



'Helping young people of the Holy Land to have a bright future'

Cambridge Nazareth Trust

Newsletter

Spring 2018

## CNT works to improve children's education by developing teachers' skills to ensure rich learning experiences



A six year old leads morning prayers in English



Excited Students



Fadi helping in an English Class



**"Thank you for your part in our journey"** from the Senior Class in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) School, Jubeiha in Amman, Jordan. Margaret Waddingham, Chairman of CNT, was presented with this photo montage when she visited the school in November 2017. These young people thank CNT for its part in their journey by training their English teachers over the past six years. They realise and appreciate how much they benefit from the new teaching methods provided by CNT. This thank you is to all the partners, generous benefactors and supporters who have enabled CNT to help the schools of the LPJ and to be part of their pupils' journey.

Through education we encourage the Christian communities to play their part in the future development of their lands. Your kind donations remind these struggling Christian communities that they are not alone and your support gives them hope.

**LPJ schools welcome all, Christian and Muslim alike, and are safe havens of peace and justice in these troubled lands**

### Fluency in English is invaluable

A group of fourteen-year-olds present a puppet show which they had written in English for the younger children. Telling tales and cracking jokes are creative ways of learning English. The older children are improving their fluency and the younger children are learning, all whilst having fun.



Smiling puppeteers



A teacher teaching teachers in the new Training Centre in Amman

The second and third week-long phases of **English Project 2 Training** in May and October 2017 were financed with **£20,000** from **CNT**, including a generous donation of £10,000 from Sir Harold Hood's Charitable Trust. The teachers were provided with seminars, workshops and lesson observations and are now sharing ideas with their colleagues and transforming teaching in their schools. The October training sessions were held in the **new Teacher Training Centre in Amman**. Suha Haddadin, LPJ Education Director, emphasises that training is her highest priority.

### Admiration and Praise

The pupils are full of admiration for and proud of the efforts of their teachers. Requests for *A Christmas Carol* and *A Tale of Two Cities* as extended readers indicate the high expectations of these students. Other pupils presented aspects of Jordanian culture in perfect English. Several senior students explained that they had left private schools because of the higher standards of education in the LPJ schools.



Marina's pupils ponder:



Students in national dress

*"What are the qualities required to be employee of the month?"*

## Timely training, as the Jordanian schools cope with the influx of refugees

Shireen, who received training from 2011 to 2013, tells us that *“The Syrian refugee school is in its third year. I have been given the opportunity to mentor and lead the teachers and the program”*. A humbling humanitarian response and a great responsibility.

### Success



Since 2011, the training for teachers of English in LPJ schools in Jordan, Israel and the West Bank, initially funded partially by **CNT** and more recently wholly by **CNT**, has reaped dividends. The teachers say that the **CNT** training exceeds anything else they have experienced. A **WhatsApp forum** for the teachers provides continuity, maintains momentum and gives an opportunity for them to share their latest initiatives and best practice.

*'I've experienced your guidance, support, discipline, inspiration, friendship and above all your pure love and commitment. I am honoured to be one of the teachers. A big thank you to all of you!'*

*Rula Abassi, Principal, Al Ashrafieh School, Amman.*



*'Having an opportunity to meet you all is really a great honour. You've shared with us great teaching techniques and your experience. I've learned a lot and I will do my best to deliver it to other teachers.'*

*Rasha Hijazeen, Naour School*

Bishop William Shomali and Fr Ashraf Al Nimri presented certificates to the teachers. They also presented awards to Richenda, Jonny and Jackie, our tutors from the Lewis Teacher Training team, as well as to Margaret and her husband Bernard, thanking them **“for your continued generosity, love, skill and spiritual guidance. Thank you so much for all that you do. You have made such an impact on all of us.”**

## Building on the teachers' evident enthusiasm, CNT will provide further training in 2018

*"Your visit brings a positive renewal as to why we are educators. I look forward to what you are offering in ways of training. I am anxiously awaiting to implement your new training ideas in our classrooms."*

Shireen Hijazeen, Jubeiha School

### Last year CNT sent £5,000 to support Parish Summer Camps in the Holy Land

These summer camps offer safe and fun activities for the children and young people living in the impoverished areas of the Holy Land. More than 37,000 children participate in these programmes every year, engaged in activities such as drama, sports, religion, arts, social services and volunteer work.



### Visits from Trustees

CNT Trustees will on request visit parishes or schools to give presentations on CNT's work. Contact Margaret Waddingham, details below. Trustees regularly visit the Holy Land at their own expense to meet the people whom the Trust is supporting.

Please remember these communities, the Living Stones, the direct descendants of the earliest followers of Jesus, in your prayers.

### You can help by

- Donating online or by cheque payable to Cambridge Nazareth Trust (can be gift aided)
- Making a standing order (can be gift aided)
- Organising fund raising in your parish or school

To achieve our aims of sending highly experienced trainers from England each year, we need to raise £10,000 every year. Please help by being as generous as you can. Thank you.

Please send cheques to the Treasurer, Phil Parker, 10 West End, Wilburton, Ely, CB6 3RE.

Bank account: Cambridge Nazareth Trust, Santander Bank, sort code 09-01-52, a/c no 82994505

The trustees of CNT are Margaret Waddingham (Chairman), Mgr Eugene Harkness, Benedict McHugo (Secretary), Donald McEwen and Phil Parker (Treasurer). Our Patron is Rt Rev Alan Hopes, Bishop of East Anglia.

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