



*Saving and Enriching Lives in Ethiopia*

**Ross' Piece**

I may sound like a broken record every year at this time, but I'll still remind everyone of the \$1billion spent every Christmas on unwanted gifts. 72% of Australians feel that way. Please consider buying a **WellWishers** Gift Card - a gift that will keep on giving for generations to come. As we enjoy our Christmas roast, think of those still walking for polluted water. The enclosed flyer tells you how to order.

Last year at this time, I mentioned the possibility of a school in Abu Dhabi funding a well. They have upped the ante to 4 wells! More on this next issue.

Many thanks to Bangalow Lions Club for agreeing to undertake the boring quarterly activity of stuffing envelopes with the latest Newsletters. It is a great help to Marianne & me.

By the time you read this, we'll be in Ethiopia on our annual visit. I'll provide feedback of this essential activity in the next Newsletter.

I see a horse named Ethiopia ran a very long last in the Melbourne Cup recently. Let us ensure that Ethiopia the country does not run last in the water stakes. Please encourage your friends and family to donate generously this Christmas and so help many more Ethiopians run their own race.

<p><b>Annual Audit</b></p> <p>Thanks go to John Robinson &amp; Ray Watson for their pro bono accounting &amp; auditing services again this year.</p> <p>It all helps so much.</p>	<p><b>Newsletter Name</b></p> <p>Only 1 response to our request for a name for the Newsletter - someone must have something catchy to call our quarterly mail-out!</p> <p><i>"dripping news"?</i> <i>"Watering Words"!</i></p> <p>Email us with ideas - PLEASE</p>	<p><b>Credit Card Donations</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.givenow.com.au/wellwishers">www.givenow.com.au/wellwishers</a></p> <p><b>WellWishers</b> pay a small fee for donations received this way, but it is an easy way for you to donate. Be assured that it's a secure site.</p>	<p><b>Gift Cards for Christmas</b></p> <p>The cost is only \$60 and that gives clean water to an average family and their generations to follow.</p>  <p><b>TAX DEDUCTIBLE</b> Order via Website or contact Ross</p>	<p><b>Donor Offers \$60,000</b></p> <p>Our Friend is again matching donations in 2012/13, \$1 for \$1 up to \$60,000. Donate generously now.</p>  <p><b>\$2.00 &amp; over donations are Tax Deductible</b></p>
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**"From Little Things, Big Things Grow" - Paul Kelly & Kevin Carmody**

**Annual General Meeting**

Ross Allan was re-elected for another 4 year term at the AGM in Melbourne on 5 November 2012. The audited accounts were also approved. In broad terms, the audited figures for Financial Year 2011/12 are:-

Surplus carried over from FY11/12	8,885
Revenue [donations, dinner etc]	383,122
Expenditure [dinner/Newsletter costs etc]	7,487
Funds transferred to NCCA	[182,125]
Retained Funds as at 30 June 2012	\$202,395

The Retained Funds will go to the 2013 wells programme whilst the funds held by NCCA pays for the 2012 and part of the 2013 programmes. We're pleased to be able to tell you that for this past Financial Year, the cost of running WellWishers was reduced to 1.95% of revenue received. **Therefore, 98.05% of Financial Year 2011/12 income goes to Ethiopia.** Hooray for volunteers.

The Annual Report will be online late December. All financial members will automatically be sent a copy at that time.

**TO OUR OVERSEAS SUPPORTERS**

We're happy to say that you can now buy **WellWishers Christmas Gift Cards**. Email us your order using the enclosed form making your payment through the secure website. You'll receive them long before Christmas.

**Major Donors - Big "O" Party**

A big thank you to Chris & David who combined their efforts for a joint Big "O" Party in Melbourne, raising over \$10,000!

Thanks also to those people who donated enough money to each fund a whole well.

It is fantastic to see support this way - keep celebrating with gifts to **WellWishers**.

**Please become a Member of WellWishers.** Complete this form and return it to the address below with the Annual Membership Fee for 2012/13 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: .....

# 'OUR DREAM WAS SOLVED'

says Kahsa Gebre-tsadkan from Ma'agel



*"I used to fetch water from deep gorges, that was not easily accessible even when not carrying jerrycans full of water" says 27 year old Kahsa Gebre-tsadkan, mother of two boys.*

*Kahsa recalls the ups and downs she had experienced to fetch dirty water. She was mainly worried about water borne diseases such as Amoeba which had infected a number of people in the village.*

*Before the well was built in her hamlet, Kahsa, like other girls and women of Ma'agel village, had to walk about two hours a trip. When she arrived at the river, she faced another task - the long, waiting queue. She had to spend more time until it was her turn to fetch water. Being reminded of all those troubles, Kasha said "We were at high risk. A risk related to water. The water we were drink was highly contaminated. People washed their bodies and clothes over it. Animals such as cattle, donkeys, goats and sheep were equally sharing with us. It had bad smell and bad taste. There were small worms."*

*"After construction of the new well," said Kahsa "we have clean drinking water besides our home. If you observe it, the water is pure and well protected. It is fenced, so no animals can touched it as in the river. Any kind of contamination is now already avoided. Second, it decreases the distance we had accustomed for many years. Today, especially to me, it is a matter of less than five minutes to fetch and come back home and no queuing. Finally we had enough amount of quality water. Our dream was solved."*

**"Water is key for all."** Gidena Gebre-tatyos [now 25 years old] was born and bred in Moztey village.



Her village has been hit by critical water shortages over the past years. She used to spend nearly 3 hours a round trip to collect one jerrycan a day. If she goes in the evening, she must wait by the river until dark as there are many people queuing to fetch water before her. She said that there was a time she had to wait until 8:00 pm to fetch water from the river. **"We had lack of clean water. No hygiene and sanitation. The water was mixed with animal dung that was polluting the water. But we did not have an alternative rather than to drink it"** she added.

In 2010, the village received a water well with the financial aid of **WellWishers**. About this new well, Gidena says **"It is at about 100 metre distance from my home. It takes only two minutes. This left me with great satisfaction. Even for a while, I did not expect to have clean underground water from this field. Thanks for our helpers, they show us the path of change since water is key for all."**



**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 donation 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.givenow.com.au/wellwishers](http://www.givenow.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**