

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

April 2025









# UK

Easter has been a busy time in our training Cafe in Harrogate with many people visiting our beautiful town and locals enjoying the break from school. Our trainees were very busy bunnies baking extra cakes and achieving record sales!

New creative sessions begin as part of The National Lottery funded "Artizan Collective" project. Papermaking and Printmaking sessions along with Saturday arts & crafts and an evening art session too!

Liz attended The Chamber of Commerce' business safari event where she pitched our corporate partnership plans to an engaged group of local businesses keen to partner with us for volunteering and fundraising.

We were delighted to welcome funding officers from The National Lottery that were blown away by the local projects running here in Harrogate. They commented on the happiness of our participants and the atmosphere in our spaces of positivity and joy as well as the high level of training and support being delivered.

#### FUNDRAISING



2025 Nidderdale Walk - Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May. A team of staff and volunteers are planning to do a 4-8 mile walk as part of this years Nidderdale walk in aid of Artizan. Like many local chariteis we are battling funding hurdles. Funders love to support projects and purchase materials and equipment but no one wants to fund the core costs of a charity so paying the rent and keeping the lights on is a real challenge. We'd love your support in helping us with these key core cost to make the work we do possible. <u>https://artizaninternational.enthuse.com/cf/walking-for-artizan</u> Jumping for Joy - Sorry to say but Sarah our Finance Director was not able to jump last Friday due to cloud cover. The Jump has been rebooked for the 9<sup>th</sup> of June so watch this space or the skies. On a positive note Sarah reached her target of £1,000 so thank you to everyone who supported her.

Thank you for all your support

## Ecuador



(Left to right; Alba, Adriana, Andrés, and Erik)

This month has sped by with me visiting our glorious shop in Harrogate on a warm April afternoon. The time was spent with me meeting with the team to discuss all the different ways that we could market the stories of the artisans to our supporters and shop customers. We also exchanged ideas about how the team can be more connected with the artisans and also their understanding of the culture in Ecuador. We have some exciting plans to share in future months as our meetings grow.

Alongside this, our work with Project Leaders in Ecuador have focused on the artisan's progress with new necklaces, as well as our existing top sellers in the shop and online. In amongst these meetings we always take the time to learn about the challenges of the artisans. Currently one of our artisans is struggling with their physical health. We will be monitoring their wellbeing going forward and looking at ways we can support them.

### PERU



April has been a very productive month for Artizan Peru with the introduction of an amazing new Cafe Manager named Gabriela. We have seen many photos of her delicious concoctions and her warm smile. One recent baked good is a bread named' 'Pan Tres Puntas' ('Three Peaked bread). In Arequipa, we are told that this bread is more than just food—it's a symbol of regional pride. The three peaks represent the strength, unity, and resilience which I think sums up Artizan International. Members in the cafe have already started asking for more new menu choices. We very much look forward to sampling these at our next visit. The team at Artizan Peru were blessed with the visit of our Founder Susie, who was treated to a farewell party to mark her leaving her role as Overseas Director. I very much look forward to building on the relationships that have been nurtured when I visit Peru, so that we can go forward with confidence and a clear vision.

#### Thank you for all your support and for joining the journey with us.