



Azul Wasi Newsletter Spring 2018

Fundraising Event at St Andrew's Church on Saturday 16th June at 4pm A Summer Afternoon Concert with wine and refreshments

With such a wealth of talent at St Andrew's we are sure this will be a very enjoyable event. It will include solo items as well as three choir items – Mascagni's Easter Hymn from Cavalleria Rusticana, and two well-known rousing choruses by Handel: Zadok the Priest and the Hallelujah Chorus. In addition it will be a chance to hear some very talented young musicians from St Andrew's. Please tell your friends.

Important – If you haven't already signed up to receive our Newsletters and emails, please do so soon, as after May 25th we can't send to anyone who hasn't signed themselves up – all thanks to the new GDPR. To do so, click [here](#), or visit our webpage at <http://www.standrews-chesterton.org>

Exciting News - £100,000 raised at St Andrew's Church

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that by the time of the concert, **St Andrew's Church will have raised £100,000 over the eleven years since Azul Wasi first started.** This is an amazing achievement which has only been possible through the generosity and interest of the people at St Andrew's. With several new regular donations we have recently been able to raise our monthly donation by £50, and so we are now sending £775 per month (£9,300 per year). As prices have risen considerably in recent years, we are glad to be able to contribute more towards the cost of the food for the children and staff at Azul Wasi. We hope you will be able to come and celebrate this achievement on 16th June. We are also very excited to be going to visit Azul Wasi in August.

News from Azul Wasi



Currently there are 21 children living at Azul Wasi: 18 boys as well as the three daughters of Anastasia, the cook. We were pleased to hear that the dental check-ups which we sent funding for two years ago are continuing and all the children have recently had a dental check-up and received tuition about good care of their teeth.

The knowledge that the psychologist is now coming at a regular time each week has been very important for the boys. It is good to have someone who the children can talk with if they are worried about something. An eight-year-old boy who arrived after Christmas had a tough time settling in but has been helped by the sessions with the psychologist and is now a lot more comfortable. The children continue to enjoy playing football, and all take their

turns in looking after the animals, helping with the daily chores such as cooking and washing. Not long ago they all went to a fiesta which meant dressing smartly (see photo overleaf).

Moving on from Azul Wasi

You may recall that one of the older boys started studying physics at University, but last year when there was a teachers' strike and he was unable to attend classes for a while it was hard to keep motivated. Since January, LAFF have helped him through this difficult time, with career guidance and personal development as well as helping him practically by covering costs and offering training for interviews. He decided to change to study Hotel Administration in Cenfutur (a centre for training in tourism in Cusco). He seems happier now and is more motivated and continues to be supported by LAFF with weekly support and guidance.

Five of the older children have been accepted onto a government programme “Jóvenes Productivos” which aims to help young people develop skills that will help them to find employment. This programme involves a 2-month course in Gastronomy at Cenfutur and provides help in finding a job. One of the girls is keen to study nursing when she has finished this course. She has been given career guidance by the team at LAFF who have helped her look at various options, identifying what her talents and passions are, and guiding her with information about scholarships and universities. The photo at the bottom shows one of the boys dressed for his graduation from his Gastronomy course.

The buildings at Azul Wasi

Azul Wasi is now made up of dormitories, a kitchen and dining room, a library, classrooms, bedrooms, a bathroom and shower block, and an IT suite with donated computers. Currently they are building new bathrooms and toilets to replace the original ones, which are in a poor state now.

Income generation

In the greenhouse they are continuing to grow vegetables for their own use. A recent venture has been to grow flowers (currently statice and lilies) to supply a social enterprise in Cusco called Arte Floral, which is part of another of LAFF’s partner organisations, Casa Mantay (<http://www.mantay.org/causes/taller-floral/>). This is a low-cost, low-risk initiative that could become a potential second source of income for Azul Wasi. They have also been developing the breeding of guinea pigs and geese to sell.



LAFF and Azul Wasi Earth Day

We are very grateful to be able to work alongside LAFF who continue to support Azul Wasi in various ways and keep us regularly informed about the project. In April they ran a workshop about recycling, called Azul Wasi Earth Day. They all had fun and learnt about the importance of reusing, recycling and reducing as activities that protect the environment. They built a compost box and also made a symbol of the Inca goddess Pachamama (Mother Earth) out of recycled water bottles.



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 £775 towards the food costs (which amounts to £9,300 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
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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/>*

