



*Saving and Enriching Lives in Ethiopia*

**Ross' Piece**

Time just flies! The Financial Year is drawing to a close. This year, reduce your tax bill by donating to WellWishers. Remind others that reducing their tax bill is as simple as donating towards a water well which simultaneously changes peoples lives.

*If you would like your donations to be deductible for the 2012/13 Financial Year, they **must** be with us no later than 30th June. Donations received after that will be deductible in Financial Year 2013/14. Receipts will be sent out late July/early August.*

Please note Membership Fees for 2013/14 are due on 1 July. Members can vote at the AGM, elect trustees and receive the Annual Report. Please join - it's your organisation. It's only \$1.20, payable by 2 x 60c stamps (form below)

*All Agreements are now in place with our Ethiopian partners for the 2013 wells programme. It is hoped that all 80 water points will be completed by 31 December 2013. Construction has begun.*

There is a square in the Donation Box area of the Newsletter to tick if you are happy to have your donation made public. Public donations for the year ending 31 March 2013 will be published on the website in late May. Please feel free to tick the box if you would like your donations made public.

*I am delighted to see such versatile fundraising activities by WellWishers' supporters - we can all help in our own small/large/any which way.*

<p><b>Tax Deductability</b></p> <p>All Australian donations are Tax Deductible. Over 95% of donations goes direct to the programme.</p>	<p><b>Gift Cards in Lieu of Unwanted Presents</b></p> <p><i>Use them for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. The cost is only \$60 and that gives clean water to an average family and their generations to follow.</i></p>  <p><b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> Order via Website or contact Ross</p>	<p><b>Bequests</b></p> <p>We are privileged that several supporters have made <b>WellWishers</b> a beneficiary of their estate. If you're interested in considering this, please contact Ross for further details.</p>	<p><b>Anniversaries</b></p> <p>It wasn't mentioned in November, but 10 years then passed since Ross &amp; Marianne began supporting the Wells Programme. This in turn led to founding WellWishers which owes its success to you, the wonderful supporters.</p>	<p><b>Credit Card Donations</b></p> <p><a href="http://givenow.com.au/wellwishers">givenow.com.au/wellwishers</a></p> <p><i>WellWishers pay a small fee for donations received this way, but it can be an easy way for you to donate. Be assured it's a secure site.</i></p>
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**THE MELBOURNE Fund Raising Dinner**

This was held on 11 April and saw 81 people attend Harambe Ethiopian restaurant, amazingly raising over \$23,000. This is enough for 4 Wells and beats the previous best total of \$17,000.

So much thanks go to the '3 Musketeers' who arranged the dinner - Paul Carney, Steve Arthurson and Graham Romanes. A sterling job and also many thanks to the very generous donors of goods and auction items and also to the wonderful choir that performed during the evening. Mostly a big thank you to all those that attended. We are investigating a different venue for next year, so that more people may be accommodated.

Due to an unfortunate glitch, invitations did not go out to our Victorian supporters and we apologise for this and assure everyone it will not happen again.



**QUOTATION:** "Before you judge a person, walk a mile in their shoes"

**Please become a Member of WellWishers.** Complete this form and return it to the address below with the Annual Membership Fee for 2013/14 of \$1.20 [payable with 2 x 60c stamps]. Please add your email address, if you have one.

NAME: ..... EMAIL ADDRESS: .....

POSTAL ADDRESS: ..... P/CODE: .....



### Australian Ambassador visits WellWishers Work

Last November, our Australian Ambassador to Ethiopia accompanied Ross Allan on a field visit to Tigray. No real mention was made of this in our earlier Newsletter due to space limitations. Ambassador Lisa Filipetto was very impressed with the work *WellWishers* are doing and commented that she personally particularly likes and admires the grass roots works that organisations such as *WellWishers* carry out. It was the Ambassador's first visit to the rural areas of Ethiopia's most northern province.



Tsegay, 14 yrs old and 7th grade student says "Since this well has been constructed, we are getting quality water in the nearby and improved our family's hygiene and sanitation status. I am attending school properly as it is easy to fetch water in the morning or afternoon after school hours."



Letebirhan Amha, Tsegay's mother, from Agamo village standing here beside the well says "I used to travel more than an hour to collect unsafe water from a river that was at the same time consumed by our animals. It was our primary source until this new water point was constructed".



### From Northern Rivers NSW to Tigray, Ethiopia

If you are a supporter from Northern Rivers, you may have read in *The Echo* recently of a trip made by Michael Leach, Diana Ewing & Nick Paris to Ethiopia, where they trekked in the south, around the Simeons, as well as in Tigray.

The highlight of their travels was visiting the wells programme which was being carried out around Axum. They were so excited about the work, that a campaign to raise funds for a well, [led by Diana] has started in the Byron Shire. "The Echo", the local widely-read weekly newspaper, will publish a barometer in each week's edition, showing the total of donations received up to that time. All concerned are aiming for a well which will be named after the good citizens of Byron Shire.

### Cycling for WellWishers - 1500kms from south to north in Britain

Not content with organising dinners in Melbourne or urging on school students in Singapore, Paul Carney will set out from Land's End, in Cornwall UK, pedalling his pushbike to John O'Groats in far north Scotland. All in the name of *WellWishers*. That's right - Paul is cycling 1500kms in his holidays.



Paul, pictured here with his son Henok in Singapore [where the family live] is an enthusiastic supporter of *WellWishers*. Not only has he been involved in the Australian International School's fundraising for 4 wells, he has also been heavily involved in 3 supporter dinners in Melbourne over the past few years.

We have set up a separate website where you can support Paul. Please go to:- [www.givenow.com.au/WellsEnd](http://www.givenow.com.au/WellsEnd). We are seeking donations over and above what you would normally give at this time of the year, the idea being that extra donations will be attributed to Paul's effort, rather than re-allocating them from "normal" donations.

It'd be great if Paul's selflessness could result in at least 2 wells coming from his 1500 kilometer cycling effort. Please help.

**Please note** that Donations are to be in favour of "*WellWishers*" and posted to the address at the bottom of this Newsletter. Over 95% of funds raised go to the actual Wells projects. There are no pastoral activities related to this project. **All donations over \$2.00 by Australian taxpayers, are Tax Deductible.**

### DONATIONS: \$6,000 provides 1 Well helping up to 400 people

Please tick Square if you're happy for your donations to be made public

Enclosed is my Donation of \$ ..... **Postal or Email Address** (incl postcode).....

**OR:** Debit my Visa : MasterCard - **Please CIRCLE** your card type (automatic periodical donations can be arranged)

Name on Card: ..... Signature: .....

Card Number: ..... Expiry Date: ...../..... CCV .....(last 3 numbers on back of Card)

**OR:** Donate Online (Secure Site): [www.ourcommunity.com.au/wellwishers](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/wellwishers)

Name for Receipt Purposes **if different** to bank account or card name: .....

Please send me information about making a bequest to *WellWishers*