



Annual Report 2007



Some of the Ethiopian / Scots team who carried out 257 cataract operations in January 2008.

Report from the Chair

As 2007 was the 20th Anniversary Year of the Exeter-Ethiopia Link I would like to thank Richard King and all fellow founder members of the Link; we should congratulate ourselves for sustaining our efforts over those twenty years.

At the AGM in April, which was entertained by Vern Lester's video of his trip to Nekemte in 2006, the serving officers and committee members agreed to continue, except that Jill Grainger stepped down and was replaced by Diana Benn as Minutes Secretary. Also Ella Huffman was later co-opted onto the Committee as Fundraising Officer. The Committee met eight times in 2007, Bruce Hebbard produced four excellent newsletters and the website continued to be managed by Tom Grainger (supported by Concept First). Everyone is thanked once again for the efforts they have been able to make through a hectic but rewarding year. Special appreciation goes to Alex Taylor for her unstinting efforts as our Eye Project Liaison Officer, which involved endless communications with our partners in Ethiopia and India, and also to Treasurer Mark Howells for financial management, particularly of the Eye Project. Thanks also to Alemu Nega – the Eye Clinic Project Manager – without whom it wouldn't happen, and to Temesgen Feyissa, Head of Development for the Mekane Yesus church in Nekemte, who are our key partners.

Our main focus in 2007 was on the building, equipping and start up of the Nekemte Eye Clinic, funded by our first major grant of £150,000 over 3 years from the Four Acre Trust, together with a minimum commitment from the Link of £18,000. After the clinic building was completed in April, before the Ethiopian rainy season, the next major task this was the procurement of equipment from India. This proved very complex and time consuming, and required close co-operation between Ethiopia, our Indian advisers – LVPEI, and ourselves. In spite of opting to use air freight, there were substantial delays, particularly at Ethiopian Customs which reminds one of 'camels and the needle's eye'. Despite the lack of equipment, a limited clinical service - treating disease and injury – was provided throughout the year. In July the medical team moved into the new clinic, support staff were taken on, and patients began to flow in with 700 people attending in the first 6 weeks. By the end of the year patients had been selected in readiness for the cataract surgery and 257 operations were carried out in January 2008 by a team of visiting Eye surgeons from Scotland. Subsequently further support has been given by Eye surgeons from Germany thanks to Alemu's ceaseless networking.

The provision of reading glasses began in October. With the addition of attendance fees this forms the beginning of income generating activity.

The ophthalmologist and two nurses travelled to India for 3 months specialist training. Unfortunately, the nurses found this experience stressful, and did not complete the course.

Two members of Exmoor Rotary travelled with Alex Taylor for the Clinic inauguration in October. National and local Ethiopian television publicised the event. Alex assisted with training 70 rural community workers to detect eye problems and refer people to the Clinic. Her evaluation of the Clinic at the half way stage led to the departure of the ophthalmologist at the end of the year.

Two main visits to Nekemte and Hareto took place in October. Alex was there officially to open the Eye Clinic and Penny Pullen went with two teachers, Chloe Tarrant and Tonia Dudley, from Broadclyst Community Primary School to forge school links. This latter trip not only provided books and funding for building to schools but established communication between several schools in Devon and their counterparts around Nekemte. We were also able to set up the first elective placement in Nekemte Hospital for a student doctor from the Peninsula Medical School, Lizzie Cook, which was hard but successful. We are also pleased to find more VSO volunteers in the university and teacher training institute in Nekemte with whom we have good contact.

Our membership is now over 120 and resulted in subscriptions in excess of £3,000, which with donations and other fundraising events resulted in a total income of over £22,000, on top of the £64,000 grant aid from the Four Acre Trust directly to the Eye Project. We were very fortunate to have congregations in Wiltshire served by Rev Martyn Skinner fundraising for us, the University of Exeter RAG contributed from their takings; in May, Exeter Cathedral School performed a concert in the cathedral on our behalf and Phil Holland rode from Land's End to John O'Groats on his bike. As last year Vern Lester kindly used his birthday party to raise funds including a very entertaining auction and Rachael Jamieson held a coffee morning. Dick and Diana Benn helped organise a sponsored walk in the Blackdown Hills in September and

Jeff Sleeman produced a brilliant live musical evening at Topsham in October. We also produced a gift catalogue on our website thanks initially to Vem Lester and Andrea Duquemin and finally to Ella Huffman.

Expenditure this year has been below income resulting in a large surplus in hand at the year end. This has occurred as we decided to raise our Eye Project contribution well in advance and to allow for extra unforeseen necessities for the project. Difficulties with staff development at the clinic and other uncertainties meant that the future of grant-aid funding for the remainder of the project was at risk so we also retained a large balance against this uncertainty. Our expenditure in Ethiopia on other projects was only slightly lower with £8,000 for school building and books, university scholarships, and sheep and donkeys to women. We expect to see the balance between our fundraising efforts and expenditure in Ethiopia return once the major eye health project is well established, during 2008.

Peter Grainger

General Account (Unrestricted Funds)

Period: 1st January to 31st December 2007

<u>Cash Inflows</u>	£
Subscriptions	3,185.00
Donations (General Projects)	
Individuals	2,702.50
Exeter Chamber Choir	70.00
Exeter Philharmonic Choir	2,200.00
Met Office	90.00
Exeter Cathedral School	2,850.00
Sacks Wholefoods	62.50
Silverton School	175.50
Exeter RAG Charities	1,650.00
Donations (Eye Clinic Project)	
Individuals	3,045.69
West Wiltshire United Area	2,500.00
Donations (Scholarship Fund)	
Individuals	860.00
Tangerine Bee Analysts	455.00
EGCC Tennis Club	70.00
Donations for Jan Greet Memorial Fund	355.00
Transfer from Jan Greet Fund BS Account	1030.00
Other Receipts	
Bank Interest (Cooperative account)	110.79
Building Society Interest (Britannia account)	85.29
Tax Reclaim	1,165.35
Total Cash Inflows	£22,662.62

Cash Outflows

	£
General Projects in Ethiopia	
Deposited with EECMY for future projects	1,500.00
Women's Donkey & Sheep project	1,000.00
Scholarships at New Generation University	1,385.00
Spectacles	400.00
Macmillan Books for school libraries	933.34
Bekumsa Biya School (library build)	50.00
Sorga Lelisa Elementary School (library build)	222.22
Birka Bekumsa Elementary School (library build)	500.00
Diriba Elementary School (new radio and library repair)	166.67
Birka Jato Elementary School (library and laboratory)	500.00
Biftu Nakamte High School (water line & lab equipment)	277.78
Hareto High & Preparatory School (email connection)	300.00
Deposited with EECMY for NGU Technician costs	50.00
Laptop Battery (Alemu Nega) for use in Ethiopia	56.45
Books for English Language Learning Centre Nekemte	200.00
'BBC Focus on Africa' subscription	80.00
Monitoring expenses (Garadew Derara)	30.00
Nekemte Eye Clinic Project	
Internal transfer to Nekemte Eye Care Project Account *	6,929.24
Costs in UK	
Internal transfer to Jan Greet Memorial BS Account	220.00
Global Centre & CVS subscriptions and room hire	152.00
Stationary / postage / printing	339.91
UKOWLA subscription	45.00
'Black Gold' DVD – documentary on Ethiopia coffee	12.70
Bank Charges	123.00
<u>Gross Cash Outflow</u>	<u>£15,473.30</u>

n.b. Includes internal transfer to Eye Project Account of £6,924.24

Nekemte Eye Care Project Account

Accounts for 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2007

Cash Inflows

	£
Grant from Four Acre Trust	64,485.00
Internal transfer from Exeter-Ethiopia General Acc.*	6,929.24
Donations direct to Eye Project Account	1,040.00
Bank and Building Society Interest	246.56
Total Cash Inflow	72,700.80

Cash Outflows

Clinic Building and Equipment in Ethiopia	15,798.82
Training costs - Ethiopia	2,840.42
Salaries of Ethiopian staff	9,466.39
Overheads in Ethiopia	1,699.24
Management costs in Ethiopia	4,564.16
Additional costs in Ethiopia	1,987.97
LVPEI Indian Training and consultancy fees	8,753.00
Indian Equipment and consumables	20,948.60
Exeter Link Monitoring and Evaluation	691.01
International Bank Transfer Charges	325.64
Total Cash Outflow	(67,075.20)
Net Cash Flow	5,625.55
Balance at 1 Jan 2007	2,775.59
Net Cash Flow	5,625.55
Balance at 31 December 2007	8,401.14

Exeter-Ethiopia Link (Registered Charity No. 1000293)
Statement of Account: 1 January to 31 December 2007

	£		£
Co-operative Bank (General Account)	5,334.68		
Co-op Bank (Eye Project Account)	2,775.59		
Britannia Building Society	4,573.34		
Balance at 1st January 2007			12,683.61
Total Receipts for year 2007	95,363.42	*	
Less Total Payments for year 2007	82,548.55	*	
Overall Surplus for 2007	12,814.87		12,814.87
Balance at 31st December 2007			25,498.48
Co-operative Bank (General Account)	2,438.71		
Co-op Bank (Eye Project Account)	8,401.14		
Britannia Building Society	14,658.63		
Balance at 31st December 2007			25,498.48

* These total receipts and payments figures are gross figures for the two accounts and should be reduced by the £6929.24 for net overall receipts and payments.

Mark Howells - Treasurer - March 2008

Jan Greet Memorial Fund
Accounts for 1 January - 31 December 2007

RECEIPTS

transferred from General Fund £220.00
 Building Society Interest

Donations & Covenants

£31.87
£251.87

PAYMENTS

Transferred to General Account for Donkey project £1030.00
Total Payments £1030.00

Total Receipts	£251.87	<i>Balance at 31.12.06</i>	£1798.08
<u>Less Payments</u>	<u>£1030.00</u>	<i>Less loss for year</i>	<u>£778.13</u>
<u>Loss for 2007</u>	<u>£778.13</u>	<i>Balance at 31.12.07</i>	<u>£1019.95</u>

Balance held in Portman Building Society Acc. No 134-4549270-9



School children whose education is helped by the Exeter-Ethiopia Link school library support programme.

Exeter – Ethiopia Link

The Exeter-Ethiopia Link was set up in 1987 to promote a Community Link between Exeter in Devon, England, and Hareto in Wellega, Ethiopia. In 1994 the Link was extended to include Nekemte, the principal town in Wellega.

The Link supports Health, Water, Education and Women's Projects in Hareto, Nekemte and surrounding areas. It also provides information to the people of Exeter on life in Ethiopia.

**For further information contact:
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Or view our website at
www.exeterethiopiaLink.org**