



Report of the Trustees for Sarah's Rural Library Fund

From 1/10/20 to 30/9/21

Charity registration number: 1144970

Objectives and Activities

Sarah's Rural Library Fund's objectives are to advance and maintain the literacy and education of the general public in the rural communities of the State of Cajamarca in Northern Peru, through the provision of library facilities.

Sarah's Rural Library Fund raises money for the Rural Libraries Network which operates in the state of Cajamarca, Northern Peru. This organisation provides books and library facilities based in people's homes for the rural communities of the high Andes in the state of Cajamarca.

The money raised in the UK is for core costs which fund:

- the expenses of the volunteer Librarians
- the administration of the organisation
- the publication and purchase of books

Public benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and consider that the objectives, aims and achievements of the charity described in the report enable it to meet its duty to the Charity Commission as per Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 and to the benefit of the public

All the money raised in the UK goes directly to fund the work of the Rural Library Network in Peru. All the people contributing to Sarah's Rural Library Fund in the UK are volunteers and all the librarians in Cajamarca, Peru are also volunteers.

Impact

The impact of the Rural Libraries on the indigenous communities is evident from the length of time it has been in existence, the commitment of the volunteers, some of whom have been working with the project for 50 years, and the positive feedback from the readers in the rural community.

Its main body is the General Assembly and at each Assembly the achievements and challenges are examined. However, during this pandemic year the Network has met remotely, which has been limited to those who have access to whatsapp and the internet.

Teachers are still requesting support which has mainly been provided through training webinars this year. This will still have a significant impact on literacy and the recognition of the value of the indigenous way of life.

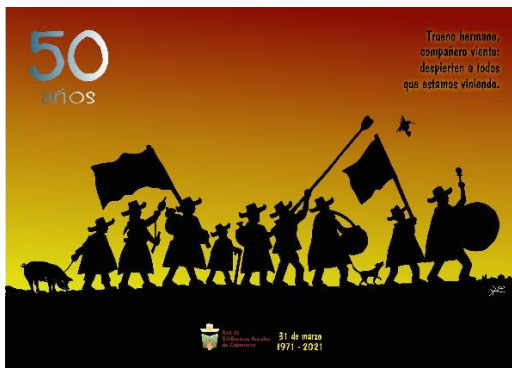
Achievements and Performance in Peru

Despite the challenges brought by the pandemic the Rural Libraries Network continued to fulfill their core tasks during the year through consolidating the innovative virtual programmes that were begun at the start of the pandemic.

The main celebration was for the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Rural Libraries Network.

‘On March 31, 2021, we celebrated our 50 years with an offering to the earth, to the deceased and to the sacred mountains. We celebrated in each of the communities and in the Apu Qayapquma, for the memory of those who could not be there but who are members of this family.’

Watch the celebration from the top of the Qayapquma mountain



<https://youtu.be/3Wi5KPEFzx>

- a) The Remote Co-ordination Strategy has made it possible to maintain close communication with the coordinators of rural libraries in the various sectors, as well as with those responsible for the Rural Libraries in educational institutions, which has enabled many students to have access to books and reading where possible during the pandemic.
- b) The Virtual Library of the Network - short texts have been developed that can be distributed via Whatsapp.
- c) Family Rural Libraries - a strategy that is growing slowly which offers a space for families to have access to reading.
- d) The blog of the Rural Libraries Network publicizes and records the most relevant activities that are carried out every month. This year it has been dedicated, above all,

to the celebration of 50 years, paying tribute to the volunteers in the different sectors that make up the Network.

[Rural Libraries Cajamarca \(bibliotecasruralescajamarca.blogspot.com\)](http://RuralLibrariesCajamarca.blogspot.com)

- e) The Rural Libraries YouTube channel is another space to record the work of the Rural Libraries for example:

Channel link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTg8LyGETtYzYhNkO_GraiQ

Writing our story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iluvaD924Yc>

Discussion: Community and Pandemics: https://youtu.be/wdmR5v_XVxQ

Another voice sings - song/tribute. Rural Libraries of Cajamarca:

<https://youtu.be/iLSJkq-Ohwk>

- f) This year conversations through webinars across Peru and beyond have become recurrent in this time of virtual work.

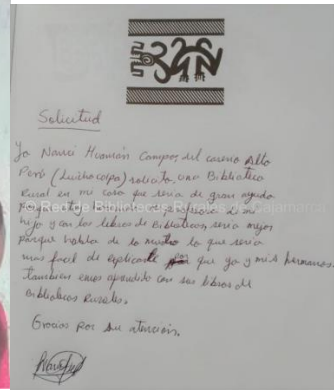
For example:

- **The itinerant rural library:** "The itinerant rural library and its relations with the community", in the fifth session of the Cycle of Virtual Meetings of the National Itinerant Library Program, PaLaBriando.
- **X World Congress of the Quechua Language:** keynote speech.
- **People's Reasons:** conversation about reading in these times of pandemic.
- **CREBE (Special Basic Education Resource Center) of Cajamarca:** our colleagues Alfredo Mires and Nathalia Quintero, held the workshop 'Reading for others'.
- **Tell the land, memories of a people:** conversation organized by the Family Compensation Fund of Antioquia (Comfama) in Colombia.
- **Peruvian network of reading mediators:** "The dignity of peoples is also written by reading" and "The land counts".
- **Talk about the stories of our peoples:** Alfredo Mires shared a space with the participation of three children: Débora Pinedo, Pablo Benítez and Fran Chavarría, from the community of Cascajal, in Chimbote, Ancash region.
- **National Library of Peru and the Bartolomé de las Casas Center, Cusco:** First National Meeting of Peasant Libraries. In this meeting, tribute was paid to the Rural Libraries Network and to executive director, Alfredo Mires.
- **Reading, writing and libraries:** 'Interculturality and mediation of reading: the experiences of the Network of Rural Libraries of Cajamarca and the Peruvian Network of Mediators and Mediators of Reading'.

New libraries, librarians and coordinators

Despite the pandemic the following libraries have been opened:

- 1 new rural library was opened in an educational institution
- 2 families have applied for the new Family Library Boxes (the uptake of the Family Library boxes is slower than expected as it needs be explained more clearly when the in-person General Assemblies are resumed)
- 1 new community rural library was opened



Family Library Box Christmas campaign 2020. Families have to write a letter of application for a Family Library box to explain why they would appreciate the books and who would benefit.

Readers and books

At the moment, the Cajamarca Rural Libraries Network has **400 rural libraries** in the community, educational institutions and families, distributed in the **13 provinces** of the department of Cajamarca, in the department of La Libertad and in the department of Amazonas.

During the year 2021 it has not been possible to collect information regarding the number of readers as the state of emergency in Peru and travel restrictions for the coordinators, have prevented the collection of reader records and disrupted visits to librarians. However, through remote co-ordination, through calls and WhatsApp messages, the coordinators have given individual accounts of the situation in each of their communities with regards to education and the state of the libraries. Some coordinators have also gone to great lengths to take books to their communities.

We know that the books are a very important source to which children and young people can go to. This helps them to continue with their education which has been so limited due to the pandemic.

New publications

There were 3 new publications:

- The Peasant and the Land
- The Puma lurking
- The Ñaupá – a colouring book for children



Accounts in Peru

Financial Accounts from the Rural Libraries in Cajamarca are sent to the trustees of Sarah's Rural Library Fund bi-annually in addition to an annual report with a summary of the work and progress.

Sarah's Rural Library Fund UK

In the UK, the trustees hold 2 general meetings per year where we discuss financial planning, fundraising, updates from Cajamarca and the structure of the charity.

The annual Christmas Campaign aimed to support 30 families with Family Library boxes, to provide vulnerable families with books while the children cannot go to school. Children in Peru have only recently returned to school after 2 years shutdown. Most were without access to education unless the family had internet access. In general, children in the rural areas do not have any internet connection or access to computers so access to books is vital for their education.

Financial Accounts

Sarah's Rural Library Fund raises money from direct debits, donations, sponsored events, campaigns and fundraising events e.g. concerts.

All money raised goes directly to supporting the work of the Rural Libraries as Sarah's Rural Library Fund is run by volunteers with minimal expenses for administration.

This year as well as donations from sponsors we also benefited from:

- a grant of £800 from Just Trust
- we raised a total of £4500 for our Christmas Campaign 2020 through working with The Big Give organisation which helped us to fund 30 Family Library boxes at £150 per box including postage/travel – see attached additional report on the campaign

We have no policy on reserves but try and maintain approximately £1000 in reserve.

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Income Data for financial year ending 30 October 2021 Total income: £17,495 Total expenditure: £14,849
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Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions.	Trustees are appointed by a resolution of the trustees

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Sarah's Rural Library Fund
Registered charity number	1144970
Charity's principal address	117A Queens Drive London N4 2BE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Helen Heery	Chair		
2	Mary Heery			
3	Deborah Porteous			
4	Jack Porteous	Secretary		
5	Matthew Hardy			
6	Rachel Hardy			
7	Simon Wheatley			
8	Daniel Heery	Treasurer		
9	Teresa Hardy			
10	Rosie England			

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Daniel Heery	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	22/7/22	