



ARTIZAN
INTERNATIONAL



**Enabling, empowering and supporting disabled people.
Positively transforming attitudes around disability**

February
2025



UK

Fun February in Harrogate

We held our first ever ArtizanExpo on 6th Feb that saw us demonstrating the services and activities that our community can get involved with. The event was a great success with all our staff showing off their wonderful projects from candles to cake and beautiful art. We all learnt more about each other's projects and passions which was wonderful and we were joined by potential volunteers and other charities & organisations.

We supported Harry with his fundraising at the West Park Centre which raised £700 for Artizan International between the raffle and donations. We provided dessert for the event which was very well received and another opportunity to display our Cafe teams talents!

Our Mosaics for schools team have been working with the students at Bishop Monkton Primary School on 3 mosaics for their hall focussing on their school values. Felicity is really enjoying her school visits with the children.

FUNDRAISING

▲ BigGive



The Big Give is a culture and arts sponsored charity. We have been accepted for match funding for up to £5,000 for our creative projects. So any donation no matter how small will be matched and help support our Mosaics for schools and craft workshops. You have to donate via The Big Give portal which will be open the 18th to the 25th of March to get the matching so we would love your support no matter how small. We will be sending out a reminder when it opens but here is the link to

Artizans Campaign:

<https://donate.biggive.org/campaign/a05WS0000020PwaYAE>

Thank you for all your support

KEMPSTON-PARKES
CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Overseas

Laura Balerdi - Overseas Director



Hello! Hola Mucho Gusto!

As the new Overseas Director, I am really excited to get started in the new role and getting to meet everyone.

If you have seen the recent film that was made about Artizan International, it was produced and managed by myself in my previous role at HelpFilm. I was responsible for managing a multitude of UK and international charity films and training over the past four years. Previous to this role I worked at Street Storage, a charity supporting those experiencing homelessness, MIND and RSBC. Before this, I worked as a Film, Media and English secondary teacher and even dipped my toe in lecturing for Media undergraduate courses. I've also worked in the Museum sector in exhibitions and project roles.

I am passionate about a range of causes and issues and believe that even if something is happening far away, we have a responsibility to stay informed and curious about the world around us. I believe in the mission and work of Artizan and I can't wait to be a part of it. In my spare time I am a governor for a local primary school, volunteer for a local orchestra where my children play trumpet and piano, and I swim and run regularly.

PERU



Disaster struck two weeks ago at the Peru Café and training center. A torrential downpour caused havoc affecting the office roof, electrics and the wood on the Terrace. All is sorted thanks to Ben and the team

Sadly John Frank is still recovering from Pneumonia and although is out of ICU he is still in hospital. John is an important team member as a key administrator for the project.

Laura our new Overseas Director had her first introduction with Ben and Karita and plans to visit the project in the very near future

Ecuador



"Hello, my name is Frixon Angulo, I specialise in creating cushions, purses, and pom-pom bags"

Frixon also tells us that since the COVID-19 pandemic began, he has moved to a more remote place, about an hour and a half from Santo Domingo. He currently lives in the countryside, in a place that is not very accessible due to his condition of reduced mobility, since he moves around in a wheelchair. Despite the difficulties, Frixon continues to work with dedication and passion, proving that art has no limits.

Frixon is an inspiring example of how his craft can transform lives, even in the most challenging circumstances