

Membership & Donations:

Please complete and return to:

Ella Huffman
Poltimore
Farway
Colyton
Devon EX24 6EJ

Name:

Address:

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Tel:

E-mail:

Date:

Please tick all that apply:

- I would like to become a member of the Exeter-Ethiopia Link
- I enclose the annual subscription of £10 (individual membership)
- I enclose the annual subscription of £15 (joint membership)
- I would like a standing order form
- I enclose a donation of £
- I am a UK income tax payer (this enables us to reclaim gift aid tax relief)
- I would like to know more about the Link and how I can help

Please tick only one of the options below:

- I would like to receive my newsletter by post
- I would like to receive my newsletter via the website

Cheques payable to "Exeter-Ethiopia Link"

Thank you for your support

How do we raise funds?

- ◆ By our members' subscriptions
- ◆ By donations from individuals and organisations
- ◆ By sponsored events such as cycle rides or walks
- ◆ By fundraising African meals, coffee mornings and musical events
- ◆ By seeking grant aid

What can members do?

- ◆ Attend discussion 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 and to assess needs and projects
- ◆ Medical and educational professionals, in particular, could also carry out short term practical assignments in Ethiopia



Enabling communities
to help themselves

(UK Registered Charity No. 1000293)

in association with Devon Aid

www.exeterethiopia.org

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to help themselves**



What do we do? We support...

Why Ethiopia?

In the mid-1980s Ethiopia's droughts and consequent famine brought its desperate needs to everyone's attention. Following a visit at that time, we established a community link between Exeter and Hareto – a small town in western Ethiopia.

Our aim is to encourage and support small but sustainable development projects – enabling communities and individuals to help themselves. We also want people in Exeter to understand the reality of life in Ethiopia – its ups and downs. We are a voluntary organisation with members mostly in Exeter and the Southwest, with a common interest in Africa and its development.



Education

All schools in the area lack resources but demand for education is rising rapidly. English is taught from first grade and is the main language used for teaching in secondary schools. At several schools in Nekemte and Hareto we have assisted with:

- ◆ *buildings, water supplies and toilets*
- ◆ *books and desks*
- ◆ *sports and science equipment*
- ◆ *the development and use of libraries*

We encourage schools in and around Exeter to get involved, and have initiated six links between schools here and schools in the Nekemte area.



Health

A visit to the regional hospital in Nekemte showed the scarcity of basic medicines, instruments, water, sanitation and hygiene. Village clinics show even greater needs. We have assisted with:

- ◆ *instruments and medicines*
- ◆ *re-plumbing the hospital*
- ◆ *books to the school of nursing*
- ◆ *a new eye clinic*

After 3 years the Nekemte Eye Clinic is now operational. Each day 50 outpatients are assessed. Some leave with spectacles, others have minor surgery or have sight restored by cataract surgery.



Where is Nekemte?

Our community link is now mainly with Nekemte, a large town in the district of Wellega in western Ethiopia, about 250 miles west of the capital Addis Ababa. We include the rural areas around Nekemte and the small town of Hareto, 60 miles away, where we began our link.

We have made many visits to the area in the last 22 years and established contacts in schools, clinics, the hospital, library and teacher training college. The Exeter-Ethiopia Link has no religious affiliation but we work with the Development Department of the Ethiopian Mekane Yesus Church as our local partner in Nekemte for project management, as we have found them reliable and committed to local development.

Water & Sanitation

Access to clean water is a fundamental right but many parts of the community have poor quality supplies and no sanitation. The mains water supply to Nekemte is being developed but is still intermittent even though this is not a dry part of Ethiopia. We have provided funds for:

- ◆ *spring protection, wells and hand pumps*
- ◆ *toilets*
- ◆ *water storage tanks*
- ◆ *mains connections*

A project to improve water supply and sanitation facilities in primary schools, and introduce hygiene education, is the main focus at present.

Women

The roles of most men and women in Ethiopia remain very traditional, and severely limit many women's aspirations of education and self-help. For example, poorer women often carry huge bundles of firewood daily to sell to make a living or to pay for a child to go to school.

We have provided over 70 donkeys to women to relieve this burden and help them with income generation. We have also given sheep to over 40 of the poorest women to rear for income, as well as funding six girls' scholarships every year for higher education in Nursing, Law and Business.

Can you support our work?