



## PRESS RELEASE

### WITH THIS RAT I THEE WED

*April 2009...* "Toaster, check, ironing board, check, rats love nest, hmmm no."

Are you trying to decide what to put on your wedding list but keep coming up with the same old thing? How about a love nest for rats who help detect TB and landmines in Africa or training for an apprentice in Burkina Faso so they can build themselves and others a new life by building traditional homes? GlobalGiving.co.uk is a unique website that lets you support a huge array of projects throughout the developing world and best of all we have recently launched our wedding list service.

Donations to our projects can range from as little as £5 to as much as you would like to give and with a choice of over 500 projects you'll have no problem finding something to suit. Like a department store wedding list the registry is held online and all your friends and family have to do is enter your name and your chosen projects will appear. You can choose any number of projects for your personalised page and your wedding guests can donate any amount of money which can be spread across projects or just be for one.

As you're about to start building your life together why not help an apprentice in Burkina Faso learn the tricks of the trade to build traditional earth brick vaulted houses. Just £33 will pay for the three months training needed to learn the skills to become a trained mason. Or as you settle into your love nest with your new other half why not ask guests to donate to the HeroRats project. £68 will buy the rats a love nest so they can snuggle down together before a hard days work searching for landmines or detecting TB. When looking for landmines the rats are put on a lead to walk around the fields and when they sniff out a mine they scratch on the top soil, they are so lightweight they don't set off the mine, the rat handler then maps the position of the mine so it can be safely removed. To detect TB the rats sniff human saliva samples through a series of holes in a special rat run. The rats can evaluate 40 samples in 10 minutes, a job that would take a skilled lab technician 2 days to complete. Weekly the rats detect 5-10 patients who have been missed under the microscope.

Jessica Stoner recently got married and wanted a wedding list with a difference. "My husband and I were already well-stocked with home ware, linen and all the usual sorts of things one receives as wedding presents, so we decided to make a difference to people who needed it the most. We asked our wedding guests to make a donation via our GlobalGiving wedding list. We chose GlobalGiving because we loved the ongoing visibility of the projects via the updated newsletters and knowing exactly where our donations were going and who they are benefiting. The GlobalGiving website was really easy to use and we enjoyed choosing a selection of projects that really meant something to us. It felt great to be able to direct our guest generous donations toward those who need it much more than we do.'

To set up a wedding list on GlobalGiving.co.uk go to [www.globalgiving.co.uk/gifts/registries.html](http://www.globalgiving.co.uk/gifts/registries.html)

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To find out more about **GlobalGiving.co.uk** go to [www.globalgiving.co.uk](http://www.globalgiving.co.uk) or contact Hannah Ladkin: [press@globalgiving.co.uk](mailto:press@globalgiving.co.uk)  
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