

## SPONSORSHIP FORM

### CNT supports:

- Pupils' fees (£20 per month)
- Teachers (£175 per month)
- Projects to help to provide equipment and facilities

You can support this work by donating either a one-off or a monthly sum.

Parishes who wish to **Sponsor a Particular Project** are invited to contact the Secretary on 01234 218593

I wish to contribute:

£15     £20     £25

or £.....(state how much)

#### Either

– as a monthly contribution by Standing Order to my Bank, details of which are given below

or

– as a single contribution for which I enclose a cheque made payable to the Cambridge Nazareth Trust

(tick boxes as appropriate)

## Bankers Order Form

To the Manager ..... Bank Plc

Please pay to the Alliance & Leicester Business Bank plc

Sort code: 72.00.02

Account No. Cambridge Nazareth Trust 82994505

the sum of £..... until further notice.

either monthly on the 15th day of each month

or annually on the 15th May

(delete as applicable)

until further notice.

Name of account to be debited .....

Account No ..... Sort Code .....

Please complete the details on the back and send to CNT

Patricia Richardson — Trustee

## Visit to Madaba Boys School in October 2006

At the beginning of October, I again visited Jordan, and whilst there, visited many of the Patriarchate schools which have been supported, one way or another by CNT. As usual, I was given a really warm welcome by all, and found in all the schools, the usual hive of activity!



One of the towns I visited was Madaba, which lies on the fringes of the desert, overlooking the Dead Sea. Madaba is an ancient town mentioned in the Old Testament as the Moabite town of Medeba. Nearby is Mount Nebo.

There are now four Patriarchate schools at Madaba - the Kindergarten, Elementary, Secondary Boys and Secondary Girls Schools. The Secondary Boys School was of particular interest to me, as CNT has recently made a substantial donation towards new computers for their computer laboratory. The school has an excellent academic record, and the new head teacher, Mr. Issa Massar, proudly showed me round his school. The computer lab is now well-furnished up to Government standards, and Mr Massar expressed great gratitude to CNT for our input. However, there are still not enough computers to meet the needs of all the students, and it is envisaged that another computer lab will be built when funding is available.

All the schools I visited were extremely grateful for the help provided by CNT, and all, like Oliver Twist, asked for more! I had to let them down gently and tell them that unfortunately, we do not have an endless supply of funds, but would do what we can.

One of the most valuable ways of support is by twinning our Catholic schools and parishes with those in Jordan, and this is what I now try to encourage. I do hope you can help!



The photo above shows the computer room at Madaba Boys School funded by CNT

Tony Ockenden — Adviser to CNT

## Visit to Bethlehem Christmas 2006

I have had the privilege of attending Midnight Mass in Bethlehem three times.

The first was in 1947 when I was a 20 year old officer in the British Army of occupation at the time. The second was in 2002, when I was on one of my trips relating to the Latin Patriarchal schools.

The third visit was this Christmas of 2006, when seven of us spent 10 days in the Holy Land. Our various activities were memorable but I will concentrate here on Christmas Eve in Bethlehem. We had supper in an Arabic tented restaurant named Shepherds Fields Valley before wending our way to the Church of the Nativity. This meal was shared with a family I have known for some years and who have suffered many hardships; for instance their modern house, with others in their street, was shelled without cause in 2001 and following this trauma, mother, father and three young children were forced to live in one room for eight months. For the past six months there has been no income in the family and this supper was a feast for them.

Just before the Mass started the Palestinian President

arrived. Behind the altar were a full choir of fifty-plus voices, around 100 Franciscan monks and many bishops, priests and seminarians. The Latin Patriarch presided in shining gold vestments. It was a sight and scene worthy of Christ's Birthday and the Mass was magnificent and the singing exquisite.



The Patriarch's homily was inevitably of a political nature with references to the troubles within and around the Holy Land but his message to all - not least the Palestinian and Israeli leaders as well as those of the international community - was one of peace, wisdom and justice.

He called upon us all to "examine our conscience in light of the goodness God has put in each of us, in all of us, political leaders, adversaries on both sides, militias, those who are classified as extremists and terrorists, those who claim to speak in the name of God, and all those who say they want peace. All are invited to examine their conscience in order to enter a new path that puts an end to bloodshed, death and, in these days, to new internal quarrels. In this way, peace will come about and all human beings will regain their dignity without any additional blood being shed". And he implored all Christians around the world to pray "in order to bring a new period in our history".



On reflection, the Mass itself was as spiritually uplifting as on the two previous occasions but the traumas and hassles surrounding it made one feel it is no longer an experience for more mature and less energetic folk. But we all felt quite strongly afterwards that any discomfort we experienced was nothing compared to the daily suffering and privation affecting the Palestinians. It is a humbling experience to be among them and with them and yet it is not disheartening. Their hardship seems to provide them with a faith and strength to be respected and admired.

This was my sixteenth visit to the Holy Land in six years, all of that time within the period of the current intifada.

I came away this time with more feelings of sadness and pessimism than ever before.

I think it is the monstrous wall that causes the most anger and depression. However there is one thing particularly that makes me go back as frequently as I can - the children who are a joy to behold and just being there with them raises hopes and gives every incentive to help

them and their families. For those who have never visited, I beg you to go - you will not be disappointed and you will definitely want to return. For those who have been already, please go back as often as you can.

Above all, these oppressed and deprived peoples desperately need our prayers and the Latin Patriarch's plea for prayer should not be ignored. Surely it is not too much to ask of every Christian to say a prayer daily for their kindred spirits in the Holy Land.

## Cambridge Nazareth Trust

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[www.CambridgeNazarethTrust.org](http://www.CambridgeNazarethTrust.org)

# Cambridge Nazareth Trust



Helping Young People  
of the Holy Land

Today...  
for all their Tomorrows...

Dear Reader

Many of you who receive this newsletter will be long standing and faithful supporters of the work of The Cambridge Nazareth Trust or CNT, whilst others will be entirely new readers and hopefully potential donors to support the education of the children of the Holy Land. It is one year since our last newsletter and there is much to report and re-emphasise.

It is important that we all realise the nature of the Holy Land at the present time and how CNT can help the Christian Community there. Firstly in terms of territory the Holy Land covers what is now Israel, Palestine - the West Bank and Gaza, and Jordan and part of the Lebanon. Each area is different but all have one thing in common - they are in a state of tension and conflict. We receive letters from children and their message is - We are not at Peace. The economy is in tatters. Those at greatest risk of suffering are the children. Many are traumatised. This newsletter includes quotes from letters sent to me by some of those children.

Our Lord said "Suffer little children to come to me" and we, the trustees of CNT, are very mindful of the need to help provide the children with the resources for a Christian education that properly equips them for the world of today and tomorrow. That education, based on the Christian gospel, must address the issues those young people face, be supported by modern teaching aids and be respectful of other faiths.

One of our committee, our adviser, Tony Ockenden, a regular visitor to the Holy Land, has just returned from Jerusalem. He attended Christmas Midnight Mass in Bethlehem and included in this newsletter is his abridged report. Trustee Patricia Richardson visited Jordan and Madaba Boys School in October to see the computer suite donated by CNT. Also we report on the visit to Bedford by three Misdar School students and their teacher to St Gregory's Middle School, Bedford. CNT has chosen since 2001 to support the schools of the Latin Patriarchate whose greatest needs, and increasingly so, are to help families pay their school fees and to provide modern computing equipment. Unless fees are paid teachers will not be paid nor adequate resources provided and schools will close. We stress computing facilities because it helps children have access to a wider world and is now an essential aid to learning.

Please appeal to your local parish or your local school to support those in the Holy Land. CNT income is not high, just £50,000 per annum in the last two years. By the end of 2006 and since January 2002 as a result of your generosity we have sent £355,000 to the Latin Patriarch. I would like to be able to tell the Patriarch later this year that we can offer more help.

My best wishes to you all for 2007. Please remember the children of The Holy Land in your prayers and know that they are extremely grateful for your help. God bless you all and thank you... Peter Smith, Chairman and Trustee

[www.CambridgeNazarethTrust.org](http://www.CambridgeNazarethTrust.org)



CNT Newsletter Epiphany 2007

## SPONSORSHIP FORM

### Gift Aid Declaration

I want  do not want  The **Cambridge Nazareth Trust** to treat this and all future contributions as GIFT AID donations.

*(This declaration enables the Trust to recover a tax refund)*

I understand that I must be paying an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Charity claims on my donations (currently 28 pence for each pound you give). You can cancel this declaration at any time. If, in the future, you do not pay tax equal to that which is claimed then cancel the declaration. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment. Please notify the CNT if you change your name or address.

Name .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Telephone ..... Fax .....

Email .....

I am representing: Self / Group / Parish / School / Company

Organisation name.....  
(if applicable)

Date...../...../.....

Signature .....

Please detach and return to: **Cambridge Nazareth Trust**  
Treasurer: 6 Furness Close, Bedford MK41 8RN, UK  
Charity Number 289084

*Please complete this section so it can be sent to your bank by CNT*

Your name .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Telephone ..... Fax .....

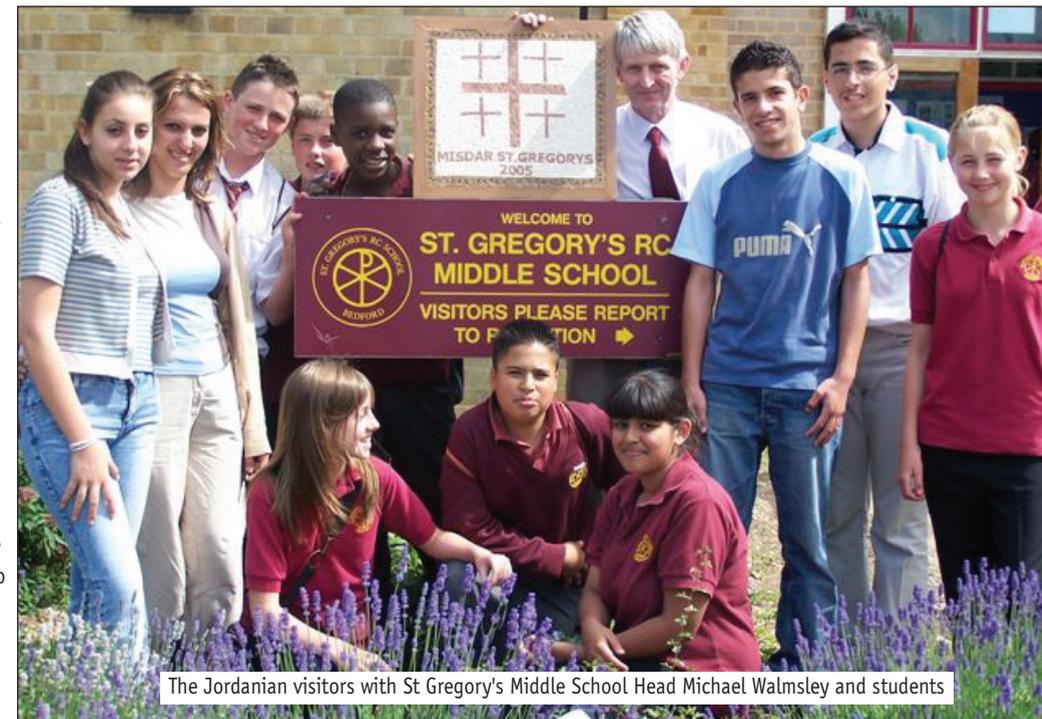
Signature ..... Date...../...../.....

Address of your Bank .....

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..... Post Code .....

## Margaret Waddingham – a supporter of CNT reports on the Misdar Teacher and student Visit to Bedford in June 2006



The Jordanian visitors with St Gregory's Middle School Head Michael Walmsley and students

Last June, three Jordanian students, Fadi, Laith and Tala with their teacher Amal from Misdar School, Amman, Jordan, travelled to Bedford as guests of St. Joseph's Parish. In 2005 St. Joseph's had raised £17,000 to provide Misdar School with vital computer facilities.

Members of the parish received a rapturous welcome when they visited the school in October 2005 at the start of their Holy Land Pilgrimage. Thereafter, in order to strengthen their ties with the school, the parish decided to continue fundraising and bring some of those enthusiastic students to England. This resulted in an action packed fortnight with the Jordanians being hosted by two Bedford families. The parishioners welcomed their visitors amidst their First Holy Communion and Confirmation celebrations. In the first week of their visit, the Jordanians visited all the Bedford Catholic schools and participated in a day's retreat at Buckden Towers with sixth formers from St. Thomas More School and enjoyed a trip to the theatre in Milton Keynes to see 'My Fair Lady' (all able to understand the idioms). They joined a meeting of St. Joseph's Youth Group and celebrated a Saturday mass at Walsingham, followed by a dip in the sea at Wells-next-the-Sea.

The second week was organised to give the visitors a wider view of England and the English, with a visit to Cambridge and its colleges, an expedition to Woburn Safari Park and its animals (in Jordanian temperatures) and a whistle stop one day tour of London and its major sights - even Tower Bridge was opened for them. Barbeques (in English temperatures!) and shopping expeditions were slotted in as well.



Students and Teacher from Misdar with Rt. Rev Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton and Parish Priest Rev Seamus Keenan

### Here are some of the group's own special memories...

“ St Joseph's church is a very peaceful and lovely place where we had very special memories. Experiencing Mass in English was great as we learnt how to glorify God in another language. The Youth group of St Joseph's is so friendly. We loved meeting and sharing with them and with Fr. Seamus. ”

“ Attending other schools was really exciting. Seeing and knowing how children behave and learn was magnificent as dealing with children in our opinions is very difficult and having the opportunity to discuss about our school in the Holy Land was great. ”

“ Attending St Thomas More Catholic School was really a very exciting experience. We learnt about the way schools in England do work. It was different to us, we were surprised by the big school, the educational system. The warm welcoming of the staff and the students was a great motivation for us to learn more. ”

“ The parish of St Joseph's was such big and second family for us. We felt very comfortable as everybody was very welcoming to us and wanted to know more about the Holy Land, which gave us the opportunity to communicate with others. They deal with us as we are their children and there are no words can express our feelings for them. ”

## CNT TARGETS 2007

*Please Help us to achieve these targets:*

1. Increase our quarterly fee support from £12,000 to £15,000 for our three schools — Hashimi and Zerka Nord in Jordan and Beit Sahour in Palestine.
2. Provide a computer suite at Fuheis School Jordan.
3. Appeal to selected parishes for support.
4. Visit the Holy Land and the schools we are supporting.

## Weybridge Circle Raises Funds for CNT in Memory of Brian McDonnell



Peter Clapham, President of Weybridge Catenian Circle, ran the London Marathon as part of his charity appeal, which raised £2,600 for the Children in the Holy Land.

King's Norton Boy's School, Birmingham held a celebrity auction and a 'non-uniform' day. Andrew Lomas, Assistant Headmaster said: "This year, with all the troubles in the Middle East, we wanted to raise money to help those children through CNT".

## Visiting the Holy Land at the present time



There are many organisations which support the people of the Holy Land and CNT is just one but its special mission is to help in the provision of education there. When we think of that mission we inevitably think of providing resources but education is also about interaction with people, especially young people.

Many CNT supporters have made recent visits to the Holy Land and all will testify to the impact that such visits have had on them. Likewise the children have a tremendous impact on the pilgrim. In spite of the strife and tension the children show a remarkable resilience, a happiness and a love of their schools. Similarly the adult community extends an extraordinary welcome and generosity to the visitor.

Please help with our work to help them.

## Historical Note

CNT was formed in 1984 to help provide education for young people in the Holy Land under the age of 25. Until 2001 much of its work was carried out in liaison with the Pontifical Mission in Jerusalem. From 2002 CNT has concentrated its help on schools of the Latin Patriarchate in Jordan and Palestine.

### Questions recently asked of CNT

Q Do any costs of CNT Trustees' visits to the Holy Land get paid from money donated?.

The Trustees and other committee members fund their own expenses including air fares and hotel costs. However we do experience a truly wonderful and generous welcome from the Palestinians and Jordanians.

Q How does the CNT Committee know which schools to fund?

The CNT committee is in constant touch with the Latin Patriarch in Jerusalem and his education officers and is advised by them. CNT is one of several organisations helping the Christians in the Holy Land and it is important to be advised by those in the Holy Land who know the priorities.

Q Why are newsletters sent in envelopes franked by Bedfordshire County Council and who pays for this?

CNT is fortunate to have a supporter who works for Bedfordshire County Council and is able to have CNT Newsletters sent through their system BUT CNT is charged for this service.

Q How is the money sent by CNT to pay for school fees allocated by the Latin Patriarchate?

The Patriarch has two advisers, one for Jordan and one for Palestine. They identify with the help of the head teachers which families need assistance to pay the school fees. Hence some families may not pay anything, and others a reduced fee.

### FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY: This shows how the money has been spent

*(Note: Administrative costs are met by separate dedicated donations)*

Year	Total sent to schools	Fees	Projects
2002	£48,020	£28,450	£19,570
2003	£94,450	£48,600	£45,850
2004	£105,800	£60,000	£45,800
2005 (Tsunami effect)	£46,200	£45,000	£1,200
2006	£61,148	£48,000	£13,148
<b>Total</b>	<b>£355,618</b>	<b>£230,050</b>	<b>£125,568</b>
<b>Balance (at 31/12/2006???)</b>	<b>£13,661</b>	<b>Donations Total</b>	<b>£369,273</b>

An update of our on-going programme of projects funded by the Trust. Fee sponsorship of Students and Teachers in Beit Sahour, Hashimi; Fuheis (to 2004); Zerka North (from 2005)