

Answered Prayers: For those who do not subscribe to the intervention of a “higher authority” our experience in recent months would have required belief in an inordinate number of “coincidences” as problems were faced and solutions became apparent. Thankfully, we at OSA are assured of the source of our success, not the least where finance is concerned.

Since the establishment of Operation South America as a registered charity in October 2007 we have set ourselves demanding financial targets which have been met by individuals and groups, on several occasions at the last minute, but met they have been!

Last Spring, whilst planning for the forthcoming work at Quyquyhó, we were concerned whether we would be able to do more than purchase the new property and maintain funds for the children’s food at the Comedor; so much so that we organised a fundraising barbecue to encourage regular giving. On the very day of the event we received notice of a large donation which would enable us to do all that we planned and more.

OSA or ASO? -(A Special Organisation): OSA is unique in many ways. Those of you who have had close contact with us will know that we strive to ensure that the majority of our funding goes direct to those for whom it is intended. Not for us the 20-30% “administration costs.” We attempt to keep as close to the 100% as possible. We do not have offices or expense accounts and when members of the committee visit Paraguay it is usually at their own expense, as our volunteers can confirm. The only person who receives a small salary is our Paraguayan Director, Osvaldo Recalde, seen here speaking to the 200+ locals of Quyquyhó whom we fed and entertained on the National Children’s Day last August.



A native Paraguayan, Osvaldo is a man of great integrity and vision whose main aim is to serve others. Aply supported by Marie-Louisa, his wife, he uses his knowledge of the country and considerable practical ability to make a big difference to the lives of many, particularly the young and vulnerable. Most of the committee have visited Paraguay and met the Recaldes. Phil Grainger, our Founder, has known them for many years. We think that makes Operation South America rather special and we hope you do too.

Challenging Times: That is not to say that the Recaldes have an easy time. In recent months, due largely to their great hearts, the “family” has grown to 13, mainly girls, for whom they provide a secure and loving home environment, with support from OSA. This is in addition to the 100-150 local children for whom they provide a nutritious meal most school days. However, in October of last year, due to a property ownership dispute, they were all summarily evicted from their home. Thankfully they were able to shelter the family on the OSA property temporarily, whilst they appealed.

The Minister for Children & Adolescents took up their case, observing that their work is unique in Paraguay. That, when coupled with the fact that they work with OSA, which is a registered charity both in UK and Paraguay, was sufficient to result in immediate action. The

house was immediately recognised as a children's home and therefore legally protected against future evictions. Another coincidence? We think not!



The Recaldes



Extended Family



Latest Addition

Eva Moreton: Eva was born in Shanghai, China in 1912. During her 95 years she worked as a missionary in India, then as a nurse in England. As a Christian she prayed and supported God's work at home and overseas throughout her life. OSA is most grateful to her and to her executors for the very generous bequest which allowed our work in Paraguay to make significant progress during 2008

Excitement Contained: Last Autumn we made a local appeal in our home town of Aldridge for children's clothes and toys to send to Paraguay for distribution to the needy. This clearly touched some people's hearts and we were inundated with generous gifts of clothes, toys and other useful items. The reason for our appeal was an offer of space in a 40-foot container bound for Paraguay, organised by Graham Aston, with the support of the Friends of Paraguay and the Paraguayan Embassy. We were able to act as official recipient through our Paraguayan charity registration. As a result many hundreds of poor people, particularly children, will benefit from the supplies sent out.

The largest possible container was required, as the photos show and it left UK in early December. Unfortunately it is presently stuck in a large backlog, somewhere between Buenos Aires and Asuncion, due mainly to falling river levels. We hope that this will not be a long delay. The last estimated time of arrival was early February. At least there is nothing perishable in the container.



Loading up



Nearly full



Ready to roll

Learn More: Although confident, we are never complacent about those of you who make our work possible by giving regularly or periodically. Thank you so much. Your generosity is much appreciated. Please continue to "spread the word" about us. If you would like us to come and tell you more about the work of OSA or you would like to join us as a volunteer or take part in our new Sponsorship programme, please contact us.

UK Registered Charity Number 1121411

Paraguayan International Registration Ruc No. 80050320



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