

**Durham Palestine Educational Trust**  
**Reg. Charity No. 1085097**  
**Annual Report 2021-22**

**Trustees (All Trustees act in an honorary capacity)**

Kamal Badreshany (**Assistant Secretary**), Fadia Faqir, Nathan Griffin, Neil Griffin, Dave Harrop, Elaine Malcolm, Vin McIntyre, Roger Reeve, Valentina Tumolo, Bill Williamson (**Student Welfare Officer**), Diane Williamson (**Student Welfare Officer**), Eileen Williamson (**Treasurer**), Justin Willis (**Chair**), Penny Wilson (**Secretary**), Martin Wood

**Aims of the Trust**

The Durham Palestine Educational Trust aims to:

- Contribute to the social, economic and political development of Palestine through scholarships for Palestinians to study in the UK at Durham University
- Increase awareness in Durham of events in Palestine, especially as they affect education
- Help students of Durham University to study at Palestinian universities
- Promote academic developments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to promote links with, and academic exchanges between, them and Durham University

This report gives details of the activities undertaken by the Trust in pursuit of these aims. The Trust takes all appropriate measures to assess, mitigate and manage the risks associated with its activities.

**Introduction**

The pandemic continued to affect DPET's work for a part of the year, though happily it was possible to resume some activities and – most importantly – two students from Palestine were able to come to Durham to study on tuition fee-free studentships provided by the university. Arwa Alzrai completed an MA in Education, and Wafaa Alijla completed an MSc in Civil Engineering.

The year also saw the establishment of the Pauline Bequest, created through the generosity of the late Paul Fortescue, which has allowed DPET to offer additional studentships – more details below.

DPET supporters and trustees continue to provide pastoral support to the students as well as managing the affairs of the charity. Diane and Bill Williamson continue to play a central role in this, and Diane also bears much of the (considerable) burden of the selection process and handles the arrangements for the students' travel. As Treasurer, Eileen Williamson has managed the new challenges that have come with the generous recent bequests to DPET. Kamal Badreshany continues to maintain the DPET website; and Penny Wilson handles multiple governance tasks as well as much of the communication with the university. I would like to express my thanks to all of them – and to the many other supporters, too numerous to mention individually, who help look after the students and keep DPET running.

I am delighted to report that Professor Karen O'Brien, who took up the post of Vice-Chancellor of Durham University in 2021, has agreed to become a patron of DPET.

**Public benefit**

We have referred to the commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The trustees consider that the charity's activities reflect our aims and objectives, and that they are designed to provide accessible

services and activities that benefit the appropriate sector of the public in accordance with our charitable activities.

### **Achievements and performance**

DPET has, over the last two decades, brought nearly fifty students to Durham. Many have returned to Palestine, but a number have gone on to further study, in Durham and elsewhere: there are now three former DPET students engaged in doctoral study at Durham – Anas Almassri, Arwa Alzrai and Tamara Barakat, who has just submitted her thesis. Eman Alasah is in the second year of a PhD at Northumbria, Sara Ali is in her third year at Cambridge, Bahaa Attalah has just submitted his thesis in Oxford and Nawras Ateeq has started her PhD in Southampton.

Wafaa Alijla, one of last year's students is now working as a civil engineer with an engineering consultancy company in Newcastle; Tarneem Hammad who went back to Gaza in March has just landed a job there as Communications Officer at Medical Aid for Palestine where her manager is Mahmoud Shalabi (DPET student 2014/15).

Students have not had the opportunity during these Covid years to give talks in schools and universities as they have in the past; however, Arwa and Wafaa spoke to the Quaker group in Darlington in March. Arwa acted as a translator/facilitator for the Syrian novelist Khaled Khalife at St Aidan's College when he talked about his book 'Death is Hard Work' and held writing workshops.

### **Scholarship Competition 2022-23 and IELTS**

The funds in the Pauline Bequest are held in perpetuity. The income from the Bequest is to be used to support Palestinian students to study for masters degrees at Durham, at the discretion of the Pauline Bequest Committee. Following the decision of that Committee, and in line with the additional gift agreement mentioned in last year's report, DPET has been able to use the income from the Pauline Bequest together with funds from other donations and book sales to offer four studentships for 2022-23. This is very welcome, since DPET continues to receive many strong applications from Palestinians hoping to study at Durham. This year we received 24 applications that met the criteria for entry: 5 from men and 19 from women. 12 applicants were from Gaza and 12 from the West Bank.

The students – all of whom have now arrived in Durham – demonstrate the diversity as well as the strength of the cohort of applicants. Abrar Eqilan is studying for the MSc Conflict Prevention and Peace Building; Miral Maqlouf for the MSc Management and International Business; Mohamed Salha for the MSc Scientific Computing and Data Analysis (Astrophysics) and Hassan Awashra for the MSc Plant Biotechnology.

As in previous years, DPET has also supported students in Palestine who are preparing for the IELTS examination that is a requirement for study in the UK; this year, 6 benefited from this support.

### **Fundraising Activities**

After a number of very successful years, DPET has now wound down its involvement in selling second-hand books. This activity, which has combined on-line marketing and physical sales on Palace Green, has been enormously successful in raising funds and in maintaining DPET's profile in the university and the city more widely. After a suspension due to the pandemic, two last physical book sales were held in August and October of 2022. Having become something of an institution, the book sales will be missed by very many.

The success of the book-selling has been entirely due to the energy and commitment of Vin McIntyre. Vin has devoted much of his own time to this and has also managed and inspired a

team of volunteers – collecting, sorting, selling and dispatching. Vin's contribution to DPET has been outstanding in many ways – the book-selling was but one aspect of his work, but it was in itself a remarkable achievement. I have no doubt that all involved with DPET will echo me in thanking Vin for this.

DPET organized a walk this year for the first time since 2019 – not to raise funds, but as a social event: thanks to all who were involved in organizing this.

### **Gifts and donations**

DPET continues to benefit from regular generous donations from a range of supporters. In the course of the year, the charity also received a generous gift from Zaid Kurdi, a nephew of Michael Kurdi. Michael was a trustee of DPET for some time; a stalwart supporter and reliable presence, he was one of the group who helped maintain the charity in its early years. Zaid's gift, made in memory of Michael, helped to ensure that DPET was able to offer four studentships this year.

### **Agreements with Durham University**

DPET has continued to benefit from a close and supportive relationship with Durham University, and I would like to express our particular appreciation to Andy Harston and Anna Abbot in the Durham Alumni Relations Office and to Margret Bidnell-Rowe in the Academic Office.

Justin Willis, Chair, Durham Palestine Education Trust, October 2022

**Durham Palestine Education Trust**

registered charity no. 1085097

**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30th September 2022**

	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
<b>Donations:</b>			
<b>From individuals:</b>			
	Standing orders	£ 13,372.00	£ 13,739.00
	Other donations	£ 3,590.00	£ 2,381.50
	Abbot Bequest	£ 50,080.00	
	Rhodes Donation	£ 11,332.92	
	Zaid Kurdi Donation	£ 14,990.00	
	Transferred from Pauline Bequest Permanent Endowment	£ 53,044.95	
<b>From organisations:</b>			
	Forte Securities	£ 3,250.00	£ 3,000.00
	CTT Charity Payments (E Click)		£ 310.60
	CAF	£ 350.00	£ 310.00
	Charity Trust		£ 325.00
	Amazon Associate fees	£ 41.96	£ 5.00
	Give as you live/Paypal	£ 73.25	£ 58.56
<b>Fundraising activities:</b>			
	Book sales	£ 10,700.45	£ 11,273.42
<b>Other income:</b>			
	Tax recovered through Gift Aid	£ 4,613.77	£ 4,608.66
	Bank interest	£ 1,419.54	£ 213.42
			£ 484.61
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£ 166,858.84</b>	<b>£ 36,709.77</b>
	<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
<b>Scholarships</b>			
	Maintenance Grants	£ 28,854.68	£ 25,966.00
	Travel, visa, police registration etc	£ 12,254.47	£ 2,658.42
	British Council IELTS Scholarships	£ 780.00	£ 1,889.83
<b>TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP COSTS</b>		<b>£ 41,889.15</b>	<b>£ 30,514.25</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Administrative expenses:</b>			
	Public Liability insurance etc	£ 262.08	£ 145.60
	Admin (Bank Charges)	£ 555.12	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>£ 42,706.35</b>	<b>£ 30,659.85</b>
<b>Surplus/deficite of receipts over payments</b>		<b>124152.49</b>	<b>£ 6,049.92</b>

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30th September 2022**

		2021-2022	2020-2021
Accumulated fund brought forward 1st October 2021		169944.73	£ 163,894.81
Surplus/Deficite 2021-2022		124152.49	£ 6,049.92
Accumulated fund carried forward 30 Sept 2022		<b>294097.22</b>	<b>£ 169,944.73</b>
<b>represented by</b>			
	HSBC Current Account	396.45	£ 802.51
	CAF Cash Account	1170.27	£ 8,955.78
	CAF Gold Account	89088.17	£ 39,000.96
	CAF - Pauline Bequest Gold A/c	1001.75	£ 1,000.03
	Paypal	1339.07	
	Flagstone Account	467.36	£ 120,185.45
Flagstone Platform	Shawbrook Bank	44272.13	
	Monmouthshire BS	75696.14	
	Cambridge & County Bank 1/30%	35310.39	
	Cambridge & County Bank 2/25%	45355.49	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>294097.22</b>	<b>£ 169,944.73</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>			
	Four scholarships 2022-23	88000.00	£ 28,000.00
	Travel & visa etc costs for 2022-23	10000.00	£ 6,000.00
	Contingency fund	5000.00	£ 5,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>103000.00</b>	<b>£ 39,000.00</b>

Statement approved by the Trustees on  
and by the Trust's AGM on and signed on its behalf by:

Eileen Williamson

Treasurer

Date:

Penny Wilson

Secretary

Date:

This report has been independently examined by David Atkinson

Signature

Date





**Pauline Trust -Permanent Endowment**  
**Durham Palestine Education Trust**  
 registered charity no. 1085097

### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30th September 2022

<b>Receipts</b>		<b>2021-2022</b>
<b>From</b>		
	Interest received from Evelyns	39.84
	Dividends	64031.00
	Bank Interest	0.09
	Adjustment	0.43
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b><u>64071.36</u></b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
<b>Administrative expenses:</b>		
	Bank charges etc	90.00
	Withdrawals Evelyns	53044.95
	Investment charges	14081.69
		<b>67216.64</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit of receipts over payments</b>		<b><u>-3145.28</u></b>
<b><u>Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30th September 2022</u></b>		
		2021-2022
<b>Assets</b>		
Accumulated fund brought forward 1st October 2021		1859870.14
Surplus/Deficit 2021-2022		-3145.28
Change in market value of investments		-293085.66
Initial Investment		
Accumulated fund carried forward 30 Sept 2021		<b>1563639.20</b>
<b>represented by</b>		
	CAF - Pauline Bequest Cash A/c	218.49
	Tilney Invetment	1563420.71
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>		<b>1563639.20</b>



Statement approved by the Trustees on  
and by the Trust's AGM on and signed on its behalf by:

Eileen Williamson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Penny Wilson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This report has been independently examined by David Atkinson

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_







**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

The Durham Palestine Educational Trust

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

30 September 2022

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1085097

**Set out on pages**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:** 

**Date:** 11-5-2023

**Name:** David Atkinson

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Fellow of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

**Address:** 3 Sturton Grange Mill, Warkworth, Northumberland NE65 0EZ

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).