

Hanwell Friends of Sabastiya

أصدقاء هانويل سبسطية 'حفصة'

Bulletin – August 2019

hafsa.org.uk

1. Brentford Festival in Blondin Park, Northfields on Sunday 1st September, 12pm-6pm

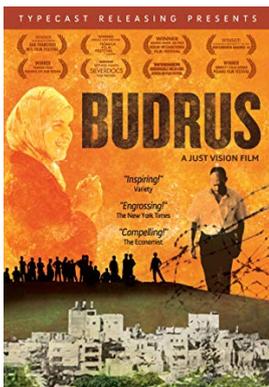
We are looking forward to our stall at the Brentford Festival and hope to see you there! Volunteers, as well as donations of tombola prizes, good books and various homemade cakes would be most welcome.

Please bring early on the day, or contact Marjorie Kelly to deposit or volunteer: 07960 804650 (texts preferred), 0208 5678655 or mjkelly31506@gmail.com

2. Screening of 'Budrus' film in Northfields Community Centre on Sunday 13th October, 2pm

You are invited to a film screening of 'Budrus', about a community organiser bringing together Palestinian and Israeli activists in non-violent protest against Israel's Separation Wall.

Entrance is £5 and drinks and snacks will be available to purchase. Duration: 1 hr, 22 minutes.



'A timely testimony to the power of peaceful resistance' – Total Film

'This involving film is an eye-opener' – The Guardian

'This is documentary storytelling of rare quality' – The Independent

3. Visit to Sabastiya in Autumn 2019

A group from HAFSA will visit Sabastiya in October 2019. If you would like to visit, please get in touch soon at: hanwellfriendsofsabastiya@gmail.com

4. HAFSA' 9th Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday 1st February 2020, 3pm at Saint Thomas' Church, Boston Manor. More details to follow.

5. Greetings on Eid al Adha

Greetings and best wishes to our members and friends in Palestine on the holiday of Eid al Adha.

6. HAFSA greetings cards

Saadeh George and Thuraiya Muhammed have kindly designed some beautiful greetings cards to raise money for HAFSA.

The Madonna card includes the words 'Christmas Greetings' inside whilst the others are blank inside.

They are available for £1.50 each or in packs of 5 for £5, and can be purchased by contacting:
+ Marjorie 07960 804650 (texts preferred), 0208 5678655 or mjkelly31506@gmail.com
+ Cathie kataskata53@hotmail.com



7. Sabastiya update

The nearby illegal Israeli settlement of Shavei Shomron is again releasing sewerage onto Sabastiya's farm lands.

Villagers have formed a committee and are challenging the issue with the Israeli authorities, as they did on previous occasions and during the successful protests of 2013.

If the problem continues over the coming weeks, the committee will begin a campaign and HAFSA members may be asked to write to MPs and decision makers. Watch this space!

Meanwhile, extensive work is underway to renovate 'al Baydar', the large open space near the archaeological site in the village.



Below: an aerial photograph of Sabastiya showing the area near the archaeological site and the centre of the village, recently featured on the Facebook page of Al Fajer TV.



The Palestinian Authority and Belgian Government are working together to preserve the area and improve it for tourism.

The project is thankfully continuing despite attempts by the Israeli army to disrupt the work, which is in 'Area B' (joint Israeli security and Palestinian civil control) under the Oslo Accords.

8. Thyme by the River Brent!



Our annual summer social event raised over £800 thanks to the generosity of members, friends and family who came along to enjoy the riverside location and support our fundraising efforts.

Over 50 people enjoyed a beautiful summer evening of good conversation, food, drink, live music, canoe rides and a quiz. Thank you to all who kindly donated food, drinks, raffle prizes and greetings cards for HAFSA to sell – all proceeds will support our za'atar project in Sabastiya.

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