



FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

AUTUMN 2016 NEWSLETTER

I'm continuing in this newsletter to describe some of our achievements over the past ten years.

With the help of two young British volunteer doctors we've tested the eyes of more than seventy children, and provided a number with glasses. We have also designed and run workshops on relationships and sexual health.

We have funded and supported more than fifty adolescents through vocational training on courses including nursing, catering, accounting, computer programming, car mechanics, beauticians, hairdressing (and even to be a dance teacher!), and gone on to help them find jobs or enter university.



New glasses

In addition, we launched a programme to teach the English language to over a hundred children – which was great for their confidence and future job prospects.



Prevention house

Obviously "prevention is better than cure" and we renovated an old house and turned it into a Prevention Centre. For three years, families that were in danger of splitting up and going onto the streets were helped to deal with their difficulties, overcome alcohol and other problems and stay together. This was a very successful programme and the building is currently temporarily doubling as the local village school!

We supported a small herd of cows and considerable quantities of high quality milk were drunk by the children and once more the surplus was sold locally.



Dairy farming

The boys' welcome house was substantially refurbished. It had been in a very dilapidated state and, as the first place of contact when children first came off the streets, this improvement was of critical importance.

Considerable work was also undertaken in the girls' welcome house, including building and furnishing an area in which a psychologist could undertake group work with the girls.



Carpentry

A very successful and profitable carpentry workshop has been extended and equipped – this does all in-house repair work and makes significant quantities of high value furniture for sale locally.

We have equipped and financed several boys' football teams – one of which has won the area cup two years running. And we have paid the salaries of a number of house parents and other staff members so that they can keep caring for our kids, supporting

them in their development and giving them love... it's been a busy ten years!

Just a quick annual reminder: we have a very small selection of beautiful Christmas cards for sale, each individually painted by our children. They cost just £1.50 each, or 4 cards for £5. Please let me know if you would like to purchase any for this Christmas.



Christmas cards

As always, my grateful thanks for your real encouragement and support, even from afar. Please, when you have a moment, do take a look at my website – address below.

Annie Syrett, Kiev, Ukraine – October 2016

www.alalay.co.uk