

## A ROCHA PERU NEWS BULLETIN (ISSUE 11) JANUARY–MARCH 2016

### PROJECT NEWS

#### **Talara Project’s third year gets off to a great start!**

Our Talara Project’s third year got off to a great and eventful start with community, tree-planting campaigns organized in January and March. The campaigns, called ‘Plant an algarrobo! Plant life!’, were community-led initiatives, with the Women’s Club at the *Luis Negreiros Vega* neighbourhood taking the lead on both occasions. Overall, 32 members of the local community took part in this initiative, planting a total of 200 Algarrobo (*Prosopis spp.*) seedlings around their neighbourhood.



Meanwhile, our environmental youth club at *I.E. Victor Maldonado Begazo* secondary school, ‘A Rocha Kids’, welcomed 24 members to the club at the beginning of the school year, in March. The club put their heads and skills together to design



their own logo and create a digital model of their future school garden and vegetable patch (pictured far left). Starting in February, the members of ‘A Rocha Kids’ began building their vegetable patch, planting alfalfa

and sweet potatoes, painting fences, and setting up a shed for birds and guinea pigs. The whole team has been excited to see this club, and their garden, grow and prosper!

#### **La Esperanza Project starts second year on a musical note!**

Music was a big part of the La Esperanza Project during the first few months of 2016. Within the project’s social development component, ‘The Friends of Nature’ club members integrated music into their activities, bringing a fun and creative new element to the New Year.



In collaboration with *La Gracia Church*, club members took part in musical workshops where they got together in groups and learned popular songs by Christian musical artists such as Hillsong and Marco Barrientos. Staff and member of the church took their musical and environmental education further by showing them how to craft their own instruments out of recycled materials. Plastic bottles, tins and cardboard we reused to make maracas, flutes and drums, which were later tried, tuned and tested. The musical circle was closed with members participating in dance workshops, in which they learned the *marinera* (a traditional Peruvian dance) and were able to put their new musical skills into practice. A show might be on the horizon for the “The Friends of Nature” club!



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## TEAM NEWS

### Fond farewells, warm welcomes and role changes in the team

In early 2016, we said a fond farewell to Sandra Gastañudi Torres and Juan Valladares Sanchez, as Project Coordinator and Field Officer for the La Esperanza Project. La Libertad Project Field Officer, [Aracely Gonza Carnero](#), transferred to the La Esperanza Project at this time, and is featured in Friend’s Corner below. Within the Talara Project, former Field Worker, [Zulema Navarro Chinga](#), assumed the role of Field Technician, and former volunteer, [Tania Cruz Arisméndiz](#), joined the team as our Environmental Education Officer. Last, but not least, we warmly welcomed [Laura Argomedo Guzmán](#) as Administrative Secretary at our Trujillo office.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Tearfund’s Footsteps magazine features A Rocha Peru’s work

We invite you to read [this article](#) from Tearfund’s *Footsteps* magazine, which features A Rocha Peru’s work in helping children to engage with nature through our youth environmental clubs. Tearfund is a British Christian relief and development organization that partners with Christian agencies worldwide to tackle the causes and effects of poverty. This 99<sup>th</sup> issue of the magazine focuses on Climate Change and the importance of engaging Christians of all ages in sustainably caring for creation.



## FRIEND'S CORNER

**My name is:** Aracely Gonza Carnero.

**I was born on:** February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**I live in:** Trujillo, La Libertad in northern Peru.

**I live with:** my mum, dad, 3 brothers, and my one year-old pit bull, Donna.

**My favourite plants and animals are:** white roses, tulips, and dogs.



**I like to:** take part in environmental research activities and make things out of recycled materials. In my free time, I like to read and listen to music.

**I am:** the La Esperanza Project's Field Officer

**I started in:** my current role in February 2016. Prior to that, I was one of La Libertad Project's Field Officers for a year and project volunteer for six months.

**What I like most about my role is:** working with kids, teaching them about caring for the environment through activities, such as recycling, rearing guinea pigs and hydroponics, and also fostering important values, such as respect, hard work, responsibility, faith, obedience, and love for God.

**What I like most about A Rocha Peru is:** the opportunity to continue my professional development working in conservation and sustainable development, whilst also protecting nature, as God's precious gift to us.

## A ROCHA INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Read A Rocha International's [April 2016 newsletter](#)
- Explore A Rocha International's blog, [Planetwise](#)

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

**PRAY** for the successful progress of our organisation, projects, our growing team, and ongoing fundraising and communications activities.

**ENQUIRE** about our volunteer and internship opportunities at our offices and projects in Lima, La Libertad and Talara.

**DONATE** to A Rocha Peru on a one-off or regular basis, by calling our Lima office on: +51 1 248 0271 or by emailing us at: [peru@arocha.org](mailto:peru@arocha.org). Remember you can donate not only financially but we accept donations of your time, talent or skill!