



# FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

## SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

In Ukraine (where I still currently work) the temperature has been minus 15°C with deep snow and it was something of a surprise to return recently to the UK for a few days and find the country also gripped by snow. On the other side of the world in Bolivia it's currently around plus 25°C!



Annie in Ukraine

Those who have been involved with my charity for a long time will know that a part of our mission is to set up projects that will themselves generate further income for the street kids. Sometimes we have failed but on occasions we have had great success.



Panettone

More than twelve months ago we supported the children and staff at Alalay in producing around 8,000 panettone for sale at Christmas-time and I'm very pleased to say that we repeated this action very successfully at the end of 2017. This time it was agreed that the income received would be used to provide continuing vocational training for other children. This is a good example of "doing simple things well", creating a surplus and helping Alalay become more self-financing and self-sufficient.

Encouraging and supplying vocational training for adolescents is also a vital part of our mission and we have learned a great deal, and improved our approach considerably, over the years. The teenagers are now much more involved in their choice of careers and, at the end of their training, considerable effort goes into finding them suitable jobs. I thought that you might be interested in seeing photos of four of the girl students that we support currently – it's always good to be reminded that we are caring for real individuals!



Camila



Mariana

In addition we will continue to help around sixty children through their normal primary and secondary school education and also pay the salary and associated costs for a house mother of the older girls. House parents are a vital part of Alalay life, providing role models as well as looking after the day-by-day needs of the children and giving them the love and affection that they want.

I need to end this newsletter on a slightly formal note: In May 2018 regulations for charities in the UK are changing and it is important that we only send information to people who want it and that we provide easy ways for our supporters to stop receiving communications from us or change the way that they receive it. Please contact me if you need further information.



Luciana



Valeria

This looks like being a particularly challenging year for us all at Alalay and I will keep everyone informed about progress with my quarterly newsletter. I hope that you find my newsletters of interest and I always welcome suggestions for improvement, but please do not hesitate to tell me if you receive too much (or too little!) from me.

Annie Syrett, Eastern Ukraine – April 2018

[www.alalay.co.uk](http://www.alalay.co.uk)