

The McCabe Educational Trust

DIARY OF THE YEAR 2007



JULY & AUGUST

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 **£10,324.86** during the summer, and to a total of **£82,897.86** so far this year.

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

We are indebted to individuals and groups who support our work on a regular basis. This is just one example from a group of friends in Leicester. The Revd Sheila Skidmore reports:

BIRSTALL SUPPORT GROUP

In February 2006 a group of pilgrims from St James in Birstall and St John the Baptist in Leicester went to the Holy Land with the underlying aim of meeting with the "Living Stones" of the places we visited. One of the highlights of our pilgrimage was the visit to Jeel-al-Amal Boys Home and the Lazarus Home for Girls in Bethany. Alice, the founder, was in good form and soon enchanted our pilgrims, so too did her daughter Samar, and of course the children, who are wonderful.



I concluded the report of our visit with the words: "Those of us who went will never be the same again for pilgrims come back changed and challenged. Somehow we bring the Holy Land with us in our concerns, in our prayers and in our hearts". Never have I been privileged to speak a truer word, for not only did our pilgrims take Alice, Samar and the work in Bethany to their hearts, but also, through them, our congregation, wider church members and non-members were also moved to include them in their prayers and to raise funds for them.

We have had great fun entertaining people to coffee mornings, cream teas, a cheese & wine party, a Church Garden Fete, a concert, a Christmas Fair and even a Golden Wedding celebration where money in lieu of presents was sent off to Bethany.

We produced a Christmas card (which sold well) and fashion scarves, also good sellers. We even sold bags and other items bought from the pedlars during our pilgrimage, and olive oil imported by a Palestinian support group, discovering among ourselves hitherto unknown entrepreneurial skills!

During last summer we were drawn to our TV screens, concerned about the conflict in the Lebanon, which certainly kept the children and their community in our hearts and prayers. Our prayers are still with them and we are beginning to make moves to return there as a token of our love and support.

Sheila Skidmore

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.

McCabe Trustees visit the Holy Land

During August, a delegation of McCabe trustees visited our partners in the Holy Land, re-affirming our ongoing commitment to their work.

Geoffrey Marshall, Bob Jackson and Marjorie Paton share a time of fellowship with **Samar Sahhar** and the girls at the Lazarus Home for Girls in Bethany.



Clair Tillotson with our help is developing a music therapy project at the SOS Village in Bethlehem.



Marjorie and Andy Webster have coffee with **Helen Shehadeh**, Director of the Al Shurooq School for the visually impaired in Bethlehem.



Iain Paton sharing the concerns of **Alice Sahhar**, founder and Director of the Jeel al Amal boys home in Bethany.



Iain, Geoffrey, Bob, Andy and Marjorie with **Dr Jantien Dajani** the Medical Director of the The Spafford Childrens Centre which provides health care, special education and psycho-social services for disadvantaged children in and around Jerusalem.