

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**



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Welcome to the Summer edition of FISCH  
**Food!**

Greetings Friends of FISCH! We hope you have been enjoying the recent good weather and had a nice summer holiday. School starts again soon for us in the UK, but in Tanzania the Primary and Secondary school year runs from January to December. We have lots of news and updates to share with you in this issue, with regular features such as FISCH Utd and the Food Parcel Sponsorship programme, but also some new features, such as the FISCH Garden. Read on to find out more!  
 Thank you for your support, and please enjoy this edition of the FISCH Food.



**FISCH Garden**

At FISCH we believe we need to help the Kids by taking a “**grassroots approach**” – by this, we mean working from the **root of the problem** (for instance, lack of food within a household) and providing **resolutions** to these problems (for instance, Food Parcels) which then allow the Kids to stay at their family home, have the time and focus to go to school, learn, find employment and **then provide for themselves and their family**.

Well, the Kids and Team at FISCH have taken this approach literally! In February of this year, **FISCH Garden** was planted, firstly with **kale** and **mchicha** (similar to spinach) and then with mchicha again. The Garden is cared for by the Kids who are the in the Short Term Accommodation, who water it every morning and help **harvest** the crops. So far there have been **three harvests** of vegetables, and all of the produce has been used to supplement the Children’s meals at the Drop-in-Centre. How brilliant is this?



*Left: the mchicha growing in the garden*

*Right: one of the Kids tending the Garden while others play*





## FISCH Utd Update



**FISCH Utd A and B Teams** have been involved in some local matches recently. Here you can see the B Team showing off their very bright orange footy strip! Sports encourage **teamwork** and **discipline**, along with a healthy body. No league has yet been joined, however one of the Teams got to the Semi-final of a Cup! **Go Team FISCH!**



### *A Message from Rich, FISCH Team Leader*



#### **Drop-In-Centre Building Update**



Those of you who have been supporting us for a few years, will be aware that we completed the first building of a **new Drop-In-Centre**, thanks to the incredible support of the **TSS Awareness Campaign** ([tssaware.org.uk](http://tssaware.org.uk)), in memory of **Natasha Scott**. We are so grateful to **Mike, Mandy, Jean and Dan**, and all who have supported them in their fund-raising efforts!

After completing the first building, plans for the second were put on hold as we assessed a **new opportunity** (see below), and considered how best to distribute FISCH's activities in light of that opportunity.



#### **Vocational Training Centre and Accommodation**



Late last year we met with an English couple called **Simon and Grace**, with careers in **development** and **architecture**, they were interested to explore how they could help fulfil our long term vision for both a Drop-in-Centre and Vocational Training Centre.

After visiting FISCH in April, they returned **inspired** and have offered their skills to help design both the **second building** at the Drop-in-Centre, and **develop a new site** which would include a **Vocational Training Centre and Accommodation**.



Therefore, I am excited to share that, with their help, **over the next 2 years we hope to be completing both of these ambitious building projects**. The Vocational Training Centre will be a place where Children can be **equipped with skills such as tailoring, carpentry and basic agriculture**, to supplement their education, and enhance their chances of employment in the future.

We will also have **accommodation** on the same site, where children who have no home may spend a short period whilst we seek to **locate relatives, rehabilitate and reunite with families**.

It is incredibly exciting that in a few years' time we may be able to provide even more homeless and vulnerable Children with more comprehensive support!

As God grows our capacity with respect to physical structures, the next step is to **grow the human resources of volunteers in the UK** in order to raise greater awareness and funding to enable us to make full use of our increased future capacity.

I will communicate more about this in the next newsletter, but **if you are inspired by the work of FISCH**, and would like to find out more about **potential voluntary opportunities** in the UK, or would like to **financially support** this growth, please contact me directly at [rich@gofisch.org](mailto:rich@gofisch.org).





## Happy Birthday Atu!

**Atu and Mote** head up FISCH Tanzania and recently Atu celebrated her **birthday**. All the FISCH Kids and Team sang her Happy Birthday, and to **celebrate a meal** was prepared with an added bonus of cooled **soda drinks** and a **cake!** **Happy Birthday Atu**, and **thank you** for all that you do at FISCH!



## Uniform & Stationary Fundraiser



In Tanzania primary and secondary education at government schools is free from tuition fees. However barriers such as **uniform, exercise books** and **stationary costs** must still be overcome by the parents. For children who have no parents or come from very poor families where the priority is simply to put **food on the table**, these barriers prove too much, and children cannot attend school.

To help overcome this for FISCH kids, FISCH has a target to raise enough funds to provide up to **100 children** with all the necessary uniform and stationary each year. Our target amounts to over £3,000, or £30 a child. We are seeking supporters to commit to give annually towards this cause, and so build up a fund which can be used each year to support these children.

To get things moving, inspired by her trip to FISCH in January, **Carolyn** of the UK FISCH Team held a **birthday party fundraiser**, where guests were invited to give to this cause. Over **£1,500** was raised which is fantastic! **Thank you to all who gave, and thank you to Carolyn!**

If you would like to support this cause with a regular donation, or simply a one off, please contact Carolyn via [office@gofisch.org](mailto:office@gofisch.org).



## Temporary "Property Development"!



The Kids have been enjoying some new additions to the building facilities at the FISCH Drop-in-Centre – two **pop-up castles!** These colourful properties were donated to the DiC by **Simon & Grace** who visited FISCH in April. (see "A Message From Rich" above for more info)





## Parents & Guardians Meeting



Recently the Drop-in-Centre hosted a “**Parent’s Meeting**” with the Parents and Guardians of FISCH Kids and the Team in Iringa. The Team discussed how to offer the necessary **moral support for Children** with regards to **staying in and continuing their education**, and managing the rigours of **growing up** as a young person. There were also conversations about how Children who had been placed back into their families were getting on, and how as FISCH we could best work with their parents to ensure that the Kids **settle into their homes and continue with their education**. There was also discussion about capital support for those who would like to start **small enterprises** to support their rehoused Kids.

Here is a photo of the Parents and Guardians who took part in the Parents Meeting. You can see lots of examples of the amazing Tanzanian fabric patterns and colours that are worn in Iringa.



## Food Parcel; Update

Each month, some of our **Kids and their Families** receive Food Parcels. These are provided for by our kind Supporters who **Sponsor** a Food Parcel each month, with currently over **30** Children being provided for! Each Parcel contains **maize flour, beans, sugar and cooking oil**. Providing a regular source of food and nutrition for a family has many **positive consequences** – family units stay together, Children stay off the Streets begging, go to school instead of working to bring an income in, and can focus on their studies better. This is an example of our “grassroots up” approach. If you’re interested in signing up to the **Food Parcel Sponsorship Scheme**, please contact the coordinator **Sarah** at [sarahmaguire@onething.org.uk](mailto:sarahmaguire@onething.org.uk). Each Sponsorship is **£19.50** a month and you will receive an update on the Child receiving the Parcel twice a year.



Here are some of our Children with their Families receiving their monthly Food Parcels.



## Mohamad's Illness and Recovery



Recently one of our FISCH Kids contracted **malaria**. Malaria is spread by the bites of **mosquitoes** and it is a common problem in Tanzania. Iringa is in the southern highlands and so doesn't have as many mosquitoes compared to Dar es Salaam, on the lowland coast, but it is still a concern. Mohamad fell ill but was taken to the doctors and received **medical attention** at the hospital. His medical fees and the medications he was prescribed were covered by FISCH funds, and **thankfully Mohamad has made a full recovery**. He has also been **re-connected** with his family in Dar es Salaam. Mohamad and the Team are grateful for the support he has received from Supporters and Friends of FISCH.



## Prayer Points

FISCH always has been and always will be **God's Project**. He has sustained FISCH through good times and lean times and His provision is daily. We at FISCH love **partnering with Him** to bring **His Kingdom and Love** to the **Street Children of Iringa**, and if you would like to partner with Him too, please feel free to hold these prayer points in your prayer time. With blessings, and thank you.

- God's blessing upon all those who have been **reunited** with families and relatives in the past few months, or who have moved in with foster families
  - Additional provision and support for the **Education Fund**
  - **Wisdom** throughout the planning process for the building work
  - Provision of **volunteers** to support FISCH in the UK to grow

## Mini Updates

**Pastor Peter** has settled well into his role at FISCH, and is a key **father figure** to the Kids and a **wise head** within the Team.



The **Sewing Club** is going well, and **Eva** is doing excellently as the teacher there. They have made a few items for the Kids, and the plan is for them to begin making some of the **school uniform items** for next year.

## Want to Find out More or Get Involved?

If you have enjoyed reading this edition of the FISCH Food and would like to know more about FISCH and the Kingdom work that we do in Tanzania, please check out our website **[gofisch.org](http://gofisch.org)**.

The website has past editions of the Food and Bites, information about the ongoing Ministries that happen, introductions to the Teams in the UK and Tanzania, plus loads more. There are also lots of ideas and suggestions as to how you can get involved and support FISCH with your prayers, time, efforts and finances.



Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. *Galatians 6:9*



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