

December 2006 Newsletter



UK Registered Charity No. 1180814

Karagutu School Library project is almost finished

In October 2006 Veronique Rizzuto visited Karagutu School and was pleased with the progress of the library building.

The construction started in May 2006. The building is 108m² and has two rooms with two large windows (4m x 2m) in front and rear. The entrance is on the side of the building. The roof is made of galvanized corrugated iron sheets and the chip wood ceiling is divided into panels. The project is almost finished.

Gebeyhu Gezahgne, the project coordinator is responsible for purchasing all the building materials and overseeing the project. Despite the 50% increase in cement imposed by the Ethiopian government the overall cost of building the library is less than we originally thought.

Building Hope members and supporters have been keen and generous in raising funds for the library. We have now raised all the funds (£10K) required for the construction of the library.

The contractor hopes to complete the project by the end of December 2006.



Photo taken in October 2006

The next phase is to furnish the library and to build latrines (4 toilets for the boys and 4 for the girls and washing facilities) for the school. The estimated cost is £3K.

Building Hope has now launched for Christmas 'Gifts for Life' to raise some of the funds needed to furnish the library. A big thank you to Veronique Rizzuto and Kate Jelen for designing the 'Gifts for Life' leaflet and gift card and for the members of the charity for helping to publicise the launch to their communities, friends and family.

School Links

Veronique Rizzuto and Siobhan Reilly, a member of Building Hope helped to set up our second school link with Our Lady and All Saints Primary School in Parbold, near Wigan, Lancashire.

The first link with Hillside Community Primary school, Skelmersdale, West Lancashire was established in April 2006. Pam Bowes is the organiser of the Karagutu Link and is a Learning Mentor. She works with vulnerable children and their families. The children have raised £100 to buy a school desk and chair, a blackboard, a teachers's desk and school kit for 10 pupils and the school held a non-uniform day and raised £250.

Claire Cropper, the Headteacher at Our Lady and All Saints Primary school invited Veronique Rizzuto to talk to the school assembly about the work of Building Hope. The staff and children are eager to develop links, fundraise and get to know their Ethiopian friends.



Children at Hillside CP School and Karagutu school have sent letters and drawings to their friends.

Scholarship

Our sponsored students in Addis Ababa are progressing well in their studies. Fantaw is in his final year in Clinical Nursing. Kassa is in his 2nd year in Tourism and Management and Nega has just started his 1st year in Clinical Nursing. In June 2006 Melaknesh completed a Diploma in Accounting at Dessie College of Business and Management. Next year Melaknesh hopes to enrol on a university degree programme.

Our thanks go to all the sponsors for their continued support and commitment.

Partnership with ENAELP

Veronique Rizzuto met with the Ethiopian National Association of Ex-Leprosy Patients (ENAELP)'s Steering Committee to write up a project grant application to Comic Relief worth £500K over 5 years based on the ENAELP's 5 year Strategic and Management Plan.

The project aims to alleviate poverty and integrate persons affected and disabled by leprosy in Dessie, Ethiopia with the wider community by :

- engaging in income generating activities to employ their own potential skills for improved living conditions,
- creating access to education for their children,
- undertaking a set of awareness and advocacy work with active participation of persons affected by leprosy and the community at large through empowering their organized efforts, and building their capacity in fulfilling office facilities, training in

management and leadership and basic business skills,

- creating strong communication networks with their umbrella national association (ENAELP).

The grant application has been submitted to Comic Relief. They will let us know by Friday 19th January 2007 whether we have been invited to submit a full (Stage Two) application.

Veronique Rizzuto wishes to thank Siobhan Reilly, Francesco Rizzuto and Catherine Bott for their valuable contributions.

Veronique Rizzuto also met with the Chair and members of the Steering Committee of the local association in Dessie to discuss the housing development project and income generating activities.

A year ago, the local association secured ten plots of land from the Municipality to build ten houses for ten families affected/disabled by leprosy. The plots are situated on a hillside overlooking Dessie town.

Don Simpson, a member of Building Hope donated £4K to ENAELP to start the construction of those ten houses. The project started in July 2006. The project is now well underway.

During her visit to Dessie, Veronique Rizzuto met with some of the families who are currently building their own house. Each family received some building materials worth £400 (Eucalyptus poles for the frame and corrugated iron sheet for the roof). It took 12 days to transport the wood to the top of the hill where the houses are being built. Each family will

need additional funds to complete their house. It costs about £700 to build a *chika* house (mud plastering) with 3 rooms and communal latrines.



One of the 10 plots

Building Hope has agreed to raise £3K to complete the construction of the ten houses. Fundraising activities for this project will start in January 2007.



Unfinished *chika* house

The local association is lobbying the Ethiopian government to release more land to continue the housing development project for the remaining families.

News in brief

Fundraising activities in the New Year

Coffee morning

Cake stall

Massage Club

Salsa Dancing Club

Sponsored walk/run

Pubs and Clubs collection (March-April)

Car boot sale (April-May) donated items such as DVDs, video cassettes, books, toys, crockery and gifts are welcome. Email Veronique Rizzuto to arrange collection.

Dates and venues will be posted on the noticeboard on our website.

The sponsored walk on 15 July 2006 raised £900. Our thanks go to David Shambrook from St Peters' Church, Siobhan Reilly and Veronique Rizzuto for organising the event and for raising funds.

The sponsored walk on 18 November 2006 was a success. We are currently collecting money from sponsors.

Veronique Rizzuto and Kate Jelen displayed the work of Building Hope and launched 'Gifts for Life' at the University of Manchester on 28th November and 7th December 2006. They recruited volunteers to collect money in Manchester pubs and clubs. Staff were very keen to publicise 'Gifts for Life' amongst their colleagues.

A special thanks to Susan Middlehurst and Siobhan Reilly for publicising the 'Buy-a-Brick' and the 'gifts for Life' campaigns to their friends and colleagues and for their good communication networks and fundraising activities.

Our thanks go to all our members and supporters especially to David Bott, Bott & Co., Personal Injury Lawyers, Wilmslow, Manchester, St Peters' Church, Birkdale, Southport, Manchester Students' Dance Society and STARS at the University of Manchester for their generous donations and fundraising/sponsored activities.

More ways to Build Hope

There are many more ways to support our work in Ethiopia without having to write a cheque.

GiveNow. We can accept donations through the GiveNow website, run by the Charities Aid Foundation. If you would like to donate online to Building Hope, visit our website.

Gift Aid.

If you pay income tax, capital gains or any other tax, you can increase the value of your donation by 28% - without costing you an extra penny. Building Hope simply claim back the tax you have already paid to the Inland Revenue.

Give As You Earn (GAYE). With Give As You Earn, you can make a regular donation to Building Hope directly through the payroll system. Contact your employer about the payroll giving scheme.

eBay. Donate to Building Hope when you trade on eBay! If you sell goods on eBay, you can choose to give a percentage of the sale to Building Hope. Visit www.missionfish.co.uk for further details

Everyclick.com. Raise money for Building Hope just by searching the web! It's an internet search engine with a big difference - it donates half its revenues to charity! Just register at www.everyclick.com.

New members needed!

Welcome to Kate Jelen and Claire Gately as new members of Building Hope

Membership is open to all members of the public. The role of the member is to:

- ❖ Attend discussion meetings
- ❖ Organise and help with fundraising
- ❖ Help raise the profile of the charity
- ❖ Take part in a group visit to Ethiopia to learn and to assess needs and projects

To become a member please visit our website.

Building Hope

Building Hope was established in 2005 to help build the educational infrastructure and learning opportunities for particularly disadvantaged groups and individuals, and to alleviate poverty by building simple houses and providing opportunities through self-employment/income generating activities for the ex-leprosy community in Ethiopia.

For further information email Veronique Rizzuto at info@buildinghope.co.uk or visit our website: <http://www.buildinghope.co.uk>

Building Hope
PO Box 532
Southport
PR8 4WQ

Charity Constitution

Trustees:

Catherine Bott, Chair

Susan Allen, Secretary

Veronique Rizzuto, Treasurer

Members of the Charity:

Veronique Rizzuto

Catherine Bott

Susan Allen

Don Simpson

Sheila Simpson

Tony Howse

Nathalie Perks

Paul Macaulay

Francesco Rizzuto

Elliot Shubert

Susan Middlehurst

Siobhan Reilly

Kate Jelen

Claire Gately

The next Annual General Meeting will be held in May 2007 (date and venue tbc).