

The McCabe Educational Trust

DIARY OF THE YEAR 2006



DECEMBER

**A special Thank You to McCabe pilgrims
who helped us raise £6,790 during December
making a grand total of £66,000 raised during the year.**

This magnificent total is a full 50% increase on last year !

TRUSTEES REPORT

We have come to the end of a very special year at the McCabe Educational Trust and we would like to thank all of our supporters for the magnificent way you have responded to the need put before you. The reality is that the more we give the more we see that still needs to be done. We are entering 2007 with a renewed vision and a focus on specific projects now very dear to our hearts.

HOW THE TRUST WORKS

The principal work of the Trust is to help those in need we encounter on our travels. Our motto is to “empower people with vision to enable their dreams to become reality”. Alice and her daughter Samar run the boys and girls schools in Bethany and fit perfectly with our ethos. We encourage McCabe pilgrims to visit these “living stones” as part of a pilgrimage itinerary through the Holy Land. We know that these visits are a crucial lifeline between those who have and those who have not. This year the McCabe Educational Trust has sent more than £30,000 in direct aid to Bethany, but this is only a small part of the support our Trust has generated ...



Revd Kevin Dunne & Samar in Bethany

The Revd Kevin Dunne, one of our trustees, is a great supporter of the Lazarus Home for Girls. His interest was initiated by a visit as part of a pilgrimage itinerary which led to a commitment to fund the building of a new purpose-built home for the girls.

Kevin's friends have now purchased a parcel of land near the current home and work is beginning to create a four-storey purpose built accommodation block on it, to be used to house fifty girls. The building will include a kitchen, laundry, staff accommodation and a visitor centre, with visitor accommodation. Future plans are to build a clinic/medical centre and a skills centre, as well as a visitors' shop and a coffee shop. The full cost of the project, from buying the land to completing Phase two, will be about £550,000.

Together with friends like Kevin we will seek to address the great needs we encounter on our travels.

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.**

Andy Webster visits: JEEL AL AMAL BOYS HOME IN BETHANY

I recently travelled to Jerusalem and from there made the (once) short journey over the Mount of Olives to the village of Bethany and the Jeel al-Amal Boys Home.



Life is difficult and trying in Bethany with many restrictions on what we would consider a ‘normal’ way of living. Once a short hop from the Old City, my coach takes a lengthy detour around the new Israeli security wall. The staff at Jeel are concerned that when the wall is finished they may no longer have access to Jerusalem. [Will pilgrims still be able to visit them?](#) Already it is a longer journey and we are grateful to all those groups from McCabes who continue to make the trip.

The school continues to work its magic. There are 72 boys living in the Home and an additional 100 (mostly boys) attend the day school.

[NEW is the Lazarus Girls Home](#) where 30 girls live. The girls attend the local Russian school, where fees are payable for an excellent education.

[NEW on the scene is Charlie’s Bakery.](#) Staffed by two former Jeel boys, the bakery sells bread commercially in Bethany and raises funds for the school.

When I first met the twins four-year old [Rami and Ramzi and their brother Ahmed](#), they were nervous and shy to the point of being withdrawn and tearful. Five years later, they were among the first to greet me and the confidence and happiness they project is immediately apparent.

The authorities were reluctant to allow Abdullah to attend Jeel at all because of the nature and severity of his disabilities. The Abdullah I met on this visit has become a boisterous handful of a boy who fits in easily with his schoolmates.

These boys are a great tribute to the care and work of Alice, her daughter Samar, and all the staff at Jeel and the special atmosphere of love and security they create.

Sadly, the needs are particularly great at the moment as the homes struggle to meet monthly food bills and staff wages. Much outside aid has been reduced or stopped, partly due to concerns over the new Palestinian government and partly due to the recent conflict in the Lebanon which has resulted in a drop in visitor numbers.

[The Jeel al Amal Boys Home and the Lazarus Home for Girls rely totally on voluntary donations.](#) Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers. Your contributions ARE appreciated and are enormously beneficial.

Please make cheques payable to “The McCabe Educational Trust”. The FULL amount of your donation will be speedily forwarded to Jeel and Lazarus.

FOR MORE INFORMATION look up the supporters website: www.friendsoflazarushomeforgirls.org.uk or buy the book: [In Which Language Does a Child Cry ?](#) - the life of Alice Sahhar and the history of Jeel al Amal – author David Hughes. Price £5.99 + £1.50 pp available from The McCabe Educational Trust.



Andy Webster
McCabe Educational Trust