



Report of the Trustees for Sarah's Rural Library Fund

From 1/10/21 to 30/10/22

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 more than 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. Following the pandemic the Networks are only just beginning to recover and people are starting to meet each other again.

Achievements and Performance in Peru

One of the highlights of the year was the recognition of all the work of The Rural Libraries Community through the award for Alfredo Mires of the national Casa de la Literatura Peruana Award 2021.

The 2021 Prize was awarded to Alfredo Mires Ortiz, *"in merit to his renewing vision of books, reading and literature in dialogue with the community needs, associated with the Network of Rural Libraries of Cajamarca"*.

The prize included this beautiful montage of traditional clay models of everyday life in the Andes.



Additional achievements include:

- In March 2022, The General Co-ordinator of The Rural Libraries, Javier Huamán Lara, visited several communities of the Peruvian Jungle, representing Alfredo Mires, who was invited by indigenous communities that have shown interest in learning about the Network of Rural Libraries of Cajamarca.

- 11 Rural Libraries in Educational Institutions have been opened. This type of library is growing in number and this has led to good results according to the teachers who are able to use the publications to develop strategies to teach the children effectively.
- The Virtual Library of the Network and the Rural Family Libraries, have not had much growth due to the inability to promote the projects due to the pandemic. The same context through which the Network went through did not allow us to pay more attention to these processes.
- The first Assembly since COVID was held in August. Helen Heery and Carlos Bárcenas from Sarah's Rural Library Fund were able to visit and take part. In addition, Milagros Saldarriaga and two more companions from the Casa de la Literatura de Lima also attended. The team met for three days to assess what had happened with the organization in the two years of COVID and decide how to move forward.



Readers and books

At the moment, the Rural Libraries Network has **400 rural libraries** in the community and in educational institutions 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 2022 it was not 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

This year there were 7 new publications: 3 new titles and 4 re-issues.

- **La cuda y otros cuentos:** with 10 new stories collected from the various Cajamarca communities and added to the collection of the Biblioteca Campesina.
- **Dyes and fabrics:** a volume of the Peasant Encyclopedia in its fourth re-edition.
- **Our tools:** a volume of the Encyclopedia Campesina in its third re-edition.
- **The man who healed:** stories from Alfredo Mires, much requested in the reading plan of some schools. It re-appeared in its second edition.



- **Resuellos:** with Cajamarca songs that reflect the beauty of nature but also the indignation for injustice and mistreatment of Mother Earth.
- **Romance of the mountain:** offering in verse to the earth and its different manifestations.
- **The reverie of the Ñaupa:** dreams, illusions, hopes; expressed in poems that call for reflection.

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.

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 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 2022 Total income: £6,182 Total expenditure: £10,062
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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	Trudy Brannan			
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	22/7/23	