



ANNUAL REVIEW 2013



THE VITAL PORT OF CALL FOR FISHERMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

THE FISHERMEN'S MISSION

Established in 1881, the Fishermen's Mission (Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen) has a long history of providing practical help and spiritual support to fishermen.

Over the years, the fishing fleet has seen many changes and the Fishermen's Mission has needed to respond accordingly. Originally offering food and medical supplies alongside spiritual guidance from our own fleet of boats we went out to sea with the banner of 'Preach the Word, Heal the Sick'. We met with fishermen while they worked, trying to alleviate the terrible conditions on board.

As the years moved on the Fishermen's Mission established large accommodation centres to provide services for the fishermen who had no place to rest or stay when their boats came in, often many miles from home. It was common for these centres to have more than 100 beds, with their own laundry and dining facilities and tens of staff.

However, recognising the change in need and circumstance, we have sold most of these large centres. Providing instead, where needed, our new smaller 'mini-centres'. These are available 24 hours a day and are accessible with a key pad entrance. We provide showers, tea and coffee facilities and somewhere to make a snack. They have internet connections to contact home and somewhere to wash and dry clothes.



As well as providing this harbour side support, while still maintaining our vital emergency response services, we dedicate much of our resources to working with those fishermen who are retired and their families. We continue to provide practical and emotional help to those who are in financial need and often in ill health. The challenges of loneliness and social exclusion are key areas where we continue to make a difference to people's lives.

Throughout all these years the Fishermen's Mission has stayed true to our Christian calling. We care for our fishermen and their families in the most practical way. We continue to offer spiritual and emotional support. We use our resources wisely, ensuring we will be here to help for many more years to come.

ABOVE A Fishermen's Mission Bethel Ship
BELOW LEFT The Old Fishermen's Mission Centre in Grimsby
BELOW RIGHT Welfare & Outreach Work



“

**My staff and I support the
Fishermen's Mission...**

**without fishermen we'd have no
restaurants. Without the Mission
there would be no-one who
understands their world to help
in a crisis.**

”



Nathan Outlaw
*Two Michelin Star Chef,
Restaurant Nathan Outlaw at the
St Endoc Hotel, Rock*

ACADEMY
NATHAN OUTLAW
AT
CORNWALL COLLEGE
NATHAN OUTLAW



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This has been a very busy year for the Mission. Continuing our policy of meeting the changing needs of the fishing industry we have greatly expanded our training and outreach programmes this year. With many of our staff not tied to running obsolete and expensive centres the areas we cover are rapidly expanding. With our mini centres we can adapt to the needs of different ports concentrating on the requirements of the area. There is so much need out there. We have had some particularly challenging weather conditions this year and many of our smaller boats have been unable to go to sea for weeks on end. Our work in supporting these fishermen both emotionally and financially has been crucial to so many families. In an alarming number of cases this has included making sure they have enough to eat and pay some very basic bills. Our staff have worked enormously hard and put in some very long hours to try to reach all the fishing families who need them. They see the work as a joy and a privilege and have been very humbled by the reactions they have received.

Our safety training sessions and issuing of safety devices is another initiative where we not only save lives, and we have proved this, but allows us to recognise other needs the fishermen may have. They are a proud bunch and do not easily ask for help.

We have taken on more staff to help us cover the coastline and you can imagine how many miles we have to support. This is very expensive and your gifts and donations are so important to us. We rely totally on donations from people such as yourselves. Our work is often confidential and long term and our staff will be among the first to help when they hear of a need or a crisis. They will also be there for the long term, supporting and helping the family for as long as they are needed.

The Trustees would like to pay tribute to all the staff who work so hard and put in such long hours when needed. Whether it is bringing comfort, spiritual support during an anxious time or just being there holding a hand it can make such a difference. Accidents and tragedies happen at all times and I am very proud to say that whenever there is a need, whatever the time, the staff will be there offering immediate and practical help. The Head Office staff and the staff around the country combine to make a warm and caring family who reach out to make a real difference to the lives of fisherfolk.



Jill Henderson,
Chairman Board of Trustees

“

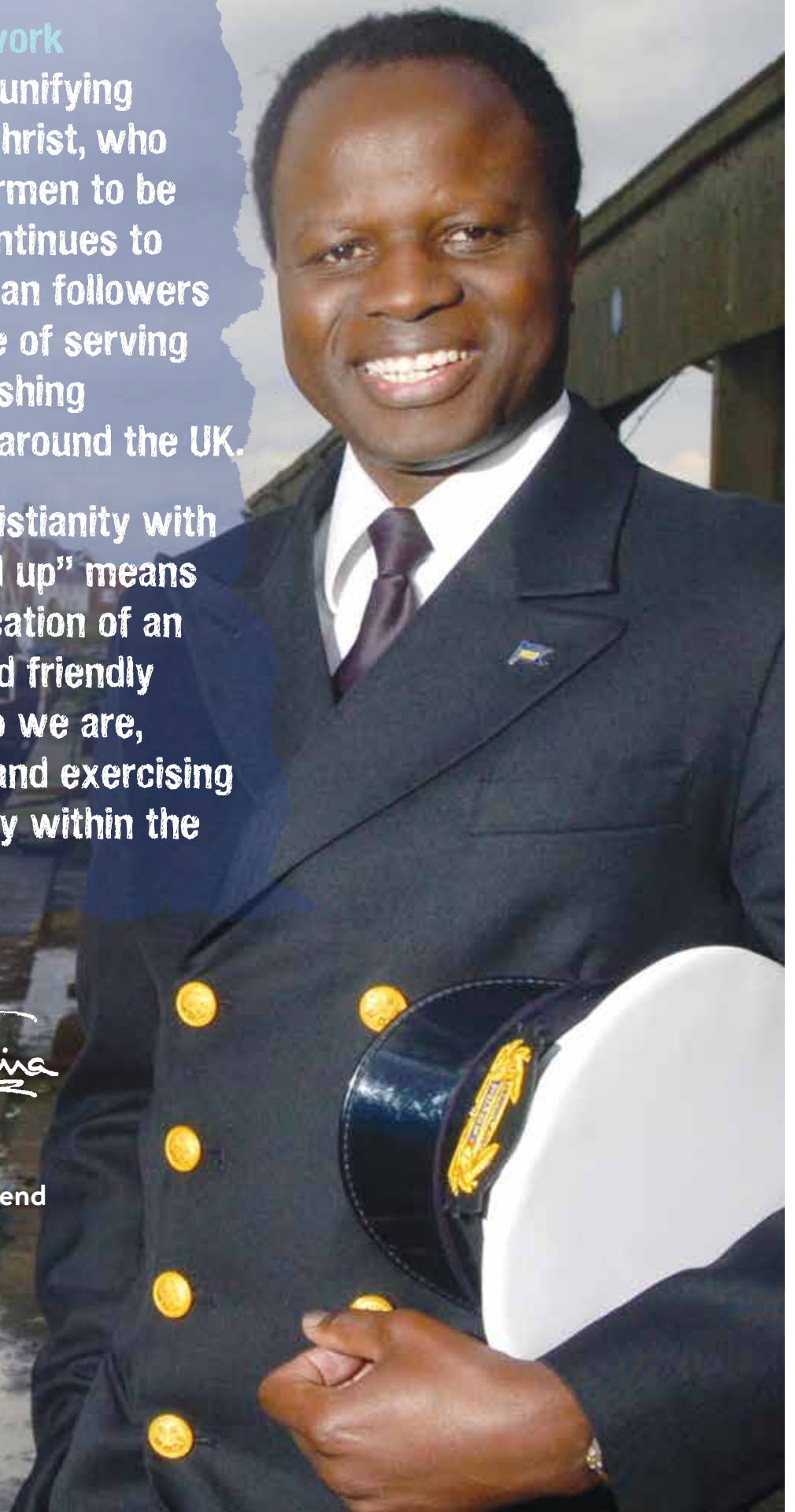
I believe in the work of the Mission a unifying conviction that Christ, who first called fishermen to be his followers, continues to imbue his Christian followers today with a love of serving fishermen and fishing communities all around the UK.

Our maxim: “Christianity with its sleeves rolled up” means a local personification of an open, familiar and friendly face. That is who we are, when living out and exercising our Christian duty within the Mission.

”



**Superintendent Reverend
George Ayoma**
Mission Pastor





CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

During another busy year for the Fishermen's Mission we have given greater focus to our outreach work. We have recognised that the need for financial, practical, spiritual and pastoral support that reaches out to active, retired or injured fishermen and their families is increasing. We are especially troubled by the loneliness and isolation experienced by our beneficiaries. To assist with this area of work we are beginning to strengthen our team, in a modest way, so that we are within easier reach. We will be seeking to extend this part of our work in 2014 and beyond.

During the year we have worked as part of the Fishing Industry Safety Group taking forward a project to ensure that every active fisherman receives a free Personal Floatation Device (PFD – lifejacket to the layman!). As well as securing funding for a major PFD project in NI, Mission Staff have assisted with the distribution of devices. Working with our other partners, particularly Seafish and the RNLI, we have been able to highlight the real need for these life saving devices. It is hoped that in 2014 this work will continue, but funding remains a constant issue as each PFD costs £100. Nevertheless, in 2013 we were able to distribute close to 1000 PFD on behalf of FISG (read more about this work in Northern Ireland on pages 10).

As I write this report, the Fishermen's Mission finds itself under intense pressure. The terrible winter storms have battered our shorelines and wreaked havoc to our fishing fleet. Many fishermen were unable to fish from December through to late February. As well as the ruinous lack of income, many fishing boats have been badly damaged and in some cases destroyed with fishing gear lost or damaged beyond repair. It seems likely that the cost will run into millions of pounds. The Fishermen's Mission is making a specific and urgent effort to provide practical, financial and pastoral support to fishermen and their families, during these difficult times. In some areas, we have been overwhelmed by the number of fishermen who have found themselves in desperate need of our help. I am immensely proud of our Superintendents and the Head Office team, who have worked tirelessly to try and assist every fisherman who has come forward seeking help. We have been grateful to our partners and the general public who have generously supported us through all this but, of course, we will continue to need funds to sustain our activities into the future.

Last, but by absolutely no means least, my most sincere and grateful thanks go to all our volunteers who have supported us during the year, but particularly our Honorary Agents (our eyes and ears in all fishing communities) who have often stepped in to assist, occasionally in some distressing cases and those who have worked even harder again this year to raise vital funds.

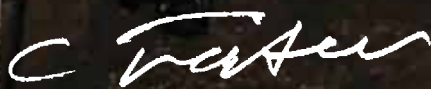

Commodore David Dickens
CBE, RN, Chief Executive

“

I cycled 100km through London at night for the Fishermen's Mission...

Because I wanted to help the Fishermen's Mission Centre in North Shields which I know really well. Cycling is my hobby and I am always up for a challenge! I work in the industry and I know how important it is that fishermen have a place to go to when they need help.

”



Craig Foster
Larry's Fishcakes

FINANCIAL YEAR 12/13

Financial Year 12/13 was a sound year for the Fishermen's Mission's finances. Net Incoming Resources (excluding unrealised gain on investments and pension liability) of £427,910 (2011/12: £221,063) exceeded budget due to another exceptional year for legacies and combined the profits on the sale of two properties. Overall overhead costs fell for the fourth year running. Staff numbers at 31 October 2013 were 53, down from 64 on 1 November 2012.

Investments have increased in value by £771,446 (around 15%) in the year compared to an increase of £193,249 in the prior year.

To meet the requirement of FRS 17 the final salary scheme Pension Fund income and expenditure are shown on the Fishermen's Mission's accounts. There has been a reduction in the pension deficit to £306,000 compared to an increase of £1,024,000 in the prior year. This was primarily as a result of a significant increase in the value of the assets held following a good investment performance in the year.

The increase in net incoming resources and the significant movement in the unrealised gains on investments and pension liability has resulted in an overall fund increase of £1,500,000 in the current year compared to a reduction in funds in the previous year of £610,000.

The Fishermen's Mission holds free reserves of £5,402,436. As the Fishermen's Mission has a relatively small level of discretionary expenditure within its annual outlay, to ensure business continuity the aim is to maintain the charity's free reserves at a level of approximately two year's operating costs. This level of reserves also underpins the on-going strategic restructuring of the Fishermen's Mission through to 2017, generation of revenue income and provision for a major operational emergency.



SUMMARISED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

For the year ended 31 October 2013

	2013	2012
INCOMING RESOURCES	£,000	£,000
Incoming resources from generated funds:		
Voluntary Income : Donations and Gifts	1,395	1,464
Legacies	961	758
Investment Income	85	113
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Income from Catering and Accommodation	262	363
Net realised gain on sale of fixed assets	165	25
Rental Income	34	
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2,902	2,723
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Less: Costs of generating funds		
Fundraising and publicity	632	644
Charitable Activities		
Charitable expenditure	1,775	1,795
Governance		
Governance costs	67	63
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2,474	2,502
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		
Before Transfer	428	221
UNREALISED GAIN ON INVESTMENT ASSETS	771	193
ACTUARIAL GAIN/(LOSS) ON DEFINED PENSION SCHEME	306	(1024)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	1,505	(610)

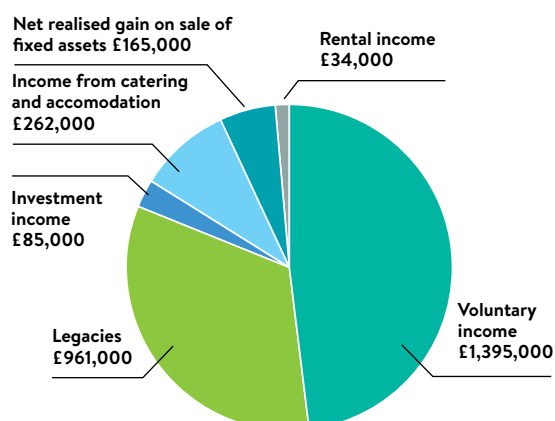
TRUSTEES' STATEMENT

The summarised financial information shows the income raised and expenditure of the Mission for the year. The information is taken from the full financial statements which were approved by the Trustees on 26 February 2014. In order to gain a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity, the full audited financial statements, Trustees' Annual Report and auditors' report should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from the charity.

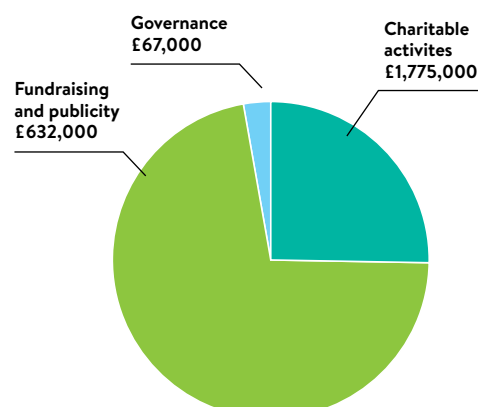
Signed on behalf of
the Trustees

Jill Henderson
Jill Henderson,
Chairman Board of Trustees

INCOME TO 31 OCTOBER 2013



EXPENDITURE TO 31 OCTOBER 2013





Grant aid provides life-saving equipment for Northern Irish Fishermen

MAIN PHOTO

Superintendent Maurice Lake, Dr Lynn Gilmore (Seafish) & DARD Minister, Michelle O'Neill

PHOTO ABOVE RIGHT

Fishermen, Peter Boston wearing his new PFD



Events in Ardglass and Kilkeel in September 2013 provided safety training to local fishermen as well as a free Personal Flotation device (PFD) or lifejacket to help improve safety at sea. This project is a Fishing Industry Safety Group (FISIG) initiative and is supported by the Fishermen's Mission, along with other maritime organisations.

In the past, inflatable oilskins and lifejackets have been too cumbersome for fishermen to wear whilst working. These new PFDs are lightweight and specifically designed to be user-friendly while fishing. As fishing remains the most dangerous peacetime occupation it is vital to get the message across of how important it is for our fishermen to wear this device at all times.

Our Superintendent, Maurice Lake, based in Kilkeel, who, working closely with Seafish, has applied for the funding for the PFDs says 'It is imperative to provide user friendly equipment to fishermen to improve the current safety record. One life saved is well worth the total value of this project.'



Dr Lynn Gilmore, from Seafish Northern Ireland, who played a key role in ensuring the success of the venture, added 'The local industry and community will benefit by having a better equipped crew and families will have peace of mind knowing their loved ones are better protected while at sea.'

We are firmly committed to the safety of our fishermen remaining a key priority. We are deeply grateful to the European Fisheries Fund, DARD, Seafish and Asda who have all contributed towards the purchase of these PFDs and to the RNLI for assisting with the distribution and training.



“ The Fishermen’s Mission
saved my life...

When they provided me a
Personal Flotation Device (PFD).
A few weeks later my boat went
down and I was in the water
for some time before I was
rescued. Without the PFD
I would have died.

Sam Cully
Sam Cully

”

FUNDRAISING IN 2013

This year we have celebrated many achievements. Our Fish Friday event was our most successful to date and thanks are due to Tesco for their continued support. Similarly, the 'Switch the Fish' Campaign held by Sainsbury's, with us as their partner, was a great boost to both our funds and our profile.



The Fishwives Choir single was released in August, with all proceeds coming to the Fishermen's Mission. Such was the interest in the Choir that they were heard and seen across all the national television, newspapers and radio stations. Such publicity is invaluable to us and helps to promote our vital services. We are extremely grateful to all the Fishwives Choir for their hard work and support.



As we look towards 2014 we are grateful for the continued help of the National Federation of Fish Friers and our growing number of supporters within the fish and chip shop sector.

We are deeply indebted to the many thousands of individuals and groups who give their help to us each year. Without their dedication and stalwart support we would not be in a position to continue our work.

Long - time supporters, Seasalt based in Cornwall presented our South West Team with a cheque for £6,179 which is a donation from their lovely tops with the Fishermen's Mission Logo on the sleeve and their Christmas Cards which were also sold in aid of our work. The Seasalt team also took part in Fish Friday and the

Dartmoor Midnight Madness Walk - we are so grateful for their support.



TOP RIGHT Harbour Lights in Falmouth Fish Friday 2013 Winners



BOTTOM RIGHT Sainsbury's 'Switch the Fish' Campaign Winners 2013

FAR LEFT Tesco Headquarters on Fish Friday

ABOVE LEFT The Fishwives Choir Special Award Winners 2013

ABOVE Seasalt, Corporate Award Winners 2013, with the South West Team



A YEAR AT THE FISHERMEN'S MISSION

72,462

miles travelled delivering our services

123

fishermen helped after an emergency at sea

11,500

donations from our friends and supporters

Helped fishermen to access grants totalling
£878,355

£31,181 distributed in emergency aid

8,054

home visits to fishermen and their families

£1

for every £1 given we spend 88p on providing our services

54

fishermen found emergency accommodation

1,062

harbour visits undertaken

“

Without the Fishermen's Mission...

We don't know where we would have turned to for help and support. We cannot put into words how the Fishermen's Mission has helped and supported us.

”



Mr & Mrs Noble

Supported by the Fishermen's Mission in Hull

MY WORK IN GRIMSBY

Tony Jewitt, our Mission Superintendent based in Grimsby, tells us of his work. Grimsby was once home to a large fishing fleet but Tony's work is now mostly with retired fishermen and their families.

I have been particularly touched in recent months when helping two of my beneficiaries in Grimsby. Appropriately named, they are Peter and Ellen Fish. Peter was a fisherman and also, latterly, a merchant seaman and they have always been great friends of the Fishermen's Mission. Over the time I have been in post they have attended all our organised events, helping with whatever they can.

Peter has struggled for many years with his health but last year Ellen was struck down with terminal cancer and became increasingly ill. I have supported them both over this time; practically, financially and in the last couple of weeks, sadly with more palliative care. I was happy to pray with Ellen who put her trust in God.

I have over this time arranged equipment, care, and other home enhancements, to

help them cope with Ellen's illness as it progressed. More importantly though, the most precious thing I was able to give them was my time.

I was with Ellen right up until she passed peacefully away with her husband Peter at her side. The couple didn't have any real family ties and looked to me and the Fishermen's Mission as their moral and family support.

Peter called me to say thank you for everything we have done to support them over the last year or so, especially the most difficult months towards the end of Ellen's life.

He told me, 'You were always there to support us and make her laugh, right up until the end and Ellen needed that, as she was in terrible pain. Thank you so much Tony for everything you and the Mission

have done to make this challenging time a little easier for us both'

The funeral took place in 'The Fishermen's Chapel' and Peter wanted all the proceeds to go to the Fishermen's Mission in memory of his late wife.

As sad as our work often is, I know that the presence of the Fishermen's Mission during this time was so important to Peter and Ellen and I was proud, in the name of the Fishermen's Mission, to be able to be of service to them.

We usually change the names of people when we tell you of our work but Peter was keen for everyone to share how much Tony has helped him. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Peter as he comes to terms with his loss and with Tony as he continues our precious work.



Tony preparing for another busy day

“

I raise money for
the Fishermen's Mission...

because I enjoy my job and have
great respect for the caring work
and dedication of our port based staff
towards our brave fishermen and
their families.

”



Gina Moore
SW Team Fundraising Manager

How you can help us

Make a donation



We receive no government funding or lottery support so every single donation makes a real difference to us. You can make a donation by calling **FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020** or donate online at www.justgiving.com/rnmdsf or post a cheque to our address at the bottom of the page. 88p of every £1 we are given is spent on providing our services.

Become a volunteer



We are always grateful for the help given to us by our dedicated volunteers. If you can spare a few hours each month do get in touch.

FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020
or email enquiries@fishermensmission.org.uk

Remember us in your will



Everyone wants to ensure that friends and family are well provided for if you are writing or updating your will. However, just a small gift to the Fishermen's Mission can make all the difference to our work and ensure that your help continues.

If you would like a legacy leaflet call **FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020**
or email legacies@fishermensmission.org.uk

Contact us:

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Fishermen's Mission or you would like to speak to one of our team about how you can help you can:

Telephone: **FREEPHONE 0800 634 1020** or 01489 566910

Email: enquiries@fishermensmission.org.uk

Website: www.fishermensmission.org.uk



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OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS, FUNDERS, CORPORATE PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

