



FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

AUTUMN 2018 NEWSLETTER

In my last newsletter I described a little about the earlier lives of two of the four teenage girls that we were currently funding through vocational training. This generated a lot of interest amongst our supporters, as they read about girls who had such an awful start in life being able to (with a lot of personal effort and support) go on to study and significantly change their life prospects. Here then is some information about the remaining two girls – these are not their real names.



Camila

Camila's mother died before she was two years old; she was raised in her aunt's family until the aunt also died and she was found on the streets. Nothing is known about her father.

She came to Alalay in 2013 and has one sister, who was also at Alalay but left of her own accord three years ago. She still has extended family outside Alalay and she may return to them some time in the more distant future.

Camila is described as being very sociable, and enthusiastic in all that she does and has recently transferred from a secretarial course to one in accountancy.

Luciana's parents separated some time ago, reportedly because the father was invariably drunk, and her mother worked as a chamber-maid in hotels. Luciana was left with her older brother to take care of her and three other younger siblings – who are currently with her at Alalay.



Luciana

When she was a little older she continued living on the streets with her family and spent much of her time scavenging for food.

After some early uncertainties she is now very serious about her chosen career in beauty and hairdressing, is happy to accept guidance from other people and it is possible that she too will one day be re-integrated with her family, if it is safe to do so.

In my next newsletter I'll share a little about the boys that we are also supporting through vocational training – some as caterers and one who is on a banking course.



It doesn't seem possible but it's time to talk about Christmas cards! We have a number of cards that have each been hand-painted by the children and that can be delivered to your door early in November. Numbers are becoming limited already, they are really good value at just £1 each and can be ordered via the website.

Annie Syrett, Bristol – October 2018

www.alalay.co.uk