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The plastic bottle: A lifeline for children in need

Winter has arrived and in some places it is probably even colder than previous ones, usually winters in the highlands of Peru are very cold and are a big challenge for the very poor families who work the land in these areas. It is common that the very young in these communities lose their lives due to pulmonary diseases. This is mainly due to a lack of access to heating or warm clothing. Our thoughts have been with these families this year (as we are living in similar temperatures here but with all the advantages of heating and winter clothes!) and how many couples are going to lose their children without any kind of help or hope. It got us thinking what we could do and what resource is readily available to us in Peru. This led us to the humble plastic bottle, 200 million of them in fact! That is how many are used every year in Peru (mainly by tourists for bottled water) and at present few are recycled. So what use is this to these families in need? Well some of the materials created from recycled plastic bottles, such as fleece and polypro could be distributed as clothing for the families that need it most and make their winter warmer, not to mention create a use for what otherwise ends up an eyesore in Peru's most beautiful places. So to start with, you may notice on our tours we will collect all your bottles, and our aim is to get other companies to do the same, sell these to the recycling companies in Lima and use this money to buy materials to make clothing to distribute. So what we are asking you to do is spread the word, and if you know anyone who may be able to help this scheme get off the ground please get them to contact us.



Winter
retreat

Getting away from it all: A new tour coming soon

We are looking at opening a new off road cycle tour, cycling from camp to camp (yep tents!), using the scarcely travelled old route between Arequipa and Cusco that will give you the feeling of a back country hiking expedition but on two wheels. If you like the freedom of being away from the crowds and the challenge of cycling the whole distance each day (but with the option of a support van of course) this is the tour for you. Watch the "Our News" page on the website for more details or register your interest at info@inkiwiperu.com and we will keep you in the loop!