



BUILDING THE NEGEV TOWN BY TOWN

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



“
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NEGEV TOWN BY TOWN,
IMPROVING LIVES AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
THOSE IN THE REGION.
”



CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

2017 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration which paved the way for the establishment of the State of Israel. JNF was laying the foundations of this dream for over a decade before that historic declaration.

The Negev has been fundamental to Israel's future since the early days of its establishment as a state, but still remains underdeveloped. For some years, JNF UK has sought to meet that need, concentrating on projects in the region, strengthening weaker communities and enhancing established ones. We are building the Negev town by town, improving lives and opportunities for those in the region. In recent years, major transport and infrastructure advances have connected the Negev to the centre of Israel, making it an increasingly viable alternative to other major cities.

We are working on numerous projects throughout the Negev. This report details some important recent developments. There are many more ongoing projects as well as other new plans and commitments to come. I am pleased to present the highlights of our 2016 Accounts showing JNF UK in a strong and healthy financial position.

In 2016, among many other projects, we strengthened our partnership with Kiryat Malachi, where we have renovated kindergartens and a park, as well as laying the cornerstone for a new youth centre. We have continued to support Yerucham with the renovation of numerous educational and public buildings. In Arad we are building a youth centre, renovating the Oron Theatre for the entire community and upgrading the sports ground at Ofarim School.

Over the coming years, with the help of our loyal and generous donors and volunteers, to whom we are always grateful, we will continue to invest and further develop the Negev.

We will continue to build and renovate essential social and cultural facilities in underdeveloped towns and communities, improving their livelihoods. We will continue to invest in our youth, for they will one day lead our great nation. With your help, we are making history by building the future.

Samuel Hayek,
Chairman JNF UK

YERUCHAM

Yerucham, located 20 miles south east of Be'er Sheva in the Negev, has a population of around 10,000 and high levels of poverty. JNF UK is working in collaboration with many innovative organisations and the town's dynamic mayor, Michael Biton, to improve the lives of the town's residents.



The Mayor of Yerucham and JNF UK Trustees discussing their plans for the town



BUILDING AN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

JNF UK built a state-of-the-art early childhood centre to improve the prospects of families living in Yerucham. This unique centre in the region offers various therapies for early diagnosis and treatment of children with special needs. Services offered include occupational, speech and language, drama, art and various cognitive development therapies. Now, thanks to the centre, a child who might have previously been left untreated is given a real chance to thrive. A subsidised day care facility is also housed within the centre enabling mothers to return to work, therefore helping to break Yerucham's cycle of poverty.



TRANSFORMING THE MUSICAL CONSERVATORY

JNF UK is creating a ground-breaking, cutting edge conservatory to ensure that every child in Yerucham will be able to receive music lessons. Yerucham's existing music conservatory is no longer up to the job; it is old and too small to meet the current demand. JNF UK is undertaking an ambitious renovation and expansion of the conservatory, including soundproofing six rehearsal rooms, upgrading the concert hall and installing new technical equipment. A new wing will house five additional rehearsal rooms.

CREATING NEW PUBLIC GARDENS

Public gardens bring enormous benefits to a town. We believe every neighbourhood in this arid, desert town should have green, open spaces with recreation facilities and playgrounds, because many who live there do not have their own private gardens. This will improve the quality of life for residents of all ages. One of JNF UK's many renovation projects is the improvement and establishment of 10 public gardens within some of Yerucham's older neighbourhoods, where current facilities have fallen into disrepair.



KIRYAT MALACHI

With a population of 22,000, the town of Kiryat Malachi lies on the northern edge of the Negev. The town is experiencing difficult socio-economic problems and an unemployment rate triple that of the national average. In order to turn around the town's future, JNF UK is working with the municipality on an exciting programme of renovation and rejuvenation.



JNF UK's Trustees join the Mayor of Kiryat Malachi celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut at Rotem Kindergarten.



RENOVATING KINDERGARTENS

A kindergarten is a child's first step into the world of education and should be a clean and bright place, conducive to effective learning. JNF UK has updated a number of state kindergartens which were in serious need of transformation. By repainting walls, installing new air-conditioning, building new climbing frames and constructing shaded outdoor spaces, these renovations are making the quality of life drastically better for the children who rely on these services.



DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The thousands of young people who grow up in Kiryat Malachi have almost no activities and services to improve their lives. Most of them end up leaving the town. JNF UK is funding the building of a life-changing new centre for young adults which will help them into higher education, offer employment guidance, assist former soldiers with the transition into civilian life, organise community activities and help to develop local leadership. This project is particularly important for the area as it will serve an enormous section of the population, many of whom come from low socio-economic backgrounds and desperately need help.

TRANSFORMING A COMMUNITY PARK

In one of the poorest neighbourhoods of this development town, JNF UK worked in partnership with the municipality to create a new park for everyone to enjoy. This includes playgrounds, outdoor gyms and green areas which will provide essential recreational facilities for a population that lives mostly in small apartments without any outdoor space. The community park will meet their essential needs and will immeasurably improve their lives.



ARAD

The purpose built Negev town of Arad, built in 1962, is located 16 miles west of the Dead Sea. It is known for its clean, dry air but its attraction as a major centre for people with respiratory problems is in decline.

Over the last few decades Arad has suffered negative migration and a fall in jobs. A group of community-minded citizens, led by the city's new mayor, have plans to redress the balance and the support of JNF UK can be seen all over the town.



The Mayor of Arad and JNF UK Trustees, together with some of the town's young people, at the naming ceremony of the Joy Bickler Arad Youth Centre



UPGRADING A SCHOOL'S SPORTS GROUND

We are completely updating and renovating the outdoor facilities of Ye'elim-Ofarim School. The play area recently failed a safety inspection and its closure was a devastating blow to this primary school with around 400 children, aged 4 to 12. JNF UK is assisting the municipality of Arad which would otherwise not have the funds to allow the playgrounds to meet the current safety requirements. We are upgrading the play area, making it safe and adding much needed shade and greenery. We will provide the students with a new basketball ground and garden area and also create an open space where the school can conduct events.



BUILDING A YOUTH CENTRE

In order to encourage young people to fill their time with positive experiences, we have built a youth centre in the heart of Arad. This is part of our mission to help promote leadership in Israel's youth. The centre will serve 1,500 young people, including those with special needs or considered to be at-risk, by providing a safe place for them to enjoy leisure time. The late Joy Bickler was a great supporter of Israel and, through a legacy she left to JNF UK, the centre was dedicated in her name.

As well as providing an entertainment venue and giving young residents of Arad a convenient space in which to socialise, the new centre features a guidance and training area which provides a home for the city's Youth Council and a venue for IDF orientation classes.

RENOVATING THE ORON THEATRE

By renovating Arad's sole theatre, JNF UK will reinvigorate the cultural life of this remote city and re-energise its population. The Oron Theatre is used for all kinds of performances for adults and children, from movies or school plays to various cultural events. However, the theatre is old and has never been fully renovated. The stage is small, which limits the performance of big, modern productions. The cooling system is outdated and ineffective and the building does not meet modern safety standards. Moreover, the furniture is old which contributes to an overall sense of neglect. JNF UK is committed to improving these facilities and more so that the Oron Theatre can once again provide for the cultural needs of the area.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

41 NEW
PROJECTS WITH
A VALUE OF

**£6.6
MILLION**

**73 ACTIVE
PROJECTS**
IN 2016

2016 NET
INCOME
INCREASED TO

**£1.2
MILLION**

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
FIXED ASSETS	1,092	2,454
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	3,564	4,340
Cash at bank	22,594	19,168
	26,158	23,508
Creditors falling due within one year	(4,979)	(6,581)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	21,179	16,927
Creditors falling due after one year	(7,006)	(5,401)
NET ASSETS	15,265	13,980
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	8,195	6,151
Restricted funds	7,070	7,829
TOTAL FUNDS	15,265	13,980

SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2016

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
INCOME		
Donations	1,633	1,624
Legacies	2,387	4,330
Investment Income and Interest Receivable	155	348
SmartGiving Income	8,192	8,087
Other Income	50	0
TOTAL INCOME	12,417	14,389
EXPENDITURE		
Fundraising Costs of Donations and Legacies	1,317	906
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
JNF UK Funding Project Commitment in Israel	1,915	4,215
SmartGiving Donations to UK Charities	7,914	8,853
Legal Expenses	15	31
Governance Costs	17	16
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11,178	14,021
NET INCOME	1,239	368
Increase in fair value of property assets and investments	46	336
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	1,285	704
FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD	13,980	13,276
FUND BALANCES AT YEAR END	15,265	13,980



2016 PROJECT COMMITMENTS

-  **1 EMERGENCY PROJECT**
£24,000
-  **2 WELFARE PROJECTS**
£101,000
-  **8 YOUTH PROJECTS**
£366,000
-  **2 HEALTH PROJECTS**
£1.1MILLION
-  **2 EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS**
£1.1MILLION
-  **4 ENVIRONMENT PROJECTS**
£1.2MILLION
-  **11 EDUCATION PROJECTS**
£1.3MILLION
-  **11 COMMUNITY PROJECTS**
£1.4MILLION



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ANOTHER SMART WAY TO SUPPORT JNF UK

SmartGiving is an online charitable platform which enables users to manage all aspects of their charitable donations and fundraising from one convenient site. The site allows you to donate to any UK registered charity, including JNF UK.

As SmartGiving is a registered charity and fully non-profit, all net income is donated straight to JNF UK's life-changing projects in the Negev.

Whereas other charity account platforms take the administration fees as profit, SmartGiving donates its fees directly to JNF UK, ensuring that no matter who you give to, you also give to Israel.

In 2016, £113k of net income was raised for JNF UK.

To find out more or to sign up for free, please visit smartgiving.org.uk.



LIKE ERIC LINTON, YOU CAN PLAY A ROLE IN SECURING ISRAEL'S FUTURE



Eric Linton was born in Plauen, Germany. Together with his parents and siblings he managed to escape in October 1938, arriving in London where his father had business interests. Eric served in the Royal West Kent Regiment during the War. He worked first as a professional chef and then as a bookkeeper. He died in London in December 2015.

Eric's deep sense of his Jewishness and his love of Israel brought him into contact with KKL. This was a relationship which both Eric and KKL enjoyed for many years. He regarded the work of JNF UK as vital to realising the Zionist dream. Although Eric had no children of his own, he left a legacy specifically for the purpose of providing recreational and educational facilities for the children of the Negev. Through his generosity, Eric has left his indelible mark on the country.

If, like Eric, you want to play your part in securing the future of Israel, please consider leaving a legacy to JNF UK. Visit kkl.org.uk for more information.



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MAKING HISTORY BY
BUILDING THE FUTURE
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DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Samuel Hayek - Chairman
Dr Michael Sinclair - Vice-Chairman
Roy Freedman - Honorary Treasurer
David Berens - Company Secretary
Yonatan Galon - Chief Executive Officer
Guy Avshalom
David Berens
Gideon Falter
Elan Gorji
Rabbi Alan Kimche
Murray Lee
Morris Mansour
Gary Mond
Benjamin Perl MBE
Daniel Seal
Mandi Waisman
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☐ Please contact me about leaving a gift in my Will to JNF UK ☐ Please send me a Blue Box

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