

Returning “home”

I arrived in Salta only to be greeted by more rain in a weekend than I’d seen than during the whole of my time in the UK! Nonetheless, the blue skies were waiting up in the mountains, although we have had our fair share of storms during the month of March, as Autumn draws nearer.

Athletes in Cachi

A large group of athletes arrived more or less at the same time as me, so there were opportunities to be thinking of how to reach out and get alongside them. I was particularly encouraged after my first conversation with SL, who was really interested to hear about sports chaplaincy and the link between faith and sport. I pointed her to my Facebook page of devotionals for sports people which she seemed to enjoy looking through and sharing with her fellow athletes (she told me the following day).



One of the girls, VR, seriously injured her knee, so I tried to encourage her, even though this was the first time I had met her. She unfortunately had to drop out of the race in Buenos Aires that she had been preparing in Cachi, so again, another opportunity to encourage and pray for her.

On a more positive note, although we are not currently hosting any athletes, we have been able to share over meals with various athletes visiting Cachi, thus sharing something of our lives and faith with them. Many of the top athletes came in March to prepare the South American Gran Prix races in Buenos Aires at the end of the month, and a little “good luck” card is always an opportunity to speak some verses of truth and encouragement into their lives.

More than Conquerors

“Más que Vencedores” is now one year old! We celebrated in our home with eight young people present. We handed out some of the new kit that had been donated to us from UK Athletics via Stuart, thanks to his contacts in high places! Whilst in Salta we managed to get some of the T shirts and sweatshirts embroidered with our logo (“+ q V, Cachi”) and have given some out to those who have been consistent since the beginning of this year. We also used this time together as an



opportunity to share something of the Easter message, showing a video dramatizing the gospel to music and asking the young people some questions about it, using the reason for the name of our team as a springboard for this (i.e. why we can be more than conquerors).

To see the video we showed (with the music in English as oppose to Spanish), see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uFRYdGihO14>

We also have a new Facebook page, all in Spanish for now but with lots of photos; you can see it and “like” it here!

<https://www.facebook.com/masquevencedorescachi>

Finally, my Facebook page of sporting devotionals in Spanish, “*Deporte y Biblia, qué tienen que ver?*” continues to grow in popularity, and I thoroughly enjoy writing from my own experiences, struggles and triumphs, in the hope that this blesses and encourages other Christian sports people; and perhaps provokes questions in any non-Christians that visit the page.