

# The McCabe Educational Trust

## DIARY OF THE YEAR 2007



### JANUARY

**We are grateful to all the supporters of McCabe who helped us distribute £66,000 to very worthwhile ventures in the last year.**

A special **Thank You** to McCabe pilgrims who helped us raise **£14,410** during January, a **record amount** to begin our new year.

With your help, we will continue helping those in need we encounter on our travels.

### THANK-YOU !

We are beginning our new year with a record total of donations received during January. For our part we have begun the year as we mean to go on delivering £20,000 to our partner projects in the Holy Land. Each month we will introduce you to one of these partners. Overleaf, read about the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation (BASR) where many McCabe groups lunch while visiting Bethlehem. This work is totally dependent on voluntary donations.

**From Hampshire** “We held a carol service with the theme *Past, Present, Future: Remembering Bethlehem and the Holy Land* inspired by our recent pilgrimage, and enclose a retiring collection for BASR in Bethlehem.

**From Bath** “During Christmas time my husband, Peter & I thought a lot about the children in Bethany and I enclose a donation as a **belated Christmas present**”

**From Aberdeenshire** “we are pleased to enclose our **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day offerings** as a gift for the children in Bethany”

**From London** “please find enclosed a cheque for the children in Bethany which this year I am sending **in lieu of Christmas gifts** to my friends”

**From Lancaster** “I enclose our church’s **Harvest Charity collection** which we have decided to donate to the Lazarus Home for girls”

**From Hertfordshire** “I enclose the **collection from our Christmas Crib service** which we would like you to send to the Boys Home in Bethany”

**From Banchory** “Our **Friday Coffee group** has been in existence for 20 years and each year proceeds go to a different charity. Please send the enclosed gift to the Al Shurooq Blind School in Bethlehem”

**From Leicester** “We enclose another donation being the proceeds of a recent concert, sale of cards, scarves etc and assorted donations. **Our support group will continue raising funds for the children in Bethany**”

**Let the McCabe Educational Trust be a channel for your charitable giving ...**

Send a general purpose donation OR send a specific donation

Remember The McCabe Educational Trust in your will

Become a regular donor to the McCabe Educational Trust with a standing order

**All administration costs of the McCabe Educational Trust  
are met in full by McCabe Pilgrimages.**

## **BASR** **Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation**

McCabe pilgrim groups are often hosted to lunch at BASR where they meet the Director, Edmund Shehadeh and see first hand a remarkable work of comprehensive care in a Bethlehem now sadly isolated behind the separation Wall. The McCabe Educational Trust and the McCabe pilgrims who visit are helping maintain this work which survives *entirely* on voluntary donations.



**The Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation (BASR)** began as a Cheshire Home in an old house in Bethlehem, providing care for a few physically disabled children. After it was handed over to the Bethlehem Arab society in 1975, the work grew and, in 1990, the society's dream came true when land on Beit Jala hill, on the outskirts of Bethlehem, was bought and a new, purpose-built, centre erected. Care has been taken with the architecture to ensure that the residents do not feel shut in and there are big windows with lovely views over Bethlehem, Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, lots of plants and bright colours everywhere.



**The society helps badly disabled young children** and is able to give intensive treatment, including surgery, usually over a three to six month period, after which they return to their families. The centre concentrates on early intervention (which often prevents more serious disability) and as the children are very young, the mothers spend a lot of time at the Centre where they learn how to care for their children when they return home. Many staff are themselves disabled and a witness to the children and mothers that disability need not mean a lifetime of dependence.

As well as good medical care BASR provides school lessons to the children during their time at the Centre and there is a busy outpatients department, a hydrotherapy pool and Orthopaedic workshop.

### **A Success Story**

From Belper in Derbyshire a heart-warming story of individual donations, raffles, teachers and parents from a local school, a carol service and a toy fair. The result was £1,750 and the prospect of a completely different life for one Palestinian girl.

Suha Thawabteh is a four year old girl living near Bethlehem with developmental delay and club feet. She also has vision problems. On pilgrimage, this party from Belper saw the need and decided to do something about it. Gifts such as this are life changing and central to the ethos of the McCabe Educational Trust as we seek to help those in need we encounter on our travels.



When the new building opened in 1990 BASR was able to expand its brief to include work with older children and adults providing medical treatment and rehabilitation services such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy. Vocational training was also introduced together with a workshop and hostel for young people. In the wider community BASR operates day-care centres completing its comprehensive caring brief in the Bethlehem area.

For more information visit the BASR website: [www.basr.org](http://www.basr.org)

**It is a sobering thought that without the help of Christian partners overseas the work of BASR and other organisations like it simply would not exist.**