

# Tara Centre News

Issue 3  
July 2007

## News Snippets

### Web Site

Clikpic, a British web site provider, has generously given Kate a web site and domain name free of charge for two years. Clikpic's web site is at: [www.clickpic.com](http://www.clickpic.com)

### Jan Nevill Photographer

Jan Nevill, a London-based photographer, did voluntary work for Kate in Gondar last summer, taking hundreds of colour and black & white photographs of beneficiaries of her sponsorship scheme. Jan recently sent all the photographs and negatives to Kate in Gondar, so that she could distribute the prints to the beneficiaries as well as their sponsors worldwide. Jan has displayed some of his photographs of Ethiopians at:

[www.jannevill.com](http://www.jannevill.com)

### Mohammed in London

Twelve-year-old Mohammed, a Gondar beneficiary of Kate's sponsorship scheme, flew to London in June to have surgery to rebuild his face, which was damaged by leishmaniasis when he was little. Kate's colleague, Marta Bekele, has accompanied him as his guardian and interpreter during his four-month stay in England. The trip is being funded by the London-based charity, Facing the World.

[www.facingtheworld.net](http://www.facingtheworld.net)

## Contact Details

### Address

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Gondar  
Ethiopia

**Office Telephone**  
+251 (0)58 111 6511

**E-mail**  
[kfe@ethionet.et](mailto:kfe@ethionet.et)

**Web Site**  
[www.kateferedayeshete.net](http://www.kateferedayeshete.net)

## Bank Details

### Bank

Commercial Bank of Ethiopia

### Address

International Banking  
Division, PO Box 255,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### Branch

Gondar Main

**Account Number**  
30900

**Account Name**  
Catherine Fereday Eshete

**SWIFT Code**                      **IBAN**  
CBETETAA                              none

## New Tara Centre: Serving the Community

In April the Tara Centre moved to bigger, better premises nearer Gondar's city centre. The new compound is large, with an L-shaped building that houses offices for administrative and project staff, resource room, kitchen (where free dinners are prepared for needy families), workshop and shop, and clinic (primarily for running dog and cat birth control programmes, but also used by visiting doctors and nurses for treating families). An Englishwoman, Mrs Kate Fereday Eshete, who originally set up the community centre in October 2005, works with a team of 20 Ethiopians, implementing integrated projects to improve the lives of people and animals. "I signed a three-year contract for the new premises," says Kate. "A major challenge for me is the monthly rent of 4,000 birr - donations to help cover this would be particularly welcome." The Tara Centre is unique in the Ethiopian Highlands.



*the new Tara Centre offices*

## Education for Poor Children

Throughout the school holidays (July to mid-September), youth clubs for Grades 1 to 6 will run at the Tara Centre, preparing children for the 2007-08 academic year.



*young children learning the alphabet*

## Resource Centre and Library

The Tara Centre's resource centre is used to store books, games, toys and art materials used almost daily by playgroups and youth clubs. Many of the children's books were kindly donated by Janette Park, who works as a curator in Scotland and sponsors a little girl in Gondar.

## Work Experience

Seven young adults and a teenager have been selected from amongst sponsored beneficiaries to help out at the Tara Centre during their holidays, either by working in the office or by teaching at the playgroup or youth clubs.



*resource room and library*

## Empress Mentewab School

A new non-profit-making school is to open in a shed at the Tara Centre in September. Initially there will be one Grade 1 class with 24 pupils selected from Gondar's inner-city slums. "There is a desperate need here for high-standard, all-day schooling for children from poor families," says Kate, the school's owner. "State schools usually offer half-day lessons with class sizes of 50 to 100 pupils." The school, which Kate named after a beautiful, clever 18th century Gondarine empress, has start-up funds of 9,500 birr (£1,120, €790, \$1,050), thanks to UK donors. Classroom furniture is being made and two teachers have been appointed. Funds are still needed to renovate the shed, which is dilapidated. If you can help, please contact Kate.



*Empress Mentewab School*



*Fetle on her wedding day with Kate's daughter, Menen (1½)*

## Wedding Celebration

As a teenage orphan girl from Gondar's slums, Fetle (now 23) was supported by English sponsors through The Kindu Trust from 1999 to 2003. The Trust (set up by Kate in 1998) funded Fetle's place at an International Hotel Services course in Addis Ababa, which resulted in a job at the Hilton Hotel. Fetle later returned to live and work in Gondar and in February 2007 she married Desalegne, a builder. "When I first set eyes on her in 1998, Fetle was a gaunt teenager in rags who had little to look forward to," Kate said during her speech at the wedding reception. "It gives me great pleasure to see her looking so happy today, and to know that her future is secure, with a husband and a home."



Kate and Jenny in the office

## Monkey Enclosure

Two American primate biologists, Thore Bergman and Jacinta Beehner of the University of Michigan, are collecting funds to build an enclosure for the four rescued monkeys at the Tara Centre: Jenny and Babs (both female geladas, a type of monkey endemic to Ethiopia), Hannah (a female olive baboon) and Skippy (a male patas monkey). The spacious enclosure, costing more than 7,500 birr, will have swings and climbing frames. As part of the University of Michigan Gelada Research Project, Thore and Jacinta are carrying out a study of gelada behaviour in the Simien Mountains north-east of Gondar.



Hannah

## News Snippets

### Indian Ambassador

The Indian Ambassador to Ethiopia, HE Mr Girjit Singh, and his wife visited the Tara Centre in June. Mrs Singh is an Art of Living teacher and in future Kate hopes to run Art of Living courses at the Tara Centre. The Art of Living Foundation is an international humanitarian NGO.

[www.artofliving.org](http://www.artofliving.org)

### Two-Year Wait

A family who registered with Kate for aid in 2005 has at last been allocated a sponsor. Hayat (9) and her illiterate, widowed mother live with Hayat's brother, sister and elderly grandmother in a tiny makeshift shelter on the edge of Gondar city. Now her family has financial help, Hayat will be able to start school in September. Her mother is looking for a room to rent.



Hayat and her family outside their home with Mr Fente Bitew, Sponsorship Co-ordinator

### Major Donor

The Kindu Trust currently sponsors 250 children and young adults via Kate. A new Board of Trustees has just been appointed in London, with Lord Brian Hamilton as chairman. The Trust has an annual income of around £50,000. The Trust's new web site is under construction at:

[www.kindustrust.org](http://www.kindustrust.org)

### Education Support

Link Ethiopia has donated 7,740 birr for educational materials for school pupils from poor families. The UK-based charity has also given 3,000 birr as continuing funding for the Chicken Project started last year. In addition Link Ethiopia funds Kate's Clean Gondar Project where local children pick up litter in return for showers, food and clothes.

[www.linkethiopia.org](http://www.linkethiopia.org)

### New Donor

Alchemy World has offices in Italy, England and Ethiopia. Since March 2007 the charity has sponsored 31 families.

[www.alchemy-world.org](http://www.alchemy-world.org)

### Football Shirts

Football shirts were recently donated by Saltash United Juniors Football Club in England. The 47 shirts were given to boys (beneficiaries of Kate's sponsorship scheme) who participated in a football tournament held in Gondar.



### Kate's Vet Studies

Kate completed her first-year veterinary medicine course at Gondar University in January, but has chosen to continue her studies privately, as this fits in better with work and family commitments. "I still intend to be a vet one day, but I shall do it my way," said Kate.

### Income 2006-07

Kate's charitable income from donations and sponsorship for her financial year 2006-07 was over 943,000 Ethiopian birr (that's £52,400, €78,600 or \$105,000). Kate's accounts are available upon request.



rug-weaving at the Tara Centre

## Independence

Kate facilitates access to skills training so that the families she supports through sponsorship can earn an income rather than being dependent on financial aid. In January four young people finished training courses in woodwork, sewing machining and tie-dying. Now two of these are employed in the Tara Centre workshop where they make a variety of items to sell in Katy's Shop. In addition, one blind woman (a former beggar) has recently been employed as a rug-weaver at the Tara Centre.



sewing in the workshop

## Sponsorship in the Community

The numbers of cases currently being helped by the Sponsorship in the Community project and on the waiting list for a sponsor are as follows:



a life transformed by sponsorship

	Sponsored Cases		Elderly Person	Total Cases
	*Child	Young Adult		
North Gondar	279	10	5	294
South Gondar	18	0	0	18
North Wollo	28	0	1	29
Addis Ababa	30	0	0	30
Tigray	5	0	0	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>376</b>

### Cases waiting for a Sponsor

**TOTAL 215**

\* A child sponsorship case is usually a family in which a sponsored child is a part. In most cases the sponsorship not only helps the named beneficiary, but also his close relatives or foster carers because shelter, water, electric light, cooking fuel (charcoal and firewood), food and clothes are shared. So the benefits of sponsorship reach many more people than the number of names recorded for administrative purposes.

Sponsorship amounts paid out in Ethiopian birr to beneficiaries monthly:

Child (ie, a family)	180 birr (£13, €20, \$23)†
Young Adult (in full-time education)	230 birr (£16, €25, \$29)†
Elderly Person	150 birr (£9, €14, \$19)†

† These foreign currency figures are set slightly high to allow for adverse exchange rate fluctuations and local bank charges when sponsorship money is sent to Ethiopia.



an illiterate mother signs for her monthly sponsorship money with her thumbprint, assisted by Marta Bekele (photograph by Jan Nevill)