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Introduction

Welcome to our first Newsletter.

First, a summary - in 100 words - of our purpose:

The Ethiopian Heritage Trust (“the Trust”) is a charity based in Addis Ababa.

Its aim is to preserve and conserve sites of natural beauty and historic buildings in Ethiopia. It is similar to, but not a copy of, the National Trust in the UK.

It has two projects: the Entoto Natural Park on the mountain range above Addis Ababa and the house of Ras Kebede Menegsha.

The aim of the Trust (UK) – or ‘the UK Trust’ – is to support the Trust in Addis Ababa.

The UK Trust is not a subsidiary of the Trust, but a partner, albeit a junior one.



History of the Ethiopian Heritage Trust

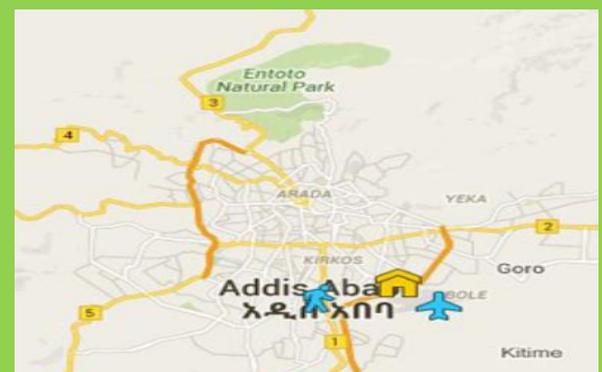
The Trust was established in 1992 and began work on the Entoto Natural Park in 1996.

The Trust is licenced by the Government of Ethiopia to work as a charity.

The Trust’s motto is “Let’s preserve our cultural, historical and natural heritages for the development and prosperity of our nation”.

Entoto Park: Size and Situation

A map showing the location of the Park is below:





The Park is 5.41 square miles (13 km² or 1320 hectares), which is the equivalent of the combined area of Hampstead Heath, St. James's Park, Green Park, Greenwich Park and Richmond Park.

Of course, the comparison is not really fair, as the London parks are all within the city, whereas Entoto Park is on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. But comparison does perhaps give some idea of the size of the Park.

It lies immediately north of the city, so that those living on that side of the city have only a short walk – 5 to 15 minutes – to be within the Park.

The Park is a significant watershed. If rain falls on the northern side of the Park it will ultimately reach the Nile and hence the Mediterranean.



If it falls to the southern side of the Park it will flow towards the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

Entoto Park: Trees

When the Trust took over the land, it was covered with eucalyptus trees. They are superb for producing timber very quickly for building and for firewood. But they create an ecologic desert. It becomes a monoculture, and biodiversity does not exist.

To remove the eucalyptus and replace them with native trees and shrubs is a mammoth task, which has been going on since 1995 and will continue for at least another 10 years.

House of Ras Kebede Menegsha

Ras (a title of nobility) Kebede Menegsha was an important figure during the reign of Emperor Haile Selassie and took part in the resistance against the Fascist Italian forces during their invasion of Ethiopia. He died in 1939.

This old building was given to the Ethiopian Heritage Trust in 2004. It has been renovated and now serves as the headquarters of the Trust. It is open and accessible to the public.



History of the Ethiopian Heritage Trust (UK)

The UK Trust was formed in July 2017.

It is a not-for-profit unregistered charity based in London. (Charities with a turnover of less than £5,000 per year cannot register with the Charity Commission.)

The Constitution of the UK Trust was signed on the 9th September 2017; please ask if you would like a copy e-mailed to you.

The UK Trust's support for the Trust in Addis Ababa will consist of the following:

- ✦ Financial support
- ✦ The provision of advice, as required.
- ✦ Spreading knowledge in the UK of the Trust and its work.

Funds for the Ethiopian Heritage Trust

The Trust raises its own funds, but has difficulty keeping afloat. The Entoto Park in particular requires large sums to keep the project on course.

The UK Trust is raising funds for their support.

To date, thanks to great generosity, the Trust UK has already raised £1,750 from membership fees and donations, which has been sent to the Trust in Addis Ababa.

The Trust has earmarked these funds to help revitalise the operation of their two tree nurseries, which have been hindered over the last two years by shortage of funds.

Planting Trees

The cost of preparing seeds, nurturing them, planting them out and caring for them for 5 years is £2 per plant. £1,750 will thus produce around 875 indigenous trees in the Park.



Expenditure in the UK.

No money has been or will be spent by the UK Trust on administration in the UK.

There is currently one exception - we have to pay £15 every time money is transferred to Addis Ababa.



Membership Information

As of the 13th November 2017, the UK Trust had 36 members and two donors (which makes the figure of £1,750 very impressive).

Apologies to all those who received their receipts late. It happened during the setting-up process and will not recur.

Student	£3 (per annum)
Individual	£10 (per annum)
Family	£30 (per annum)
Life	£150
Silver Life	£300
Gold Life	£500

Please feel free to forward this Newsletter to any persons that you think might be interested in joining the UK Trust or in making a donation.

Bank Details

Lloyds Treasurers Account:

The Ethiopian Heritage Trust (UK), Sort Code 309192, Account Number 61464068.

We are in the process of securing registration for Gift Aid.

Accounting and Auditing

The Trust's financial year ends on 31 December. The Accounts will then be finalised and professionally inspected in time for the first Annual General Meeting which will be held in February 2018.

Board Members

Name	Title
Michael Sargent	Chairman
Pete McCann	Treasurer
Patsy Sargent	Secretary
Janice Boldt	Trustee
Elisabeth Casbon	Trustee
Negussie Araya	Additional Trustee

Contact Details

For further information please contact either.....

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Demographics

