



## FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Registered charity no. 1123425

### LATE SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

Spring is often thought of as the season of hope – so in a very difficult world I'd like to begin by reminding us all about some of the good things that are happening. This newsletter will include news of two of our adolescents (with rather similar names!) who are early in their vocational training journey, leading hopefully to satisfying future careers – all thanks to your support.

Firstly though, the children again sold more than 8,000 panettone at Christmas and made significant profits, some of which will also be used to help towards vocational training. We are very keen to always encourage income-generating projects where possible.



Next, Juanita is a sixteen-year-old girl and is one of eight students who are being supported by us with training scholarships during 2022 and 2023. She wants to pursue a career in textiles - a subject that she greatly enjoys and for which she has considerable talent.

Sadly she has had a period of very poor health, which has set back her training by almost two months, but she is now almost fit and well and is back to face-to-face vocational training at college once more.

As always, at Alalay we try to ensure that training provides the students with many practical applications for their studies and, as you can see from the photograph, Juanita is part of a team that is producing face-masks for use during the continuing serious pandemic in Bolivia – masks both for the children and staff, but also to sell. Yet more self help!

Finally, Juan aged seventeen is one of our particular successes – last year he began training as a chef, completing a number of basic catering modules. He was an outstanding student and his photograph and story have recently featured on the cover of the national “Gastronomía” magazine. This year he continues his training with one of our scholarships, on an even more advanced course.



I have now finished my UN work in Colombia and am taking a short break to work out what to do next, whilst continuing to support Alalay from wherever I may be. As always, thank you all so very much for your unfailing help!

Annie Syrett-Jones, Camino de Santiago, Spain – May 2022

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