



September 2010

### **An important talking point...**

On 12 September 2010, a magical moment took place in the music world that delighted many fans – Robbie Williams and Gary Barlow sang together on stage for the first time since 1995, when Take That split. Much has been written in the newspapers of their arguments and disagreements, and some had thought they would never sing together again. However, the band met up together over a year ago and has been working on new material together.

In an interview, Gary Barlow said, 'All these things had built up for so long....we just needed to sit opposite each other and talk.' Talking is key in the resolution of disputes, and that is why the Middle East peace talks currently taking place are of paramount importance. Sceptics will say that talks have happened before and nothing has changed, that the issues are too complicated and that nothing will change. However, if we look at examples of work on the ground, we know that there is a reason for hope.

[Hope Secondary School](#) in Beit Jala was founded in 1961 for the many refugee children and orphans in the Bethlehem area. It is founded on Christian principles and seeks to be a witness in the land of Christ's birth, offering love and hope to those who would otherwise have none.

Christian and Muslim students, from across the West Bank, study and live side-by-side and all the children begin their day with prayers in the Chapel. Religious education is taught separately due to it being illegal to teach non-Christian children about the Bible at school.

Hope School is a practical example of how Christ's message of love, peace and unity can be lived out day-to-day. Let's pray for opportunities to do the same in our own lives, and for those involved in peace negotiations across the world.

You can find out more about Bible*Lands* and the work of our overseas partners, including [Hope School](#), by visiting [www.biblelands.org.uk](http://www.biblelands.org.uk) or calling 01494 897950.