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Lebanon Trust: what we did in 2020

Dear friends and supporters,

Because of the coronavirus, this year we have not been able to travel to Lebanon, for the first time since 2008.

The year 2020 has been difficult for everyone, but really bad for Lebanon.

A severe **economic crisis** – coupled with the **Syrian war** – has destabilised the economy. The currency has lost 80% of its value; prices have skyrocketed. Middle-class people have become poor, and the poor have become destitute. Currently, more than half of the population of the country is below the poverty line. Of the Syrian refugees, 90% live in “extreme poverty”.

The **coronavirus** has of course taken its toll in Lebanon, too, with the added tragedy of very scarce economic means.

Then, on August 4th, a terrible **explosion** killed more than 200 people, injured thousands, and inflicted billions in damage. No-one has taken responsibility for the 2750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate that had been left in the port of Beirut, without safety measures, for nearly 7 years.

In this scenario, what we can do is really a drop in the ocean. But still more than zero.

In total, we sent **25'000 dollars**, part to *FAID*, the school for deaf children that we have been supporting since 2008, and part to our partner *Association Najdeh*, working in Lebanon's refugee camps.

FAID used the funds to

- create 76 individual education packs to support students to study at home
- finance a speech therapist, who teaches the deaf children to speak and lip-read

Najdeh was able to

- prepare & distribute 256 food parcels for the neediest refugee families in the camps of Shatila and Burj El Barajneh (for a total of 1156 people)
- buy educational materials and books for the refugee children of the kindergartens we support

Lebanon Trust (Ireland) – Helping Children

In pictures: our results in Lebanon



Teaching the deaf children at FAID

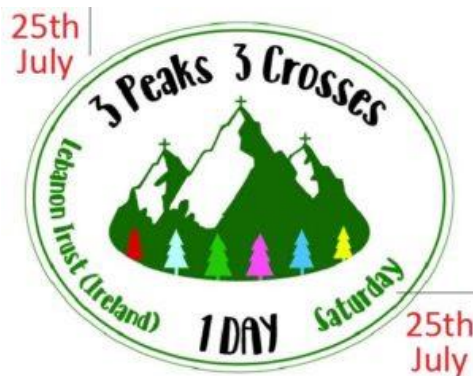


Distribution of food packages in the refugee camps, funded by us and executed by Association Najdeh

This year, given the special situation, we thought we really had a big mountain to climb in terms of raising funds. One of our friends, in fact, climbed three of them all in the same day – and raised 4'000 euro for Lebanon Trust in the process! We also had Bingo nights (great Paul!), street collections, an artist selling cat portraits, a friend donating part of her severance pay, another getting us into Amazon's charity donation scheme, and many just quietly donating. To all, a huge heartfelt THANK YOU.



The "3 Peaks 3 Crosses" Challenge by Kevin Boyle



Fundraising drive in Tralee

Donations can be made via the website (credit card, PayPal) or via bank transfer.

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Lebanon Trust (Ireland) – Helping Children

Income: donations to Lebanon Trust (Euro) (Dec 1st, 2019 - Nov 30th, 2020)

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Fundraising events & initiatives, private donations, corporate sponsorships | |
| Total | 14573.54 |

(Year close Nov 30, 2020; EUR/USD/CHF currency exchange rate: as applied by our bank in Ireland)

Expenditure: Donations to the supported institutions, expenses (Euro)

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Bank and other fees (*), web hosting & domains | 406.08 |
| Donation to FAID | 11385.93 |
| Donations to the refugee camps (Association Najdeh) | 10510.08 |
| Total | 22302.09 |
| <i>Difference</i> | <i>-7728.55</i> |

(*) Permanent TSB Forex, PayPal, JustGiving, Benevity

A donation of USD 5000 from Amazon has been arranged for next year (many thanks Mick!).

Our gratitude to the friends who helped this year (Dec 1st, 2019 - Nov 30th, 2020):

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kevin Boyle (Tralee) for his fantastic generosity & mountaineering skills All the friends who sponsored Kevin Mick Halpin & family (Dublin & USA), for their unwavering support and generosity Diederik Brasser (NL) for his generosity Patricia Meade, a truly loyal friend (USA) All the Symantec friends (Dublin) Geraldine McGrath (Dublin) St Peregrines GAA Club (Dublin), for their ongoing support Dublin Dumbbells (Dublin) Paul's Barber Shop, Crumlin (Dublin) All the generous Walkinstown friends in St Peter's Crescent and St Peter's Drive for their constant support McCormack's Cycle Centre (Dublin) O'Neill's House of Sport (Dublin) Paul Reid Dental Laboratories (Dublin) Kelly's Welding & Engineering Supplies Ltd (Dublin) Gerard Kelly (Dublin) All the lads at Bisset Engineering (Dublin) Big Mick (Dublin) Brenden & staff at Lilliput Stores (Dublin) Pat Stafford of Stafford Engineering (Dublin) Dolphin Furniture Sales (Dublin) OK Living Kitchens & Bedrooms (Dublin) ProWeld (Dublin) Griffin Digital Print (Dublin) The Terence Welding Company (Dublin) Mark Drummond | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anna Galli (Genoa, Italy) Fam. Fasciolo (Arquata Scrivia, Italy) Fabio Minotti (Lentate sul Seveso, Italy) Giorgio Margotti (Livorno, Italy) Silvana Falaschini (Livorno, Italy) Fam Zappavigna (Marina di Massa, Italy) Romilda Cocurullo (Genoa, Italy) Enrico & Lilli Bertolotto (Genoa, Italy) Fam. Parodi (Genoa, Italy) Fam. Devia (Genoa, Italy) Fam. Vigna-Mori (Savona, Italy) Stefano Cocurullo (Genoa, Italy) F & M Cocurullo & fam (Genoa, Italy) Luca Baur (Zurich, Switzerland) Iolanda Bianchi (Genoa, Italy) Fam. Aquini (Arquata Scrivia, Italy) Fam. Ricci (Arquata Scrivia, Italy) Gli Amici di Montaldero (Arquata Scr., I) Fam. Bertolotto-Della Penna (Genoa, I) Anna Dal Negro & fam. (Zurich, CH) Fam Bertolotto-Della Penna (Genoa, Italy) MC Ferraro & A Bertolotto, in loving memory of Natale Ferraro (Genoa, Italy) Ole Vossnack (Zurich, Switzerland) Fabio Minotti (Lentate sul Seveso, Italy) Adarsh Vishwanath Holly Elliott Helen O'Mahony Killian Sheehan Nathael Turcot Kalid Alkhairi Sai Prasad Veeranki Puteri Yudhita Widayawati (for Kim Jisoo) |
|--|---|

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About Lebanon Trust

“Lebanon Trust (Ireland) – Helping Children” is a Charity registered in the Republic of Ireland, granted charitable tax exemption under the provisions of Section 207 Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, under reference CHY 19091, and the status of Eligible Charity for the purposes of Section 848A Taxes Consolidation Act 1997. It is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority of Ireland, Registered Charity Number (CRA Number) 20074449.

Body of Officers:

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Chairperson Christy Kinsella | 17 Whitestown Crescent Blakestown Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, Ireland Tel. +353 85 2818869 – info@lebanontrust.org | (Also registered address) |
| Treasurer Paul Horace | 35 St Peter’s Crescent Walkinstown, Dublin 12, Ireland Tel. +353 87 2640133 – paul@lebanontrust.org | |
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| Noel Conway Adviser | 68 St John's Park Tralee Co Kerry, Ireland Tel. +353 87 7562436 – noel@lebanontrust.org | |

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