



Saving and Enriching Lives in Ethiopia

Ross' Piece

Congratulations to Tracey Bretag and all her co-helpers in raising about \$7,000 at the September Adelaide dinner. A great effort and an enjoyable social evening, complete with African dummies and traditional coffee ceremony. The new well will be built next year.

My wife Marianne recently addressed her golfing mates, on the topic of "Ethiopia - Come on a Journey of Discovery"; highlighting the scenery, tourism, colour and unexpectedness of Ethiopia. She delightedly and surprisingly came away with donations from 2 people, totalling \$6,000. Another well for Tigray.

I would like to wish all our readers compliments of the season - may year's end bring you joy and help you connect with family and friends. As we reflect over our year, let us think of all those who have suffered [for whatever reason] and may we work toward a fairer & safer world.

WellWishers want to keep providing wells for rural Tigrayans; therefore we hope we can keep counting on your support for Ethiopia.

<p>Next Year's Programme</p> <p>We look like being able to fund about 85 wells in 2014 [compared to 80 this year].</p> <p>More details to come in the next Newsletter</p>	<p>Spreading the Word</p> <p>Many of you ask "what can I do to help?" If you could encourage just 1 or 2 people to register for the Newsletter [no obligation to donate], that would be terrific. Please see what you can do to spread the word about the work of WellWishers.</p>	<p>October 2013 Site Visits</p> <p>Details will be provided in the next newsletter.</p> 	<p>Volunteer WellWishers</p> <p>Heartfelt gratitude to Lesley, Hazel, Beth, Kate, Annie, John, Ray, Robyn and the merry Bangalow Lions who between them collect mail, answer phones, bank monies, do receipts, accounting & auditing and stuff envelopes.</p>	<p>Paul's Bike Ride</p> <p><i>Generous supporters gave nearly \$9,000, celebrating Paul Carney's ride from one end of Britain to the other</i></p>  <p><i>Why not consider your own challenge in 2014? There are so many ways to raise money and a personal [or group or family] challenge can change your life, but more importantly that of rural Ethiopians.</i></p>
--	--	---	--	--

Ethiopia 2013 - Meeting with our Monitoring & Evaluation Partner



Ross met 3 weeks ago with senior staff of NCA, our M & E Partner. Ms Ingunn Brandvoll [CEO in Ethiopia] expressed her gratitude at the work WellWishers is doing whilst Ato Dawit Kabebe confirmed that all the construction and education aspects of our programme is being done as per our expectations.

NCA's M & E work is very important. Whilst we have total faith in our Implementation Partner [REST - Relief Society of Tigray], it is nevertheless very important that annual assessments of their work is carried out by an independent body on WellWishers' behalf. Dawit also accompanied Ross to Tigray for a site visit and meetings with REST.

Christmas Gift Shopping/Giving - Don't know what to buy this Christmas?

Upon cleaning out old paperwork the other day, I came across the following clipping from an old "Good Weekend" magazine from the Sydney Morning Herald. "Estimated amount spent last festive season in Australia on Christmas gifts: \$8.36 billion; total number of unwanted gifts: 19 million; their value: about \$978 million." Scary stuff.

If you don't know what to buy, why not consider a WellWishers Christmas Gift Card. They give twice. The \$60 equates to the proportional cost of a new well for a family and their descendents - for life! The enclosed order form has all the details.



QUOTATION: 'Drop by Drop, a River Forms'

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:

ANOTHER VILLAGE STORY {as written by REST}



Assefech Alemayegu is another project beneficiary from Maekel Segli village, Wereie Leke. She is 68 years old and lives with her daughter. We found Assefech while harvesting on her farm (in fact, most of our respondents do the same). She said that living in the village, she never had an opportunity for clean water before the construction of the well. She narrates the time when she travelled for hours to fetch from an unsafe spring. She said, *"I always face difficulty having a jerry can of unsafe water for drinking. And since I am old, I used to beg water from my neighbours who brought water"*.

Now she is the beneficiary of the new hand dug well that is situated near to her home. She said that the water has good quality and discharge and one can fetch abundant quantity of water in the morning and afternoon. She added that it also mitigates women's work burden at home and helps them to get spare time and enable them to participate in different social and economic issues. The community has formulated their own rules and regulations to use the water properly. Based on that, the well opens at 6:00 am and closes at 10:00 am in the morning shift. Afternoons, it opens at 3:00 pm and closes 7:00pm.



Separate barn for animals



Assefech has properly constructed a barn, latrine and waste disposal pit. She said, *"Hygiene and sanitation education has enabled my family to have attitude and practice of hand washing practices, using soap before and after using toilet"*.

Assefech showing her latrine

Annual General Meeting

On 8 November, the AGM approved the audited accounts for FY12/13. The key elements are:

Surplus carried over from FY 11/12 [corrected]	\$266,396
Revenue [donations, dinners, etc]	\$493,911
Expenditure [bank fees, newsletters, etc]	\$ [5,506]
Retained Funds as at 30 June 2013	\$754,801

The retained funds will pay for all of this year's wells programme and also for 50% of next year's. It may look like we have a lot in the bank, but our policy is to only fund wells with money we have, not with what we might get. The retained amount is higher than usual due to our Ethiopian partner's [REST] first claim [\$187,104] for this year being made after 30 June 2013.

You will see that our running costs have been further reduced from last year, to the extent that 98.88% of FY 12/13 income goes to Ethiopia! The Annual Report will be online late December. All financial members will automatically be sent a copy at that time.

Note 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 are happy for your donation to be made public

My Donation is enclosed \$ Postal/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.givenow.com.au/wellwishers

OR: Donate direct to Bank of Queensland: **WellWishers: BSB: 124-048 ACCT NO: 2165 8949**

(It is imperative you reference with your name and postcode)

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

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