

# FISCH FOOD



November 2011

## the Future for Iringa Street Children monthly news bulletin

It has been a little while since our last newsletter for which we are sorry but it has been a busy couple of months for FISCH here in the UK and Tanzania. There are so many new and exciting things going on that one newsletter will not do it justice. Instead we will give you a taster of some of the things that have been going on this summer and tell you how to find out more or get involved! Thanks for reading and God Bless!

Lissie Gercke

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### Contact Us

If you have any questions or queries about anything you read in FISCH Food or you just want more information about FISCH then please contact;

Rich & Lissie Gercke - richandlissiegercke@yahoo.co.uk  
John Martin - jmm150@hotmail.com

## The homework help club

Since April of this year we have been running a homework help club at the drop in centre for our secondary school children. This came about to meet the need for the young people to have a place where they could go after school to do their homework before returning home where they are expected to help out, often into the evening when it is then too dark to work. Many of the families do not have electricity and so it is not possible for the children to do school work in the evenings. Our secondary children now come to the drop in centre after school during the week to have lunch and then spend an hour or two completing their homework. Thanks to a generous donation from a church team visiting us this summer we now have a very complete library of Tanzanian curriculum textbooks for the children to use at the homework help club. There is always a member of staff on hand with teaching experience to help the students with any problems and to provide extra tuition on various subjects for any students that want some extra help.



In the future we hope to be able to provide something similar for the older primary school children to give them the best possible chance of achieving the grades they need to be allocated a free place at secondary school.



FISCH is a project of  
The Grassroots Trust

(Registered Charity No.  
1060034)  
8 Meadow Way, Farnham,  
Surrey, GU10 4DY

## Rory and Sammy's trip to Iringa:

This summer my wife (Sam) and I had the privilege of working with the FISCH project for two and half weeks at the end of July. It was a thoroughly enjoyable time in which we witnessed the amazing work which God is doing through some highly gifted and generous people living in Iringa. We became involved with the FISCH project very early on in its development as Sam had gone to school with Lissie and the three of us had been involved in the same church for a number of years. After being inspired by the many newsletters and updates that we received regarding the development of the project, we really wanted to get out there ourselves to experience it first hand and to try and serve the guys running the project in whatever way possible.



After arriving in Dar, without our baggage, and enjoying a good night sleep we embarked on the infamous bus ride to Iringa. We were both immediately struck with the beauty of this country, its wildlife and most importantly its people. On arriving in Iringa we felt immediately welcomed with Mote, Rich and the legendary Land Rover that is, 'Hakuna Matata', awaiting our arrival...what a vehicle! During our stay we had the privilege of staying with Mote, Atu and their three boys Simi, Billy and Kasuma. This is such a great family who God is using in wonderful ways to do His work through FISCH. Mote's devotion to God and his knowledge of Him is inspiring and he certainly has the gifting required to lead this project well and deep into the purposes of God. Soon after arrival we were eager to get down to some work!

During our first week with the project, there was another group of guys from the UK also in Iringa working with FISCH. Therefore there was a special week of activity which we did our best to aid in any way possible, playing games and singing mainly! After this week of fun activity passed we settled into helping the team in three main ways.

Helping to organise the FISCH filing systems. From children's files to minutes of staff meetings.

Sam is a biology teacher and so she was using her expertise to aid the development of the new learning centre.

Re-decorating one of the classrooms in the drop in centre and hopefully making it attractive to the children who use the centre.

Due to Sam rudely catching Malaria at the start of our second week, it was down to me to kick off the filing and organising of paperwork. Now for anyone that knows us it is clear that Sam is the neat freak who genuinely, thoroughly enjoys tidying and organising and re-organising whilst I am the one who happily ruins the system whilst being oblivious to the fact that she has indeed created a system... not good! So anyway this was a chance for me to try and redeem myself which I certainly gave my best shot, to what degree of success I suppose can only really be judged by Paul and the guys using the system.



Once Sam was back to full health she embarked on trying to help Joseph and Alex in the learning centre. This involved teaching a few science lessons whilst also trying to give the guys some training in different ways to deliver lessons effectively. She also gave some of the older girls involved in the project some lessons in how to give French Manicures, with the hope that they may be able to use these skills in the future to earn themselves some pocket money.

Once my work was done in creating the world's best filing system, I spent most of my time painting one of the classrooms used for the learning centre and tried to help out with any other jobs which were in need of doing. I also provided a couple of music workshops for some of the older boys involved in the project.

The time we spent with FISCH was certainly a hugely inspiring and humbling experience. The work that is happening in Iringa is truly amazing and we tried our best to support and bless the team there by serving them with the little that we have. We hope and pray that the guys found our stay beneficial and that God empowers them to continue their great work in good health and with lots of success in helping those children in need, to a better future.

Much Love to all,  
Rory and Sam McDonald





## URGENT request for Prayer Partners

Prayer is at the very core of FISCH. We truly believe that this is a God run project and that prayer makes things happen! We are currently looking for dedicated prayer partners across the country who could commit to doing some or all of the following:

- spend a small amount of time each month praying for specific things for the project
- arrange a FISCH prayer meeting a couple of times a year in your local area
- ask your bible study group to include FISCH in their prayer times once a month
- put up a poster of prayer requests somewhere in your church

To become a prayer partner all you have to do is to reply to the sender of this newsletter and say yes. Your email address will then be added to our prayer partners database and once a month you will receive a prayer letter (as shown below) containing our prayer requests and the answers to prayer from the last month. Our hope is that praying for FISCH will not only make a difference in Iringa but it will bless your prayer life and be a testimony of God's power and might for you to use.

Oct 2011



Future for Iringa Street Children

# Prayerpoints:

- PRAY FOR THE REOPENING OF THE ST LUKES CHILDRENS CLUB
- For the children who have finished primary education. That they may get the chance to go to secondary school.
- For the children who have finished primary education. That they may get the chance to go to secondary school.
- For new people to help with the homework club and extra lessons at the drop in centre
- Pray that Mote may be released to work fulltime with Fisch. Rich and Lissie have written to the bishop, we are awaiting a response.
- For Mote's trip to S.Africa (flying on the 9th) to Durban for a week of theological consultation.
- For the new Fisch partnership with the Diocese of Ruaha. That it will be beneficial to the children and inspire more people from Iringa's churches to join hands with Fisch.



# Manicure mini Enterprise!



Many thanks to everyone who donated manicure kit items this summer. Each of our secondary school age girls was presented with a manicure kit and taught how to give a French manicure. They were also given advice on how to cost out a manicure to make enough money to restock their kit and make a profit. It is really important that our young people learn how to be self sufficient and able to provide for themselves and their families using the skills that they have.



THE GRASSROOTS TRUST  
(Charity No: 1060034)  
DONATION FORM FOR FISCH



**Or: Standing Order Authority**

First Name/s:

Last name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

To: *(Name of your Bank)*

Address:

Post Code:

Sort Code: - - Bank Account no:

Please deduct: *(numbers)* £

*(Words)* £

from the above account on / / 20

and thereafter each Month/Quarter/Year (delete as appropriate)

Payee:

THE GRASSROOTS TRUST

HSBC, 140 High Street, Barnet, Herts, EN5 5XW

Sort Code: 40-09-10 Account No: 91169475

**Please send to:**

THE GRASSROOTS TRUST,  
8 Meadow Way, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4DY

I/We wish to financially support the work of THE GRASSROOTS TRUST and would like this donation to be given to **FISCH**.

**Either: I/We enclose a one off cheque for;**  
(payable to THE GRASSROOTS TRUST)

- £5  
 £10  
 £20  
 £50  
 £100  
 other (please state) £  
 (please tick as appropriate)



THE GRASSROOTS TRUST  
(Charity No: 1060034)  
GIFT AID FORM FOR FISCH



First Name/s:

Last name:

Address:

I want The GRASSROOTS Trust (Charity No: 1060034) to treat all donations I make on or after 6th April 2006 as Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

1. As your donation covers donations that you will make in the future, please notify us if you change your name and address while the declaration is still in force.
2. You can cancel the declaration at any time by notifying us. It will then not apply to donations you make on or after the date of cancellation or such later date as you specify.
3. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that we reclaim on your donations in the tax year. This is currently 28p for each pound that you give.
4. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income or capital gains tax equal to the tax that we reclaim, you can cancel your declaration as described in note 2
5. If you pay tax at a higher rate, you can reclaim tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, please contact us. You can also get the leaflet IR113 Gift Aid from your local tax office.