

# How to become involved in the needs of the Arba Minch Department of Surgery

The aim of this fund is three fold.

To help provide necessary medical equipment in the new University Department of Surgery

To provide educational aids for the teaching of medical students, young doctors and other medical trainees in this University.

To provide better facilities to help treat people of the Southern Zone of Ethiopia, via the Arba Minch Dept of Surgery.

We need to raise a million dollars to help fulfill the above aims. No money will be spent on ourselves but all in the Surgical Department conjunction between Dr Hicks and the Dean of the Medical Faculty of Arba Minch University.

The Australian Government is helping greatly by allowing us to have tax deductibility.

This boy was rescued from the jaws of death after he was run over by a train and lost both legs and an arm. Here he is conducting André Rieu in our home.



## Some Sad Statistics

*A few statistics, which I think speak for themselves.*

Hospital beds – In Ethiopia there are 0.24/1000 persons compared with Australia 12.5 (1:50)

Physicians – 0.03/1000 compared with Australia 2.5 (1:80)

Available potable water – 24% of population only have access to this compared with Australia 100%

Infant mortality – 102.12/1000 live births compared with Australia 4.76 - 20 times as many.

Life Expectancy - 42 compared with Australia 80

(These figures were taken from the internet and are almost certainly an approximation rather than being accurate—but they are very indicative.)



AlProf Hicks operating in Ethiopia.

The HICKS Ethiopia Medical Aid Fund has been formed in conjunction with Life Aid International (LAI) and the Global Development Group (GDG) to raise \$1,000,000 to give aid in equipment used in teaching theoretical and practical surgery

and assisting in improving the surgical care of patients at Arba Minch, Ethiopia.

The Hicks family first went to Ethiopia in 1968 and they have spent about 18 years working there. In a very real sense they feel at one with the people and their needs.

LAI and GDG are the means for us to obtain tax deductibility and a wider audience for people to hear of this situation. We appreciate their help very much. The Arba Minch Surgical Department of the University is newly formed and sadly under-equipped in people and equipment but is seeking to treat about 2 million people. We gladly acknowledge their help and cooperation. (About half the population of Queensland, with 2 General Surgeons and a Gynaecologist.)

## If you wish to give: (Tax deductible)

All donations \$2 and over to the Life Aid International Aid Fund are tax deductible. After making a donation please email us ([aid@lifeaidinternational.org.au](mailto:aid@lifeaidinternational.org.au)) the following information so that we can issue you with a receipt: name/address/date, and amount **For direct Banking or for Electronic Transfers**

**Life Aid International's Bank Details are:**

**Bank: National Australia Bank**

**BSB 084-970 Account Number 586010854**

**Account Name Life Aid International Aid Fund**

**Please ensure that in the subject line you mark it as for ETHIOPIA—Please don't post cheques**

## Online Donations

People wanting to donate to Life Aid International using their credit card can donate online via "Our Community" which is a free online donations service funded by the Victorian Government.

The 24-hour-day, seven-day-a-week service ensures that people can donate to any current project of Life Aid International at any time of the day or night.

**Life Aid International's Online Credit Card Donation.**

<http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/lifeaidinternational>

The online donations service is totally secure and ensures that 100 per cent of the donation goes straight to Life Aid International. Only normal bank fees and credit card fees are deducted from the donation.

When making a donation using this facility, we ask that in the section you detail the project you wish to support. Mark it as for ETHIOPIA

## HICKS ETHIOPIA MEDICAL AID FUND

**Help is all directed to the Department of Surgery, Arba Minch University, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Arba Minch Southern Zone, Ethiopia**

0437719867 / in Ethiopia 0011251(0)912749973

Barry [barry@anff.asn.au](mailto:barry@anff.asn.au)

Robin [robinhicks@bigpond.com](mailto:robinhicks@bigpond.com)

Our AIM is High and Difficult but very Worthwhile

How easy it is to be swamped by all the calls for help and the massive needs of the suffering world.

We encourage you to ask yourself “what if the patient before us was your child or grandchild” - would you like them to get good help?

Or if it was your friend or relative? Would you like them to be considered as just another statistic?

Or if it were you would you think yourself worth treating?

Remember we aim to both teach and train, and hopefully the situation will become less desperate because we were there and because you helped!

Thyroid disease like this is very common. Most illnesses normally present late and there are very limited facilities

to meet the enormous needs.



Robin and Barry Hicks

#### Website information

Hicks [www.ethiopia.anff.asn.au](http://www.ethiopia.anff.asn.au)

LAI [www.lifeaidinternational.org.au](http://www.lifeaidinternational.org.au)

GDG [globaldevelopment.org.au](http://globaldevelopment.org.au)

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One of the lakes near Arba Minch in the Rift Valley

## Hicks Ethiopia Medical Aid Fund



This fund is in cooperation with Life Aid International and Global Development Group to bring hope and help to multitudes of Ethiopians