

FISCH food



Edition 4

the Future for Iringa Street Children monthly news bulletin



Welcome to the Christmas edition of FISCH Food! As we all make preparations for Christmas the team in Tanzania is also buying small gifts for the children we work with and sharing with them the love of Jesus. We hope you enjoy this latest update and on the behalf of everyone from FISCH we wish you a merry Christmas!



{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;

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ST LUKE'S club

Left: FISCH kids in new school uniforms at St. Luke's Club. They have just received these new uniforms.

From left to right, back row: Irene, Shazna, Diana, Lemidia and Riziki. Front row: Immanuel, Stone, Otiwa, Johari, Vivian, Gloria and Joseph)

Many thanks to all friends of FISCH who have enabled these kids to have new uniforms; this will help them concentrate on their studies, and eventually be able to break the vicious circle of



FISCH is a project of
The Grassroots Trust

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

poverty in their families, immediate community and nation of Tanzania!

Your support has a direct impact on the poor communities in relation to poverty alleviation and improved quality of life in this part of Africa.

(comment by Mote Magomba)

Lasting Impressions... Update from Adam Stanton

I knew little of the Fisch project when I went out to visit this summer, after meeting up with Rich and Lissie I was looking forward to meeting Mote, his family and getting stuck into the schedule that had been prepared for us. I was pleased that Jon was going to be there with me as it was only my second time in Africa, my first in Tanzania.

After a long journey (the bus broke down) we finally arrived at Mote's home at about 2 in the morning, Attu had food awaiting us and at 3 we sat down and ate. It was the warmth with which I was greeted and looked after by my hosts which re-assured me that I was to have a good stay.

Over the 5 weeks Jon and I where there I was always impressed by the kind and generous hospitality that was offered us as we got stuck into the schedule. There followed days giving the office a much appreciated face lift, helping at the Saturday clubs, and driving around Iringa and the local area to meet the various children that had been affected by the project and to get their stories.

Some of the stories where quite moving, and there was always a story behind the reason why the children end up on the streets. Whilst the society they live in might consider them a 'pest', a closer look at their stories and you could only consider most of them as victims. Whilst interviewing we encountered children who had either been forced to the street through poverty, family death, abandonment and others had ran to the streets to get away from abusive home situations.

Fisch has clearly made a significant impact in these children's lives as well as in the town of Iringa. One local lady commented on the how over the last two years the number of children hanging and begging on the street had significantly decreased, but it was the children themselves who where most appreciative.

As you may know, Fisch endeavours to help children with educational, material, social as well as spiritual needs. I saw evidence of all four of these elements during my visit to various children. Money was provided for school fees and uniforms, children back in school and doing well, others progresses from school and now on carpentry courses.



Fisch has also helped with the process of reconciliation in re-uniting children with their families and in some cases having children stay with the workers of Fisch in their own homes. I was not only impressed by the hard



Above: Stan (left) and John (right) join the Tananian

work and effort that the Fisch staff members put into the project but also of the extravagant kindness they express in sacrificial ways to these children. This is one of the impressions that will last with me from this trip.

Spiritually the children get teaching and prayer at the projects on the Sunday. It is obvious to me that some of the children have a relationship with Jesus which is being strengthened by the Fisch work on the Saturdays. It is my view that this is a continued great need of these children, to realise the love God for them personally and that the relationship he desires with them is possible through the Gospel. I was glad that the Saturday project catered for this, but it was also discussed out in Iringa and back at home with Rich and Lissie how this aspect could also grow.

I wholly recommend that people, if they have a chance, come out and visit the Fisch project for themselves. Not only is Iringa a beautiful town, set in the



hills, near to a national park (safari is awesome) but the Fisch project is run by a dedicated and big hearted group of people who make a lasting impression on you. It is these guys who make it run and have changed the lives of over 100 children to

varying degrees since the project has started.

I look forward to continuing to work with Fisch into the future and will be praying that the planned expansions will continue to change lives.

{ Stan }

Profile of the month

Lissie Gercke

Favourites: Colour - Orange, Film - Pride and Prejudice, Music - Classical, Author- Phillipa Gregory, Food - lasagna,

Involvement with FISCH: I met my husband Rich in Tanzania. We were both really challenged by the injustices faced by the street children we met and started to get to know. While Rich and Mote started to get FISCH up and running in Tanzania I was back in the UK where I started to raise its profile and gather support.

Current Involvement: I help run FISCH along with my husband Rich and our partner in Tanzania Mote. Together we lead the UK team. From the UK we raise (with the help of a lot of prayer) the funds needed to keep the project going and try to keep on top of all the admin needed to keep things going. Rich and I are in regular conversation with Mote and always have something to be discussing or trying to decide a way forward for. It makes for a busy life but I believe that God is for this project and I feel privileged that he has given me work to do.



Prayer Points

Half way house: FISCH plans to build a 'half way house', a short distance from town, where children can find a safe refuge for a number of weeks whilst the process of praying, planning, counselling and reconciling continues to identify and enact a more sustainable solution. Please pray that God will lead us to a suitable site and provide for this vision!

Christmas for the street kids:

Please pray for the many children FISCH are working with this Christmas. Our team will be working to bring joy into their lives and remind them that they too are valued at this time of year. Pray for the FISCH team in Tanzania that God will sustain them in this work and bless them richly!

Answered Prayers

Last month we asked you to pray that Mote and his wife Atu (who lead the FISCH team in Tanzania) would be able to visit the



UK in 2010. As a team we were praying that God would provide the finance for this by Christmas. Amazingly He did this with a month and a half to spare! We are now busy planning their trip which will begin in September for a duration of 4 weeks. If you'd like to meet with Mote, or to invite him to speak at an event then get in touch asap!



Shazna - A street girl who has recently been re-housed is settling in very well. Thank you for remembering her in your prayers!

Fundraising idea of the month



St Saviour's Card Sale

The children of St. Saviour Guildford raised over £100 for FISCH by selling cards after the service.

Thank you so much for all your hard work and thank you to Liz Jenkins for arranging the event!

If you've had a fundraising event for FISCH then we really want to hear from you! Please send a short description of who you are, what you did, how much it raised and a photo if you have one to noahsapprentice@yahoo.co.uk



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



Or: Standing Order Authority

First Name/s:

Last name:

Address:

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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



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.