

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 October FISCH Bites!

Brr, there's a nip in the air! We have some great news to share with you this month, both from here in the UK and Iringa, Tanzania. We love sharing our updates with you – it's a real pleasure to be able to show you the fruits of your support. We hope you enjoy the read, and as always, thank you for your prayers, donations and support. Asante sana!

## Celebrating FISCH Day – Happy 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday to FISCH!

Can you believe it? It's the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday of FISCH!!

FISCH started on 1<sup>st</sup> September back in **2007** – and since then, we have been seeking to witness the **love of Christ** to the Street Children of Iringa, **to give them a hope and a future**. God has been so so good – starting with just a Saturday Feeding Project, with a **handful of Street Kids**, a bible story, a kickaround with a ball, and of course a meal – to what we can serve the Children with now; a **Drop-in-Centre, Short-Term Accommodation, Breakfast Club, Education Support, Food Parcel Sponsorship, FISCH Church, FISCH Utd football club, Sewing Club, Vocational Training, After School Tuition Support, School Uniform Provision, Long Term Shelter Support** – and of course the **Saturday Feeding Project**. We have had over **1600** Children come through our doors and through our ministries – that's **1600** lives impacted for the better, giving each Child a better chance at a happy, wholesome future. Not only that, but it is also **1600 families** supported and ministered to. It's not only life-changing to these Children and their families, but it impacts the community too, contributing to society and the City of Iringa itself.

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The FISCH  
Team, L to R;

Jane  
Emiliana  
Charles  
Erasto  
Gasper  
Eva  
Nassoro



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To celebrate 18 years of **serving the Street Children** and 18 years of God **providing for His Project**, the Team in Tanzania held a celebratory FISCH Day, where a local hall was hired, decked out, and invites delivered. There was even an invitation via the local radio station! A huge fundraising, celebratory party took place! The Team and the Children invited **their families and local stakeholders**, and were honoured to receive local Social Welfare Officers, local Government leaders, police officers, along with the guest of honour, **District Medical Officer for Iringa Municipality, Dr Godfrey Mbangali**. Other organisations and businesses were also in attendance, such as Mama Iringa, Clock Tower Café, Nuru FM, Turnbull Tech College, YoungLife, and more. What a crowd! They all came together to acknowledge and celebrate the fabulous work that is being done for the Street Children, and also by the Street Children – some of the Children put on **performances** for the audience's enjoyment, and the latest Sewing Club Graduates were given their **graduation certificates**, to much applause.

And of course, there was **dancing**! It's not an African celebration without some moves! The Children danced, the Team danced – at one point the parents and guardians of the Children got up on the stage and danced to celebrate the success of their Children, and to celebrate FISCH and all its ministries. Such fun!

**We are so honoured** to be entering into the nineteenth year of ministry to the Children of Iringa – co-partnering with God to bring the Street Children a hope and a chance of a better future. To everyone who has supported us through the years who is reading this – **that's you!** – we are so grateful, truly, for your support, your prayers, your generous financial gifts. We really hope you can see the fruits of your generosity and love. **Thank you so much.** Here's to the next year of FISCH =)





## School Lunch Fund Kickstarter – A UK-Tanzanian Effort



At FISCH we try to support Children **back into Education**, be that at **School and College** or through **Vocational Training**. There are many reasons Children are unable to go to school – although in Tanzania the government provides free Primary and Secondary education to Children, there are other costs that parents and guardians face, such as **school uniform, stationary, school shoes**. FISCH helps out wherever possible, be it by **providing** the uniform, stationary, fees, or other equipment required.

Something that we are looking to start providing for is the **provision of school lunches**. This is another financial burden on many families who already struggle, and it may be that a Child is able to go to school and have all the equipment and uniform, but then they are at school from **7am to 4pm with no meal in this time**, and often a long walk to and from school, back home. In fact many Children get by **on only one meal a day** – and we can all agree that concentrating on an empty stomach is a challenge.

For this reason we are hoping to start up a **School Lunch Fund** – and it will do exactly what it sounds like it will do. It is a fund to help provide school lunches to those Children who need them. It's about **30p a meal, or £6 per month per Child** – not much at all – but it will make a huge difference to the Child who gets to eat a proper meal at lunch time, for them to be able to concentrate on their studies better.

To help **kickstart this School Lunch Fund**, one of our UK Team members decided to raise sponsorship to run her first **half marathon**, and the Tanzanian Team decided to **join in on the fun!**



On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, an **8-strong running team** from FISCH ran a **10k tour around Iringa Town**, decked out in FISCH t shirts and carrying a FISCH flag. Their theme for the marathon was **“Your hand is their hope” (“mkono wako ni matumaini yao”)** – an amazing reminder that through teamwork and a helping hand, these Children at FISCH stand a better chance at a happy, fulfilled life. The running team comprised of **Erasto, Nassoro, Lazaro and Emiliana** (Tanzanian Team Staff); **Salim, Zabron and Aloyce** (FISCH beneficiaries); and **Silvanus** (a supporting community member). Together the eight of them covered the 10k distance, and amazingly made it onto **three local TV channels**, which then covered their race and interviewed them about FISCH and it's ministries!! How cool is that?!

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On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September, it was Paige's turn. Paige is a long-standing Uk Team member who signed up to run **Forest of Dean Autumn Half Marathon**, raising sponsorship and awareness of FISCH in the months leading up to it. She finished the **13.1 miles** through the Forest of Dean wearing a smile and the **Tanzanian flag** on her shoulders. Hoorah!

Between the Tanzanian Team and Paige, a **huge £2,793.77 was raised!** This is enough to provide **9,312 School Lunches** for Children at FISCH – what an achievement!

If you were one of the many people who supported Paige and the Tanzanian runners and donated towards their cause, we would love to say a huge **ASANTE SANA** for your kindness and generosity!

We are hoping to build up this Fund, but that means many regular donations are needed to ensure we can pay for school lunches on an ongoing basis. **If you, your school or business would like to get involved with a regular donation**, please do let us know, as it will make a huge difference! A monthly **£6 donation** would provide a FISCH Child in School with School Lunches for a month, or **£30** would provide School Lunches for 5 Children! You can contact us at [office@gofisch.org](mailto:office@gofisch.org) for more information or to learn how to partner with this in this Fund. **We'd be super grateful!**



### Want to get involved?

If you'd like to contribute regularly and start supporting a Child or Children with their School Lunches, our bank details are;

**77518462**

**60-09-21**

**"FISCH"**

**Reference: School Lunches**

**Thank You!!**



### **Company Secretary Wanted!**

FISCH UK is looking for a volunteer who can take on **Company Secretary duties** such as Charity Commission and Companies House filings and other regulatory tasks.

This is an opportunity to **support the Trustees** and **contribute to the running** of the Charity without the need for a weekly commitment. Could you spare **1-3 hours a month** to support the work of FISCH in this way? You don't need to be qualified or have previous experience.

If you are interested and would like more details of the role, please contact [rich@gofisch.org](mailto:rich@gofisch.org). **Thanks!**

*And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus,  
the pioneer and perfecter of faith – Hebrew 12:1-2*



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