



December 2017

# Class actions



## Team talk

THE SPORTS department's activities were not immune from the flooding which afflicted the FT building (see over). Due to heavily waterlogged pitches, the closing fixtures of the football season were postponed until early next year. As things stand, three of FT's four boys' teams have qualified for their respective age-groups' semi-finals. The basketball teams play indoors, and so the under-12 and under-14 teams were able to finish their season.

2017 HAS SEEN Fundación Total's Health staff once again run several editions of the Ear & Hearing Care courses, developed by FT and approved by the World Health Organisation. The courses provide instruction at Basic, Intermediate and Advanced levels, and are accessible to non-health practitioners, as well as health professionals.

This year, the course has mostly been taught to people in educational settings. In April and May, the Basic course was taught in three separate local primary schools, to a total of 95 parents of the schools' pupils. More recently, 204 students in a local teacher training college attended another Basic class, held in November (see photograph, right).

FT's Ear & Hearing Care courses form part of our *¡Oye Bolivia!* (Hear Bolivia) programme, which is generously supported by Christian Blind Mission.



## Courses, classes, cake

The Education & Community department, overseen by Carla Camader, ended the year with the usual round of parties for the various after-school classes run for children in the community on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

A party was also held for the *Juguemos Juntos* ('Let's Play Together') mother-and-toddlers' group, which Carla has decided to close due to declining interest in the community. We nonetheless give thanks for the opportunity to reach many parents through this ministry over four years.

Our football coaches, Luís Savaraín and Wilson Menacho, had the privilege of attending a special two-day course in Trinidad in November on coaching theory and practice, run by the Bolivian Football Federation.

Finally, this year's Kids' Games Religious Educational programme came to an end in October (see previous issue), with 60 children in a local school benefitting from the efforts of FT's Sports and Education staff, along with volunteers.

## Water work

A HAZARD OF living in the city of Trinidad is that it is located in a flood basin and the city is particularly vulnerable during rainy season, during the summer months. As a consequence of severe overnight rains in early December, we unfortunately lost a full day of work, and it was a case of 'all hands to the pump' to be ready for the next day. The photograph below shows the view from our front door on that morning. Since the flooding, some structural modifications have been made to the building's exterior to guard against further incursions.

In other news of an aquatic persuasion (!), the new water tower is now up and running. Thank you once again for your prayerful support of this project.



## PRAYER POINTS

- Give thanks for the Lord's goodness to Fundación Totalí in 2017, and pray for his guiding hand in all that we do in 2018.
- Pray for protection for the city of Trinidad and for FT in the coming months of rainy season.
- Pray for relaxation and refreshment for our staff during the Christmas and New Year period (when most workers in Bolivia take holiday time).
- Pray for further opportunities to teach our Ear & Hearing course in 2018.