



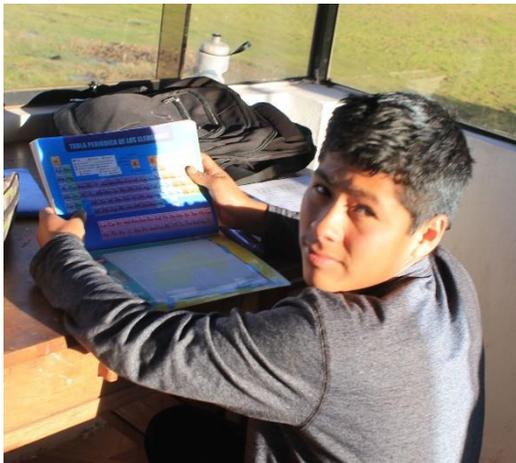
## Azul Wasi Newsletter Summer 2017

*We hope that you will enjoy reading our Summer Newsletter with news of Azul Wasi and the children who live there*

The money we send each month from St Andrew's Church has continued to provide food for the children for who live at Azul Wasi. The children there have the love and support of a family and the educational opportunities which will give them a real chance of a better life.

### News from Azul Wasi

Azul Wasi has said goodbye to one of the boys who has gone to live in another area of Peru with a Dutch/Peruvian family who had volunteered at Azul Wasi for many years. They will be supporting him to continue on to higher education. The house has also welcomed four new boys from age 8 to 15 — they have all been enrolled in school and are adjusting well.



One of the older Azul Wasi boys is now studying tourism, which is a very sensible training to undertake given the popularity of Cusco as a tourist centre. Another is training in breadmaking and two more in catering, and just last week we heard that Epifanio has graduated from chef school. The other children are in various classes in the local school and seem to be doing well. The eldest daughter of Anastasia the cook is working hard and preparing herself to go to university. Alcides is rightly very proud of the achievements of the children of the Azul Wasi family, but of course this wouldn't have been possible without Alcides' commitment to the children over the past ten years.

### The outdoor environment

Living at Azul Wasi is like living on a farm and daily life involves looking after the various animals. Currently they have chickens, geese, sheep, cats, dogs, rabbits and 50 guinea pigs, as well as the two parrots. They continue to grow vegetables for their own consumption in their greenhouse and outside. Football remains the favourite pastime when homework and daily chores have been completed.

### LAFF

We continue to work closely with the UK charity LAFF (Latin American Foundation for the Future - <http://www.laffcharity.org.uk>). LAFF continues to provide regular weekly workshops at Azul Wasi which aim to develop life-skills, self-esteem, and career preparation. Their support for the older ones moving into careers or training makes a huge difference to the lives of these young people.



LAFF has told us that recently they have split the role and responsibilities of their Youth Development Coordinator, and now have a new volunteer in charge of academic development who will be focused on academic performance, monitoring grades and evaluating a need for tutors or intervention to help the children stay on track. The topic of their

current 3-month workshop cycle at Azul Wasi is about working as a team and learning how to resolve problems. The older boys have been participating well, but the younger ones are struggling to follow the rules of the activities and need a lot of encouragement!

### Challenges ahead

The past few months have proved very challenging for Alcides. Over the past couple of months LAFF and some of the other supporting groups have been



working together to find ways to provide Alcides with support to develop better means of communication with supporting groups, and to help him to develop and use better accounting procedures that will keep everyone in touch with the project's financial and other needs. We keep in touch regularly with Melissa, who is LAFF's member of staff based in Cusco, and are very grateful to LAFF for acting on our behalf and for their covering of the cost of our bank transfers. As a small gesture of our gratitude, we have sent LAFF a donation of £100.



### Fundraising

In February we had a very entertaining evening with a Beetle Drive, run by Cynthia and Nick Bull's daughter, Diana, and their grandson Peter. There was a lot of laughter and it raised a total of £837 which, with Gift Aid added on, comes to around £960. Nick and Cynthia were always keen to be able to raise enough at their legendary Beetle Drives to pay for one month of food and this was achieved once again. We were so pleased to continue their tradition. Our next fundraising effort will be in the autumn. We are always happy to receive offers and suggestions!

**Could you spare £5 or £10 a month? Thanks to the fantastic support of the people of St Andrew's we are able to continue to send a monthly contribution of £725 towards the food costs (which amounts to £8,700 a year). If you feel that you could support Azul Wasi by setting aside an amount each month, however small, please do get in touch. LAFF pays the bank charges for sending our money, so absolutely every penny goes directly to the project.**

Thank you to everyone who supports Azul Wasi, whether by making a donation or through prayer.

Mary + Chris .

Mary and Chris Pountain

*For more information or to make a donation please contact Mary Pountain  
Tel: 01223 311055 or 07732 839574 Email: [mary.pountain@gmail.com](mailto:mary.pountain@gmail.com)*

*To see more photos and read about St Andrew's connection with Azul Wasi visit <http://www.standrews-chesterton.org/church-life/mission-and-giving/azul-wasi/>*

