

Friends of the Lazarus Home for Girls Newsletter

Easter 2009

CHRIST IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED ALLELUIA
Wishing you all a Happy Easter

A letter from the Chair of Trustees

Dear Friends,

As you will read in this newsletter, the building of the new home is progressing and the outer shell is now complete – all made possible thanks to the prayers and financial support of you all. What a generous God we have, and what generous hearts our supporters have too!

We now have to find the funds to complete the internal work so that it won't be too long before the girls move into their new home. In the current financial climate, we seem to have a struggle ahead of us, but our feeling is that the Lord has brought us thus far, and it is He who will take us further. We have every confidence that the remaining funds will come soon. Meanwhile, we continue to hold Samar, her staff and all the girls in our prayers, especially in the current political climate in which they are living.

Thank you once again for being alongside us in our vision for The Lazarus Home for Girls.

God Bless.

Kevin Dunne Chair of Trustees

Progress Report on the Construction of the New Lazarus Home in Bethany

November 2008

Unless the Lord builds the house its labours build in vain.

Although it has only been a short while since I last updated you all on the progress of the new building, which is situated in Bethany Village, further progress has now been achieved thanks to the generosity of our supporters and a grant which has assisted the charity in the furthering of the construction of the new home.

The charity's architect, Ibrahim Younan, has now been instructed by the charity to carry out the water proofing of the roof to the third floor. This will now make the building watertight.

Work has also commenced on the external pointing and polishing of the external stonework to the total building; it is estimated this work should be completed by the end of March 2009.

As you will see from the photographic evidence, this work has totally changed the appearance of the building.

Quotations have now been received from the architect for the installation of all the external doors, frames, windows, and window shutters (the shutters will keep the building cool during the summer months when the temperatures are at their highest, as well as providing security for the home.)

Once funds have been raised to achieve this goal work will then commence on the final stage of the fitting out of the internal building. This will enable the girls and staff to move into the home.

Clinic Update: as previously mentioned in the Christmas Newsletter, the formation of the clinics to the ground floor to accommodate Paediatric and Gynaecology Clinics would provide benefits for the local community in Bethany Village. As medical insurance is not accessible to everyone these clinics would reach those who have the least potential of gaining medical assistance. The clinics totally depend on the charity achieving grant funding. As our treasurer has previously informed our supporters, a grant application had been made and, although this grant has been partially successful in achieving a 25% of the funds required, there are terms and conditions on the use of the funds received. Terms and conditions by our benefactor have placed strict stipulations on the use of the funds for mechanical installation, air conditioning, and sanitary ware only.

These strict stipulations cannot be achieved until the construction of the internal of the building and further grant applications become available.

Once again may I personally thank you all for your constant support and prayers, which is enabling the charity to achieve the completion of this much needed home.

Thanks be to God
Alan Anderson, Vice Chair and Building Coordinator

Treasurer's Report

As Alan Anderson has mentioned in his update report, the charity has been successful in achieving 25% of the clinic grant. This evaluates to £25,000.00, which will be isolated in the accounts until such time as the charity can comply with the strict terms and conditions of the grant funding.

The charity's annual Gala Dinner Dance was a tremendous success, our grateful thanks go to Foxx Boy Band, whose entertainment made the night a lively event. To date funds raised from this event are in the region of £16,00.00. Praise the Lord.

Our grateful thanks also extend to Denis Metcalf at Sainsburys Store Whitley Bay, who had his 25-year-old moustache shaved off in the middle of the store. This was to the alarm of his wife who had never seen Denis clean-shaven. £60.00 was raised for the building fund. For those of you who might think this is a drastic way of raising funds I am pleased to say a new moustache has now grown back.

Further funds raising events together with your most generous donations, now stand in excess of £50,000.0 – this amount does not include the isolated grant.

A personal thank you to all who have responded to our appeal for sponsors the funds raised from this scheme allows the charity to forward out quarterly International Standing Orders which evaluate to £12,000.00 per annum. These funds provide food, clothing, and educational and medical fees.

If you want to join our scheme or if you would like to receive further information please contact us.

Finally, just to reiterate, every donation received goes to the children. The trustees meet their own personal expenses and the charity's running costs.

Love in Jesus
Shirley Anderson: Hon. Treasurer.

Prayers from Revd David Attfield

Prayers for the Homes and for peace in the Holy Land. They can be used as biddings in Church Services; for expansion into extemporary prayer; and as themes for meditation.

Mondays Give thanks for the Jeel Al Amal Boys' Home. Pray for guidance in the choice of a new head of the home; for the helpers and teachers at the school; for the safety of the boys and their hopes for the future.

Tuesdays Pray for the Lazarus Home for Girls in Bethany; for Samar and the housemothers; for the safety of the girls and their hopes of a better future; for those girls, infants and staff who have been rejected by their families. For our sponsorship system and other fundraising efforts in local churches and communities. We thank God for the generosity of McCabe Travel and we pray for our future cooperation with them.

Wednesdays Give thanks for the completion of the new building for The Lazarus Home. Pray for its fitting and furnishing and for fundraising for this. Pray for the settlement of the girls in their new quarters. Pray too that grants will be forthcoming for the proposed Medical Centre.

Thursdays For the peace witness of Samar and her Jewish women friends; for the wider reconciliation of Jews, Christians and Moslems in the Holy Land, in this country and in the USA.

Fridays For lasting peace and justice in Israel, the Gaza strip, the Palestinian Territories and the Lebanon; for Tony Blair as he tries to mediate in difficult situations. For the rehabilitation of the Gaza Strip after the recent war.

Saturdays For the protection of Israel from suicide bombers; for the overcoming of problems caused by the wall; for the Gaza strip and help to the people isolated there, without medical care; for reconciliation between Hamas and Fatah; for the new Prime Minister of Israel and his forming of a coalition government.

– David Attfield