

A LOOK BACK ON EVENTS OVER RECENT MONTHS



A visit to the Institute in January which included Primates, Archbishops, Bishops and many others from around the Anglican communion.



The "Dine & Sign" facility received many visitors, who helped put the Cafeteria on the map of places to visit while you are in Salt. Such as the Association of the Travel and Tourism Agencies, who visited with the Salt Development Corp. Also, a group from the National Geographic Channel as well. Earlier it had featured in an episode of the children's TV serial "Ahlan ya Semsem". This followed on from a visit in December by the British band "Cold Play" and being used as a location for part of a movie called "Sarah" !!

A reminder that the work of the Institute is not confined to Jordan. Mr. Samir returned to Jordan from Iraq where he had been during February to give two training sessions, which concentrated on how to merge academic training and vocational training in deaf education and the benefits of this merge. The Institute is grateful to be the only Institute recognized by the Iraqi government to train the teachers who serve with the deaf in their country.



We are pleased to learn that the old boilers in the school building have finally been replaced. So now the heating system at the school is working at full capacity. Many of the student's birthdays happen while they are away from their families. To try to ensure that each student gets special attention on their special day a birthday party is held for them regularly. In February one was held to celebrate students whose birthdays were in the months between Oct 2019 & Jan 2020. It was a fun time for all to gather as one big family, and to play some games together, have fun, and eat some special food and desserts.



Deafinitely Connected

Dear Friends,

Here is our Spring 2020 newsletter for our friends and donors.

Firstly I would like to pass on to you the best wishes of our Board of Trustees who hope that you are all managing to cope with the unprecedented restrictions with which we are burdened at this difficult and worrying time, and that you are managing to stay safe and well. Who could have imagined that six months ago we would find ourselves in this position?

I am sure you are all keeping abreast of the current situation here in the UK but that many of you will have been wondering how the children and staff at the Institute are faring. Unfortunately, the planned visit to Salt by Tim Martin had to be cancelled because of travel restrictions; as we had intended to update you on that visit and the International Meeting which had been jointly arranged with our Dutch, Swiss, German & Japanese counterparts. In the absence of news we had delayed writing to you, but I am very pleased to say that we have just had a letter from Father Luay bringing us up to speed on the current situation with the Institute and reproduce it here overleaf.

I am also very pleased to be able to say that we were able to send the school £25,000 just before lock-down commenced, and that last financial year we were able to help the Institute by forwarding £37,000 of your donations - for which I would very much like to thank you all. Clearly, Father Luay and his team have been very energetic and imaginative in devising ways to maintain their care for the students, but are still very much in need of our help as it's hard to imagine that the situation can greatly improve anytime soon.

During this adversity, I have been struck by the individual strength, ingenuity and resilience shown by many; but it is by coming together as a big-hearted community, large or small, that we will be able to discover what's possible, protect those less fortunate and emerge stronger.

Thank you for being our Friend, thank you for being our community. Stay safe and healthy.

With kind regards,



Chair HLID UK

May 2020

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LETTER FROM SALT



Dear Friends,

I writing to you all at these unusual times to keep you all **updated about the situation of our Institute and all our students**. In Jordan, we are **under lock-down**. Unless a person has a special permit, people are not allowed to use their cars to go from one city to the other, and they are only allowed to go out of their house to buy their essentials between 8 am and 7 pm. However, some days there is a complete lock-down, during which no one can leave their houses.

Following the government's instructions, we sent all our students home to their families. Before we had to **send all of our students home**, we held a **lecture to educate them about best practices to care for and protect themselves, and their families from this pandemic**. Subsequently, the government has **transformed all education to remote education**. Whereas some programmes in Jordan were put in place for the students in the regular schools by the government, **it was left for the Higher Council for the Rights of People with Disabilities to arrange remote education for people with disabilities**.

At first, we waited for the Higher Council to do so, **but sadly it was taking them too long to prepare anything for all the classes for the deaf students**. Therefore, here at the **Institute, we started creating our own programme to reach all our students**, who are as you know **spread all over Jordan**, and even in **refugee camps**. Most of them are in **poor areas of Jordan**, and their families **have neither Internet connection nor the money to acquire it**.

So with the **hard work of our teachers**, and the **continued follow up of the Institute's administration team**, I am glad to say that **we are now able to reach all our students and follow up with them** to make sure that they are **still getting the education that they deserve**, even during these hard times, and to **check up on them and their families**. Thanks be to God **we can reach all the students in all the different places they live in Jordan**. **Despite all the difficulties and challenges**, we have also **set up special programmes** for our students in our **Outreach Centres, and the Refugee Camps**, and are following up with them. Moreover, we have **set a special programme for our students in the Deaf-Blind department as well**.

To date **we are not able to bring our staff back to the Institute**, and therefore those who are able to **work from home** do so; some people from **administration**, and of course our **teachers preparing lessons and communicating with the students**. The **only person who is working regularly in the Institute is our caretaker Botros**, undertaking many different tasks. **Regardless of this**, and because of **Jordanian Laws**, we are **required to give to our staff their full salaries**, and we cannot let any of them go, or put them on unpaid leave until things get better.

All this has **added to the financial burdens** on our beloved Institute, since **our income has diminished greatly, although our expenses have not**. In addition, and to make sure that **none of our students are left behind**, the **Institute took it upon itself** despite the added financial burden, to **provide Internet to all of our students who cannot afford it** regardless of where they are.

Given **these financial difficulties**, and because **the support that we usually receive has decreased radically**, and since the **Diocese is also going through some rough times**, the **future of our beloved Institute is not certain yet**. Unless we have an **increase in the income, and donations from all our friends around the world**, the Diocese **might be forced to rethink the future of the ministry here in HLID**.

"May we all live together as one family under the protection of our Heavenly Father"

Archdeacon Fr. Luay R. Haddad

General Executive Director

Salt, 12th May 2020

TREASURER'S UPDATE

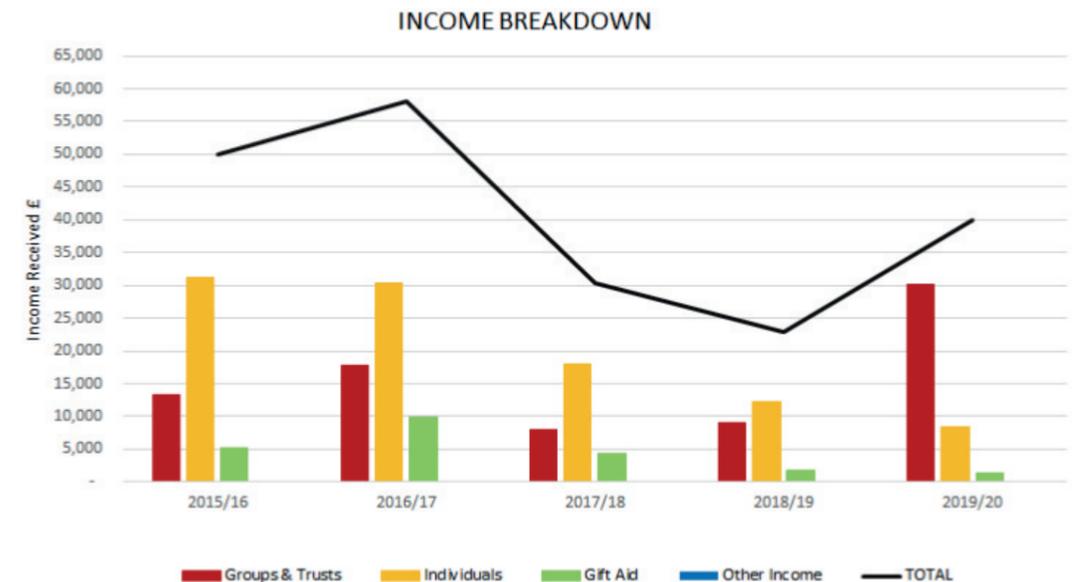
The graph below shows a comparison of our income for the last five years. Last year (ending March 2020) we received just over £40,000 in donations, £37,000 of which we transferred to the Institute. The proportion of the charity's income coming from individuals has reduced, which may be a factor of our aging supporter base and the fact that generally charity donations have come under pressure for economic reasons. Of course, in parallel with this is a commensurate reduction in the Gift Aid tax we are able to reclaim.

Expenses for the charity remain very low and have generally run at between 1% & 3% of annual income.

We continue to receive a steady (but small) income from the Easyfundraising scheme. We have 17 supporters signed up to this and since commencement some of them have raised £868 (£265 just last year). This is an excellent scheme as the donation comes from the retailer online rather than the individual and is to be encouraged.

Our PayPal facility, accessed via the website, has been found very useful by our overseas supporters as this avoids costly bank transfer charges for the donors.

We started this year with a healthy bank balance of £6,368 and hope to shortly make another transfer to the Institute.
Tim Martin, May 2020



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Use this link and the first £5 you raise will be matched

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