

## Ethiopian Trip 2019/2020

Welcome to Bonga from KG children, teachers and staff. Always lovely, with lots of singing and dancing, coffee and popcorn. A wonderful start to my 2-1/2 weeks in Bonga. That night it was down to the Priests' House for dinner. A very pleasant evening spent with Bishop Marcos, Abba Samuel the Secretariat, Bonga Paris priest, 2 Deacons and the Parish Priest of Dekia, Abba Indris. Such a fun night, even drank beer!! The nuns were there too of course, Sr. Birke, Sr, Yeshi and Sr. Fikirie.

Next day was a tour of the Womens Development Program. Sr. Birke has had built a stand alone building for a Food Preparation Course, it has everything that opens and shuts, money donated by Germany. There is now a Course set up for Hairdressing, a half a dozen washbasins, and hairdryer etc. etc. just 2 students this term. There are also more sewing machines in the Sewing Room. Two students learning to sew on paper first. Worku and Senite still doing their embroidery thing. Another room set up with Computers and now another building being built to be utilised as an Air BnB. Also a big container is being refurbished to act as part of the BnB, all very impressive.



**The sewing room**



**Hairdressing Training**



**Nearly complete building**



**Start of Soccer Field**

Next day at the Bonga Barta School. First thing I noticed was that the Toilets had still not been completed. So annoyed, but not as annoyed as Ato Asrat the Director of the school. He has had run ins with the Council over contracts but has to be extremely careful as one can be arrested and put in jail for "upsetting" the Council on such matters!!! Quite different to the private contractors; the picture of the new building that Sr. Birke is having built was almost complete by the time I left Bonga. 1 Man and 2 women doing the work. So we wait. The Soccer field still had not been started but on my last day I received a message to come down to the school and lo and behold a Tractor was found from a neighbouring town and the work had commenced!

*This article will be continued in the June Impact,*

Christine Hoffman

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**Warm Welcome!**

## DOL Ethiopia

### Income Generating Activities Building



The new *Income Generating Activities Building* is being built on the edge of the Catholic primary school in the Gingo Leprosy community. Originally planned as a three storey building, funding constraints resulted in the building being reduced to two. Kedouse advised that to do the original top floor would cost between 2,000,000 to 2,300,000 ETB. The current plan is to roof with corrugated iron roofing, which will cost approximately \$5,500 USD. Sometime in the future the third floor may be built. The building has a number of rooms with a key feature downstairs being a café which will train students in hospitality and food & beverage service. The are other rooms will host a variety of training courses such as computers, hairdressing, broom making, driver training etc.

It will be absolutely wonderful to see this up and running as it will provide training in areas that can help find employment opportunities for the community away from being daily labourers. It was my understanding that it will be open to community adult members as well as any children who have completed year 10 but did not have the marks to continue with further studies. It is hoped by offering these programs it will provide further training and therefore employment opportunities and alleviate a lot of the juvenile delinquency issues, particularly for the boys.

To gain a drivers license is very expensive for our community with one sponsor paying for her sponsor child to do this during the year and it equated to about \$450 AUD - he was one very teary and emotional young man when Kedouse took him to pay for his learners license. As you can imagine this is way out of reach of any of our families. The cost does include lessons and their license costs but I had to admit I was very shocked at the price! I'm not sure how they are planning on running this training at the IGA but it will be a brilliant option for so many.

**If you would like to help contribute to getting the building complete with the roofing needs can I ask you to make a tax deductible donation** - payment can be made via cheque, postal order or bank transfer. Any amount would be gratefully appreciated. Should you wish to electronically transfer, the details are as follows:

. World Families Australia sponsorship account (CBA Bank)

Name: World Families Australia BSB No. 065-149 A/c No. 10342470

Please reference DOL-S Roof in your payment together with your surname

If you transfer electronically, just email [wfasponsorship@bigpond.com](mailto:wfasponsorship@bigpond.com) with your address details for receipt forwarding. To pay by cheque/postal order you can mail to: World Families Australia 50 Fern Grove Boulevard Salisbury East SA 5109

Betam betam amersegnello (thank you very, very much!)

Michelle Nethery

# School Chair Campaign Update

## DOL Ethiopia



We were all delighted to hear that all of the donations made over the past year have enabled the school to employ a carpenter to build the required 200 new chairs to replace those that had been broken over the years and for the delightful problem of not having enough chairs as many children from the wider community are now wanting to attend the schools. Thank you so much to those who generously donated to this appeal.

The use of local carpenters' is a win for the community as money paid to the workmen then circulates around the community and provides a financial boost for many.

Betam betam amersegnello (thank you very, very much!)

Michelle Nethery



## [New Web Site](#)

World Families Management Committee has given approval for the development of a new website for World Families Australia. With the advent of multiple handheld mobile devices, the old website was no longer functional and the ability to donate on line was not always possible. Initial work has commenced with Bizboost hosting and creating the new template for the website. Bizboost have previously developed and supported the website for the past eight years at no charge. Following this initial work will hold training sessions for Bert, Kerry and all the Project Officers, who will then work at inputting the information. Hopefully, the new web site will be up and running soon.



At a recent Management Committee it was decided that World Families Australia would not participate in the 2020 WOMAD. We thank all volunteers for their support in the past but it has been decided the high cost of a Womad site cannot be justified.



# PHILEMON ACCADEMY FOUNDATION Inc. PHILIPPINES

March Report by Bruce & Elaine  
Smith (Project Officers)



Out of the  
Ashes  
We Rise



*Sunday 12 January  
Taal Volcano erupted  
spewing ash as far as  
Manila over 75 km away!  
Including our school and  
communities! It also  
closed the Manila Airport  
& only opened the day  
we were flying to Manila  
17<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2020*



Monday the 13th of August 2018 at about 7:30am just as our students and teachers would have been getting ready for morning assembly; the roof of the auditorium collapsed and would have resulted in the certain death or at minimum severe injury of most if not all of our students and teachers! Fortunately, the Government had cancelled schooling for all in Manila because of heavy monsoonal rains, which they believed, would bring flooding to many areas. That call by the Government saved our Students and Teachers!



Right>>>>>

Our Students and Teachers are resilient and survived with a temporary parachute tent for just over 12 months! The tent required repair several times and had to be dismantled in severe weather.



After just over a year, the tent became unusable and a permanent solution needed.

Thankfully, after much searching, a donor came forward and the roof has gone up. There is much more to be done, like replacing flooring, (we had floating flooring to protect those doing performing arts etc.) air conditioners, sound equipment, data projectors, speakers and student musical instruments etc., most of which were destroyed by the catastrophic event but some by ensuing weather. We are extremely grateful to this donor as our students now have a dry place for assemblies etc.



Following a visit to a shopping centre exhibition, we were able to negotiate for all our students to attend the 1.5 hr Mind Museum Space Adventure free of charge in groups over three days! Normally a 150,000 peso cost for our size school! Thank you Alabang Town Centre and The Mind Museum for blessing our kids!



This year a former army Captain is giving our grade 5 to 12 students Parade Drills and Disaster management skills! This is giving them coping skills and preparing them for future disasters!

A big thank you to all our sponsors! The needs of PAFI are slowly being met but we still have on going Medical, Dental and Optical needs, New computers are needed for senior school, so if anyone would like to make a one off or a regular donation to our medical fund or for computers please contact the WFA office!

Regards Bruce & Elaine Project Officers PHILIPPINES



Speakers are available to tell groups about the work of W.F.A.

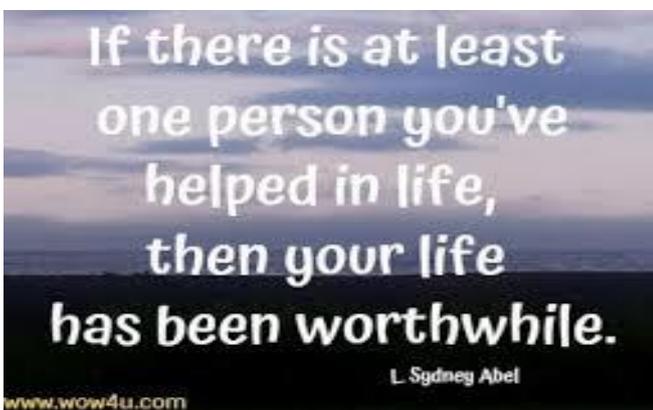
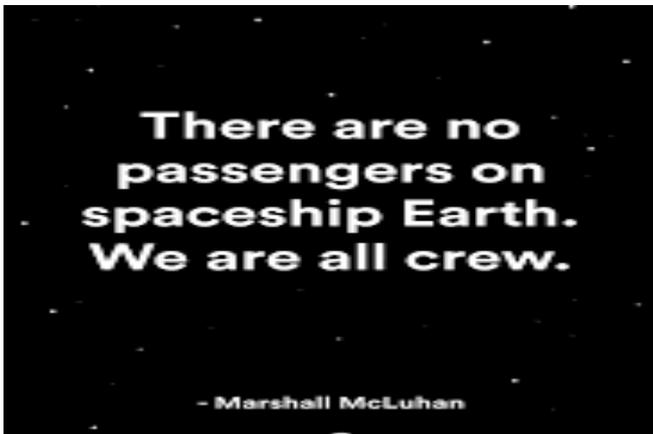
Please contact us through the office: (08) 8258 7909

## LAST DAY FOR YOUR GIFT THIS QUARTER

1st June 2020

### Please Note

**Any articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 26th May 2020**



Opinions expressed by contributors to Sponsorship News are not necessarily those of World Families Australia

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