

# GCO Christmas Tree Party 2013

Contributed by Gayle Veronica Araujo  
Saturday, 14 December 2013

A kids' Christmas party always brings everyone together for a fun event and creates lasting memories for the little ones. In lieu of the same the Goan community of Oman(GCO) organized a Christmas tree party for goan kids of all religious groups between the ages of 5 to15 . The program was held at the Parish Hall of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Ruwi on Saturday, 14th December 2013 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

We all know how children are very aware of Santa making that list to give children lots of presents if they have been on their best behavior. So to ensure that buzz of excitement and remind them all, that a visit from Santa is not far away, and that he only visits little children who are good ,as and when they arrived each boy and girl was given a tiny badge with their name on it saying they have been good girl and good boy this year.

The evening started off with the children being led with an opening prayer by our GCO member Mr.Clifford Alphonso invoking God's blessings on all the little ones present and their families. This was followed with our compere asking some of the kids what they had asked Santa for this Christmas. Some of the requests were modest, some heartwarming and some downright hilarious.

The highlight for the evening was the presence of a Christmas band that kept the kids entertained with danceable Christmas music along with our DJ that helped celebrate the evening with great foot tapping beats. We had two games following a dance session that were Christmas themed as well, passing Santa's hat and pinning the carrot on the snowman.

A really special finale was an early visit from Santa himself, to hand everyone chocolates and to cut a special Christmas cake along with all the children. But we didn't make it that easy on them. The children were sent out on a hunt to find Santa and returned successfully finding him and came dancing into the hall to the tunes of the famous Christmas carols played by the band.

It's natural for children to associate Christmas with receiving presents, so our festive evening ended with the presentation of gifts by Santa for all the children and gifts for the winners of both the games, followed with a group photograph with all the volunteers and GCO members.

The GCO would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one who made this evening a success and a special thank you, to all you parents, for lending us your constant support. May God bless each and every one of you and your families abundantly.