



CADFA update 10th May 2011

هذه فرصة لتوزيع على أعضاء أجمع فكم نأمل أن نرى الجميع في لندن
فأبوابنا مفتوحة دائماً فترجمة مضموننا الرجاء التوصل مع
دارالصلوة

أمال abudis@camdenabudis.net - Please pass to your friends

INCLUDES: House of Lords meal FINAL CHANCE – Friends of CADFA - Bedouin evictions – Child prisoners – Children's visit – Volunteering / visiting Abu Dis in the summer – Open meeting next Tuesday – Teachers' visit reportback – summer stalls and activities – Student visit in the autumn

Pictures from the teachers' visit – Abu Dis Girls explain about their school / Finding work from Camden in the UNRWA school, Abu Dis/ Home-made food at Dar Assadaqa / Teachers working together in schools / Planning future school links/ Finding out about the Occupation



NEXT WEDNESDAY 18th May - HOUSE OF LORDS DINNER AND MUSICAL EVENING FOR FRIENDS OF CADFA – LAST CHANCE –

A very special opportunity with **Baroness Jenny Tonge**, music by **Simon Hewitt Jones (violin)**, **Drew Balch (viola)** and **Nizar al-Issa (oud)**. We have a few places left to go for people who become Friends of CADFA (see next page**) or for people who can pay £160.

We have to give in final numbers by Friday so this is your last chance.

*People who help rescue the work we are doing by telling their friends/ colleagues about us and finding us £60 in new monthly standing orders. Thank you very much to those who are doing this. – you really are great Friends of CADFA.

BEDOUIN IN ABU HINDI VALLEY – Those of you at our conference in early April were moved by the film of Bedouin children living on Abu Dis land between the settlements of Maale Adumim and Qidar. They had suffered ongoing harassment by the settlers and Israeli military. We have news that the **threatened house-demolitions are a step closer**. We are consulting on ways to take action on this.

CHILD PRISONERS AND LETTERS

Many thanks to the approx 800 of you who have already signed our letter (attached to this again). We have decided to extend collection time for these letters and to present them during the youth visit, as one of the kids coming was himself imprisoned at the age of thirteen, another has had two brothers in prison and a third has a brother still in prison. They would like to be involved in this. We are organising a time for them to be presented to our Foreign Office via our MPs and to the European Parliament via one of our MEPs. *If you are able to, please do collect more signatures and send them in.*



CHILDREN'S VISIT – We are well under way now with planning our 6th Palestinian youth visit to Camden. Ten children will come in June and the visit will have an environmental theme. Most of the children are from the Dar Assadaqa Environment Club and two are from Jenin (because of our new partnership with the Tower Hamlets Jenin twinning group).



It is great to have a team of helpers including people who have been with us for years and many new faces. There is a lot to do – accommodation/ cooking/ driving/ arranging events/ running workshops/ accompanying children... We also have a lot of money to raise (for example we are given 70% of their airfares by Youth in Action but it leaves us needing to pay

over £2000 just on that...). We need your help therefore if you would like to give it – pls be in touch.

CAMDEN KIDS – If you know Camden young people (especially aged around 14) who would like to be involved in the Palestinian children’s visit, please let us know – We are having a first meeting for the Camden group on Thursday 12th May.

YET ANOTHER PROBLEM – This year we are struck by the number of different sorts of papers the kids bring and the complications. The kids are all Palestinian but they include people categorised as Jerusalem residents, West Bankers, and one child [Palestinian] with Israeli papers - A typical Palestinian problem that they will explain when they come... They cannot all travel together or come the same way.

VOLUNTEERING IN ABU DIS THIS SUMMER.

Please see attached for further information about the summer camp in Abu Dis + send us a letter if interested. We will be meeting with applicants next Tuesday evening (see below) but would like to applications in advance if possible.

VISIT TO ABU DIS AND THE WEST BANK.

Please let us know if you might be interested in a visit to Abu Dis/ tour of the West Bank/ possibly a cooking- (as well as human rights-) themed visit (tbc) in the last week of July. We have nearly got enough people interested to be able to confirm very soon so that air tickets can be bought well in advance.

OPEN MEETING ON TUESDAY 17TH MAY.

(As usual on the third Tuesday of the month at Torriano Meeting House, 99 Torriano Avenue, NW5.) Our meeting will focus on VOLUNTEERING WITH CADFA, the CHILDREN’S VISIT + the CHILD PRISONER CAMPAIGN.

TEACHERS’ VISIT REPORTBACK:

The visit by Camden teachers to Abu Dis schools in April was a great success and teachers in schools across the borough are working now on following it up with meetings, exhibitions, materials exchanges and curriculum work together. This is to invite you to a reportback meeting to hear their experiences.

Thursday 26th MAY in the TDC, second floor, Crowndale Centre.

Shereen and Bahir's sponsored triathlon for CADFA

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=cadfa&isTeam=true>

We really appreciate the efforts of people in raising money to sponsor CADFA. We have lots of energetic people – recently Ben ran a half-marathon to raise money for the Shehadeh Mohsen Diabetic Clinic, Katy lost lots of weight in a sponsored slim, and now Shereen and Bahir are taking part in a Triathlon... Good for them and many thanks. Please do sponsor them if you can.

(Use link above)

TWINNING WITH PALESTINE. CADFA continues to be active in promoting/ supporting twinning links between other places in Britain + Palestine. We played a big part in the Twinning conference in Bristol in November and also in the Palestinian one in Ramallah in April. If you live/ work in another part of the country and would be able to give some support to developing a local group, do let us know.

SUMMER STALLS:

CADFA needs help on stalls including...

London Green Fair – 4th and 5th June
Hampstead School International Fair – Weds 15th June
Fair in the Square, Highgate – Sat 18th June
Gospel Oak School International Fair – 1st July
Camden New Town Festival – 17th July
... please offer! And tell us of other fairs we should be at.

AUTUMN STUDENT VISIT FROM AL QUDS UNIVERSITY ABU DIS. Early warning! If you are a Camden student or academic pls do get in touch.

Are you a member of CADFA? This is being sent to our big mailing list so getting this doesn't show that you are. We would like you to be! If in doubt, ask us! We hope you will join us if you haven't already.

Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association

CADFA, PO Box 34265, London NW5 2WD

Tel + fax 0845 458 1167

contact@camdenabudis.net www.camdenabudis.net

Charity number 1112717