



FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)

Annual Report to Year End 31 December 2023

1. BASIC DETAILS AND STRUCTURE

Friends of Alalay (Santa Cruz) – in this Report now referred to as FoA

Registration number 1123425

Registered address
13 Fremantle Road
Cotham
Bristol
BS6 5SY

The FoA Trust comprises three family trustees:

Annie Syrett (Chair)
Graham Syrett (Treasurer)
Rosamund Syrett

All decisions of consequence are taken jointly and appropriately minuted.

Trustees are currently chosen by appointment of the other Trustees.

The Trust supports and works with the Alalay Foundation, primarily in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

2. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

These have remained the same since the initial registration of the charity.

2.1 The principal activities are:

To advance education, preserve health, relieve poverty and otherwise meet the needs of street children supported by Alalay in the city of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, by providing funding as determined by the Trustees and by educating and informing people (especially school children and students) on the plight, circumstances and needs of these street children.

2.2 Our philosophy and principal objectives are:

That funds raised will be used in either educating, training or developing the children

and

establishing projects that will become self-financing within six months and invariably aid in the development of the skills of the children.

That no funds raised will be used to meet administrative costs of FoA in the UK or elsewhere (eg travel, stationery, telephone, publicity, bank charges and so on). These will be met directly from family funds and there are no conflicts of interest.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND EVENTS IN THE REPORT YEAR

Thankfully this year it was no longer necessary to hold some funds in reserve to protect our children and staff from Covid 19 and we were able to invest more funds directly into the work.

Overall the following has been achieved:.

3.1 Projects and other supporting payments made

This year saw a major initiative in the development of staff, thanks to a generous single donation of £20,000. This enabled around 50 staff to come off-site for five days and to explore ways of providing “respectful parenting” for the children. The course was considered by all participants as an outstanding success and follow-up sessions are planned for 2024.

In addition, we continued to invest in:

- the production of around 8,000 panettone for sale at the end of 2023 by the children and staff. The profitability of this project was in the region of £3,500
- the vocational training of eight students. Four completed their courses and graduated, two dropped out of their courses and two agreed to spread their studies over a longer period. The training scholarships that we have provided have proved invaluable.
- educational items (eg books, pens, pencils, exercise books and so on)

We have also continued to pay the salary and on-costs of a house mother named Darleny. This was necessary because of a shortfall of Alalay funds from other sources.

It had been intended that major renovation work on the Girls' Welcome House would be undertaken starting May 2023 but because of the slowness by the Authorities in issuing a building permit, and as a result of unanticipated additional work, this was delayed. It is hoped to now commence work in May 2024.

Overall, our total funding for the Alalay Foundation since the formation of FoA now exceeds £400,000.

3.2 Volunteers

No volunteers were sent by FoA to Alalay in Santa Cruz this year. Since this report is being written during the war in Ukraine, and other international unrest, we consider it unlikely that there will be any significant use of volunteers in the following year (ie 2024).

3.3 Presentations, events and publicity

FoA continue to send out a Quarterly newsletter. Our aim continues to be that this would not exceed a single sheet – as previously this has always been much appreciated by our readers! There have been no major events during the year, though we have maintained a presence via a stall selling Bolivian items and promoting FoA at a local church festival.

3.4 Website

Our website continues to attract new contacts and some new donors. We regard this and our Facebook and other social media outlets to be increasingly important to our work. We recognise a need to update our website but this has once more proved impossible in the current year and is unlikely to be achieved in the near future.

3.5 Communication with Bolivian staff

A key member of staff named Valeria, who had been our principal point of contact, sadly left Alalay at the end of 2023. This was unexpected, it is likely to take time to replace her and this may put an almost intolerable burden on other staff, such as the Founder and CEO Claudia Gonzales.

In addition it is anticipated that this will have an adverse affect on communication, complicate and may slow down some of the important decision making

4. POLICIES

We maintain the following written policies, and these were reviewed and confirmed in July. They are:

risk assessment and management, investment, safeguarding and child protection, conflicting interests, volunteer management, complaints handling, Gift Aid, privacy and data protection, and website data protection.

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

We were able to transfer much needed funds of £40,000 to Alalay in May 2023 and anticipate that by the end of that year we will have in excess of a further £30,000 for investment.

This is largely due to some major donors during the year (one of £20,000) and we recognise that this makes us especially financially vulnerable in the future. However, it is perhaps worth repeating a statement made in our previous three reports, namely:

“We are in the fortunate position of having a wide support base, with a large number of donors giving via standing orders, in addition to several consistent and reliable larger commercial donors”.

That this continues is something of a relief.

6. CONCLUSIONS

This has been our most successful year financially since FoA was first formed in 2007 and we end the year in a healthy financial state.

We have achieved all of our key goals with the exception of the work to renovate the Girls' Welcome House. This latter is disappointing as, when completed, it should result in an income stream exceeding £6,500 pa and further reduce costs.

Our need to hold contingency funds because of Covid 19 has now substantially reduced and consequently we can more fully invest in potentially profitable outcomes.

We remain cautiously optimistic for the future of Alalay but recognise the importance of increasing staffing at senior levels in the organisation and thereby to maintain efficiency.

Annie Syrett
Graham Syrett
Rosamund Syrett

09 April 2024

FRIENDS OF ALALAY (SANTA CRUZ)
Registered number 1123425

PROFIT/LOSS ACCOUNT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED
31 December 2023

INCOME

Donations	51,704.12	
Loan from Kingsdown Community Fund	408.01	
Administration payment by family	360.00	
Interest	335.13	
Total Income		<u>£52,807.26</u>

EXPENDITURE

JustGiving costs	216.00	
Bank charges for currency transfers	10.00	
Repaid loan Kingsdown Community Fund	408.01	
Funds transfer Santa Cruz (15/05/23)	40,435.82	
Total expenditure		<u>£41,069.83</u>

PROFIT RETAINED **£11,737.43**

05 April 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Friends of Alalay (Santa Cruz)

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1123425

Set out on pages

1 – 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2023**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

23 / 9 / 2024

Name:

Ieuan Ward

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Chartered Tax Adviser
Chartered Institute of Taxation

Address:

Ingenhaag LLP

39 Eastcheap, London
EC3M 1DT

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None