

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

March 2025









UK

## **Lets Celebrate**

A month of Artizan celebrations as we made the finals of the Stray Ferret local business awards. The awards night is always an opportunity for our members to meet local businesses. We were also delighted that our Harrogate Cafe Manager, Stef, won the employee appreciation award! Congratulations Stef on being recognised for all the many hours of love and hard work you pour into your project.

We have made huge progress in connecting with local businesses this month to provide more work experience placements for our trainees and forge relationships for long term support for our charity. Making these connections helps to grow our services and provide more opportunities for our amazing trainees.

March has seen us connect with Harrogate college to provide training for their SEN students alongside their studies and to partner with both InFutures autism coaching and the Sporting Futures project with Harrogate Town Football club.

## **FUNDRAISING**



**The Big Give** - Thank you to everyone who supported the big Give last week. We raised £1,000 which was match funded to mean this was actually £2,000 for mosaics for schools thank you Jumping for Joy - Sarah our Finance Director will be doing a tandem parachute jump on Friday the  $25^{th}$  of April in aid of Artizan. See if we can help us raise £1,000 for this amazing organisations.

https://artizaninternational.enthuse.com/cf/jumping-for-joy

**The Nidderdale Walk -** calling all Staff, Friends and Volunteers - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of May, please get in touch if you would like to get involved on info@artizaninternational.org

https://www.nidderdalewalk.com/



## **Ecuador**









These first few weeks have been vital in cementing my strategy for the next 6 months. I will be enhancing communication strategies at the charity so that relationships between the Overseas and UK teams are more streamlined. This will ensure that our mission and values are embedded in all localities and cultures. Already I have created some fantastic relationships with our Project Leaders in Ecuador. It has been thrilling learning about their pastoral and project work with the artisans. I will now be putting in place new processes and protocols for product cataloguing, shipping and quality control. This will make sure that we are more efficient, environmentally sustainable and sensitive to evolving economic climates. Furthermore I know it is important to offer the Project Leaders with wellbeing support, particularly when one is acting as a leader. With this in mind, I will be ensuring that there is time to understand their experience and knowledge and use it to push our work forward. I was also able to meet in person one of our Ecuadorian Trustees Katy Griggs who is on home leave in the UK (Top right Katy; left and myself Laura; right). Katy is also visiting our project in Harrogate this week and the team are looking forward to showing her around..

## **PERU**









My work with our Peru team has started very fruitfully and with great pace. I have been enjoying being part of the recruitment of a new Cafe Manager and the start of a new overseas volunteer policy; both of which will ensure a stronger 'artizan family'. In the near future I will be looking at how we can introduce new ways of designing products. I want us to feel confident that these will excite and inspire our audiences and also empower the artisans to keep learning new skills. With so many uncertainties around the world, I want Artizan International to be equipped to champion our work to all global audiences and to continue to be a fantastic role model for all disability charities. I am planning a trip to the project early May and I look forward to the future with excitement and energy!