

ANNUAL REPORT 2018—2019

Introduction

Our first AGM was held on 13 November 2018. At this meeting we adopted a constitution and elected a Managing Committee (*max 12 people*) which will be in place for two years then renewed by election.

The AGM set a membership fee £5.00 per year for those wishing to support the Link.

Administration

The Committee, with others has met 6 times during the year to plan events and oversee projects.

A Bank Account has been set up with the Unity Trust Bank

The Website (*below*) has been developed and is regularly up-dated.

Finance

We have a current balance of £2297.28

Income:

Donations: £1763.93

Subs: £ 25.00

Events: £2287.50

Sales: £ 236.00

Transfers £ 826.07

Expenditure

Events £ 548.02

Website £ 327.86

Palestine goods £ 257.34

Projects £1527.00
(*inc Aida camp*)

Charges £ 60.00



Aida Refugee Camp summer camp at the Youth Center offered places to 120 Palestinian children. We were delighted to be able to send a donation.

Highlights of the year

November - inaugural meeting at St Anselm's Church.

December - we ran a stall with Palestinian goods at St Anselm's Church

March - we hosted the film Gaza Dreams at the Cinema Museum.

Around 60 people attended and the film's Editor, Linda Sills and Director Christina Garabedian joined us for a valuable discussion on the difficulties of living for people where crossing borders is a daily challenge and freedom of movement is severely curtailed. The challenges of making the film were described and the impact of working with people whose lives have become fragile and worn by siege and war.

April - four of our members took part in a delegation to Palestine to strengthen links with partners and learn about the current situation. (*overleaf*)

July - we ran a very successful Quiz Night at St Anselm's, our first fund-raiser, for the Aida Refugee Camp Youth Center. (*overleaf*)

Managing Committee

Steve Adamson (Vice-Chair)

Suzette Aagaard

Pauline Carroll

Mark Dickens

Pat Gaffney (Chair)

Stephen Hoare (Sec)

Stevland Kellman

Gill Lucas

Chris Marsh

Rachel Phillips

Nick Rampley

Miranda Townsend

(*From November 2018*)

Visit to Bethlehem



April 2019 visit to Bethlehem.

l-r Steve Adamson, Miranda Townsend, the Mayor of Bethlehem, Sarah Hopkins and Patrick Tatham.

Our team traveled with Travel2Palestine in the company of several other local groups exploring ways of twinning between UK and Palestinian towns.

They met with the Mayor of Bethlehem and had briefings on the current situation from the UN Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (OCHA) and the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD)

A link was established between the Archbishop Sumner School in Kennington and the Dar Al Kalima Lutheran School in Bethlehem. This school has 393 students and in July the first SKYPE call took place between students from each school.

Some of the group participated in an important conference held in Nablus with the Britain Palestine Friendship & Twinning Network

Fundraising success

Our Quiz Night raised £1492 for the Aida Camp Youth Center in Bethlehem. Members of our group had visited the Center in April. We were grateful for the support of many local businesses who contributed towards the event and on the night we shared Palestinian food and sold Palestinian goods.

This summer the Youth Center ran a 10-day summer camp for more than 120 children in Bethlehem. Activities included music, drama, art. They were also able to enjoy themselves on a visit to a swimming pool in Hebron.

We look forward to closer links with the Center in the year ahead.



Follow us and support us

Visit our website and read more about our earlier work, reports on our visits, the project at the Aida Refugee camp and other up-dates from Bethlehem.

Become a member (just £5.00 a year) and be kept in touch with our events and news via email and open meetings.

Make regular or one-off donations to support our work.

Banking details for fees/donations

Kennington Bethlehem Link

Unity Trust Bank

Sort code: 60-83-01 Account No 20410706

(Please email us if you pay direct so that we can keep track!)

Contact us : kennington.beth@gmail.com

WWW.kenningtonbethlehem.org.uk