John Aves Education Project

Welcome to the Autumn 2023 Newsletter

We write this at a time of huge uncertainty in the area, with escalating levels of violence. We have been in contact with our partners at Al Quds University and our students. Checkpoints in the West Bank are closed, which means travel is restricted, so universities are shut and teaching and learning has returned on line. Universities are also shut to keep those that live nearer and can walk to the university without going through a checkpoint safe. We heard today, 07/11/23, from our partners at Al Quds University that 4 young men have recently been killed in Abu Dis / Bethany. Israeli Defence Force (IDF) soldiers regularly enter campuses, including in 'normal' times. Our students tell us of nightly incursions into Dheisheh (and other camps in the West Bank) by IDF soldiers. How difficult must it be to live and study, in such volatile surroundings.

The work of JAEP feels even more relevant as a grass roots project that financially supports the university education of young adults living in Dheisheh Palestinian Refugee Camp in Bethlehem.

Thank you all very much for your continuing support for this work. We're delighted to let you know that this giving has meant JAEP has raised £500,000. It's wonderful too, that we now have over 50 regular standing order donors. Such committed giving enables us to plan more effectively and to reach more deserving students.

Thank you too to all who buy JAEP Christmas, each card sent raises awareness of the work of JAEP.

This Newsletter will give you updates about:

JAEP graduating and new students Christmas cards for 2023 Mannington Hall Fund raiser that broke all previous records! Plans to mark the 20th anniversary of John's death in 2024

JAEP Students.

To date we have funded 80 young adults (61female, 19 male) from Dheisheh, to study for an undergraduate degree.

We have awarded six new scholarships Four awarded at Al Quds University, (AQU) to three females set o study Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy and one male to study Nursing. At Bethlehem University (BU) JAEP has given scholarships to two females to study Nursing. We are very grateful that Unipal is continuing to fund one of the continuing students and two of the new students. All studying at BU.

JAEP is also funding 20 students continuing to the next year of their studies, (16 at AQU and 4 at BU). Thus, the total number of young people from Dheisheh we are funding during this academic year is 26.

Prior to offering scholarships JAEP ensures that it has sufficient money to fund the young adult for the entirety of their undergraduate course. From this academic year JAEP funds are committed until 2026/2027 for some of the students.

JAEP Graduates

Eight students graduated. All with excellent grades, either good (70-79%) or Very Good (80-88%)

1 Biochemistry, 3 Dentistry, 1 Medicine, 3 Midwifery. Six from AQU and two from BU

Anwaar



Midwifery JAEP scholarship 2020 – 2023

We spent time with Anwaar at BU in February 2003. Anwaar spoke about the increasing rise in domestic violence and how this is now included in the curriculum.

Anwaar graduated from BU with a Very Good evaluation in July 2023 and is now seeking full time employment. She dreams of one day teaching midwifery at university.

Anwaar 'Thank you JAEP for being part of this journey?

Razan

We first met and spent time with Razan in February 2020 at Al Quds University. Her mother had just died of cancer. In February 2023 Razan was away from home.

Razan graduated from Al Quds University in July 2023 with a 'very good' evaluation.

Razan 'Thank you JAEP for your finance, you help us in many ways, especially to motivate us to be more focussed in our study to be able to graduate'.

Dentists are required by their government to spend a year in practical training before applying for employment as a dentist.

Dentistry JAEP scholarship 2019 – 2023



Yasmeen



Medicine JAEP scholarship 2019 – 2023

We met and spent time with Yasmeen in February 2020 and February 2023. During these three years we have seen Yasmeen mature into a confident young woman who is looking forward to working as a doctor.

Yasmeen graduated from Al Quds University with a 'very good evaluation'.

Yasmeen 'Many students hope to achieve their dreams but, financially are not able to do this so thank you to all who support JAEP, I hope you will be able to support many more students in the future'

Doctors are required by their government to spend a year in practical training before applying for employment as a doctor.

Christmas cards

For the 10th successive year, we are selling Christmas cards. Cards sales in 2022, made a profit of £2234! This fund sone student for more than one academic year. The price is still £5 for a pack of 10 cards of the same design. The message inside is Peace at Christmas. There are 8 designs,

As in previous years cards are for sale online and at the following locations in Norwich:

<u>Original Norwich Christmas Charity Card Shop</u> based for the 4th successive year at St. Peter Mancroft Church

Monday – Saturday 10.45am – 3pm

Norwich Cathedral Shop Monday to Saturday 9.15am-5pm and Sunday 11.45am - 3.30pm.

Revelation Resource Centre Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 4pm

3 September Mannington Hall and Garden Charity Day

We shared the organisation of the day with The Matthew Project. The weather was glorious. There were 20 charity stalls, 20 craft stalls to visit, children's activities, music, refreshments, including a BBQ, ice cream and lots more.

We estimate over 2000 people attended and helped us to raise the most we've ever raised at a fund raiser, an incredible £6800.

Plans to mark the 20th anniversary of John's death in 2024.

We plan to mark this anniversary by holding services in the churches John served at to give thanks for John's life, celebrating the achievements of JAEP, giving thanks to the amazing support from you all.

Mancroft Evensong 5pm on 28 January. The nearest Sunday to the 20th Anniversary of John's death on 25/01/2004. John was a curate at Mancroft 1979 - 1982.

St. Giles Mass at 10.30 on 4 February. John's body was brought into St. Giles on 5/02/2004.

Norwich Cathedral Evensong 5.30pm on 6 February. John's funeral was here on 06/02/2004.

St. Mary's Attleborough Eucharist at 10.00, followed by All Saints Besthorpe at 11.30 on 17 March. A Memorial Service was held in St. Mary's on 27/03/2004. John was Rector from 1982 – 1999.

Thank you for your continuing support and for reading this Newsletter.

Best wishes for Peace at Christmas and in 2024 from the JAEP Team