



Eritrean Relief Association UK
for relief, rehabilitation and development
Annual Report 2008-2009

Eritrean Relief Association UK

for relief, rehabilitation and development



Fiyori Belay, top fundraiser of the year



Team ERA-UK before the 10K London run on 06.07.2008, left to right: Fiyori, Merhawi, Tes, Dr Tewolde, Bisrat, Petros, Seyoum and Mebrak



[...] and on their successful completion



Fiyori, Iyassu, Tekle fastest runners



Seyoum, Tes and Habtom

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ERITREAN RELIEF ASSOCIATION (UK)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Company Information

Trustees/Directors

Seble Ephrem, Chairman
Yohannes Fassil, Treasurer
Guemesh Isaak, Secretary
YergalemTewelde
Mebrak Ghebrewoldi
Mehretab Habtu
Tewelde W. Kidan (Trustee)
Tesfaldet W. Ghilazgi

Secretary

Guemesh Isaak

Company Registration Number: 2294497

Registered Charity No: 800543

Registered Office

Robin House
2A Iverson Road
London, NW6 2HE

Reporting Accountant

Fitsum F Michael BA FCCA MBA
14 Bushfield Close
Edgware, Middlesex
HA8 8XT

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
Kilburn Branch
50-52 Kilburn High Road
Kilburn
London NW6 4HJ

National Westminster Bank
Notting Hill Gate Branch
P O Box 1936
46 Notting Hill Gate
London
W11 3ZP

ERITREAN RELIEF ASSOCIATION UK (ERA-UK) TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31st March 2009

The Board of Trustees present herewith their report and the externally examined financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2009.

OUR ORGANISATION

The Eritrean Relief Association in United Kingdom has been registered as a UK charity and constituted as a company, limited by guarantee since 1988. ERA-UK has been operating and providing services as an unincorporated association since 1982 when it was founded. It is governed by a Memorandum of Articles of Association and the Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation for establishing policy. The Trustees are appointed by the Board on the recommendation of other Directors.

OVERVIEW

For the second year running, particular attention was placed on the needs of malnourished children whose mothers have been diagnosed as HIV positive and/or with full blown AIDS. We have been raising funds towards the provision of supplementary food for this highly vulnerable group in Eritrea. Our work was carried out in consultation and facilitation with our partners, the National Bidho Association of Eritrea.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

In furtherance of the appeal for funds, ERA-UK:

- Organised for 12 sponsored Eritrean runners to take part in the British10K London Run in July 2008. This annual activity is gradually gaining popularity within the Eritrean community and increasing the spirit of benevolence combined with the pleasures gained through sportsmanship.
- Organised a seminar in February 2009 which attracted close to 200 mostly young Eritreans and also people from the international community. Three distinguished guest speakers, Mary Dines, Hannah Pool, Lemn Sissay covered topics which inspired the audience and contributed to the increased level of interest and support for ERA's work.
- Continued its efforts towards raising awareness and promotion within the Eritrean community in the UK of the benefits of donating using our Gift Aid form.
- Continued encouraging Eritrean owned businesses, especially restaurants, groceries and newsagents to place our donation boxes in prominent positions in their outlets.
- ERA also raised funds for the shipment of medical equipment and medicines for Eritrean National Diabetic Association.
- Directors attended and raised ERA's profile at several seminars and workshops.
- A website, www.era-uk.org has been set up



Seminar on 28.02.2008 held at Thistle Marble Arch

HOW WERE FUNDS SPENT?

The 12 volunteer runners raised a total of £10,589 (including Gift Aid) in support of children under the care of Bidho Association and children with Autism in Eritrea. In December 2008, 12 quintals of baby formula powdered milk (Cow & Gate) was purchased and shipped to Eritrea at a cost of £10,526. Compared to the extensive work that is being carried out by our partners in Eritrea, we believe this may have been only a small contribution. National Bidho Association has sent a full report on the distribution and benefits registered with their stakeholders as a result of this consignment.

Some purchases of toys and learning materials for children with special needs were made. These will be shipped once an adequate quantity is accumulated.

In response to their request, ERA-UK provided the National Eritrean Diabetic Association (ENDA) Glucometers and matching test strips and lancets to cover 2000 people. ENDA's report indicates the good use that these products were put to and highlights their further need to enable them continue their preventative work with diabetics.

ERA-UK remains committed to working to meet the needs of vulnerable sectors of our society in Eritrea in compliance with its mandate to alleviate poverty and increase education. 95% of all funds raised go directly to target projects.

We appeal on your compassion to assist us by completing our Gift Aid form so that we may continue our work in Eritrea.

Please contact us at our address below for any information you may require in relation to helping the needy in Eritrea.

Eritrean Relief Association (UK)
Robin House, 2A Iverson Road, London NW6 2HE
Tel: 020 7328 7888
e-mail: info@era-uk.org

RESERVE POLICY

The Trustees have agreed to designate £35,957 for the financial year 2009/10 from their unrestricted funds brought forward from the previous year accounts.

BENEFIT IN KIND

ERA-UK has benefited from rent-free occupancy of its office during this period. The benefactors Ericommerce International Ltd have also covered utilities including light, heating, council tax, security and insurance. ERA-UK is grateful for this benevolence.

ERA-UK took part in an energy saving initiative in partnership with Grass Roots Group and was awarded 1000 free energy efficient light bulbs.

The website was set up at no financial cost by Trustee/Director, Tesfaldet W. Ghilazgi.

The Accounts Report was independently examined by Mr Fitsum Michael for which he has made no charge. ERA-UK is thankful for this contribution.



Preparing for the British 10K London Run on 06.07.2008

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the risks which their charity organisation could be subjected to and have taken the necessary steps to mitigate such eventualities.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the profit and loss of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping appropriate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985.

The Trustees are also responsible for safe-guarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ACCOUNTANT

The previous reporting accountant, Kim D. Hooper, resigned and Fitsum F Michael was appointed as the reporting accountant in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985. Mr. Michael is fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and held senior offices at global accountancy practices and financial service organisations. No fee was charged by Mr Michael for conducting the independent examination and reporting on the accounts.

This report is approved on behalf of the Trustees on 30th September 2009 in accordance to the Special Exemptions available to small companies conferred in Part II of Schedule 8 of the Companies Act 1985.

Seble Ephrem
Chairman



Fundraisers ensured their mission is accomplished

Accountant's Report **To The Members of Eritrean Relief Association (UK)**

I report on the accounts for the year ended March 31 2009 summarised on pages 6 and 7

Respective responsibilities of the directors and reporting accountant

As described on page 1 the charitable company's directors and trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is my responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable me to report my opinion

Basis of opinion

My work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so my procedures consisted of comparing the accounts with the accounting records kept by the charitable company, and making such limited enquiries of the officers of the charitable company as I considered necessary for the purposes of this report. These procedures provide only the assurance expressed in my opinion

Opinion

In my opinion:

(a) the accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the company under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985

(b) having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records:

i. the accounts have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C(6) of the Act; and

ii. the charitable company satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year specified in section 249A(5) of the Act and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(1)

Fitsum F Michael BA FCCA MBA
14 Bushfield Close
Edgware, Middlesex HA8 8XT
Reporting Accountant (2009)

Date: 30.09.2009



Testing and raising awareness by the Eritrean National Diabetics Association

Eritrean Relief Association (U.K.)**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2009**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2009 Total	2008 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Donations		7,000.00	10,019.00	17,019.00	20,088
Donation in kind (rent office)			4,000.00	4,000.00	-
Bank Interest		590.00		590.00	1,009
Other income		343	0	343	0
Total incoming resources		7,933.00	14,019.00	21,952.00	£21,097
Resources expended					
Donations		0	0	0	5,146
Medical equipment & Supplies			785	785	-
Health and Nutrition Supplies /HIV project		0	9,187	9,187	6,866
Autism project materials			456	456	-
Telephone		1010	0	1,010	186
Fundraising and publicity		0	2251	2,251	727
Freight		0	1513	1,513	-
Postage and administrative expenses		97	0	97	77
Legal and professional fees		0	0	0	30
Bank charges		61	0	61	160
Accountancy		0	0	0	385
Membership subscription		42	0	42	-
Premises costs		0	4,000	4,000	4,064
Total resources expended		1,210	18,192	19,402	£17,641
Net movement in resources				2,550	3,456
Total funds brought forward				33,736	30,280
Total funds carried forward				£36,286	£33,736

**Summary Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 March 2009**

	2009	2008
Gross income of continuing activities	21,952	21,097
Total expenditure of continuing operations	19,402	17,641
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	£2,550	£3,456

The summary income and expenditure account is derived from the Statement of Financial Activities above, which together with the notes to the accounts on the following pages provides full information on the movements during the year

**Eritrean Relief Association (U.K.)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2009**

	2009	2008
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors and prepayments	1001	353
Bank accounts	35,633	34,014
Petty cash	<u>37</u>	<u>139</u>
	36,671	34,506
Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals	<u>385</u>	<u>770</u>
Net current assets	<u>36,286</u>	<u>33,736</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>36,286</u>	<u>£33,736</u>
Funds		
Restricted	0.00	0
Designated	35,957.00	33,407
Unrestricted	<u>329.00</u>	<u>329</u>
	36,286.00	<u>£33,736</u>

The directors have:

- a) taken advantage of the Companies Act 1985 in not having these accounts audited under Section 249A(2) [partial exemption]
- b) confirmed that no notice has been deposited under Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985
- c) acknowledged their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985
- d) acknowledged their responsibilities for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the company and of its loss for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 of the Companies Act 1985 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to this company

**Approved by the Board of Trustees on: 30.09.09
and signed on its behalf by:
Yohannes Fassil Honorary Treasurer**



ERA *in* Pictures

1: ERA Board member, Mebrak Ghebreweldi, raising funds with a smile

2: Petros Berhe's challenge - the Shida

3 & 4: Tekle and Petros packing and loading products for Eritrea

5: Container on its way to Eritrea

6, 7 & 8: Hannah Poole, Mary Dines, Lemn Sissay, key speakers at seminar on 28.02.2009

9: Habtom Tesfay and Shanet Zeru - prospective ERA Board members

10: Eritrean National Diabetes Association Open Day





ERITREAN RELIEF ASSOCIATION (UK)
Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2009

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