

Enabling communities to help themselves



# Our future

#### **Future Projects**

We benefit from detailed budgets forecasts thanks to our treasurer Mark Smith and excellent monitoring and evaluation with the support of Murti and our project committee

Due to funding limitations we will focus on

1. Core projects. Our libraries, support for deaf students, bike club.

Other projects dependent upon our reserves :

2. Additional discrete projects for example training, provision of facilities etc

3. "The Year of" which is the catalyst for fundraising activity specific to the cause.

### **George Dexter Trustee**

### Project Committee chair



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## 2024 The Year of the Teacher



# Sustainability into the future





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Sustainability of our projects in Nekemte

Sustainability of our charity



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# Fundraising and sustainability

£5,000

- Est funds raised during 2023 **£14,000**
- Big Give <u>£8,000</u>
- Projected 2023 total **£22,000**
- Current projects 2023 £27,000
- Fundraising Target

EXETER ETHIOPIA LINK

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# Extending our EEL circle

How can we increase our membership without the catalyst of visits to Nekemte?

Visits to Nekemte sparked huge enthusiasm and interest. From the planning through to many years after the visit, members shared their enthusiasm and passion with friends and family energizing our charity.

Visits are not possible in the foreseeable future due to security issues.

We endeavour to bring Nekemte to our members through accounts of individuals through our new ethical story telling initiative from Murti.



**Talile Temesgen**: A widow making a difference to her children Taille is the librarian at Jarto Primary School. She is a widow with 3 children. Her oldest child is in grade 3 and she uses the income earned to support her family and ensure they all access schooling. She talks passionately of wanting to ensure all the children access a full cycle of schooling. Her library is really well used with 1034 students using it on average per month and an average number of books lent of 90 a month.





#### **Case Studies**

**Birqe Anbesu:** A Resourceful Librarian Empowering Her Family and Community

Birqe Anebusu is the librarian at Dire Jarto School. She has set up various initiatives to encourage students to attend

the library and as a result, on average, 1,126 students utilize the library every month.

47.2% of these library users are female, demonstrating the inclusivity and accessibility of the library resources. She also lends out on average, 100 books per month to students.

With the income earned as a librarian, Birqe has successfully covered the cost of sending her children to school and also used the money to buy charcoal and then sell on at a profit.

# Member engagement



### Discussion



#### How can we expand our member and supporter numbers?

We had an active and enthusiastic discussion.

Local face to face events in Exeter

Our school linking project. We are piloting a new style programme to bring together schools here and in Ethiopia to share learning and culture.

We discussed the importance of our relationship with Nekemte being two way.

Expand social media presence and consider paying to boost campaigns.

*Engage Exeter university students for volunteering in social media field and holding events. Particularly target Ethiopian students* 

# Ongoing initiatives

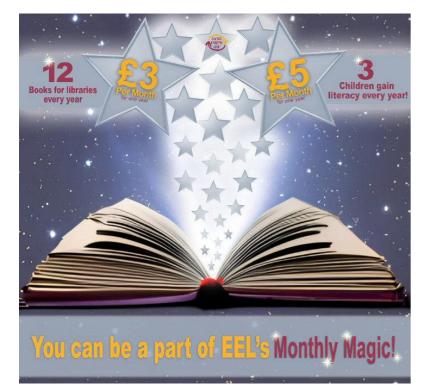




We are always looking for helpers to man the stall! A wonderful opportunity to be involved and meet new people. Speak to Annie for details

# Ongoing initiatives





### £3 per month

This will buy 12 books for our libraries over a year. *We lend out 3000 books every month.* 

### £5 per month

This will provide tutorials for 3 children to achieve literacy every year.

Over 150 girls have attended tutorials and we are now extending this to boys to bridge the literacy gap caused by covid and local security issues.

Sign up to a monthly donation

Make a one-off donation

# Donations through Shopping

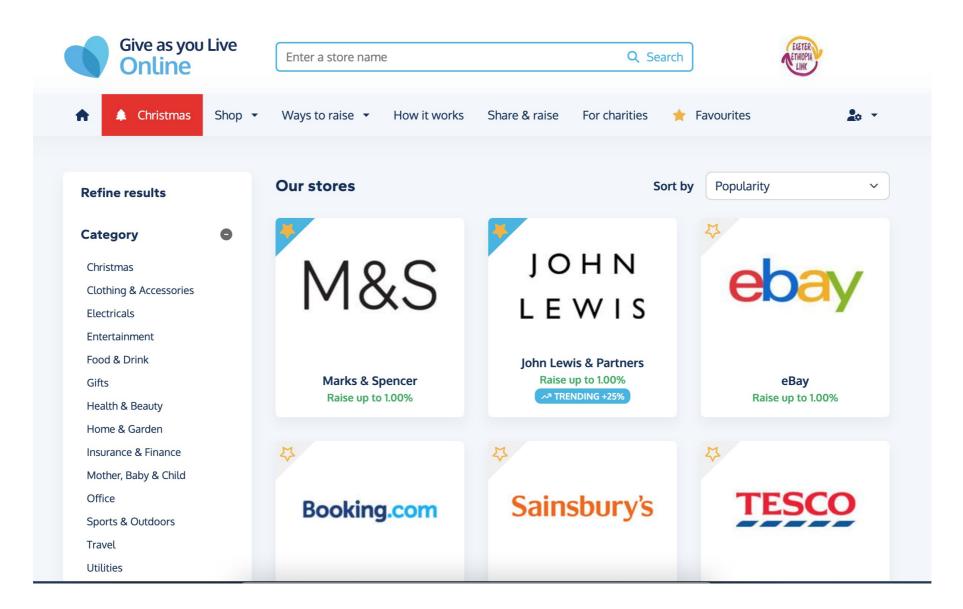




### www.giveasyoulive.com

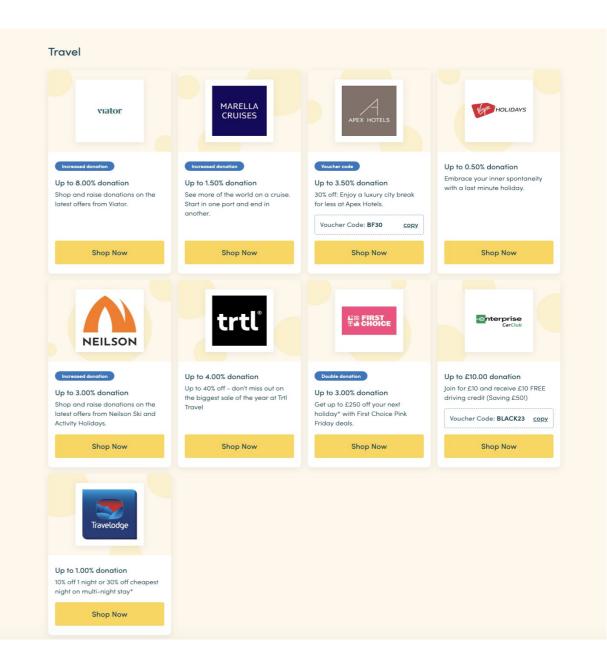


www.easyfundraising.org.uk

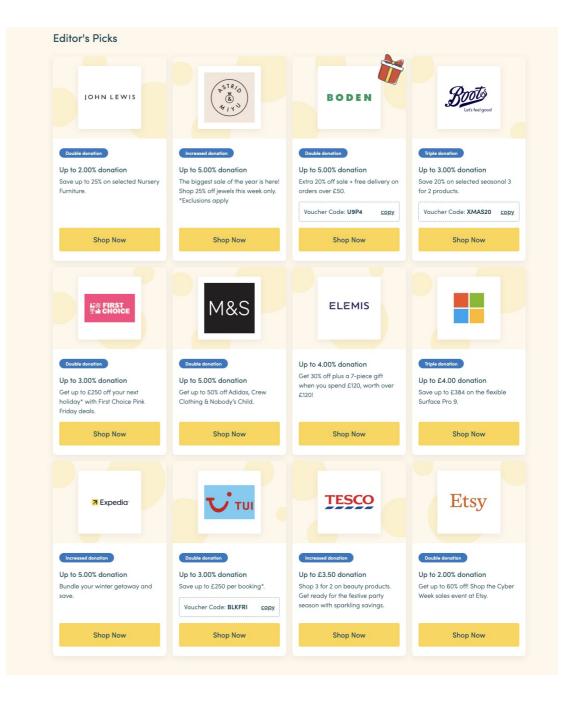














# The EEL Christmas Gift Membership

A Christmas eCard

An information leaflet

A year's membership of EEL

Quarterly newsletter

The opportunity to become involved in a charity making a real difference in Ethiopia



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Wishing you a Happy Christmas



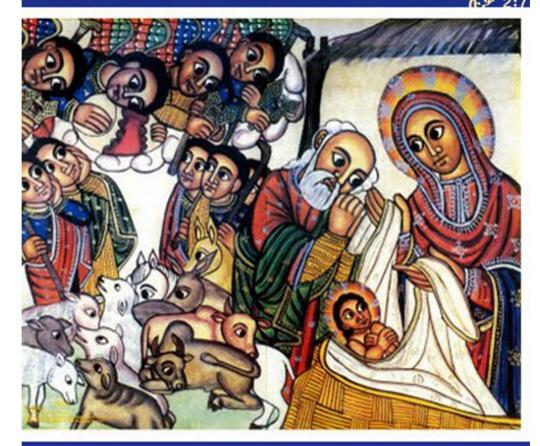


#### www.exeterethiopialink.org

The image to the right is an Ethiopian nativity scene. The words are written in Amharic, the Ethiopian national language.

# MEKLM GANNA

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# መልካም የልደት በዓል



#### How is Christmas celebrated in Ethiopia?

- Ethiopian Christians celebrate Christmas on 7 January.
- The day before everyone fasts all day.
- At dawn, they dress in a traditional white shama and go to church.



Each person entering the church is given a candle. The congregation walks around the church three times in a processsion, holding the flickering candles.

Men and women stand in different parts of the church for the service. They join in singing an dancing and the priests give Holy Communion



In the afternoon of *Ganna*, the men and boys play a game also called *Ganna*. It is a bit like hockey, played with a curved stick and a round wooden ball.

A traditional story says that the shepherds began to wave their crooks and play when the angel told them that Jesus was born.

### TIMKAT

12 days after *Ganna*, on January 19, Ethiopians begin an even more important celebration called *Timkat*, which commemorates the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan.



Priests lead the *Timkat* procession carrying sacred *tabots* (representing the ten commandments) and ceremonial crosses, sheltered by sequinned velvet umbrellas.



Other people join the procession wearing the traditional white shama. The procession goes to a lake or river where the water is blessed and sprinkled over the crowd.

Everyone then accompanies the *tabot* back to the church, singing and dancing on the way.



### FESTIVE MEAL

We would love you to try out the Ethiopian meal of *Wat*, a thick spicy meal, This is served on *injera*, a flat bread. Use our recipe sheet which is also available on our website.



Traditionally *Doro Wat* is served with an Ethiopian flatbread called *injera*. *Injera* is a spongy, delicious and versatile pancake.

The *wat* is served from a decorated watertight basket onto a "plate" of *injera*. Pieces of *injera* are used as an edible spoon to scoop up the *wat*. Ethiopian eating almost always means eating with your hands.

The feast is communal. Family and friends gather around the communal platter and share. It is a wonderful celebration to end their period of fasting.

#### DORO WAT AND INJERA



Visit our website for our Christmas recipes: www.exeterethiopialink.org

#### HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED? AND "LINK UP"

#### BECOME A MEMBER

As a member you will be able to:

- ATTEND meetings.
- ORGANISE and help with fundraising.
- SPREAD the word in Exeter with displays and talks.
- TAKE PART in a group visit to Ethiopia to learn about and assess needs and project.
- SUPPORT the work of Exeter Ethiopia Link through your subscription.

#### MAKE A DONATION

You can donate to Exeter Ethiopia Link at any time. You can also donate to specific projects. Visit our website and click on the Take Part/Donate page to find out more on how you can help.

#### RAISE FUNDS

Our activities in Ethiopia are funded in part by grants from a range of Trusts and Organisations and in part by funds raised from our members and supporters. You can help us raise funds in a number of ways:

• Come to our fundraising events

- Host your own event
- Raise money when you shop online

#### VOLUNTEER

Exeter Ethiopia Link welcomes volunteers, particularly those experienced in the medical and education fields, and others who have previously worked in development situations in Africa.

Every so often we need additional members to join our Steering Groups. If you would like to be more involved in our organisation please get in touch via our website's contact page.

#### See our website for more details: www.exeterethiopialink.org

#### WHAT IS EEL DOING IN ETHIOPIA?

#### EDUCATION



We enable communities to develop their educational institutions and to ensure that everyone can access education, with emphasis on literacy, health and nutrition.

#### HEALTH



We enable communities to improve their health by providing medical equipment, facilities and training.

#### WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



We facilitate the improvement of water supply and to promote the sustainable use of natural resources.

#### DISABILITY

We support people with disabilities to develop their capacities and maximise their opportunities for self-reliance





CHRISTMAS IN ETHIOPIA



MEKLM GANNA (Merry Christmas)

# The EEL Christmas Gift Membership



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### £10 single membership

### £15 joint membership

Visit our website to buy www.exeterethiopialink.com





• EEL Fundraising Target is £4000

• ==========**→** £8000



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# What we did with your Christmas Big Give Donation in 2023/23

In 2023, Exeter Ethiopia Link supported 35 school libraries.

• 34 had librarians specifically funded by EEL's Christmas Big Give Campaign and one was funded by the government.

Across the 35 libraries,

- Total footfall was 179,235 (91,117Males and 88,118Females).
- Average monthly use of 19,915 or 569 students per month per library.
- Over the academic year, the average grade 5-8 student in school used the library 11.75 times.
- The cost is 6p per student per annum to fund this project

When library use was discussed with students, they said their motivation behind their use of the library included

- To further their knowledge
- Enjoy a safe and spacious place to study.
- Develop their ability to read.

Without having a librarian, schools self-identified that their library would not be open, hence the 15,248 grade 5-8 students who attend the schools would not have access to this space nor the educational opportunity and books.





Enabling communities to help themselves You can donate anytime between 12 noon on 28<sup>th</sup> November and 12 noon on 5<sup>th</sup> December

All donations must be paid to The Big Give fund in order to be doubled. www.thebiggive.org

Or go to our website and click on the link

# Fundraising



Past events have included

- Sponsored 10k event
- Ethiopian cookery evening by zoom
- Coffee morning / bookswap. 2 events raised over £800
- One member did Lands End to John o Groats cycle ride raising £3000
- Elizabeth Laird evening



### How could we establish a fundraising committee ?

There is no interest in such a committee. Members prefer to organsie their own events. The trustees will work with these people and plan a calendar of events.



### What fundraising events could we hold?

We had enormous interest and enthusiasm

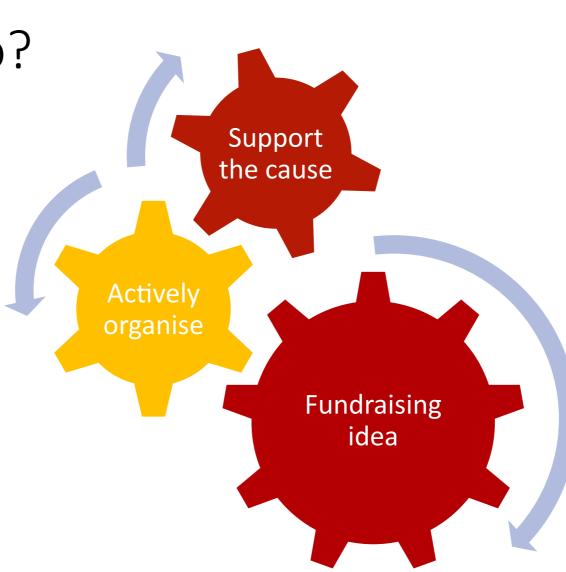
- Sponsored running event, possibly a marathon
- Cookery event/meal using the skills of an Ethiopian chef
- Sponsored abseil by a mature lady who has two new hips 🙂
- A social event to hear the history of Exeter and Ethiopia from a local historian



### What fundraising events could we hold?

- An event at the Acoustic Café
- Events in conjunction with Exeter University students. Freshers week introductions.
- Donations of Crochet items in traditional Ethiopian styles
- Engage the linked schools in cultural events to learn more about Ethiopian life. For example A dress in white day.

What can members do? There's a place for everyone



# Everyone can be involved and make a difference



### What can I do next?

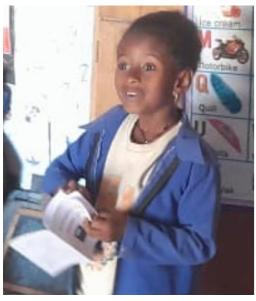
- 1. Visit our website. <u>www.exeterethiopialink.org</u>
- 2. Sign up to our newsletter
- 3. Donate to the Big Give if you are able
- 4. Check out the fundraising and donation opportunities on our website
- 5. Follow us on social media. We are on facebook, twitter and instagram
- 6. Talk to us! We love to hear from you. Contact us directly through the website or email secretary@exeterethiopialink.





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# Thank you!











Enabling communities to help themselves



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