



TOUCH Ireland is a totally voluntary charity with no salaries paid to any member.
100% of donations for our projects go to our projects.

Zambia Visit 2018

We arrived in Lusaka on Friday 14th April at 14.30 after our long flights through Addis Ababa. The trip went well with no problems but it was tiring. Declan McGovern a Senior Counsel from the Bar Council of Ireland came with us this year for the first time.



Our next call was to visit Chipata compound and see Sr. Paula and Sr. Loice. The Nutrition centre is looking well and the food programme there gives meals to about 80 children. Some work needs to be done on in the kitchen and together we agreed to give the money for these repairs to Sr. Paula. (Above)

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter '18

On Saturday morning after a good rest and breakfast we first went to visit St. Michaels School to see how the new school block was developing. It was coming along well and we set the date for the official opening for the 10th May.

We then traveled with Sr. Loice to see the new school St. Francis & St. Clare that she is building in Roma District of Lusaka on land that TOUCH Ireland managed to help her secure. Sr. Loice secured the funding herself for the land and the construction. This school is a two storey one with wheelchair accessibility. It will be a fantastic school when completed, catering for children up to grade 12.



The next stop on Saturday afternoon was to Misisi Compound in the heart of Lusaka to see one of 'The Cherise Foundation' projects with George who is the project Manager. This project is a school in the middle of a compound that is badly in need of upgrading and even an extra school block. We met with some of the Community members and Teachers. This is a possible future project for TOUCH Ireland to build a New School Block here. (Above)

The container sent by TOUCH Ireland in February has desks, chairs, books and other school items for this project as well as all the football jerseys, footballs and other much needed items for TOUCH Ireland projects in Zambia. It is hoped that it will arrive during our Zambian visit!

Donate to TOUCH Ireland

You can donate by PayPal on the TOUCH Ireland Website: <http://touchireland.net/>

By Cheque made out to TOUCH Ireland or by Cash

Please send your Donation to TOUCH Ireland, 17 Monread Meadows, Naas, Co. Kildare

Guardian's School, Chilanga & St. Patrick's School, Mapepe - Lusaka

Chilanga and Mapepe Community Schools

Monday and Tuesday we had arranged to do Child Sponsorship in Guardian Angels School in Chilanga and St. Patrick's in Mapepe, both these schools are in Lusaka. We were delighted to see children looking and doing so well in school. The computer lab in Guardian Angels is of great benefit to the students and teachers. On Tuesday evening we met Naomi Chanda who is in her second year in Nursing and being sponsored by TOUCH Ireland's Fate Bursary. Naomi is very happy in her course and we are confident that she will do well in her training.

Mazabuka Wednesday April '18

Flamboyant Special Needs School, (Below) Mazabuka 'When we visited here we were given a very special treat by the children of singing, acting and dance'.



Kalaya Community School (above) in the Southern Province where we checked in on all our sponsored children. All are doing fine!



We also purchased a lot of School Materials for both schools

Kitwe: On Monday morning 23rd April at 05.00am we left Lusaka and headed on our trip North to Kitwe. The trip takes 6 hours of continuous driving on narrow twisty roads but we were looking forward to seeing all the children at Day Springs Faith Centre. We arrived at 12pm and following a cup of tea we went to visit Day Springs in the heart of Luangwa Compound Kitwe. We were entertained as always with singing and dancing and warmly welcomed.

The children on the child sponsorship scheme are doing very well, we also saw two girls from the centre, Violet and Cynthia that are sponsored by TOUCH Ireland' education grant scheme for Teacher training and Catering College. In the evening we met up with Lucky a young girl who will also be sponsored for catering College this year.

We then went to Day Springs again for the food programme at the drop in centre built by TOUCH Ireland. The children come from the compounds nearby and there were over 100 children getting a nutritious meal. We are always touched by the poverty and yet these children still manage to greet us with a smile. After the meal we treated them to some sweets and crisps.



On our last leg of this trip we stopped in Ndola to meet Thandi and her family. TOUCH is sponsoring Thandi through our education grant to do her grade 12. It was lovely to meet her and her family before heading back on our 6 hour trip to Lusaka. We arrived back very tired.

Bangladesh Food Programme Waterford Greenway and a Bit More!

Our good friend Brian O'Brien ran a 50km again on April 21st to pass the afternoon, and, more importantly, to raise much-needed funds again for the SSSO Food Programme in Bangladesh. Thank you Brian on behalf of all the children and all involved with TOUCH Ireland



TOUCH Ireland - Western Province

On Sunday 29th April we headed the 600Km West to Kaoma where it all began for TOUCH Ireland. We now have a lot of projects in the Western Province so it was going to be a very busy period! Here are some of the highlights!

Sepo Food Programme - Kaoma

This food programme is funded by TOUCH Ireland and coordinated by members of TOUCH Zambia. The programme caters for around 40 children with a meal three times a week. We are now also sponsoring some of these children's education through our Kaoma Child Sponsorship scheme.



The second morning in Kaoma: it was a nice cool 28 Deg. when we presented TOUCH FC with a new set of football gear that we carried out in our baggage. All were delighted and now await the arrival of our Aid Container next week with all their new football boots! This is a team that was setup for underprivileged children. We wish them well.



Mangango Food Programme

We headed off through dirt tracks with a truck full of supplies for our food programme and to see the children on the child sponsorship scheme. We visited the two schools Namalazi and Kalundu funded by TOUCH Ireland and we were very happy to see them going so well. The children are thriving and doing very well in school as a result of all the support they are getting from TOUCH Ireland. It's great to see the value of our support for these children.



Children receiving Food Stuffs in Kalundu and Namalazi Schools.



Official Opening of Kandongo School Block

During our visit we had the official opening of Kandongo School, Mangango District funded by TOUCH Ireland, the school has now been renamed Maheba. It was a momentous day with Parents and Children dancing and singing, truly excited about the new school. Now the small children will not have to try and cross the river in the rainy season and risk drowning due to the flooding. There were representatives from the Government and Education Board as well as TOUCH Zambia. The photos tell the story of a very happy day.

We would like to thank all our supporters and funders for making this dream for the people of Kandongo; a reality.



Visiting Sick Children Kaoma District Hospital

One afternoon we went to visit some sick children in the Paediatric Wing. This Wing was funded and constructed by TOUCH Ireland with the support of TOUCH Zambia.

It was great to see that all was well and very clean. The only sad thing was to see the sick children but it was great to know that they were now getting good care.



Aid Container Arrives in Lusaka

On a Thursday evening at 17.00 we received the news our container had arrived at its destination in Lusaka after its long journey. We had expected it much earlier but you know the saying 'better late than never'.

So on Friday morning our last day in Zambia we headed off very early to help off load the container. We had to sort the items for the individual projects into sections, so that they would be easily identified when collected.



All the football kits, balls, boots, rugby balls and other sports wear that was very kindly donated to TOUCH Ireland had finally reached its destination.

Thanks to all who donated items and thanks to all TOUCH Ireland volunteers for their meticulous marking of boxes and packing on the day. The fruits of your hard work have now been realised.



TOUCH FC receiving Football Kit and New Football Boots from our Aid Container. Up to this most of these lads didn't have a decent pair of boots to play in! (Above left)

The Team is really doing well and is close to the top of their league but unfortunately due to lack financial support they can only travel to some of their away games as it costs too much to travel the distances!

If you or someone you know would like to sponsor the team; about €500 a year would be of great help to them and possibly see them get into Division1.

This could be your chance to be an Irish Oligarch!!

You can get more information on our Facebook Page: Below!



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