



African Children's  
Educational Trust

Educating Ethiopians to develop Ethiopia

www.a-cet.org

**Bringing easier access  
to better education**

# Magazine **2015**

Incorporating the trustees  
financial report & accounts

REMEMBER US IN  
YOUR WILL  
Help our work live on...

FRSB

give with  
confidence

Haftu Haylay Desta on the Celebrity Silhouette during a Baltic Cruise - Summer 2015

REGISTERED CHARITY 1066869 (ENGLAND & WALES)



# AFRICAN CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL TRUST

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## A-CET's

### Vision

For all children to have easier access to free quality education.

### Purpose

Working in Ethiopia in partnership with local organizations, communities and initiatives to improve the lives of vulnerable children through educational support.

### Mission

To support vulnerable children's easier access to appropriate quality education to the maximum of their ability through the provision of scholarships and upgrading community elementary rural schools.

### Values

That all children are born equal and should have equal opportunities to access education.

### Beliefs

Education is one of the best ways out of poverty.

Education is the key to an individual, a community & a country's better future. With education people can take control of their lives, be self sufficient and have the potential to lead and help others.

### Strapline

Educating Ethiopians to develop Ethiopia.

Up-to-date information with student and project reports are available on our web-site at:

[www.a-cet.org](http://www.a-cet.org)

If you have any questions or need help, please contact us.

# REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2015

## TRUSTEES AND OTHER INFORMATION

### Trustees

Dr David Graham Stables ... Chairman  
Dr Samuel Ayalew Assefa  
Dame Dr Claire Bertschinger DL ... Retired 28th June, 2015  
Captain Yohannes Makonnen ...

### Registered Address

African Children's Educational Trust  
670 Ethel Road  
Leicester, LE5 4WR  
England/UK

### Patrons

Ambassador Dr Kassa Gebrehiwot  
Dr Michael J S Burden  
Angela Glendenning

### Principal bankers

The Cooperative Bank plc  
PO Box 250, Delf House  
Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT  
England/UK

### Independent Examiner

A.H. Jarvis FCA  
The Rowleys Partnership Limited  
Charnwood House, Harcourt Way  
Meriden Business Park  
LEICESTER LE19 1WP

### Registered Charity Number (England & Wales) 1066869

Did you know?

- Ethiopia ranks in the top ten countries in the world in terms of spending on education (as a percentage of government expenditure)

### Registered Data Controller

For the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998, David Stables is the registered Data Controller for A-CET. Limited records of donors are kept securely. No data is ever passed to third parties.



The Trustees submit their annual report and accounts for the year ended 30th June, 2015.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

### Governing Instrument

The Charitable Trust was constituted by deed on 20th October, 1997, as amended 10th June, 2004 and 28th November, 2007 and is a registered charity in England & Wales number 1066869. The charity is administered and managed by the trustees.

### Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed for a term of three years by resolution of the trustees at a special meeting called upon not less than 21 days notice; decisions are made by a majority of votes. The trust deed stipulates that there should be at least three trustees.

### Trustee Induction & Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity laws and on the content of the trust deed together with the decision making processes and the recent financial performance of the charity. As legislation is amended and our charity develops, Trustees are made aware as to their legal and other responsibilities.

### Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and the Trustee Chair David Stables is appointed as CEO to look after the day to day administrative functions; there are no employees. Policies and strategies are determined by the trustees who hold formal meetings a minimum of twice a year. The trustees do not receive any remuneration.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have considered the risks to which the charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks and have established systems and procedures to manage them. The Trustees consider the principle risk to be related to an inability to provide the necessary continuity of funding to enable students to complete an educational course. An element in their management of financial risk, therefore is the setting of a reserves policy and its regular review by the Trustees.

## OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

### Objectives

The objects of the charity are to further the education of the inhabitants of the African continent in one or more of the following ways:

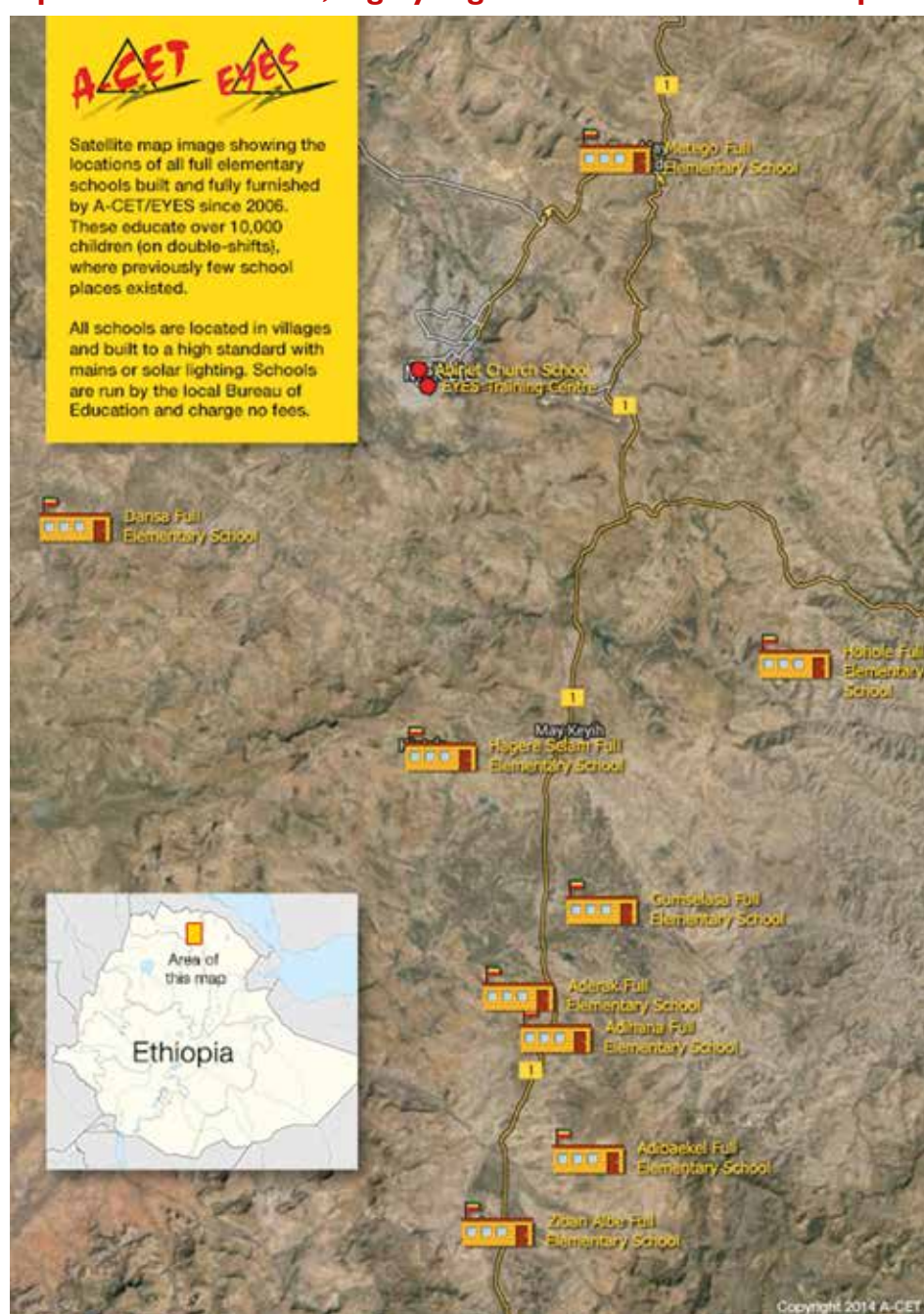
- in awarding scholarships, exhibitions, bursaries or maintenance allowances tenable at any school, university or other educational establishment approved by the trustees to persons under thirty-five years of age.
- in providing financial assistance, outfits, clothing, tools, instruments or books to such persons on leaving school, university or other educational establishment to prepare them for or assist their entry into a trade, profession or service.
- in awarding those persons grants or maintenance allowances to enable them to travel, whether in Africa or elsewhere in furtherance of their education.
- in otherwise funding the education of such persons.
- for the relief of the inhabitants of the African continent who are suffering hardship as a result of drought, earthquake, flood or other natural disaster or who, by reason of their social and economic conditions, are in need of assistance.



## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEAR

- To maintain our level of approximately 180 fully funded long-term scholarships from previous years.
- To complete the construction, basic furnishing and mains electricity installation of 8 classrooms, an Administration block including library and one latrine at Metego rural community Full Elementary government school providing facilities and places for up to 800 students (on two shifts).
- To continue with an ongoing programme to purchase of local study books and training wall posters to equip schools and their libraries at all our eight constructed schools which currently have places for over 10,000 students on two shifts.

### Map of south east zone, Tigray regional state – in which we operate





## STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE & OUTCOMES

- All our year's specific objectives were fulfilled during the year, with well over six thousand youngsters benefiting. Additionally we continued to support an active voluntary Circus, Cultural Dance and Band group of over 50 student members together with two multi-award winning Mekelle City Football teams in Groups C & D of over forty student members: under 18's and under 16's. A number of additional humanitarian activities were undertaken principally around our base in Mekelle city supporting activities promoted variously by the Ethiopian Red Cross, Bureaux of Labour & Social Affairs and Youth, Sports & Culture
- Our strategy is to facilitate better and easier access to educational opportunities for those vulnerable youngsters who may otherwise be deprived from attending full-time education, regardless of sex, religion or ability. We do this by offering a limited number of individual scholarships and by upgrading rural community-initiative, government staffed elementary schools. These activities heighten students' aspirations and, through education, give them opportunities to achieve their maximum potential to be better equipped with more life choices. In addition to financial support we offer counselling and try to inculcate a sense of dignity, self discipline, self-reliance, selflessness, and social responsibility.
- Invariably our students perform better academically (as assessed by their annual reports) after joining us and become healthier. With financial security and our concern, they become more self-assured. Our support can open up more opportunities for their brighter future. As they grow, graduate and move out into the world, they are stronger and, with more choices, have that potential to change their lives, their families, their communities and their country. All our students graduating during the past year have found gainful employment or self-employment within months of their qualifying.
- Our targeted community level support is towards building and strengthening local initiatives and maintains our solid high reputation with positive outcomes in those areas and sectors we operate. We continue to be both highly respected and trusted by the local administration, ministries/bureaux, businesses and communities. The trustees are satisfied that within our limited resources, our objectives are being achieved in an effective, appropriate and culturally sensitive way.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

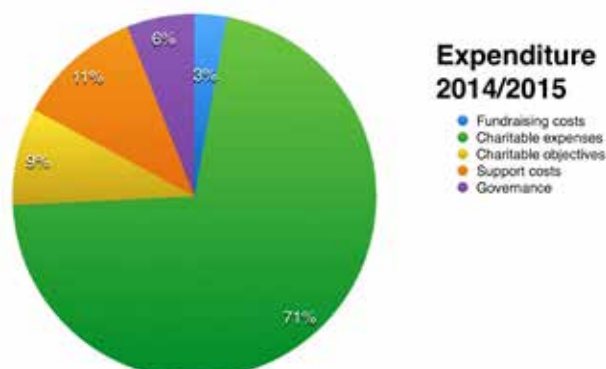
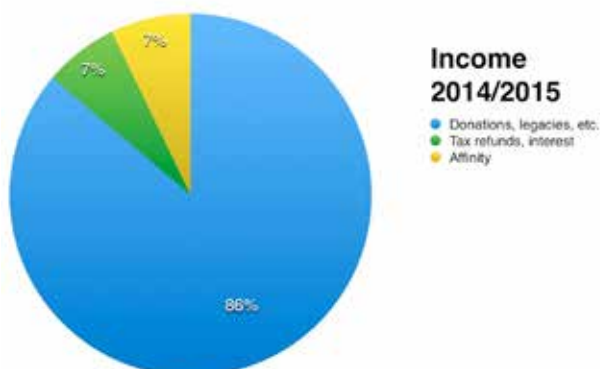
The end of the year saw a fair financial result based on a satisfactory performance by the trustees.

Total incoming resources were £ 239,397 (2014 £280,466) a decrease of 14%.

Governance costs were 5% at £14,225 (2014 £15,044) leaving a surplus of £3,146 (2014 deficit £80,445) to meet our objectives.

During the year our restricted income was £90,501 and £17,862 was expended leaving a surplus of £72,639.

Grants and donations made from unrestricted funds amounted to £150,712 (2014 £167,422).



# REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2015

## Investment Powers & Investments Policy

Under the declaration of trust the trustees have the power to invest in any way they wish having due regard to the liquidity requirements and the reserves policy. The trustees' ethical investment policy as agreed in 2002 is that none of our investments should alienate any donors or directly conflict with, or be incompatible on moral grounds with our objectives. This policy is consistent with previous years. Currently we hold no investments.

## Reserves

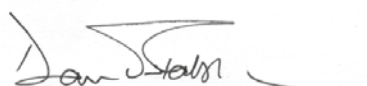
The trustees have set a continuing reserves policy to hold free reserves in unrestricted funds of £25,000. We believe that donors support for A-CET is to be used on our work and not necessarily invested. The unrestricted funds balance at 30th June, 2015 was a deficit of £6,120 (2014 £63,373).

Details of the accumulated funds are set out in note 13 to the financial statements.

## FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Our work is dependent on those funds we receive internationally from funding trusts, schools and private donors. During these times of continuing financial uncertainty we work hard to maintain this support.
- Our educational support work will continue to focus principally in the Tigray Region of Northern Ethiopia where our implementing partners, EYES, an Ethiopian federally registered charity (1432) is based. All this work is undertaken by EYES which is staffed by two full-time professional staff assisted by student volunteers. A-CET will continue to support EYES financially to run our programmes with all the necessary appropriate guidance and monitoring, whilst strengthening their infrastructure and future capacity.
- Where we receive direct donor sponsorship, EYES will continue to support those approximately 150 vulnerable youngsters with their long-term scholarships until graduation. All our children were locally selected on the basis of need through liaison and cooperation with the relevant Bureaux of Social Affairs, Education and Youth. We recognize the high level of administrative and associated costs of running an individual donor/sponsor scheme and our difficulties in meeting the expectations of some of our donors. Since 2006 as policy, we generally no longer accept further individual students for sponsorship.
- With an increasing administrative and bureaucratic reporting regime being imposed on UK charities, we are very conscious of the need to strengthen and put on a more self-sustaining footing our UK-based administration and fund raising activities. The trustees are actively pursuing all channels to do this.

Signed by two Trustees on behalf of all the Trustees on 6th December, 2015



David G Stables



Samuel A Assefa



# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30th June, 2015 which are set out on pages 7 to 11 following

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A. H. Jarvis FCA  
The Rowleys Partnership Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Charnwood House, Harcourt Way  
Meridian Business Park  
Leicester LE19 1WP

6th December, 2015



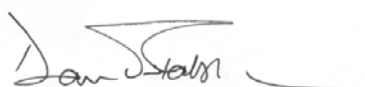
# REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2015

	Notes	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £	2014 Total Funds £
Incoming resources	1 & 2	90,501	148,896	239,397	280,466
Resources expended	3		6,820	6,820	2,295
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable expenditure on grants and donations	4	17,862	150,712	168,574	309,399
Costs of activities for charitable objectives	5		20,367	20,367	13,527
Support costs for charitable activity	6		26,265	26,265	20,646
Governance costs	7		14,225	14,225	15,044
Total resources expended		17,862	218,389	236,251	360,911
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year		72,639	(69,493)	3,146	(80,445)
Transfer between funds					
Net movement in funds		72,639	(69,493)	3,146	(80,445)
Fund balances brought forward			63,373	63,375	143,818
Fund balances carried forward		72,639	(6,120)	66,519	63,373

## Balance sheet as at 30th June, 2015

	Notes	2015 £	2015 £	2014 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	8		743	1,489
Current assets				
Stocks	9	723		1,007
Debtors – amounts falling due within one year	10	870		1,659
Cash at bank, with Charities Aid Foundation, and in hand	61,489	66,217		61,489
		67,810		64,155
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors	11	2,034		2,271
Net current assets			65,776	61,884
Total assets			66,519	63,373
Represented by:				
Income funds	13		66,519	63,373

Signed by two Trustees on behalf of all the Trustees on 6th December, 2015



David G Stables



Samuel A Assefa



## I ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act 2011.

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered to be material to the Charity's accounts, and there has been no change in the accounting policies since last year.

### A) Income

Donations and interest are recorded as received. Tax refund and dividend income include amounts receivable at the year end.

### B) Expenditure and liability recognition

Expenditure includes provision for expenses incurred but not paid until the following year. Generally liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure.

### C) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost over their expected useful economic lives:

Office and computer equipment 3 years

Satellite telephone and modem 3 years

### D) Currency

All figures are stated in pounds sterling as denoted by the symbol £. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into pounds sterling at the average rates during the year. Exchange gains and losses are dealt with in the statement of financial activities. Foreign currency balances at the year end are converted at the rates then applicable.

## 2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £	2014 Total Funds £
Donations and similar incoming resources	90,501	115,756	206,257	249,816
Tax refunds on donations		15,901	15,901	11,910
Interest received		111	111	112
Affinity income		17,128	17,128	18,628
Total incoming resources	68,888	148,896	239,397	280,466

## 3 COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS

This includes all costs incurred particularly in attracting legacies and donations. Whilst it excludes any costs of providing goods or services in furtherance of the Charity's objects it includes a certain amount of awareness raising of our activities. It represents 2p for every £ raised (2014 < 1p).

# REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2015

## 4 CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE ON GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	2015				2014	
	No	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	No	Total
		£	£	£		£
Total grants made to institutions	5	17,862	30,488	48,350	6	213,225
Total grants made to individuals	3	0	120,224	120,224	3	96,174
	8	17,862	150,712	168,574	9	309,399

- A-CET supports the running costs of the Ethiopian registered charity (1432) Ethiopian Youth Educational Support (EYES), which acts as our national implementing partner in Ethiopia.
- On our behalf EYES makes scholarship grants to approximately < 180 disadvantaged and vulnerable youngsters, principally orphans, the abandoned or disabled. Whilst government schools do not charge fees; these grants assist with the payment of private fees where applicable, transport to school and the purchase of books, uniforms and other related educational material.

	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2014 Total Funds £
<b>5 COST OF ACTIVITIES FOR CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES</b>		
Carriage, mainly of clothing, books, etc.	3,965	3,965
Bank charges on transfer of funds	325	325
Telephone calls to/from EYES, students, carers etc	5,238	5,239
Visits to Ethiopia	2,976	2,976
Legal Expenses	1,022	1,022
	13,527	13,527

## 6 SUPPORT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

Stationery	3,648	5,208
Postage	2,088	2,194
Web site	7,402	7,793
Publicity	10,315	1,460
Telephone	1,574	2,091
Insurance	1,238	1,899
	26,265	20,646

## 7 GOVERNANCE COSTS

Annual Report	1,219	1,274
Independent Accounts Examination/Review	1,971	1,452
Accountancy Fees	510	819
Trustees expenses (generally in pursuance of A-CET management:		
Travel, accommodation and overseas subsistence	6,449	7,331
Other travel costs	1,162	2,191
Government Registration Fees (Data Protection)	35	48
Bank charges	66	134
Depreciation	746	1,044
Sundry	2,067	751
	14,225	15,044

## 8 TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Satellite equipment £	Total £
Cost				
Balance brought forward at 30th June 2014	9,697	16,390	2,434	28,521
Additions during the year				
Balance carried forward at 30th June 2015	9,697	16,390	2,434	28,521
Depreciation Balance brought forward at 30th June 2014	9,072	15,526	2,434	27,032
Charge for the year	312	434		746
Balance carried forward at 30th June 2015	9,384	15,960	2,434	27,778
Net book value at 30th June 2015	313	430	0	743
Net book value at 30th June 2014	625	864	0	1,489

## 9 STOCKS

Stocks consist of books (for sale), stationery, colour laser printer consumables, and credit in our post franking machine.

## 10 DEBTORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2015 £	2014 £
Tax refund receivable	870	1,659

## 11 CREDITORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2015 £	2013 £
Accruals	2,034	2,271

## 12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted funds	General fund	Total £
Tangible fixed assets		743	1,489
Current assets	72,639	(4,829)	67,810
Current liabilities		(2,034)	(2,034)
	72,639	(6,120)	66,519



# REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2015

## 13 RESERVES AND RESERVES POLICY

Donations made to the Trust for a specific purpose have to be recorded as restricted funds, because the usage is specified by the donor(s). All other funds may be referred to as Unrestricted Funds. During the year £90,501 was received for specific purposes of which, at 30th June, together with the balance from the previous year, £72,639 remained unexpended. Otherwise there were only unrestricted funds which are available for expenditure by the Trust.

The Trustees are of the opinion that there are sufficient liquid assets to pay for the anticipated overheads for the next financial year.

	Balance at 1st July 2014 £	Movement in the year £	Transfers £	Balance at 30th June 2015 £
Restricted funds		72,639		72,639
Unrestricted funds – General fund	63,373	(69,493)		(6,120)
	63,373	3,146	0	66,519

## 14 PAYMENTS OR BENEFITS TO TRUSTEES

No remuneration or other benefits have been paid or are payable to any trustee of the charity or person connected with such a trustee, directly or indirectly from the funds of the charity or from the property of any institution or body corporate connected with the charity. Where appropriate Trustees are reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses where directly attributable to undertaking charity business. Expenses paid in the year 30th June, 2015 total £6,674 (2014 £7,289) but it should be borne in mind that the trustees also fulfil a largely managerial role within the charity. There have been no transactions in which any trustee of the charity or person connected with such trustee has a material interest.

## 15 PAYMENTS TO THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

An amount of £1,971 (2014 £1,452) is payable to the Independent Examiner, The Rowleys Partnership Limited in respect of examining the accounts of the charity and £510 (2014 £819) in respect of other accountancy services.

## 16 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 6th December, 2015.

















## SUMMARY OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT

### The need

All Africans/Ethiopians are desperate and highly motivated to be educated, but whilst education may be nominally free of “fees”, there are so many hidden costs (clothes, shoes, food, books & pens plus loss of labour to families). Also schools are often far from where they live. Our support aims to rectify these deficiencies.

### Fundraising

Our fundraising spend was less than one pence for every pound raised. No money is spent on paid fund raisers. Money spent on fundraising is in support of A-CET awareness presentations and for legacy marketing. Both David Stables' Autobiography “How A-CET came to Ethiopia” and Birhan Woldu's Biography “Feed the World” are on sale either through Amazon or direct – with all profits/royalties to A-CET. We do not make unsolicited phone calls, nor do street fundraising, direct mail shots or “appeals”. Supporters are generally only mailed once a year with our Report & Accounts or as a donation reminder.

### We need private voluntary donations

Individual private voluntary donations are vital for our survival and our very life blood. We receive no government, lottery or large funding body grants.

These donations are our only source of revenue and, in the current climate of financial uncertainty challenging, but it helps keep our relative independence.

### How your money is spent - Careful use of your donations and our funds

3% of your donation goes on governance (management), the balance in supporting our students and projects. We do not campaign or lobby. None of our aid is stolen, diverted or used in any corrupt way. The Chief Executive and Trustees are unpaid. A-CET has no paid staff employed in the UK. In the UK we work out of the Chairman's flat and, with volunteer help this makes your donations go further. We consider we are efficient, effective and abhor waste. Your donations are used carefully and wisely. Where we spend money we know it is justified, trying in every way to keep our costs to a minimum.

### Charities work together

Our charity is small, professional and transparent - with decades of practical experience in the field. In Ethiopia we work through our local partners EYES, staffed by four of our previously graduated students. They in their turn liaise and cooperate fully with the relevant education, social services and youth ministerial bureaux. We work in cooperation with other charities to decide who can best help. If we cannot help we try to direct applicants to other charities with whom we share our knowledge and experience.

### Impact/Outcomes

Your donations are making an incredible, inestimable difference with life-changing improvements to over 5,400 children and those communities in which we work. Specific targeted and supervised giving at a community level through local agents is effective. All our students know we care. They have a growing maturity, an increased self belief, are healthier and due to their improved educational standards, can be assured of a better, independent and more productive life with more opportunities.

### Charities are highly regulated & adhere to a range of strict standards. Registered with and regulated by: The Charity Commissioners and comply with all the legal requirements for charities.

HM Revenue & Customs Income Revenue Charities Office for all gift aid re-claim transactions.

We operate to the highest standards of financial control & accountability and produce accounts every year which are examined according to the current Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

We are an Organizational Member of the Institute of Fundraising and adhere to their Codes of Practice. We are registered with and adhere to the Fund Raising Standards Board regulations and guidelines.

We are a member of the National Council of Voluntary Organisations.

# SUMMARY OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT

## Impact

Through A-CET support, over 6,000 youngsters (51% girls, 49% boys) are receiving closer easier access to better quality education from elementary to university levels with financial security, better food, clothing, shelter and health with EYES continuing care and pastoral support.

All A-CET's activities in Ethiopia are implemented by the local Ethiopian charity EYES (Ethiopian Youth Educational Support), led and staffed principally by ex-A-CET students trained by ourselves. EYES is a federally registered residential charity 1432 fully complying with new local legislation. EYES is responsible and reports to the local Ministry of Justice and the Early Warning Response & Food Security Commission (EWRFS).

## Students

A-CET maintained a level of approximately 180 students on full direct monthly long-term scholarships. Despite considerable inflation we were unable to increase the level of scholarships provided due to a number of long-term sponsors dropping out and falling donation levels. After discussions a small number of students dropped out early for a number of personal reasons, which is normal. All graduating students who remained in contact have found gainful employment or self-employment within six months of graduating. Additionally from our voluntary Circus Group we currently have had over 18 graduated students on overseas circus contracts in Europe, Middle East, Turkey, China the USA and on cruise ships. Most "circus" students also have other "fall-back" careers. Last year they remitted over US \$ 25,000 to their families in Ethiopia.

Kokob with a BSc (Engineering/Architecture) and a popular tutor at Mekelle University is attending a two year Masters at Trondheim, Norway this year (2015) studying Urban Engineering Planning.

## Projects

All Bureau of Education (Government) schools are identified to our Ethiopian implementing partner charity EYES (Ethiopian Youth Education Support), but the final selection is jointly made by A-CET/EYES. Need is assessed and assured by the Bureau of Education local office, as is their subsequent provision of full teaching staff. A-CET/EYES selection factors are dependent on a number of factors, principally a committed community who have already started and constructed some sort of school and demonstrably want a full school, vehicle accessibility, good teaching staff and if appropriate committed students with good attendance and results. Selection depends on lengthy local assessment and community meetings, no promises are made until minimally 90% of the construction costs are assured from A-CET's major funders. Funding of local made furniture and equipping of libraries have rocketed and are now an estimated average per standard school of <£165,000 and are funded from fund raising initiatives. There is no corruption in the region where we work. All funds are personally authorised and handled by our EYES Chief Executive and no unauthorized payments are made.

All schools we construct are staffed by the Bureau of Education and maintained by the community.

## Future projects

Our current elementary school project is underway at Hohole (see location on page 3) with eight classrooms, administration block and dry latrines. It will include basic locally-made furniture and solar lighting. Additionally we are also building and furnishing a further two blocks with eight classrooms for the new community Grades 9 & 10 school in Hiwane. Both these projects will be completed in time for the start of the 2016 academic year adding over a thousand new school places.





## SUMMARY OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT

### Other events - Presentation & Socials

During the year a number of social events were hosted by EYES in Mekelle with music and entertainment by the EYES Circus, Bands & Cultural Dance Troupe. Smaller events are held in our rented Training Centre where refreshments and soft drinks are often served. These are attended variously by senior students, leading local dignitaries, visiting donors and sometimes overseas talent scouts. These events serve as social bonding and morale boosting events. Events include awards to high achieving students for academic or sporting prowess, recognition of local supporters, government partners and particularly for visiting donors, schools and students.

### Other events - Community “motivational” events

In building schools, we are supporting initiatives started by the local community. It is our financial and technical advice but it is they who are fully involved in and doing the labouring and construction work. We pay government rates of pay (usually about £2 a day). By our injecting this cash into the community for their labour, it has the lasting potential to revitalize entire villages out of poverty.

We are convinced that the way we work, is the most effective form of development, not top down imposed projects. It may not be the fastest way of working as these communities are principally farmers and we must work within their capacity based on their farming and religious demands.

Whilst Ethiopia has experienced incredible positive and continual economic growth over the last decade it has come at the price of high inflation (over 30% p.a. for the last four years). For our students, the most vulnerable orphans or abandoned who are often cared for by their Grandmothers and Aunties, this inflation has hit hard - particularly in food, transport and rent. Our 180 sponsored scholarship students continued to be supported and it was gratifying that again those who graduated during the year managed to get gainful paid employment. Scholarship rates have remained at minimally £15 a month up to £25 a month for those away at University or with special needs.

However hard we attempt to make our students strong and not dependent on us, inevitably a level of dependency creeps in, for some students more than others. Some related stories are still quite traumatic and insoluble. Yet perhaps my most important role is to listen, and show that we care.

The “EYES Circus, Band & Cultural Dance Troupe” gave a number of well attended free public performances not only in support of our school openings but also in support of the Regional Government, the Red Cross and UN to celebrate and dedicate anniversaries and competitions. With hours of rehearsal the students aim for perfection and their level of performance attained is now of an international standard. The 50+ members, boys and girls aged from 12 to 25 years, become extremely fit physically and all gain a high level of self-confidence and understanding of teamwork. We do not aim to be a circus school and we train our students in other trades and professions, we accept that we lose a number of members on a rotational basis on well-paid overseas circuses.

This year was the fifth that we continued to support over 40 students in two football teams which played in the Mekelle City Youth league. Many teams entered in each age group, yet our EYES teams again won both the Under 16's & Under 18's, a considerable achievement for which they received many cups. The teams are essentially run by the student's with now a volunteer leader and coaches appointed. We provide the “strip”, numerous footballs - and of course much encouragement. Sadly Mekelle has few playing fields available to us, although additional playing fields are promised.

Another challenging year yet we continue to maintain our programmes. Of note is the higher grades being achieved by so many of our students particularly those who are disabled and blind. Working in Africa can be both frustrating and fulfilling. The challenge is that there is so much more to do.



## A-CET GOVERNANCE TEAM

### **Dr David G Stables, Founding Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

David has worked overseas most of his life, principally in Africa as a Military Engineer, Manager and latterly as a Development Delegate with the International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies. David is now a retired state pensioner and currently runs the Trust from his small UK council flat. He spends about half his year overseas monitoring and advising on our projects. His favourite time is in the field or with our students. A volunteer for nearly 20 years now he says: "Our students' future successes and independence is reward enough".



### **Dr Sammy Ayalew Assefa - Trustee**

Sammy has been in UK since 2005. He's an A-CET alumnus and in 2013 obtained his doctorate in malaria research. He now works as part of a scientific research team in a London laboratory perfecting swab tests to immediately identify HIV+ or Ebola. He travels extensively overseas giving scientific lectures on his work (and sometimes for A-CET) With his background and quiet maturity, he's ideally suited to support A-CET bringing his unique perspective to our board. Sammy visits Ethiopia annually as a role model for our current students often gives master classes in research practices to universities where he's an Associate Professor.



### **Captain Yohannes Makonnen - Trustee**

Johannes has been a UK resident since he was very young after he lost his Ethiopian diplomat father and was placed into care. He has a unique insight into the background of so many of our students on so many levels. He visits Ethiopia annually and as an Airbus Flight Captain epitomizes the dream job of so many young Ethiopians.



### **Bisrat Mesfin Gebremichael - Director**

Bisrat, an A-CET alumnus, epitomizes all that A-CET aims to achieve. A 1984/85 famine survivor, he has been working with David since 1992. Now Manager and Chairman of our Ethiopian partners, EYES, we are fortunate he has joined our Board as Director where he makes an invaluable contribution. Bisrat has an extraordinary high level of commitment and is totally dedicated to his work. Bisrat also has a tourist franchise and is studying by distance learning to upgrade his Higher Diploma in Tourism to a degree. He is married with two young sons.



Did you know?

Ethiopia has already achieved its Millennium Development Goal (MDG) in respect of free access to children for elementary education (and also a reduction in child mortality)



## THE FUNDRAISING PROMISE

The Fundraising Promise is a promise made by members of the FRSB scheme to the public, committing them to the highest standards of practice, and ensuring that all the activities are open, fair, honest and legal. By being a member of this scheme, A-CET are agreeing to adhere to the Fundraising promise when raising funds.

- **We are committed to high standards**

- We do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising people working with us to raise funds comply with the Codes and with this promise
- We comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment

- **We are honest and open**

- We tell the truth and do not exaggerate
- We do what we say we are going to do
- We answer all reasonable questions about our fundraising activities and costs. Please contact us, visit our web-site or see our Annual Report if you require further details.

- **We are clear**

- We are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used
- Where we have a promotional agreement with a commercial company, we make clear how much of the purchase price we receive
- We give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment

- **We are respectful**

- We respect the rights, dignities and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- We will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way we will not do so

- **We are fair and reasonable**

- We take care not to use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence
- We take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption

- **We are accountable**

- If you are unhappy with anything we've done whilst fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint
- We have a complaints procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the FRSB to make a final adjudication.



FundRaising  
Standards Board

### The Donors' Charter of the Institute of Fundraising, of which A-CET is an Organizational Member

- When you consider making a gift to A-CET, we undertake that:
- All our communications will be honest, truthful and will comply with the law
- Your right to privacy will be respected and you will not be subjected to any form of pressure
- Your gift will be applied to the purpose for which it was originally requested
- Your gift will be used in a way that preserves the dignity of the beneficiary
- Your gift will be handled responsibly and to the greatest advantage of the beneficiary
- A-CET will consider how to meet your wishes as a donor and will be transparent in all dealings with you
- A-CET will respect your needs for confidentiality and will comply with the law relating to fundraising and the use of personal data
- A-CET will strive to achieve the highest professional standards at all times
- Any concerns you may have relating to these points will be handled swiftly and effectively by A-CET.

If you have any complaints please e-mail [dgs@a-cet.org](mailto:dgs@a-cet.org) or write to A-CET at our address.

During the year Chairman/CEO David Stables visited some of our graduated circus artistes whilst on overseas contracts and asked if they would voluntarily and unsupervised write down a bit of their background, their views on A-CET and EYES, what it has meant to them and how it'd changed their lives. Largely unedited, this is what they have written. By request, some comments are anonymous.

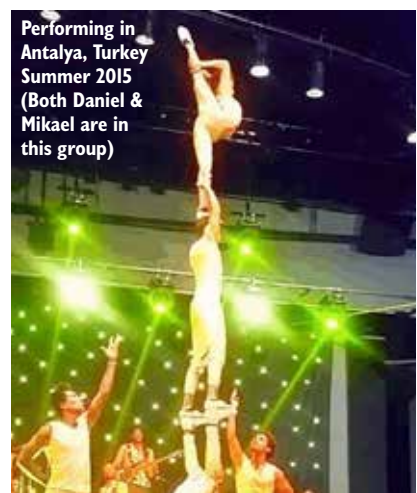
**David Stables' comment:** When I was young the circus or fairground was a magic place, yet we were cautioned that it was an almost shameful thing to "run away and join the circus" – like dropping out of life. My time with a number of our youngsters training and working in circuses around the world has given me a rather different view. Circus performers live incredibly hard working lives, both physically and mentally. Their stamina, their cramped conditions, their demanding acts, their constant travelling – on top of working in different countries with different nationalities, different cultures and food leave me with nothing but admiration. So why do they do it? One told me: *"No-one seemed to care about me and I got no love at home, but when I perform and please a big unknown and often unseen audience and I'm getting all this love, applause & appreciation, it makes me feel so wonderful & loved"*. Something to think about?

My name is **Daniel Mizan** and I am now a 25 year old International Circus Artiste. I started circus when I was 15 and I just loved it from day one. I dropped out of University in my second year as I dreamed one day I would be come professional and independent so I could help care for my family, but it was just a dream . We'd nowhere to practice and we didn't seem to go further. We began to feel hopeless. We talked about A-CET and the EYES Circus they supported and asked to make a video in their training hall with some EYES circus students we were working with. We brought nothing but our talent and determination. EYES helped us with everything but more they gave us encouragement and confidence in ourselves. We made the video, we performed in some EYES shows and soon we got offered a contract with a German agent to work in Antalya, Turkey for summer 2015. EYES became like my family, they are unbelievable, kind caring and generous really with a golden heart. They give us advice on managing our money and moral guidance, I have learnt much from them. I have big gratitude from the bottom of my heart to those people all over the world supporting A-CET. I am now independent, my dream has come true. I am now a professional artiste performing in different theatres with my group. Thanks to A-CET/EYES I am now a man with a bright future. I will go back to University and resume my Computer degree by extension.



Training in EYES Training Centre, Ethiopia.

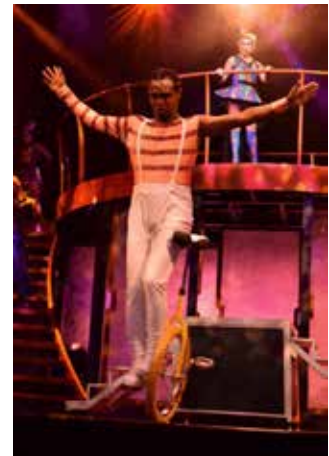
My name is **Mikael Yemane** and I'm now 22 years old. I started circus with EYES at Grade 5 & was about ten years old. My father is in Asmara, Eritrea but I don't really know him. I love circus and as I was never much for school I left at Grade 10 to go on a circus contract to Germany – where I first saw snow! I've had many overseas contracts. I know these contracts maybe short-term but this is what I want in my life. Circus is where I'm happy and satisfied. I love my art (unicycle, juggling, acrobatics) and the people I work with. I like the space it gives me to manage myself. I've learnt to never let anyone tell me that I can't do something. I know I can do anything I set my mind to. When I come back to Ethiopia I train with my circus family and friends in EYES. I've learnt English at language school as that is the international language for circus. EYES gives me respect and has helped support and encourage me to become myself doing what I love in my life. When I'm doing circus I feel alive. Thanks A-CET supporters and EYES!



Performing in Antalya, Turkey Summer 2015 (Both Daniel & Mikael are in this group)



My name is **Haftu Haylay Desta**. I am about 26 years old and have been working for the last three years as a “speciality act” Unicyclist and Juggler with Celebrity Cruises on their 3,000 passenger Celebrity Silhouette based in Miami. I have visited so many countries all around the world and generally can get shore leave. Minimally I do two shows every cruise in their state of the art 1,500 seat theatre. I am the only Ethiopian on the ship. I have my own self-contained cabin and generally can eat with the guests



**Haftu Haylay Desta on the Celebrity Silhouette during a Baltic Cruise – Summer 2015**

It's with great pleasure that I write this letter of appreciation and recognition of A-CET, an organization focussed on educational advice and support for youngsters.

A-CET is a blessing for youth to grow, learn and develop themselves as good citizens and competitors in their educational and personal aspects of their lives. Most students have got great practical achievements in their education.

I've had the unique pleasure of growing up with A-CET support that has helped me become a positive thinker in my life. They are always there to help others in their goals. Without question A-CET has been producing citizens who are ethically and morally strong, open-minded, loyal and cooperative with others by their giving special care that is equivalent to your father and mother. This is important for the individuals as well as our country as a whole.

Finally I'm always by the side of A-CET to support their aims, objectives and goals of helping youth whenever the call comes and knocks on my door.

This is because life is not simply living for yourself rather living for those others who may need your help. This I've seen done for the past so many years by A-CET.

## Some of our graduated students



**Weldekiros Belay**



**Anwar Siraj**



**Birarra Assefaw**



**Chernet Bezabih**



**Mezigebe Assres**



**Wintana Fissehaye**



**Nahusenay Wedage**



**Efrem Taddyos**



**Fritat Birhane**



There seems an insatiable appetite for so many of our graduated students to “run their own businesses”. Whilst we may not always agree with their choices and only the future will tell how long they survive or are successful, we certainly must have given them that self confidence to aspire to and get small loans from the small business loan banks to set themselves up. We wish them well.

### On a weekend visit by an out-of-town graduated student:

“How could you take a poor country boy like me? Look at me now. My own business with my sister working for me as Office Receptionist” (she was an EYES disabled student now with an Accounting Diploma). B works as a Draughtsman with his Diploma & Certificate of Competence and now runs his own successful registered business. He is the picture of confidence. (His sponsor’s family bought him a desktop computer on his graduation as a gift).

### Another graduated student:

“If I am a good person it is because I am your son. Our friendship has made me a better person so thank you for being my father. Christmas is a time to share love and joy. A time to recollect beautiful memories. A time to sit back and relax. Enjoy this holiday season. I pray for your health and wish you the best”. AK – now an ETV/Radio Actor/Director.

### HT, a country student who after four years graduated from Agricultural College as “excellent”:

“You have been like my mother and father and I am your child now with strength through EYES, Thank you EYES, Peace to EYES.”

- All our new school furniture is now made in an ex-student’s workshop by his six employees.
- Two of our Pharmacists now run their own private pharmacies.
- Our first Veterinary Doctor now runs his own highly successful profitable rural chicken farm
- This year 2015 saw our first sizeable on-line donation from a successful graduated student

## Summary snapshot of some of our students in 2015

As a policy throughout our 20 years, an average of over 20% of our students have been physically disabled (through polio, civil war mines, explosives or shrapnel, traffic accidents or “medical errors). Some are totally blind, some deaf and some even doubly disabled – yet all have and are achieving high academic results. All those who have graduated are currently gainfully employed.

Almost 300 of our students have now completed their education and graduated since A-CET started support in Ethiopia over 20 years ago. ALL those with whom we remain in touch with are self-employed or gainfully employed as Medical Doctors, Veterinary Doctors, Scientific Post-doctoral Researcher, Nurses, Pharmacists, Architects, Engineers: Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Marine, Accountants, Draughtsman, Teachers, Tutors, Child Carers, Hairdressers, Economists, Jewellers, Judges, Lawyers, Business Managers, Masons, Electricians, Metal workers, Carpenters, Painters, Plant operators, Truck, Bus & Car drivers, Media, Computer Scientists, IT and Management Information System Analysts, Musicians, in Theatre and Media and many as International Circus Artistes. Additionally many students have set up their own businesses sometimes utilising their knowledge gained and, when more established, are employing others.



## DONATING TO CHARITY

### DONATING TO CHARITY

**MARGARET DIBBEN** advises on how to give generously - and wisely

**Spend £30 on an embarrassingly patterned pullover that will be worn only once or give £30 to help someone in need? There is an obvious answer. So why do we continue to spend millions of pounds buying Christmas presents that will be thrown away instead of giving that money to charity when making donations is so easy?**

Charities need money more than ever, as they have lost billions of pounds of Government aid while demands on their services steadily rise.

As a start, December 1st was Giving Tuesday - a recently introduced fightback against the excessive amount of shopping that takes place in the run up to Christmas ([www.givingtuesday.org.uk](http://www.givingtuesday.org.uk)).

In an already difficult year, the image of charities has been tarnished by a succession of stories about financial mismanagement, bullying donors and selling supporters' personal details for profit.

Fundraising in particular has been identified as an aggressive activity, to such an extent that the Government's introducing legislation to make charities more responsible. The leaders of some of the largest charities have apologised and committed themselves to a strengthened code of fundraising practice.

When you are accosted in person by any fundraiser- in the street or on your doorstep - you can ask the collector for the charity's registration number and for a solicitation statement which reveals how much the fund raising company is getting paid out of your donations. By law they must provide this at the point you sign a direct debit. There are several ways to convert Christmas spending into Christmas giving. Announce that you want donations instead of presents for yourself. Tell the adults, if not the children, in your family that you are donating money to charity instead of buying them presents.

Or buy charitable gifts in their names- although how youngsters might respond to the giving of a goat or cow, or the adoption of a donkey instead of receiving an iPad, only you can judge.

Unless you already have a favourite, you need to decide on a charity. There are around 165,000 in the UK: to choose from- medical research, hospices, children, the elderly, aid agencies, animal charities, refugees. Whatever touches your heartstrings, you want to be sure that the charity is viable and your money will be used wisely .

Then there are fraudsters who pretend to be collecting for non-existent charities. You can confirm that a charity is genuine by checking with the Charity Commission ( [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission)) which regulates all charities. The Charities Aid

Foundation ([www.cafonline.org](http://www.cafonline.org)) can help you find a charity and gives help with all aspects of giving.

**Supporting education in countries such as Ethiopia is a great alternative to buying gifts or cards for Christmas**





Many well-known charities, with high-profile fund-raising campaigns, are big businesses that handle hundreds of millions of pounds. Smaller charities can be more efficient and spend a larger percentage of donations on their good work. Charity Choice ([www.charitychoice.co.uk](http://www.charitychoice.co.uk)) has a searchable database of UK charities and provides free reports on how each one spends its money.

You can begin your seasonal giving with charity Christmas cards. It must be declared on the pack how much of the price goes to charity- with some it is less than 10 per cent. Then shop on eBay using retailers that donate through the PayPal Giving Fund which imposes no fees or commission.

You can spontaneously hand cash to Christmas carollers or you can make more organised donations. If you are a UK taxpayer, always sign a Gift Aid declaration.

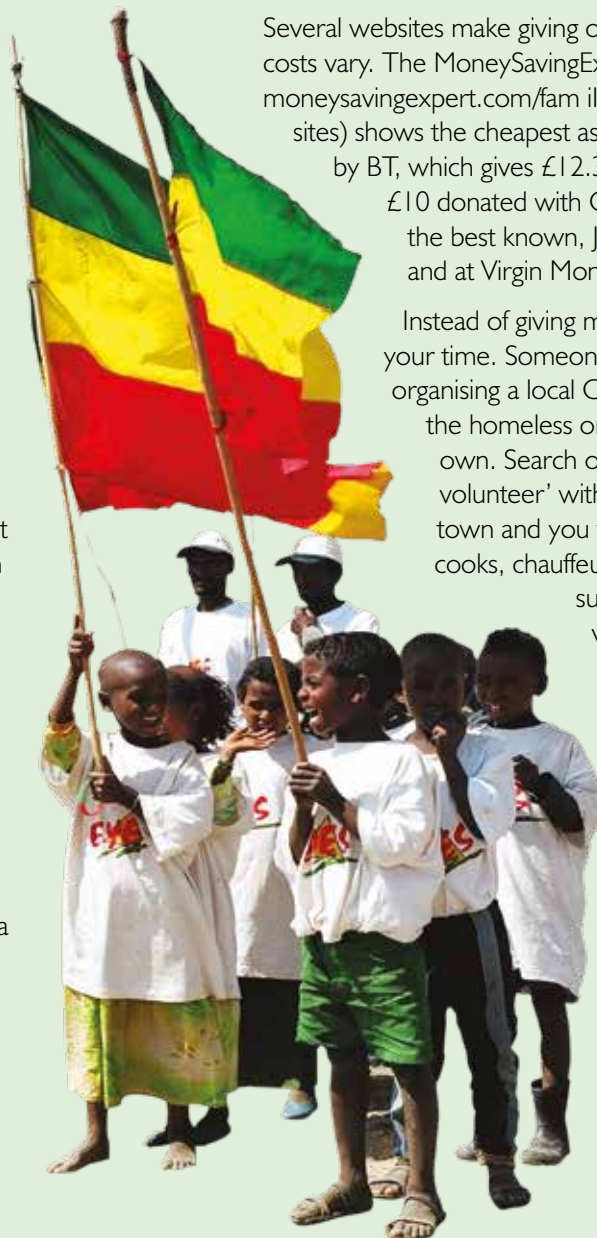
Gift Aid is immensely valuable to charities because the Revenue adds 25p to every £1 you give .

Several websites make giving online easy but the costs vary. The MoneySavingExpert website ([www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/charity-fundraising-sites](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/charity-fundraising-sites)) shows the cheapest as MyDonate, funded by BT, which gives £12.35 to charity for every £10 donated with Gift Aid. At probably the best known, JustGiving, it is £11.74, and at Virgin Money Giving £12.15.

Instead of giving money, you can give your time. Someone is bound to be organising a local Christmas lunch for the homeless or people on their own. Search on line for 'Christmas volunteer' with the name of your town and you will see who needs cooks, chauffeurs and general

support. If you cannot volunteer on the day, many will want donations of food, bedding and clothing for their clients. Or you could invite a lonely neighbour to your own Christmas lunch.

© The Oldie





## ETHIOPIA - FIRST!

### ETHIOPIA - FIRST!

I travel to Ethiopia two or often three times a year. Neighbours look puzzled and often say sorry - mistakenly thinking I may be going on a holiday? If they are really interested, the conversation may go like this:

**Isn't Ethiopia a poor country?**

**No not poor...**

**Really?**

**Really... in fact it has a lot of firsts and is very proud of its achievements too**

**Huh, like what?**

**Well, The only country that was never colonized because they defeated the Europeans/Italians in 1896.**

**The first African country to win a gold medal at the Olympics.**

**The only African country with its own alphabet.**

**The country that practised Christianity before the Europeans.**

**The country that accepted Islam before the Middle East.**

**The first country whose flag represents the colours everyone rocks to often without knowing why? Green, Yellow & Red).**

**The origin of Rastafarianism.**

**The country is mentioned in both the Bible AND the Quran (over 50 times).**

**The country where coffee originated from .**

**A country steeped in a culture and spirituality difficult to comprehend.**

**Home to the earliest humanoid sightings and human skeletons dating back millions of years (Lucy, Arsi).**

**Wow!**

**Yes Ethiopia: Cradle of humanity birth of the world. Ethiopia first and proud. Poor? – Never.**



## PERSONAL REFLECTIONS AND END-PIECE BY THE CHAIRMAN

Working for over fifty years in Africa - with the last twenty of those in Ethiopia, I've seen a number of changes – mostly positive.

A-CET registered in 1997 started in a very small way to fill an educational need. We never had any pretensions A-CET has never rented any premises or paid any staff in the UK. We've stayed relatively small but effective. Maybe I had fondly hoped that after 20 years demand for A-CET support would diminish, but for many reasons (better medical services with a doubled population, nascent industrialization and mining, but above all a population with far higher aspirations) - the opposite has been the case.

As I slow down, the time is fast approaching when if A-CET is to carry on we need to start employing staff - with all the incumbent expense that will entail.

Since 1997 we have raised and spent all of over three million pounds (five million US dollars sounds more!) With this we have achieved much and (no sound-bite this) literally have changed thousands of young lives in a very positive way (see page 19).

None of this could have been done without our faithful, stalwart and committed long-term big and smaller donors from over 30 countries world-wide whose support has been absolutely magnificent.

We have built and furnished ten high quality new schools accommodating over 6,000 youngsters from Grades 1 to 10. Our Ethiopian managed and run registered charity partner Ethiopian Youth Educational Support (EYES) has achieved the greatest respect and highest accolades from all in the area of North Ethiopia where we work. There are so many more charities now than 20 years ago. The bigger ones have grown bigger and more like businesses with big PR budgets and media access have become more aggressive and demanding in "donor acquisition". But there is still a big place and an important role in the world for the small charities today.

I believe in what I do and I firmly believe that Ethiopia and Ethiopians have the greatest future ahead of them. My guidelines have always been to waste nothing and as a "funder" of vulnerable students and needy educational projects it is important that we do no long-term harm nor exacerbate a bad situation.

At the risk of stating what should be very obvious:

- 1 Listen to, respect and treat with dignity all students and communities we deal with.
- 2 Our most successful students are those which we have supported long-term to do what they want to do.
- 3 The most successful and self-sustaining projects are those which the Ethiopians wanted to do and have already started but were hampered due to lack of financial or other resources.
- 4 Thank all donors, respect them and their privacy. Tell them how we spent their money and to what effect. Over the last two decades Ethiopia and A-CET has become my life and it is to my eternal surprise and joy how I'm still accepted. To me it is a great privilege and honour.

My Ethiopian name is "Teklebrhan" - meaning plant or bringer of light. Thank you for your time.



David Stables

**To see people developing is the great  
reward of running a charity such as A-CET**





## USEFUL INFORMATION

### **Sorry but we are unable to accept any donated goods**

Experience proves we can not handle donated books, used clothing, computers or equipment of any sort. Ethiopia is land locked. Carriage is prohibitively expensive and customs clearance is never straightforward.

### **Donor visits**

Small groups of donors are welcome to visit their students or our projects on a self-financing basis. We can arrange all comprehensive in-country support but in the first instance we strongly recommend that you contact David by phone or e-mail. Ethiopia is a comparatively very safe, friendly and welcoming country.

### **We are not a grant making charity**

We are unable to give any grants to Africans (whether UK-based or not), gap year or any other students or projects. We constantly struggle against great competition to fund our own work, so please don't ask. We regret that any applications can no longer be acknowledged.

### **Overseas volunteers.**

All our overseas work is done by local personnel. From previous experiences please appreciate that we don't have the necessary infrastructure to support or fully utilize the skills of expatriate volunteers, however willing. We recommend you visit our web-site which gives many links to professional overseas volunteering organizations. If you've specific relevant qualifications we suggest you contact a charity working in that sector

### **UK-based volunteers.**

We welcome and would encourage fund raisers who can run marathons or host events, but they need to be prepared and able to work independently. We regret we have little infrastructure to support them.

### **UK employment vacancies**

We regret we do not have any employment opportunities; all our UK-based staff are unpaid volunteers.

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## **OUR ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL PARTNER AND EXECUTIVE AGENCY ETHIOPIAN YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT (EYES)**



- EYES is an Ethiopian local charity number 1432 registered with the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Justice and regularly reporting to both the Ministry of Justice and the Regional Government's Early Warning, Response & Food Security team (EWRFS – a part of the Bureau of Agriculture and Urban Development – similar to the Charity Commission in England & Wales).
- EYES works closely with the Tigray regional and Hintalo/Wajirat and Enderta District Bureaux of Education, the Bureau Youth & Social Affairs and the Mekelle Municipality, following and respecting Government policies.
- EYES works closely with the umbrella body ACSOT – "Association of Civil Societies of Tigray".
- EYES is managed by Bisrat Mesfin Gebremichael with a board of five Directors of which David Stables, A-CET Chairman and CEO, is a member. Bisrat is also an A-CET Director which ensures active cooperation at all levels. It is not considered that these appointments in any way constitute a conflict of interests.
- EYES submits audited accounts annually, without which annual registration may be withheld.
- EYES has its own constitution, but its aims and objectives are similar to A-CET.
- Whilst EYES is currently principally funded by A-CET to implement A-CET funded programmes; as a self managing autonomous charity, it can raise its own funds to implement its own programmes.

# HOHOLE FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY DVD



Did you know?

Ethiopia now has 35 Government-run Universities with over 400,000 students attending





**EDUCATING AFRICANS TO DEVELOP AFRICA**



**REMEMBER US IN  
YOUR WILL**  
Help our work live on...

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