

Jenny Morris Bequest/WFA Funds ~ Bonga Water Project



A new gravity fed clean water system was completed in Liwan. Amazingly more donations came in than required. Soon after, I received a request from Ermias, our worker in Bonga, asking if we could help with a 'spring protection project' to provide clean water for one of the poor rural in the outskirts of Bonga where many of the WFA sponsored children live in mud and thatch huts along muddy slippery little tracks. Children and women collect water in their yellow plastic containers each morning from whatever source of water is nearby as there is no running water to the huts (nor electricity). Ermias explained that the local water source was filthy with worms and sludge, and people were getting sick. Where clean water is not easily accessible, water borne diseases are rife and disproportionally impact the young, sick or elderly. I contacted the donors whose donations (or part of their donations) not required for Liwan to seek permission to use their donations for this project. Local residents helped by lugging rocks and collecting materials. The project proceeded very quickly. Ermias arranged a plaque recognizing WFA's support. A local radio station came for the opening and blessing of the project. If you are interested you can see the media report here:

<https://www.facebook.com/southradioandtelevisionagency/posts/pfbid02g51vS4R9DfAF4Gx5TcqGdGbRhh2JCH-CUwGeKXVPeNHuGAnmw1grtHXEHn3TQaFyl>

With much appreciation of Ermias, who is tireless in his advocacy for the people of Bonga, whether that be in following up sponsored children, advocating for destitute families or individuals in need of medical care or housing, advocating for disabled and elderly people in need of help, coordinating materials and government requirements for building of homes for those in need, and so much more.

Sandi Petersen, WFA Project Officer Ethiopia



Meskele Kristos Update

Following a couple of years of truly challenging circumstances including COVID-19 and civil unrest in Northern Ethiopia, we are excited to again be able to continue our support of the many precious families supported over many years in Meskele Kristos, Ethiopia. Key to the children's ability to attend school, scholastic materials including note books and pens are a basic necessity without which students would lack the basic essentials for daily schooling. During a recent visit to the village, we have been able to provide school books and pens to over 300 students, allowing them to participate and further their education. Without the wonderful support of donors and sponsors, this would not be possible and the children are very grateful for the continued support and provisions provided by World Families Australia.



Dee Hudson Children & School Project Officer for the Meskele Kristos Projects - Northern Ethiopia

Tuesday the office will now be closed

WEDNESDAY will now be the day the office is attended

The telephone answering machine will continue to be monitored regularly.

Judy Morris Bequest ~ IT Equipment For Minjur Home

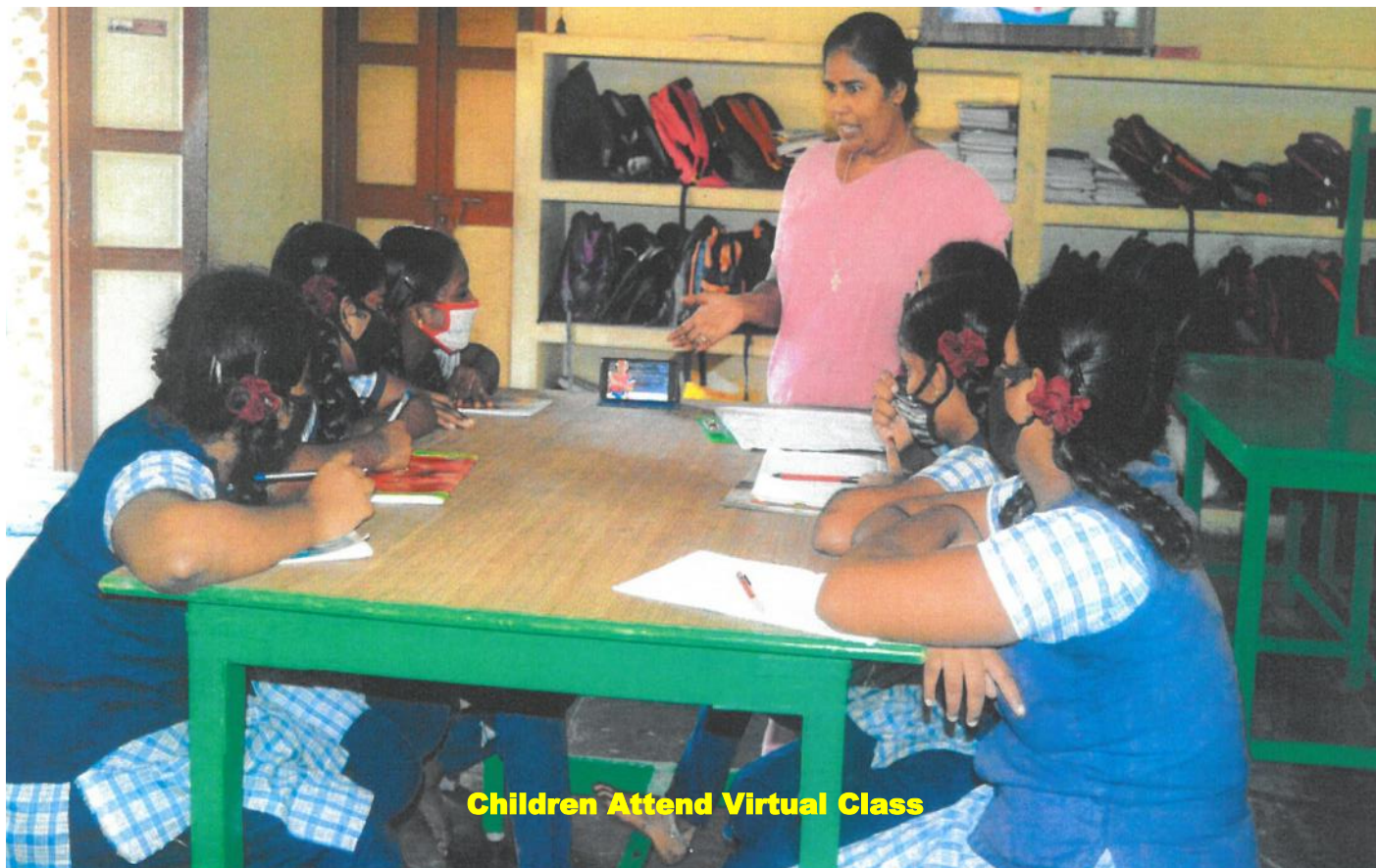
Judy Morris' bequest of A\$6,500 has been received by the Sisters from Minjur Convent, in India. Jenny Minck had applied for the Minjur School to receive part of the bequest funds received from Judy Morris estate. The school had indicated that IT and computing equipment would be of tremendous help to their senior students education, Sister Arasi made the arrangements with a local IT retailer for the purchase of 42 mobiles for the children to attend on line classes.



The Tamil Nadu Government had closed schools in response to Covid-19. Classes were permitted resume on 1st November 2021 with Covid restrictions continued to be enforced. The Sisters from Minjur Convent take it in turn to monitor the children to attend online classes and to support them with the technical procedure. The children are encouraged to accept this new learning prodigal and trained in the importance of remaining safe on the internet. The girls are learning lots and developing new and exciting skills using modern technology. Due to heavy rain fall, flood and lack of transport some our children have been attending class from their guardian's home.

The Sisters wish to sincerely thank Judy Morris and World Families Australia for their magnanimous heart to support the children of Minjur, helping them to learn and prosper in this new age of technology.

Jenny Minck, WFA Project Officer Minjur, India



Children Attend Virtual Class

Judy Morris Bequest Bonga ~ Grinding Mill



Abba Habtamu has sent photo's of the completed building that will house the grinding mill and explained the importance of the instillation. The Judy Morris bequest will have a positive impact on the entire community. The second half of the bequest has now been sent and the grinding stone will soon be installed. Judy's generous bequest is having a lasting influence on diverse communities in various countries. We will continue bring you updates on the lives benefitting from Judy's charitable kindness.

This project/ grinding mill is so important for many reasons:-

1. Due to only women and children carrying bags of grain on their back and head and the long distances they are required to travel, It will reduce the suffering of women and children in the community.
2. There is no grinding mill in the community since it is rural area. The women spend many hours hand grinding the grain for their families.
3. The beneficiaries are people from the whole community regardless of religion.
4. The whole local community asked our Church for this project, knowing that only Catholic Church can realize such a project for the support of the whole community.
5. The grinding mill will create income generation to support the farmers within the community.
6. Since we have many underprivileged children in our community who attend the pre- school in our Kindergarten school, the project will help us offer food to the children and to pay the salary of those who take care of the children.
7. In the current situation, with the spread of corona virus, it is more difficult for women and children to carry their grain to the town where there is grinding mill.
8. In rural area they do not have sanitizer, masks and soaps. If the women and children come to town without mask, sanitizer and without washing their hands, they will be vulnerable to corona virus.

Emma Lewis Project Officer for World Families Australia, Ethiopia PO Box 3216 Norwood 5067

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, OCEAN GROVE.

Supporting the community of Bulbula, Ethiopia.



Sr Abeba Kidane, with a new charge



In the garden



Hair Changing Station



Fun & Games at the Fete

The Catholic Church celebrates Mission Week in schools every year. Traditionally Catholic schools, including Our Lady Star of the Sea, Victoria; have supported the work of the Catholic Missions through fundraising. This money has assisted lives in the poorest communities throughout the world. In 2013, one of our then Year 3 students returned to Ethiopia to meet her birth mother. She had been adopted as a baby because her birth mother was too poor to care for her.

She kept a blog of her experiences. Through this blog it became evident that the community of Bulbula was very similar to the communities we were supporting through Catholic Missions. As a school we decided to also support the community of Bulbula for Mission Fete. We have since developed a relationship with Sr Abeba Kidane who uses the money we provide to care for students of St Joseph's primary school and families within the community.

We have raised around \$40 000 in this time, with our money passed on through World Families. Sr Abeba has used this money to: educate students, provide medical needs, build homes, assist in the development of small business so families can become self-sufficient, provide meals, purchase chooks, cows and seedlings and even provide prosthetic legs for children.

We too are fortunate recipients of this relationship. Our students have developed a greater compassion towards others. They understand that we are blessed with a great life here in Ocean Grove and we have a responsibility to ensure others also have a great life. Our families give generously and our students can often be seen fundraising for Bulbula in their own time. What is never lost on us, is the happy and smiling faces of the people in Bulbula. Their gratitude for the little they have is a lesson for us all.

Mission Fete is a favourite day of our school year, as we mark a very special relationship with people we have never met, but who we all care for. This year the Star of the Sea's Mission Fete will be held on Friday, 10th November, It would be wonderful if those who live close to Ocean Grove could attend and support the fund raising activities.

Marianne Caddy, Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Ocean Grove, Victoria



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 2023

Please Note

Any articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 3rd May 2023

PROJECT OFFICERS for WORLD FAMILIES AUSTRALIA

ETHIOPIA

DEKIA	Dee Lumsden
ADDIS-BGW	Morgan Smith
BULBULA	Kate Drogemuller
JIMMA DOL,DOC-B	Michelle Nethery
DOL-S	
JIMMA,LIWAN, BONGA, LALIBELA, SUPPORT FOR SIGHT IMPAIRED & MEDICAL OUTREACH	Sandi Petersen

BONGA Rural Emma Lewis

JIMMA-DOC
BONGA Feeding,
BONGA-BWDP
SAMERRO
Christine Hoffman
Gemma Pilcher

MESKELE KRISTOS
Dee Hudson

INDIA

Minjur Jenny Minck

INDONESIA

Ruth/Naomi Community Centre
Mission Uplift
Bali Lighthouse
Chrissy Sulistyo
Franciose Penaluna-
Kate Drogemuller

KENYA

Neema Liz Rankin
Testimony Homes Dani Potter

PHILIPPINES

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SRI LANKA

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