



# Eyes for East Africa (UK)



Registered Charity No: 1053222

Honorary Ophthalmic Consultant: Mr Roger C Humphry MD FRCS FRCophth

## Supporting Dr Helen Roberts and the Kwale District Eye Centre (KDEC) in Kenya

Contact - Eyes for East Africa (UK), 19 Dunmow Hill, Fleet, Hants, GU51 3AN

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

### Spring 2008 Newsletter

### Message from Dr Helen Roberts

Despite the recent troubles in parts of Kenya, we would like to reassure all KDEC supporters that the Centre has continued to operate normally. All staff have reported to work, and patients from the surrounding area have still been attending for treatment in the usual numbers.

Thank you for your concern.

### Diane Miller's Legacy to EFEA



In 2007, Bob Miller and his wife Diane (pictured above), visited Kenya on holiday, but sadly later in the year Diane lost her life to cancer. Bob wanted to create a legacy to her memory so that others could benefit from her life.

Bob had heard of, but never visited KDEC, but when he explained the great work that is being done there, friends and family were keen to contribute money to Diane's legacy. Bob has a target of raising 1 Million Kenya Shilling (approx USD 15,000) and hopes to achieve this in 2008.

Bob, his daughter and family have now visited KDEC and were delighted to meet Dr Roberts and the team of staff.

Bob knows that no amount of money can bring back the happiness he lost, restoring someone's sight by a cataract operation costing a mere £30 can bring others happiness.

### The Gift of Sight

Pupils in Kwale District entered a competition to draw or paint a picture with the theme 'Gift of Sight'. Juma Rama Heri of Mwadinda Primary School drew the winning picture (seen below), and his design is now on one of the gift cards available as part of the 'Eye Give' scheme.



Attached to this Newsletter is the latest 'Eye Give' brochure. This brochure gives details of how to purchase an 'Eye Give' gift, as well as showing the range of gift cards available, and includes the 'Gift of Sight' design shown above.

### Performance for EFEA

Powick Primary School in Worcester has raised funds for EFEA before, but this time it was two pupils who had a novel fundraising idea.



Grace and Megan practicing for their charity performance.

Grace and Megan, both aged 8, decided to write and perform a play to help raise funds for EFEA. They charged classmates to attend the play they had written. In recognition of their hard work, the girls received certificates from Dr Helen Roberts.

### A Football for Eye Balls!

Portsmouth University has raised another £425 for EFEA at through various fundraising activities. One event was the raffling of a football signed by the Portsmouth Football Team, which itself raised £151.



Signed football being presented by Ann Ridley to winner Alison Shaw.

### Big Band Concert 2008



We are very pleased to report that the Big Band Concert held on 19<sup>th</sup> February raised over £1,100.

## How your donations help patients...

A donation made on-line from Australia via the website has paid for cataract surgery for three patients.



(L to R) John, Majaliwa and Mohamed who benefited from the donation

The three gentlemen are very happy with the outcome of their surgery. They would like to express their thanks for the generous donation that has enabled them to have their sight restored.

A UK donation has enabled two girls to undergo surgery to restore their sight.



Mwanapili Suleiman and Hadija Kahindi after their cataract surgery.

The two girls are very happy to be able to see again following their successful cataract surgery.

## How else your donations help...

Many donations to EFEA such as those made via 'Eye Give', are used to fund specific operations, items of equipment, etc. Other donations are used to support a variety of projects including the running of KDEC itself.

As with any hospital it is important to maintain clean, safe surroundings for both patients and staff. In 2007, the EFEA trustees happily agreed to fund the re-painting of the clinic, which had not been done since the extension was built 6 years previously.



The team of decorators giving KDEC a much needed lick of paint.

## What is an Eye Camp?

'Eye Give' gives a description of what is included if you fund an Eye Camp. Each Eye Camp varies according to the needs of the people seen, but would typically include "screening of 500 people, treatment of 50 eyes by cataract surgery, provide eye drops for 200 and issue 150 pairs of reading glasses".

Here we report on an Eye Camp carried out during 2007 when Dr Helen Roberts and her team visited the remote area of Ngurunit, 200kms north of Mt Kenya. During this Eye Camp, 345 eye operations were performed, of these, 326 were for cataract.



Dr Helen at the small clinic in Ngurunit



A change from the usual post-op ward.



This lady from the Samburu was blind prior to surgery.



Daniel, one of the Milgris Trust Scouts helped identify patients with eye disease.

For a successful Eye Camp, it is vital to have identified suitable patients prior to the arrival of the medical team. In this case, KDEC worked with a scout from the Milgris Trust. The Trust works locally to ...continued next column

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support the habitat, wildlife and way of life of the people of northern Kenya. Without this liaison, it would be almost impossible to find the very patients KDEC sets out to help.

## Donations

For further information, or to make a donation, please contact:

Eyes for East Africa (UK)  
19 Dunmow Hill, Fleet, Hants  
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[jim@eyesforeastafrica.org](mailto:jim@eyesforeastafrica.org)

**Standing Order or Direct Debit:** If you would like to make regular monthly donations by either standing order or direct debit please ask Jim Crow (address above), for the necessary details.

**On-Line Donations:** Make on-line donations via our website, or via the Charity Aid Foundation Eye website at [www.cafonline.org](http://www.cafonline.org)

**Eye Give:** The perfect gift for birthdays and special occasions. Visit the website or contact [eyegive@eyesforeastafrica.org](mailto:eyegive@eyesforeastafrica.org)

**Wills:** Have you thought about leaving EFEA (UK) a legacy in your will? At present less than 5% of the adult population include a charity in their will. Please think about us.

**The Payroll-Giving Scheme:** One of the easiest ways of making donations to the Charity is through the Payroll-Giving Scheme now being adopted by many employers. Not only do donors receive tax benefit at source for such payments, but the charity also gains an additional 10% benefit from the Government.

## giftaid it

Gift Aid allows charities to reclaim the basic rate tax you have already paid on the money you donate. It can increase the value of your gift by up to 28p on every pound.

Higher rate taxpayers can benefit by reclaiming Income Tax on the difference between the basic rate of tax and the 40% rate for any donations made from personal income.

These benefits are of great value to the Charity and if you have not already done so, please either download a form the website or ask Jim Crow, for a gift aid form.