



TO WITNESS THE LOVE OF  
JESUS CHRIST TO THE  
STREET CHILDREN  
OF IRINGA BY STRIVING TO  
MEET THEIR NEEDS  
THAT THEY MAY EXPERIENCE  
LIFE IN ALL ITS  
GOODNESS

## Welcome to the Spring edition of FISCH Food!

The flowers are out, the bumblebees are buzzing, and summer is around the corner! We hope this edition of the FISCH Food finds you well. As usual, we have plenty of news and updates to share with you, our Friends of FISCH. These include Vocational Training updates, some wonderful testimonies of FISCH Kids being reunited with their families, and the Easter celebrations at the Drop-in-Centre.

As always, to God be the glory and praise for sustaining the Project, Children and both Teams, and a huge thank you to our Friends and Supporters. We are honoured to be involved in this ministry with you.

We really hope you enjoy reading this edition, as much as we love sharing the great news with you!



### Health Insurance Provision



In Tanzania, **health care isn't free**. If you can't pay, you won't be seen by a doctor or treated for any illness or injury. The Team in Tanzania are able to give **First Aid** and the Drop-in-Centre carries **basic medical supplies**, but beyond this, a nurse or doctor is required.

Wonderfully, this year, in large part to a hugely generous donation from a Friend of FISCH named David, we have been able to provide Health Insurance for an **amazing 420 Children!** The Children at the Short-Term Accommodation, those who are Food Parcel Beneficiaries, and those who join us for Breakfast and Lunch Projects, are all covered if they need to go to hospital and receive medical services. This could make a **huge impact** to the lives of some of these Children – let's hope they never need to go to a hospital, but if there is a need, praise God that they now have the means to do so! So David, we say a huge **THANK YOU** to you!







## FISCH Church and Easter Celebrations

FISCH Church continues to thrive, and Easter Sunday was no exception! The Church is held in the courtyard at the Drop-in-Centre each Sunday, with the **Team, Children, families and local members** of the community joining in with the lively worship and teaching. On Easter Sunday, the Church was especially full (with **over 160** attendees!), where the message of the day was based on **John 14:1-9**. The Children were provided with a **social meal** together of rice, spice rice with beef, chicken, vegetables, fruits and soft drinks (a real treat!) As you can see from the photos, they had a lovely time!





## Elijah's Reunification with Family



Elijah\* is one of the Children who had been **living in the Short-Term Accommodation** at FISCH's Drop-in-Centre. During his time there he attended the **FISCH Sewing Class** and after a year completed his Certificate. In addition to this training, the FISCH Team provided regular **counselling** and **life-skills education**, and began the process of tracing his family. After many months of hard work, in partnership with the local Government Social Welfare Department, and in line with Elijah's own wishes, our Social Workers were able to approve the transfer of Elijah to live with a relative.

The journey itself involved several hours of travel, after which Elijah, together with **FISCH Social Worker Gasper** and the local Social Welfare Officers, were able to meet with his Aunt. She was **very happy** to see him after almost two years! She stated, "**Thanks everyone** who made this happen, as well as the FISCH UK Team for your support to him and for FISCH Tanzania as well".

Here you can see in the photos Elijah and his friends at the Drop-in-Centre before farewells were made, Elijah and his very happy aunt, and Elijah, his aunt, Gasper and the social workers shaking hands.



Thank you to everyone who prayed into Elijah's situation, and thank you to Gasper for accompanying Elijah back home to his aunt!



*\*Names have been changed to protect identities*



## Sewing Class Update



Operations Manager **Erasto** joined the Sewing Class recently to have some talks with the **Students**. His aim was to **encourage and motivate** the Students and to find out about any **challenges** they are facing. It also gave the Students a great opportunity to **share what they have learnt**, and to **show off their creations**, and for Erasto to try a few on! Erasto reports that progress is good. Well done Sewing Class!







## The Food Parcel Sponsorship Programme



The Food Parcels are an integral part of our ministry and impact in Iringa. These aren't just sacks of maize flour we are giving out to Children – we are giving their families **essential nutrition** via wholesome meals, which allows the **Children and their families** to **focus on other pursuits**, such as education or paid work, or **helps keep families together**, because there is enough food to go around. Each month we provide many, many Food Parcels to grateful families, and it is a pleasure to do so. Each Food Parcel costs each sponsor **£24.50** a month, and provides **25kg of maize flour, 3kg beans, 5kg rice, 1kg sugar and 1 litre of oil**. If you'd like to find out more or Sponsor a Child (and their family!) then check out this QR code, visit [gofisch.org/food-parcel-sponsorship](http://gofisch.org/food-parcel-sponsorship), or email Sarah at [sarahfarrar88@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahfarrar88@hotmail.com).



## Noah's Reunification with His Brother

Noah\* is another of our Children who have benefitted from the **Short-Term Accommodation** and fantastically has moved **back in with family**. He was born in 2006 and has a brother, both of whom were raised by their grandmother, as his father sadly abandoned his mother who suffered from mental illness. Due to the challenge of growing up in a struggling home, Noah did not complete his primary education studies and **left school early**. At age 13, he left the family home and moved in with other relatives, but he was not well cared for, so he ran away to the city of Iringa and began **sleeping on the streets**. He remained living on the streets for almost two years, before taking the opportunity to move into FISCH safe accommodation at the Drop-in-Centre, and was also supported by FISCH with Vocational Training in Motor Mechanics....

*Continued...*



*Noah Continued...*

Having recently graduated, he is now gaining experience working in a local garage.

Noah had developed a lot of **self-reliance** and **determination** in his life, as a consequence of his younger years, but we were keen to reunite Noah with his family. His elder brother was located by the FISCH Team, and after discussions his older brother was happy to **welcome him back** into a sibling relationship and to then **oversee Noah** in his ongoing path of life. In partnership with the Municipal Social Welfare Officer, Noah was re-united with his brother, and he is starting his new life. FISCH helped Noah to sort his **basic needs**, including renting a room, and will continue to keep in contact with him, encouraging him and assisting him where necessary so he can continue to move forward, **bettering his life and circumstances**.

What a great testimony to hear! Please do pray for Noah to continue in his progress, both relationally and also in his mechanics training.

*\*Names have been changed to protect identities*



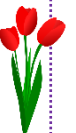
## International Women's Day



2025



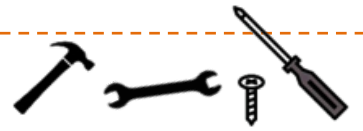
International Women's Day is celebrated around the globe on **8<sup>th</sup> March** each year, celebrating the **achievements** of women, raising awareness about **discrimination** and actioning **gender parity**. Tanzania is no exception! The Women of the FISCH Team (**Emiliana, Lucy, Eva** and **Paulina**) joined in with the marches around Iringa town. Their banner reads "women and girls, to strengthen justice, equality and empowerment". We are so grateful to have some **amazing women** as part of our Tanzania Team!







## Vocational Training: Why?



It's not always appropriate for Children to continue in academic channels of education, and so Vocational Training (VT) continues to be an important avenue of education following on from early formal education to our FISCH Children. It is a source of **skill** and **character development** and many of our Vocational Students complete their course and go on to have **gainful employment** utilising their skills. This gives them the opportunity to become **self-sufficient** and **contribute to society** – and to be a **source of inspiration** for any Street Children following in their footsteps.

Vocational Students live **with family** in the local area or at the FISCH **Short-Term Accommodation**. Courses available can include carpentry, motor mechanics, sewing training, driving qualifications, hotel management, building construction, hairdressing and beauty, welding, and sofa construction.

The Tanzanian Team are in regular contact with the Vocational Students, both during their training and afterwards, to see how the Students are getting on and what challenges they might be facing. The Team will help Students to **seek employment, helping with online job searches, CVs, applications and preparation** for job interviews.

### VT: Visit To Vocational Training College

Recently two members of the Team, **Erasto** and **Emeliana**, visited **VETA** (Vocational Education and Training Authority) College to visit some of our Vocational Students who are working and studying there. After conversing with the Students and their teachers, it sounds as if **all four of them are doing well!** Erasto and Emeliana also had the opportunity to meet with the VETA College Principal, who sends his greetings and thanks to all FISCH Teams and Supporters.

**Bahati** and **Daniel** are training in Welding, with a further year training ahead of them.

**Salimu** is studying a Carpentry course, with a further year of studying ahead of him.

**Haruni** is studying a 2 year Certificate in Motor Mechanics.



## From Vocational Training to Employment



It's wonderful to see the Students thriving in their training, but another joy entirely to see them progress from education to employment! Here we share how some of our Students have moved successfully into the world of work...

**Msando** was supported through the VT Fund to attend a course in Construction at a local sugar company, which has included training for large equipment such as CAT diggers! (see picture below) The VT Fund covered the costs of his training and also his living expenses during this time. He has now completed his training at the Kagera sugar company and has since applied for a job at a company in Iringa and constructs irrigation systems for farms. We are thrilled to share that Msando got the job! He is currently working through a paid probationary period, and if all goes well he will be provided with a permanent contract and better pay. Amazing! Well done Msando!

**Eunice** (below right) was supported by a FISCH Sponsor through her Diploma in Forestry, which she completed in August 24. She has recently found a volunteer job in Amani Forestry, a government reserve in the Tanga region. As part of this volunteer job she receives accommodation and meals, plus a small payment each month.

**Edson's** graduation from his Carpentry Certificate was featured in the last FISCH Food. He is now enjoying being employed and paid for his work

**Two of our Vocational Students** have completed their Motor Mechanics courses and negotiations with two local garages means that they are both happily employed now. They both enjoy their work and express their gratitude for the help they have received.

One of our earliest Vocational Students, **Novarth**, started as a beneficiary of the Food Parcel Scheme, finished his basic academic education, completed a vocational training course, and is enjoying working in a city as a loans officer in a microfinance business. Although he isn't employed in his field of training, the Vocational Training gave him a real sense of purpose and self-worth, which is a success in itself!



We have many more students who are currently engaged and enrolled in several different vocational courses, and we hope you can see the value in supporting our FISCH Children through these options. **If you'd like to find out more**, please check out this **QR code**, or visit **[gofisch.org/education-support](https://gofisch.org/education-support)**. Thanks!







## School Uniform and Stationery Distribution



Did you know, if you cannot purchase your own uniform and equipment for school, **you cannot attend?**

This is the **challenge** many Children face, on top of finding funds for other school contributions. However, **FISCH can help**. Where possible we **utilise our very own Sewing Class** to make some items of uniform, and we can also **purchase other items** such as shoes, pens, pencils, books, and so on, to ensure as many Children as possible can complete their education.

**The Children are so grateful** to receive these items! Here they are keen to show off their new school equipment and uniforms.

If you or your school would like to chip into the Uniform Fund, please do send us an email! [office@gofisch.org](mailto:office@gofisch.org).



## Provision of Equipment to Goodluck

The person with the broad smile here is Goodluck, who has been provided with his **uniform, stationary, school clothes, overalls, bag, safety shoes** and more, along with the **funding** to pay for his college fees and transport to college so that he can start his Vocational Training at VETA in Iringa and continue his education. He was very grateful to FISCH, and we are **thrilled to be supporting** him in this way.







## Youth Club



It all started at FISCH back in **2007** with the **Saturday Feeding Project**, and the provision of **community, socialising, fun, games, teaching** and a **meal** continues to this day. **The Youth Club** was re-launched in February, and the Team gave the Kids the opportunity to share about the topics that they would like covered at subsequent Youth Clubs. It's great to see the Youth Club **back in action!**



## A Frugal Fundraiser

In January this year one of our supporting churches held a **fundraiser** in aid of FISCH. Each month **The Community Church (Forest & Wye)** holds a church lunch for all its members, families and friends. In January, the theme was "**A Frugal Lunch**", where, instead of the vast banquets the church lunches were renowned for, a simpler fare was offered – **soup and a bread roll!** The church was invited to think on how much we have, compared to some people in life – for instance, the Children on the Streets in Iringa. Members were then invited to donate the money they would have perhaps otherwise spent on a Sunday lunch that day. The meal featured an update from FISCH by a UK Team Member, talking about **ugali** and the kind of meals that are served to the Children at the Drop-in-Centre. **Over £300** was raised at this event – not bad for a 'frugal fundraiser'!



*Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God, all things are possible." – Matthew 19:26*



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