beginning of the month. In the photo, Sanju (Parbhani) and Mani (INP+) sit on the stage, while facing the camera, left to right, are Kishor from Garhchiroli, Viyas from Aurangabad, Anand from Mumbai, Chaya from Sangli, and Satish from Ahmednagar, all obviously enjoying their roleplay.



Free bus passes

There is a great need for free bus passes for people who need to travel to get antiretroviral therapy (ART). Some people with HIV in rural areas travel 8 hours or more for treatment. These are often some of our poorest citizens and they cannot afford the expense of bus tickets. We ask the Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society (MSACS) to lobby the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation for this cause. Other states, less rich than Maharashtra, are already giving this concession, including Gujarat and Rajasthan. If you wish to help us with this advocacy, please write to MSACS urging them to help. The address is:

Shri. Prakash Sabde IAS, Project Director,
MAHARASHTRA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY
Acworth Leprosy Hospital Compound, R.A.Kidwai
Marg,
Near Wadala, West Mumbai,
(PBX Ph.No. 24113097, 24115791, 24127952))
Fax No. 24113123(Mumbai STD CODE 022)

Or email a letter to:

msacs@bom8.vsnl.net.in

Star of the month ☆

October's Star of the Month is the **Beed District Level Network**. After a weak Quarterly Progress report with a number of mistakes in their documentation for the April to June quarter, they were asked by NMP+ ACT staff to make improvements. They responded in terrific fashion. When they produced their July-September management information report, they challenged NMP+ to find a single error in the documentation. NMP+ was delighted to confirm that they were error free and a credit to the Beed DLN team with a big improvement in their documentation.

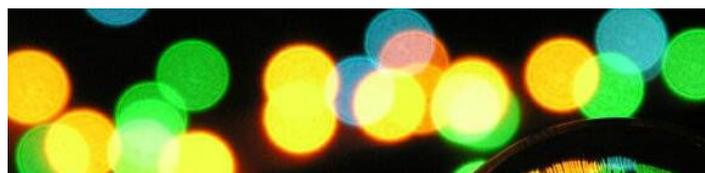
Right, the star team at their work in Beed.

Happy Diwali

Please send pictures, contributions or suggestions for the newsletter to Vincent McDonald, Communications Adviser, at vjmcd@hotmail.co.uk, or to **NMP+**, 401-403 Ganga Prestige Arcade, Nana Peth, Laxmi Road, Pune 411002, e mail: nmpplus@gmail.com

Staff news

- A trouble shooting team of Ashwini Gujar, Balaji Ubarhande, Sharad Shinde, Vilas Vyawhare, Vinod Jambhale and Yuvraj Shinde will be going out to help some of those districts who are having problems with their programme and finance
- NMP+ has a new accountant. Srikant Mantri replaces Seema Jain. Srikant was previously working part-time for the Washim district. We welcomed him to NMP+ on 23rd October
- Anjali Myadhav is going to manage the Treatment and Counselling Centre at the Sassoon Hospital, Pune, and take charge of the YRSR project from the end of the month. Pragati Ingle will move from the TCC to be the new Capacity Building and MIS Officer



Deadline: 25th day of each month