

## A Letter From Our Chairman

I am writing on behalf of The Esperanza Trust (Argentina) to let you know that after careful consideration and discussion the Trustees have decided to close the Trust from the end of 2018.

This has been a difficult decision as it has been a privilege, enabled by your financial generosity, to support the people of Santiago del Estero. They have become friends as we have partnered with them in projects over the last 21 years. We realise however that much of the focus and impetus of the work has been built on Rodney's connections and visits to the Province. He is now unable to make regular trips due to health issues and family responsibilities at home so we will be unable to maintain effective and close connections with our partners in Argentina. At the same time we are conscious that many of our generous UK supporters are themselves ageing and may instead be unable to provide on-going support to the Trust.

As you will see from the reports in this magazine, with your help over the last 21 years The Esperanza Trust (Argentina) has provided significant support for the community as we have empowered them with our gifts and the wise advice that Rodney has provided on his regular visits to the province.

The charity was birthed from the legacy of caring Godly work by Rodney's grandfather, Alfred Furniss, who served in the area from 1907 until his death in 1947. We believe that through your generosity The Esperanza Trust (Argentina) is leaving a valuable legacy in the lives of individuals and the community with which it has fostered good relations between our two countries over recent years.

Thank you for your on-going support – yes, let's make 2018 a significant final year to reinforce a legacy for the future

With kind regards

**Robert Lucas**  
Trust Chair



## A Look Back Over The Years

Thanks to the continued generosity of our supporters, we have been able to sponsor many projects in Santiago del Estero, Argentina. Here is a small snapshot of just a few.

## Gran Porvenir (Grand Future)

The Esperanza Trust contributed to a multi-purpose hall to house a place of worship, a first aid centre and teaching facility for young people in Nuevo Libano. Previously the congregation met in an old garage which had to be emptied of farm goods each time they met.

## Rita Perez

This remarkable lady committed herself to working with a tough group of young men suffering from drug addiction. Esperanza was able to support this work practically and financially. Whilst Rodney visited back in 2010, on behalf of The Esperanza Trust, he purchased corrugated iron sheeting and obtained disused telegraph posts which were used to build a workshop and shelter for the young men.

## La Querencia - Soup Kitchen

This place regularly fed up to 80 children between the ages of 2-12 years providing not only food but also education in the form of reading and writing. Esperanza was able to donate a brand new freezer which prevented the team having to drive 5 miles daily to collect food from a friends freezer!



## Portal del Belen

This project working with children to support them through educative, artistic and recreational means has been one of the more recent projects we have supported. Built on strong christian and moral principals such as strength, faith, love and dedication, the children are given the opportunity to take practical classes and are always nourished with a meal. It has been a pleasure to be able to provide funds to buy materials to build a property in which these classes can take place.



## School Sponsorships

**School sponsorship has been a huge part of our work and over the years we have supported almost 200 children through their education, some of whom we have had the privilege of regular contact with.**

You may remember Agustina. We sponsored her throughout her education at the Colegio Alfredo Furniss. She and her family were very involved in the work at El Zanjón a church project supported by Esperanza too, and Agustina went on to study at the University in SdE.

Agustina said "Once again I want to express my grateful thanks for the wonderful help given me through the scholarship. It was a real privilege to be able to study at the Colegio Evangelico Alfredo Furniss"

Natalia was born in Santiago del Estero. Through an Esperanza scholarship she attended Primary and Secondary education at "Colegio Evangelico Alfredo Furniss". From there she went to university in Buenos Aires graduating with a degree

specialising in International Human Rights. She went on to work as a barrister. Natalia told us "I will never forget from where God had delivered me and how He used different people to invest in my education, not knowing the specific sources or group of brethren who financed my studies".

## Paving the Way for the Future

**All of the current trustees of TET(A) have had the privilege of visiting Santiago at one time, and each of us has come back excited by how we have seen the gifts we have provided, being used.**

As we draw the charity to a close and we reflect on the very positive difference Esperanza has made, it is good to go into our final months knowing the following areas of work will benefit from our contributions during 2018.

A Community School at Brea Poza. a rural area of SdE

A project seeking to find sources of potable water for very poor people living in rural parts of SdE.

And finally, German Divi is very active trying to enthuse christians around the province to evangelise and set-up places of worship. This follows in the paths of the pioneer missionary, Alfred Furniss who arrived in Santiago del Estero in 1907 and whose 70th Anniversary departure to Glory was remembered at his graveside in 2017.

We have much to celebrate and much to give thanks for.

