

It has been a very busy few months and time has flown by for everyone here at Task Brasil. In the UK Task Brasil Trust has now provided a low cost office which now only runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Both the administration team in the UK and Trustees have had their hands full including supporting those who have dedicated themselves to helping with events and doing their own fundraising, to help the underprivileged children in Rio.



## Projects in Brazil

### UK Visitors to Projects in Rio

We have a volunteer who started work at Casa Jimmy in February 2014. Charlie has just finished university and set his mind to helping Task Brasil in situ in Rio. He has dedicated his own time in Brazil to teaching English, music, maths and computer skills. He started a keyboard workshop for the children and teenagers to

opportunity to learn and teach at the same time".



We have had several UK visitors to Casa Jimmy this year, all of whom commented on the energy, creativity and liveliness of all Casa Jimmy's beneficiaries. Two of our donors, Sue and John Laithwaite, visited Casa Jimmy again in March, giving Charlie the opportunity to practice acting as interpreter. They inspected the site for the new wall and were blown away by the kid's enthusiasm for football.

learn piano and gives short lessons in guitar for those interested, although most struggle with the full-size instruments. Outside of school hours he helps out in other aspects of the charity's work in the office or by taking pictures and filming the projects.



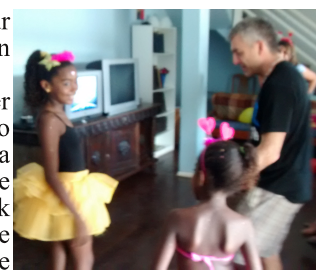
In May, the children had a welcome second visit from Katherine Sparkes from Flamingo Creative. She brought donated

Charlie is thoroughly enjoying his work at Casa Jimmy. He says that the children are "inspiring, a joy to teach and to know" and that "working here is enlightening and fulfilling, the culture here is fascinating and my placement has been an incredible



football shirts for the charity to provide to the children, from every team and in every size and colour. The children were thrilled with their new shirts, and had fun choosing which suited them best. They insisted on finding out about which teams were represented and where the cities or clubs were. In the following weeks most of the children returned still wearing their donated gifts. It was a great donation to receive just before the world cup.

One of our 2014 London marathon runner, Javier Lopez, also visited Casa Jimmy before the race took place in the UK. He



arrived on a particularly packed Saturday and got involved with helping out during the activities.



## Planetarium Trip

On Saturday May 15th, the educationalist Ericka and Charlie took Task Brasil's beneficiaries on a fun-filled and informative excursion to the Gavea Planetarium. It was a 2 hour bus drive from Casa Jimmy but well worth the trip!

On arrival they were received by a volunteer to guide them through the lecture. They entered an observatory dome to watch a mesmerising explanation of the stars, the solar system and the constellations, all displayed on the inside of the dome. They showed tremendous interest in the imagination of the ancients and their fascination with the night sky. After this, they were given the chance to

do develop their own exhibition of graphs and drawings and examine scale models of the universe and its contents. The guides kept the usually unruly bunch enraptured throughout the whole tour, for which we owe them a big thank you.

The children and teenagers were undeniably fascinated by everything they saw and learnt. At the end of the visit their knowledge of our universe had increased tremendously. They got to grips with astronomical and astronomical equipment, encouraging them to unravel the mysteries of space and of the universe.

The atmosphere during the visit was very

animated and lively, and at the end a lunch for everyone was served in the patio. Overall it was a wonderful experience that can hopefully be repeated in the future with more students!

The children also visited the Rock Museum, Parque das Ruínas, CCBB - Centro Cultural do Banco do Brasil.



## Project Crescer at Casa Jimmy

Social-educational activities continue as normal at Casa Jimmy, with a few additions from Charlie, our Volunteer. The children enjoyed getting into the World Cup spirit with some English lessons about football, we are sure they were able to impress friends and tourists alike with



their new phrases. To unleash their passionate support of their home nation Ericka led a flag-crafting workshop so that every child had something to wave.

“Ode to Joy” can be heard on Saturdays emanating from the music room, although the favourite is the internationally renowned “Happy Birthday”. The nimble fingers amongst the students take quickly to guitar and piano, although there is always more to learn with music. After a focused practice session there is always time for exploring the keyboard’s more exotic features, which inevitably descends into a cacophony of drums and sound effects, a great way to release the frustration built-up over practicing scales.

When the local internet decides to take an unscheduled break during computer lessons, the learning keeps going with mental arithmetic challenges or some extra English. Learning the days of the week or numbers is easier in short bursts rather than lectures, and the change in subjects keeps the children on their toes.

picked up after activities, the kids play football or volleyball in the newly



refurbished sports court outside or, if they are feeling less energetic, with lego or board games indoors. Occasionally Saturday’s music lessons are simply not enough and a student will insist on a few extra minutes of guitar, and sometimes one of the children has some new English words or phrases that they would love to try out, enthusiasm which is thankfully common amongst the students here.

The sounds of “Oh When the Saints” and In the lunch break or while waiting to be

# Case Study

## Johnny

Johnny lives next door to Casa Jimmy. He began attending the Project Crescer in May 2012, and his boundless enthusiasm has become a central part of the school atmosphere. Johnny has a curious and inventive mind, he particularly enjoys lego and other creative pursuits. His imagination is so strong it is often hard to follow.



Arriving with a poor grasp of core subjects such as Maths and Portuguese, typical of students who cannot afford additional private tuition or private schools, Johnny has embraced the lessons provided at Casa Jimmy. He is forever energetic in class and has progressed well with the various topics and exercises on offer. Johnny’s gift, however, seems to be in handling people. He gets on with all the other students (not an easy feat) and can be counted on to lighten any difficult situation with his constant banter.

In addition to a being charming student, Task Brasil has found an unexpected ambassador for the charity in Johnny. He has praised the work and teaching done at Casa Jimmy to his friends and neighbours, encouraging other local children to attend and spreading the word and information on Task Brasil to interested parents.



# London Marathon 2014

Our biggest achievers this year have been from our eight runners in the London Marathon 2014. So far they have raised an astonishing £15,000 and we have been truly grateful for their immense dedication and support.



On the 16th April 2014, our volunteers cheered on the runners as they passed the London School of Samba with the music urging them on. We also met up with some

of the runners after the race to provide refreshments and to show our appreciation. We provided Brazilian wigs and glasses to our brave runners, not expecting them to wear them to the finish. To our surprise we met Rafal Pijarowski after the race still wearing his wig, showing his full support of the cause.



Trustee Richard Fine has also been a great supporter as he ran the race for the fourth time in support of Task Brasil Trust. He topped it off by clocking in as the fastest runner of the Task Brasil team this year,

finishing in 3:43:20. Our follow up runner was Javier Lopez and our fastest runner of the girls was Zoe Pye, who finished the race in 4.11.38.

We hold guaranteed Golden Bond places in the 2015 London Marathon. It plays a vital role in the funding of our work and expanding our projects in Rio. We also thank our cyclist Michael Friedler for supporting Task Brasil for the second time at the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 in August.



## Donations

We also have the support of a true adventurer, Peter, who is planning raising funds for Task Brasil Trust by travelling through the Amazon. During his meeting with Task Brasil in January he told us that no one has attempted to traverse the Amazon within a certain amount of time and he plans to break the world record. Outlining the rigorous preparation required for this kind of journey, he described his professional training and the medical tests he has undergone in advance of the mission.

This year we successfully managed to raise the funds to repair the sports court for the children at Casa Jimmy. For a couple



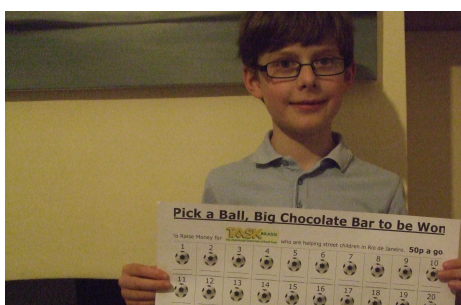
of years it has been extremely tough for Task Brasil Trust to find the funds to fix the quad

and swimming pool. We had a breakthrough as John and Sue Laithwaite from the UK agreed to donate a very generous sum towards the repairs. It is now finished and Task Brasil Trust and the children are enjoying using it to the full, playing various sport and games. We will now at last expand our physical activity projects in Brazil.

With the World Cup in the air this summer and Task Brasil has noticed a surge in generous donations and support. We have witnessed our own fundraisers who have helped raise money, using inventive fundraising football games. Throughout the World Cup international awareness of underprivileged children in Brazil has expanded. We are also overwhelmed with all the support we have received from schools and businesses after the world cup. From sweepstakes to pentathlons, their contributions have been an enormous help.

We would like to make a special mention of Flixton Junior School, The Chase School and Lymm High school.

We are very inspired by all our young supporters. One of our young supporters, Benedict Crompton was moved watching a programme about poverty in Brazil, so he decided to take action and start some fundraising, writing to his headteacher asking if he could fundraise at his school. He invented a ball game and spent his break time going around collecting donations, receiving a massive amount of support from the staff and pupils.



Chinalife Tea House have also helped fundraise during the world cup. They hit the streets on "Brazil Day" in London and asked members of the public to hold up signs to help spread their campaign. They have also promoted Task Brasil Trust over their social media, to be able to raise funds for us.



We are grateful to to have received donations from kind hearted people, who have helped Task Brasil Trust immensely.



We could not function efficiently without the generosity from every donation we receive, especially through our Sponsor a Child programme, as it is the key to sustaining ongoing income for the charity. Charlotte Ashton and her team from Frontiers Foundation gave Task Brasil much needed financial support in 2013.

Task Brasil is lucky to benefit from help from within Brazil too. The British School in Rio de Janeiro, re-equipped their music department and kindly donated the profits from the sale of their old equipment. Furthermore both Gouvêa Viera Solicitors and Nilo Batista Solicitors continue to provide invaluable pro bono legal advice and support on behalf of the charity.



This bicycle, obtained through a promotion, was presented to Larissa in recognition of her high attendance in 2013.

## Easter Treats

A former Task beneficiary, Roni, visited Casa Jimmy with his mother, Flavia, on Easter Saturday. Roni lived at Casa Jimmy for two and a half years, from 2008 until 2011, and said he misses everyone there. Roni now lives in Barra with his mother. Flavia, along with her husband, father and other son, and Roni brought Easter eggs for the current Project Crescer students as a surprise. After the visit Task Brasil presented them with a thank you card for their kind visit and their generosity.



Have a look at just a few of the activities going on at Casa Jimmy!



A Stepping Stones Project beneficiary at Casa Jimmy

## How can you help?

Whether you are in the UK, Europe, Brazil or North America, there are plenty of ways you can get involved and help Task Brasil support children in need, from sponsoring a child to running a marathon.

Check out the list below to see how you can make a difference.

- **SPONSOR A CHILD TODAY!** - Receive regular updates about the child's progress and how your money is being used.
- **LEAVE A LEGACY** - Remember underprivileged children in your will by nominating Task Brasil.
- **CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP** - Support Task Brasil's work through your company's activities or by fundraising with your colleagues.
- **SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES** - Nominate Task Brasil as the chosen charity for your fundraising events.
- **VOLUNTEER** - We are always looking for new volunteers with diverse skills, if you are interested in offering some of your time in the UK or Brazil, please contact us.
- **EBAY** - Supporters can now select Task Brasil to receive part or all of the profits from items sold on eBay!
- **EVENTS** - When organising your birthday, wedding or anniversary celebrations, consider nominating Task Brasil to benefit.

**DONATE!** - If you'd like to make a donation, visit our website [www.taskbrasil.org.uk](http://www.taskbrasil.org.uk) or call our office +44 (0)20 7735 5545.

IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS ABOUT HELPING TASK BRASIL RAISE THE FUNDS WE NEED, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AT [INFO@TASKBRASIL.ORG.UK](mailto:INFO@TASKBRASIL.ORG.UK)

## Stepping Stones Project: Case Study

On May 3rd 2014 Task Brasil hosted a lunch for Mrs Cleonice and her family, and her grandchildren were delighted to receive presents. Unfortunately Mrs. Cleonice informed TB that their mother, her daughter, was no longer in the position to take responsibility for her children as she was living on the streets continuously using illegal substances. However, Mrs Cleonice has managed, for the second time, to be the one responsible for the care of her grandchildren, Lucas, 9, and Leonardo, 8, and is now in the process of applying for their custody and getting them enrolled in school. The children's mother, Josiene, was one of the teenage girls who lived at Casa Jimmy for several months in 2004. She became pregnant once again with Leonardo whilst living there.

After being reunited with her mother Jucilene has unfortunately lost her battle with drugs and has had two other children who live with their father's family. It has not been an easy task to help her and her children but she has Task Brasil to thank for their ongoing support and assistance to her family. Without Task Brasil's continued support of this family's case, Mrs.Cleonice would never have been able to achieve what she has so far to safeguard her grandchildren's basic rights!



We would like show our great appreciation to Aidan Pope for his generosity and invaluable support over the years. Thanks to his donation, trustee Richard Fine was the highest fundraiser in the 2014 London Marathon.

We would also like to thank Charlotte Petsopoulos (as always), Charlie and Mariana for their dedication and amazing skills towards the preparation of this newsletter, as well as Stefano Barone, the London School of Samba and Paul in London for their long term support.

There isn't space to allow us to mention all of our supporters and volunteers, so a huge thank-you to all of you who have helped us over the past year.

Your contributions play a vital part in keeping our projects running, and we hope that you will be just as inspired and generous in 2015!

## Race for Task Brasil!

We still have entry places for the following 2015 events:



**VIRGIN LONDON MARATHON**  
Sunday 13th April, 2015

We secure guaranteed **GOLDEN BOND** places at £1500 pledges or more.

**LONDON - SURREY 100 CYCLING CHALLENGE**  
Sunday 10th August, 2015

Guaranteed places are available at £500 pledges or more.



**BRITISH 10K LONDON RUN**  
Sunday 13th July, 2015

Guaranteed places are available at £250 pledges or more.

**ADIDAS SILVERSTONE HALF MARATHON**  
Sunday 2nd March, 2015

Register with us early to guarantee a place!