Welcome to the latest update from The Kindu Trust! Summer is now drawing to an end but we have had a great season in Ethiopia, continuing the amazing work your donations have made possible! We do hope you enjoy finding out more about what you are making possible, and pass on our newsletter to friends, colleagues and family members.

Best wishes from all of us at The Kindu Trust UK and Ethiopia

Activities at the Kindu Trust

Kindu Trust Founder visits the UK Office

In February we were delighted to meet up with Kate Fereday Eshete, founder and Honorary President of the Kindu Trust, when she visited the Trust’s UK office. Kate was in the UK getting treatment for a rare condition called Leishmaniasis, which is a parasitical disease transmitted by certain infected sandflies, and very unusual in north Ethiopia. The treatment is going well and she is staying in the UK for a while to rest. Kate retired from active involvement with the Kindu Trust in 2010 and now lives in the Simien Mountains with her family where she runs a school.

It was fascinating to learn more about how she set up the Trust and her early pioneering work in Ethiopia. You can learn more about how she set up the Kindu Trust on our website or read her interview from 2008 in the marvelous Africa Trek II book, available on Amazon. You can read about her school in Ethiopia on her website at kateferedayeshete.net.

Homes Rebuilt for Families Devastated by Fire

In the last Newsletter we reported on the fire in the market area of Gondar which destroyed some 165 homes. We are pleased to report that re-building work is now well underway, some 30 houses have now been built with wooden frames and tin sheet walls which are much sturdier structures. The Kindu Trust staff visited the site in April to see the construction and visit the families. Two of our sponsored families were directly affected by the fire and, with the extra donations that you generously gave, we have been able to furnish the homes of both and even install water taps – a rare facility on the site. We were pleased to meet with the families who are both well and who entertained us with coffee and popcorn in true Ethiopian tradition.

Kindu Trust in Virgin London Marathon

We were delighted to have a runner in the Virgin London Marathon this year. The event was the first of a series of challenges for the runner – see Gav’s Challenge overleaf. The UK team was out on the day to shout our support and watch Gav come in to complete in just 4 hours 15 minutes. Thanks and well done!

Projects

New Project prevents Girls from Dropping Out of School

The Kindu Trust’s sponsorship is designed to enable disadvantaged children to go to school and continue their education to their full potential. Puberty, and starting your period, is difficult for girls anywhere in the world. For the girls we support this phase is even harder as many cannot afford disposable pads. Even when they can, many schools do not have toilets, so there is nowhere to change during the school day. This leads to girls choosing not to go to school while on their period, and their education suffers.

The Kindu Trust is poised to start a major new initiative to tackle this problem in partnership with Link Ethiopia and Days for Girls. Days for Girls is an international charity that provides re-usable menstrual hygiene kits to thousands of girls across hundreds of countries. In the first phase of the project we will distribute kits to our sponsored girls through the Kindu Klub and other school clubs.
Myrtle Park School
Their summer fair fundraising enabled the Kindu Trust to buy bright, cheery tables and chairs for the children at the Kindu Klub and Playgroup and gave the staff the chance to buy a wide range of varied and essential equipment for the youth clubs.

Gavin’s Challenge
Our stalwart fundraiser Gavin Walker has begun a challenging programme of events to raise money for the Kindu Trust. These have already included the London Marathon and holding local events like a Half Marathon Relay. He still has the Ethiotrail (ethiotrail.com) and his ultimate challenge, the Bob Graham Round to come. Follow what he’s doing and support at www.gavschallenge.com. Thanks Gav!

Rawlins Cyclists
The cycle team supported the Kindu Trust again this year with their challenge cycling from Belgium to England which has so far raised a fabulous total of nearly £3,000 – Well done and thank you!

Thank You
We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who goes out of their way to support the work we do. As you know, we are a sponsorship organisation but all of our Education Clubs and Community Livelihood Projects are separately funded and we are very grateful for all those who donate to help us continue.