



HELPING HANDS: Lynne Stein and husband Dr Robbie Wolfson

Caring couple get their teeth into clinic project

★ **ARTIST LYNNE STEIN** and her husband **DR ROBBIE WOLFSON** have helped out the Dental Volunteers for Israel for nearly a decade.

The Knutsford-based couple recently visited the only free dental clinic in Israel.

Dentist Robbie volunteers his services there, while Lynne ran a workshop in the clinic's rear building, incorporating old, unwanted clothes into a piece of artwork.

The clinic treats poor Jerusalem children of all races and religions.

"We were told about DVI by PETER KURER, who volunteered there for many years," Lynne said.

"When we first went, it seemed like an unwelcoming place, aesthetically.

"There was also nothing to occupy the children while they were waiting to see the dentist.

"The perfect solution seemed to be running a continuing art work."

Lynne and the clinic's young patients have produced several wall-hangings that are now a permanent feature at the clinic.

DVI's young patients and children from Beit Shusterman, a home for abused youngsters, worked with Lynne on the bunting project.

And they were joined by 30 high school students who visited as part of Yom Ma'asim Tovim (day of good deeds).

DVI's MICHELLE LEVINE said: "The number of high school

students was slightly worrying, considering the size of our waiting room and classroom, where the activities would be going on.

"I was also worried if the students would know how to interact with the withdrawn, traumatised children.

"But they were so sweet, kind and caring with the Shusterman kids.

"The students also worked with our handyman, weeding the entire backyard and front courtyard."

Menorah Synagogue member Lynne, who has undertaken numerous public art commissions, has had her work featured on BBC television and radio and in books and magazines.

She has also received financial support from the Arts Council, the Baring Foundation and others.

"It was great to see all the smiling faces at the clinic when we were doing the project," Lynne recalled.

"The bunting will be put up permanently at Beit Shusterman.

"Initially, I did have worries about introducing art workshops into the clinic as I thought it might be too much of an intrusion.

"But now the clinic waiting room is somewhere fun and pleasurable, rather than being a place where patients are anxious about visiting."

Next year, she hopes to start an art project involving Holocaust survivors in Israel.



JOINING IN: Participants in Lynne's art project at the dental clinic