

SUSAN AITCHISON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2015/ 2016



Registered as a Charity in Scotland SC044015
www.susanaitchisonscholarshipfund.org

What a crowd! The photograph was taken at our annual meeting in September and shows our Ethiopian committee, Tefera, Habtamu and Teshale, with some of our existing and some of our new students.

In 2015/2016, we supported a total of 40 students and paid to them the equivalent of £11,342.

8 graduated from University, 3 with BSc degrees in Engineering, 1 with BSc in Chemistry, 1 with BSc in Animal Science, 2 with BA degrees in Management and 1 with a BA degree in Economics. One girl, unfortunately, did not complete her university course.

We supported Fiker Getnet last year to study Electrical Engineering at the Maritime Academy in Addis Ababa. He successfully completed his course and is now on the high seas, last heard of in China.

Destaw Temesgen graduated in 2015 with a BSc in Civil Engineering. He was working in Addis Ababa but competed, and won, a scholarship from the Ethiopian Roads Authority and is now back at University, studying for his Masters degree.

Two of our students were unsuccessful in getting a place in grade 11. They have left the fund.

Two of our students, who were unsuccessful in gaining a place in grade 11, have joined the local FE College and we have agreed to support them throughout their programme.

One girl from grade 12 did not get a place at University and we are continuing to support her at the Medical College in Dessie, where she is studying nursing.

28 of our students are continuing in the fund in session 2016/2017. We have taken on 16 new students and are therefore supporting 44 young people this year. 17 are at University, 4 are at college and 23 are in various stages of the school system.

For copy of the full report, information about our new students and information on the progress of our existing students, please visit our website --

www.susanaitchison scholarship fund.org

Many thanks to our committees, June, Margaret and Morag in Scotland and Tefera, Habtamu and Teshale in Ethiopia. They all contribute their time to ensure the smooth operation of the fund.

The fund was started because of the generosity of the members of Hamilton Bridge Club. A Bridge tournament was again held this year and the proceeds were added to the fund. Thanks to everyone who has donated throughout the year. There are far too many to mention here but I hope that you have all had a personal thank you. Without your donations there would be no fund and these young people would not get the support they need to give them the chance of a life out of poverty.

EYERUS SISAY



2009



2010



2012



2013

Eyerus was one of our first 10 students who joined the fund in 2009. We have supported her through grades 11 and 12 at school and through 5 years at Axum University. She now has a BSc in Engineering and a handsome husband. It is time for her to leave the fund and we wish her every success for her future. We hope she keeps her smile!



2015



JULY 2016
BSc in Engineering



JULY 2016
WEDDING DAY

MESSAGE FROM OUR 2016 GRADUATES

		
EYERUS SISAY BSc Civil Engineering from Axum University	MENGISTU YAREGAL BA in Economics from Bahir Dar University	ABEBE SALEHU BSc Civil Engineering from Gondar University
	<p style="text-align: center;">THANK YOU</p> <p>Without the support from the scholarship fund, we would never have seen this day.</p> <p>We are very grateful to all who have contributed. You have given us a chance of a future and we will do our best to grasp it with both hands.</p>	
BIRHAN HABTAMU BA in Management from Adama University		TSIGIMARIAM TAFETE BSc in Chemistry from Bahir Dar University
		
TESHOME ANTACHEW BSc Civil Engineering from Addis Ababa University	HABTAMU MESKER BSc. In Animal Science From Axum University	BIRHAN TESFAY BSc. In Management from Jimma University

AGERAYHU DESSALE unfortunately did not graduate from University.

CONTINUING STUDENTS at UNIVERSITY

10 of our continuing students are in the University system this year. Only Bikis is scheduled to graduate in July 2017.

As all our students are from very poor backgrounds, often with illiterate parents, their success is amazing. They all have a thirst for education and will hopefully have a future very different from that of their parents.

It has been agreed that all these students will get a monthly payment of 600 birr with 2 performance related bonuses paying up to 400 birr each.



BIKIS SETEGN
Aged 22 Years
ARBAMINCH UNIVERSITY
Management 3rd. Year



YENGUSIE MEKONEN
Aged 22 years
AXUM UNIVERSITY
Engineering 4th. Year



FIKER GETA BAYE
Aged 21 years
ADIGRAT UNIVERSITY
Civil Engineering 3rd. Year



ABAY TESFAW GESESE
AGED 19 years
MEDA WELABO UNIVERSITY
Nursing 2nd. Year



DAGNACHEW MELKNEW
AGED 21 years
HARMAYA UNIVERSITY
Software Engineering 3rd. Year



ESHETU TEGEGNE
Aged 20 Years
BAHIR DAR UNIVERSITY
Management 2nd. Year



FRIHIWOT WOLDE
Aged 20 Years
DEBRE BIRHAN UNIVERSITY
Geography and Environmental Studies
2nd. Year



HZBALEM TEKEBA
Aged 19 Years
GONDAR UNIVERSITY
Geography and Environmental Studies
2nd. Year



GETNET ADANE
Aged 21 Years
DEBRE MARKOS UNIVERSITY
Engineering 1st. Year



TEWOLDE MELKAMU
Aged 19 Years
METU UNIVERSITY
Agriculture & Natural Science 1st. Year



SEFI KELEMU

Aged 21 Years

Unfortunately Sefi didn't get a place at University.

She has enrolled to study nursing at the Medical college in Dessie.

It has been agreed to support her with 600 birr per month throughout her training.

CONTINUING STUDENTS SCHOOL

We have 12 continuing students still in the school system.



HABTEMARIAM EZRA BERHANIE
Aged 16 years
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADE 9



NURUHUSIAN UMER
Aged 20 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 12



LEMLEM SHUMEYE
Aged 18
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 11



TEDDY W/GABRIEL
Aged 20 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 12



YOHANNES SHAMBLE
Aged 10 Years
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GRADE 2



LIDIYA TADESSE
Aged 10 Years
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GRADE 5



BIMREW DEBASH
Aged 14 Years
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GRADE 7



BIZUYE TSEGAWU
Aged 17 Years
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GRADE 8



DINKU AYENU
Aged 23 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Grade 12



EZRA TSEGANEW
Aged 22 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 12



GETAYE BELAYE
Aged 25 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 12



MEKONNEN CHASE
Aged 22 Years
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
GRADE 12

3 of our students did not succeed in getting a place in grade 11.



ASHENAFI YIMAN

Aged 18 Years



GASHAW MEKONEN

Aged 17 Years

Both boys have enrolled in a Front Office course at the local FE college. It has been agreed to support them with 600 birr per month while they receive their training.

DEBERE TESFAW did not achieve a high enough mark to get into college. We are delighted that she has reached a grade 10 level of education. She is now off the fund.

MAREG AGAZE resat his grade 10 examinations. He was again unsuccessful and is now off the fund. He has achieved a level 1 certificate in Hotel Operations.

NEW STUDENTS

HIWOT MULUGETA YALEW Aged 20 Years



Hiwot has completed her first year at Axum University where she is studying Marketing Management. Her parents were both soldiers in the Ethiopian/ Eritrean war, where her father was killed and her mother was disabled. Her mother is unable to give her any support at University and she has struggled to manage during her first year. She is now in her 2nd. Year of study. It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.

ADNA HABTU AMARE Aged 20 Years

Adna is the eldest of 8 children. Her parents live in the countryside, are very poor, but are committed to ensuring that their children are educated. Adna is very clever and achieved an excellent mark in her grade 12 national exams. She has started in her first year at Debre Markos University where she is studying Economics. It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.



ANGUACH FENTIE WESSEN Aged 20 Years



Anguach's father died when she was a grade 5 student. Her mother lives in the countryside 45 Km. from Lalibela, is very poor and tries hard to support her 3 daughters. Anguach moved to Lalibela to continue her studies into grade 9. She worked in a bar at night to earn money but was hassled by some of the men and changed to working as a labourer when it was not school time. She scored well in her grade 12 national exams and has now started studying Engineering at Jijiga University. It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.

TADESSE BIRHANU ENGIDAW Aged 25 Years

Tadesse has an ambition to be a lawyer. He is from the countryside and it takes him 2 days to walk home from Lalibela. His mother recently died and his father is 81, very poor and unable to give Tadesse support. Tadesse did well in his grade 12 national exams and is now in his first year at Semera University where he is studying accounting. It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.



TILAYE BISET HAILU Aged 19 Years



Tilaye is from Shimsha, 10 Km. from Lalibela. His parents are subsistence farmers and are very poor. He did very well in his grade 12 national exams and is now in his first year studying Veterinary Medicine at Mekele University.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.

GETAHUN FENTAW MEQUINT Aged 23 Years

Getahun is from Gelesot, 36 Km. from Lalibela. His parents are very poor subsistence farmers and there are 8 in the family.

Getahun lives in a rent home in Lalibela. In his free time he works as a labourer and does some teaching with other pupils in order to survive.

He was given an application form by Tefera, chairman of the Lalibela committee, and didn't hand it in. When asked why not in, the school was wanting 50 birr to give him his results and he didn't have 50 birr. Tefera gave him the money!

He passed grade 10 with great distinction and was first in his class in grade 11. He is now in grade 12.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.



TIBEBU AMHA MENGISTU Aged 20 Years



Tibebu is from a village called Shallo, 38 Km. from Lalibela.

His parents both don't keep well and can't give any help. He is the first of the 8 children to reach grade 11. He lived with his grandmother but she has recently died and he is struggling to manage at school.

He passed grade 10 with very great distinction and was first in his class in the grade 11 exam. He is now in grade 12.

His ambition is to be a politician and change the face of Ethiopia!

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.

SALEAMLAK BISETEGN ADANE Aged 18 Years

The Lalibelan committee flagged Saleamlak as from a very poor family.

He is an only child, his father died 11 years ago and his mother tries to manage by working as a labourer when the work is available.

He passed grade 10 national exams with great distinction and was first in his class in the grade 11 exams. He is now in grade 12.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.



MAREG ABEBE FENTIE Aged 18 Years



Mareg is from Erfa, 35 Km. from Lalibela. His parents are subsistence farmers and have no money to give him support.

He lives in a rent house in Lalibela and works as a labourer in his free time in order to survive.

He was third in his class in grade 11 and is now in grade 12.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.

DEMEKE TESFAW ADERA Aged 19 Years

Demeke is from the countryside, 30 Km. from Lalibela. His parents are subsistence farmers and have no money to support him. They are against him continuing at school and want him to return to work on the land. He has 2 brothers and 2 sisters.

He passed grade 10 with very great distinction and was second in his class in the grade 11 exams.

He is now in grade 12 and has ambition to be a doctor.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.



CHERNET GETAYE MEKUANINT Aged 19 Years



His mother died when he was born and his father died when he was a young child.

He works as a labourer while trying to continue his education.

He reached grade 11 where he was 3rd. in his class. He is now in grade 12.

He has an ambition to be an investigative journalist.

It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.

MALEFIA MERSHA MEKONNEN Aged 20 Years

Malefia is from the countryside from poor parents who are unable to give any help. When not at school, she works washing clothes for people in order to stay in the school system. She is now in grade 12 and has an ambition to be a doctor. It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.



GETACHEW ZEMENE Aged 21 Years



Habtamu, from the committee, gave Getachew a lift into Lalibela and heard all his problems. Habtamu suggested that he apply for support. He is from Erfa. His father died when he was 10 and his mother struggles to survive. He has had to fight to stay in the education system as his mother wants him back home to work on the land. He has an ambition to be an engineer. He is in grade 10 and was 2nd. in his class. He was successful in gaining a place in grade 11 and our support has meant he can accept the place. It has been agreed to support him with 600 Birr per month.

TIGIST ADNEW GUDAY Aged 15 Years

Tigist's parents are alive but are old and very poor. She washes clothes for a family in order to make money and gets paid 200 birr per month. She is now finding it difficult to do this work as she needs to spend more time studying. She was 1st. in her class in the grade 9 exams and is now in grade 10. It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.



RAHEL BIRHANU Aged 13 years



This girl has been identified as having a lot of family problems and no help.

Her parents are divorced. Her father was badly wounded in the war with Eritrea, has no work, has remarried and has no contact with his previous family.

Rahel, her mother and younger brother live with the 84 year old grandfather in Lalibela. Her mother is uneducated and has been unable to find work.

She was 12th in her grade 6 exams. The committee feel she could do much better if she got our support.

It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.

BETELHEM DEBASH WBETIE Aged 18 Years

Betelhem is the sister of Bimrew. Both have to use wheelchairs. They both applied last year and we accepted Bimrew but not Betelhem. They are orphans and still live in the gift shop in return for looking after the shop. The money to Bimrew has made a big difference to their lives. Money to Betelhem would let them rent their own house.

Betelhem has an ambition to become a nurse and help those in the same position as her. She was 12th in her class in the grade 5 exams and is now in grade 6.

It has been agreed to support her with 600 Birr per month.



The Bude Methodist church in England are continuing their sponsorship of young people studying in the medical field. The Susan Aitchison scholarship fund is managing payments to the students on their behalf.

SAMRAWIT MISGAN Aged 20 Years

Samrawit is now in her final year of nursing at KAE– MED Medical College and will graduate as a nurse in July 2017



BIRHAN MELESE BELETE Aged 19 Years

Birhan did very well in her first year exams at St. Paul's hospital and is now in her second year of training. She and another student were selected to represent the hospital on a television quiz programme. They won the prize of 2,000 birr. She is very much enjoying her work.



KIBEREALEM BISET Aged 23 Years

Kiberealem is now in her final year of nursing at Arbaminch University. She will graduate as a nurse in July 2017.

