



Enabling communities
to help themselves

Annual Report 2006



Work begins on the Nekemte Eye Clinic thanks to a grant from The Four Acre Trust and fundraising by the Link.

Report from the Chair

2006 was an exceptional year for the Exeter-Ethiopia Link by any standards. It saw major increases in our levels of activity, fundraising and project funding, as shown by the accounts that follow. The start up of the Eye Care Project was the main reason for this, and as it is a three-year commitment, we need to keep the momentum going.

At the AGM in March the serving officers and committee members agreed to continue, with the exception of Pauline Gibson (formerly Bennett) who was kindly replaced by Penny Pullen as Membership Secretary. Anthea Duquemin also joined the committee in the year. Everyone is thanked for their efforts through this busy year.

Thanks also to Temesgen Feyissa in Nekemte, where he continues as head of the Development arm of the Mekane Yesus church, and to Qes Alemu Nega who has turned his attention full-time to the Eye Project. Our website is still managed by Tom Grainger (now in Hong Kong) and supported by Concept First in Exeter. Bruce remains the newsletter editor and produced four excellent editions in the year.

As reported last year, we began 2006 still negotiating a major grant from the Four Acre Trust in the UK for an ambitious project to build and equip an Eye Care clinic, to recruit Ethiopian staff and train them (in India) and to provide a service to treat eyesight problems within three years. The Trust provided some start-up funds which enabled Alex Taylor, accompanied by student Amy Wilson, to visit Nekemte in February and March. This allowed us to refine our proposal and by June we had secured the required £75,000 grant for year 1 of the project, with an offer of a further £75,000 over the following two years, if all goes well. The project began on 1 July and by the end of the year we had drawn down half of the first year's grant and transferred it to Ethiopia and India. Alex visited Ethiopia again in September to get things started, this time with an Exmoor Rotarian, Frances Chanter, who is planning to fundraise for the project. The building of the clinic began in earnest in October and by the year end was up to roof level. An ophthalmologist, Dr Mohammed Suraga, was recruited to work alongside Nurse Hirut in temporary accommodation in the hospital, and they have provided a basic service with very limited resources.

Much of our fundraising during the year was specifically towards the Eye Care Project, as we committed ourselves to raise £6,000 per annum. Individual donations alone achieved this figure, some raised in novel ways, such as Rob Barron's sponsored cycle ride in Cape Town, South Africa in March. This warranted a reception by the Lord Mayor of Exeter on his return. Vern Lester kindly used his birthday party to raise funds including a very entertaining auction. Three coffee mornings through the year, a sponsored walk in September and various talks raised further funds – on one evening in December three choirs (the Exeter Philharmonic Choir, Exeter Chamber Choir and Songlines) were all singing for the Link. Amy Wilson took a wonderful series of photographs during her visit to Ethiopia and produced an exhibition of works for sale.

Membership rose to over 100 resulting in subscriptions in excess of £3,000, plus donations of over £12,000, giving a total of funds raised of over £17,000 on top of the £35,000 from the Four Acre Trust. As you will see from the accounts, a very similar figure was expended, almost all on projects. Our Treasurer, Mark Howells, is to be congratulated on managing this ten-fold increase in our finances compared to previous years, so well.

A group trip to Nekemte and Hareto took place in November, with myself joined by Penny Pullen, Vern Lester and Jeff Sleeman. There was a packed agenda to visit all of our supported schools, sponsored university students in Nekemte, new water projects, health centres including the eye clinic site, and rural communities. Vern was able to use his dentistry skills and Penny enjoyed the classroom experiences. The German Embassy in Addis Ababa had made a donation to our partners of £4,000 for water projects in Wollega to complement the funding from the Link. This proved a difficult project for EECMY to manage efficiently due to a shortage of staff, but we were able to help sort out the accounts. The books shipped in December 2005, collected by Martha King, took a long time to arrive but in November we were able to ensure that they all got to their destinations in school and other libraries, and we were warmly thanked for them. The donation of donkeys to women wood carriers continued from funds sent previously, and the project has now been extended to provide two sheep to each of a dozen poor women.

Finally, an interesting connection has been made with the Met Office in Exeter where a voluntary group is developing a system of weather forecasting and climate change prediction of use in developing countries. A pilot project with Nekemte is planned and a preliminary visit took place in January 2007.

Peter Grainger

Exeter-Ethiopia Link (Registered Charity No. 1000293)
Statement of Account - 1 Jan to 31 Dec 2006

Balance at 1st January 2006	£		£
Co-operative Bank A/c	5,351.34		
Britannia Building Society A/c	4,485.97		9,837.31
Total Receipts for year 2006	57,610.52		
<u>Less</u> Total Payments for year 2006	54,764.22		
Overall Surplus for 2006	2,846.30		2,846.30
Balance at 31st December 2006			12,683.61

Balance in:

Co-operative Bank General Account	£5,334.68
Co-operative Bank Eye Clinic Account	£2,775.59
Britannia Building Society Account	<u>£4,573.34</u>
	<u>£12,683.61</u>

Mark Howells - Treasurer - March 2007

<u>Jan Greet Memorial Fund</u>			
<u>Accounts for 1 January - 31 December 2006</u>			
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		£	
Donations & Covenants transferred			£130.00
Building Society Interest			<u>£42.87</u>
Total Income			<u>£172.87</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		£	
Sent to Ethiopia for Donkey project			nil
Total Payments			<u>Nil</u>
Total Receipts	£172.87	Balance at 31.12.05	£1625.21
Less Payments	Nil	Add profit for year	<u>£172.87</u>
Profit for 2006	<u>£172.87</u>	Balance at 31.12.06	<u>£1798.08</u>
Balance held in Portman Building Society Acc. No 134-4549270-9			

Nekemte Eye Care Project Account
Co-operative Bank Eye Clinic Account
Accounts for 1 July - 31 Dec 2006

RECEIPTS

	£
Grant from Four Acre Trust	32,516.00
Transfer from Exeter-Ethiopia Link General Fund for the Link's contribution	5288.00
Bank Interest	40.04
Total Receipts	£37844.04

PAYMENTS

	£
<u>Sent to Ethiopia</u>	
Clinic Building and Equipment	26864.35
Salaries of Ethiopian staff	4799.18
Overheads in Ethiopian	405.61
Management Costs in Ethiopia	622.83
<u>Sent to India</u>	
LVPEI Consultancy fees	541.59
<u>UK</u>	
Exeter Link Monitoring and Evaluation	712.50
Transport of Ophthalmic Equipment	827.00
Computer Equipment	152.67
International Bank Transfer Charges	142.72
Total Payments	£35068.45

Balance at 1 July 2006	0
Receipts less Payments	£2775.59
Balance at 31 December 2006	£2775.59

Exeter-Ethiopia Link
(Registered Charity No. 1000293)
Accounts for 1 January - 31 December 2006

RECEIPTS

	£
Subscriptions	3129.00
Donations - to General Projects	
• Individuals	3577.76
• Devon Aid	300.00
Donations - to Eye Clinic Project	
§ Individuals	6518.38
§ Spec-Care Ltd	452.00
§ Highclere Trefoil Guild	40.00
§ Four Acre Trust for Project Development preliminary visit	2692.00
§ Community of the Presentation Trust	1000.00
Donations - to Scholarship Fund	
Individuals	360.00
Tangerine Bee Analysts	150.00
Donations - to Jan Greet Memorial Fund	220.00
Fundraising	
§ Boston Tea Party	470.72
§ Songlines Choir	88.42
Coffee Mornings	591.82
Global children's Event	52.84
Bank Interest	36.17
Building Society Interest	87.37
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR 2006	19766.48

Notes on Accounts:

- 1. No Income Tax rebate was received in 2006. There will be 2 years rebate in 2007.*
- 2. The accounts have been examined by Exeter Council for Voluntary Service and found to be correct.*

PAYMENTS

	£
<u>General Projects</u>	
Water Projects	2700.00
Education Projects	
Support for school buildings and furniture at Burka Bekumsa, Sorga Lelisa, Hareto Junior and Bekumsa Biya Schools	2900.69
School library furniture for Sorga Lelisa, Hareto Junior and Bekumsa Biya Schools	1470.16
Library books sent from UK - freight costs	586.12
Library books & sports equipment	688.10
Scholarships New Generation University	720.00
<u>General Medical Projects</u>	
Nekemte Hospital X-ray equipment	319.60
Equipment for Hareto Clinic	511.36
<u>Eye Clinic - Preliminary & extra costs</u>	
Transfer to Eye Clinic Co-op Bank Account	5288.00
Preliminary Costs - India	1150.20
Preliminary Costs - UK including air fares	1264.82
Ophthalmic Equipment	150.39
Electricity connection to clinic	575.28
<u>Administration & Sundry Costs in UK</u>	
Travel grant to young visitor to Ethiopia	200.00
Transfer to Jan Greet Memorial Fund	485.00
Stationery/postage/printing	450.05
UKOWLA Subscription	45.00
UKOWLA Conference Costs	71.00
Devon & Exeter Global Centre Membership	20.00
Room Hire for AGM	45.00
Bank Charges for overseas transfers	55.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR 2006	19695.77