

# Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital



Newsletter | March 2011



*Art for Ethiopia*  
The Hamlin Fistula® Relief and Aid Fund is delighted that this exciting, eclectic and colourful exhibition of well priced works by a variety of artists will be held at the Red Door Gallery, 24 Morris Street, Summer Hill NSW on Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd and Friday 8th to Sunday 10th April 2011. There will also be a small selection of crafts, including items from Ethiopia, for sale.

Cash and cheque payments only.  
Gallery hours: 10am to 4pm or by appointment.  
Enquiries: Jules Francois 9799 7830.

All proceeds from the Exhibition will assist the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital and the Hamlin College of Midwives.

## DR HAMLIN'S LETTER

### *My Dear Friends in Australia*

You have all been much in our thoughts and prayers as we hear of the terrible floods, cyclones, bush fires and sadly too, loss of precious lives, but what a wonderful spirit of comradeship and compassion has been evident in our country as we see and hear of all the help given to those in distress. And now the devastating earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan, with Japan also having such a terrifying tsunami. We have supporting trusts and friends in both these countries and our thoughts and prayers are with them too. Unfortunately our Medical Director, Professor Gordon Williams was in Christchurch at the time of the earthquake. He was meeting our Trustees and having a holiday in a country he has never visited before! He was fortunate to be with my cousins and so out of the city sightseeing on the day of the earthquake. However, his hotel in the city is so damaged that nobody is allowed into it. His passport and ticket may be buried in rubble and possibly other precious documents and belongings. The loss of life there is tragic and such a beautiful city reduced to rubble. My late husband went through the terrible Napier earthquake in the North Island in 1931, and his stories of this are brought back to me now as I read about Christchurch and Japan. I feel truly saddened and worried as we all are here – living in peace and sunshine in our beautiful hospital and garden!

### **A busy time at the Hospital**

At present our Hospital is overflowing with many patients and in our waiting ward of 20 beds there are two women in many of the beds. After several fairly quiet months we are very busy. This may be because harvesting is now over and the men folk are able to travel with their women in search of a cure for their tragic injuries.











### *Lighting a Candle*

The Fund is very grateful to a number of supporters who have recently organised several very successful community screenings of *Lighting A Candle*, the new documentary about the work of Dr Catherine Hamlin AC, the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital and the Hamlin College of Midwives. Recent screenings have been held at Avoca Beach, and in Canberra, Adelaide, Port Lincoln and Victor Harbour. If you would like to organise a screening in your local area please contact the Fund's office so that we can assist you with preparing for the event.

Screenings of *Lighting a Candle* are currently being planned in Melbourne, Brisbane and Wangaratta. Details of these screenings will be posted on our website as arrangements are finalised.

### *Lighting a Candle - on sale now!*

Copies of the documentary in DVD format can now be purchased via our website or by completing and returning the detachable slip with your payment.

### **Would you like an email receipt?**

If you would prefer to receive receipts by email then please include your email address when making a donation.

The Fund is happy to continue to mail out paper receipts to donors who prefer to receive receipts in this way.