



Nine women from Palestine

Report on the Twinning Network Women's Visit for international Women's Day March 2008

- Report
- Map of the journeys
- Programme
- Questionnaire for visitors
- Evaluation form for visitors

Idea

The Britain-Palestine Twinning Network formed from a conference in September 2005, and has steadily grown since then. Its main activities have been supporting the growth of new twinning groups and running conferences. The network has organised several group visits to Palestine and individual twinning groups had organised visits from their twinning partners to Britain, but the idea of a jointly-run national twinning visit to Britain was new.

The idea to bring women from twinning partners all over Palestine to Britain at the same time came up at the end of November at our annual conference. We were encouraged by the Palestinian delegation representative who was at the conference and thought they might be able to help find money for the visit, so we put the plan into action straight away.

Aim

The visit had the following aims:

- To spread awareness of the human rights situation in Palestine - in other words to tell as many people as possible what is going on in Palestine, and specially to encourage people who are new to this issue to be active about it
- To bring women from twinning groups in Palestine to meet with their partners in the twinning groups in England so they can work with them to build and extend the Britain-Palestine twinning work in England and to discuss together next steps in their twinning links
- In particular to develop women's links between Britain and Palestine as part of wider twinning links
- To promote twinning/ friendship links between Britain and Palestine including encouraging the development of new twinning links
And to help bring the twinning network work together.

We hoped that each public meeting would include

- a chance for a number of women to speak about their experiences, including telling about life under Israeli occupation and the human rights situation for Palestinians.
- a speaker to talk about the local twinning links and/ or a speaker from the Twinning Network to explain what twinning and friendship links can do

Groups involved & who came

Women came from all over the West Bank (Gaza was not possible) and travelled from south to north of England. It did not prove possible this time to include Scotland or Wales though both were discussed – and next time we hope!

The following twinning groups were involved in bringing visitors:

Exeter (Hebron)
Camden (Abu Dis)
Tower Hamlets (Jenin)
Haringey (Aizaria)
St Alban's (Hussan)
Watford (Salfeet)
Luton (Battir)
Walsall (Kobar)

Birmingham (Ramallah)
Staffordshire University (Hebron Polytechnic)
West Lancashire (Al Walajah)
Pendle (Beit Leed)
Nottingham (Jenin)
Leeds (Hebron)
LSE (An Najah Uni)
Manchester University (An Najah Uni)
Leeds University (Birzeit University)

There were people from other twinning groups involved as well:

South-East London (Beit Fourik)
Islington (Yibna)
Oxford (Ramallah)
St Alban's (Hussan)

And the women were welcomed to meetings in even more places.

Here is a list of the public meetings that they did:

Thursday 6th March
Oxford University 8pm, Wadham College,
Friday 7th March
Exeter University 11-12 M&D Room, Devonshire House
Friday 7th March
Exeter 7pm, Phoenix Arts Centre
Saturday 8th March
London Million Women Rise, Trafalgar Square
Palestinian women on the platform at 4pm
Saturday 8th March
Bromley – 2pm contact us for address
Saturday 8th March
Tower Hamlets 6-10 pm, Brady Arts Centre 192-196 Hanbury St (Vallance Road end) nr
Whitechapel tube
Sunday 9th March
Camden – 1pm Somers Town Community Centre, Ossulston Street NW1 .
Monday 10th March
London School of Economics 1pm in room S50
Monday 10th March
University College London - 3pm in lecture theatre 1, Cruciform Building, UCL, Gower
Street
Monday 10th March
School of Oriental and African Studies, 5pm London
Monday 10th March
Luton -7pm – Bury Park Community Centre
Monday 10th March
Watford - 7.30 – Trade union hall, Woodford Road, WD17 1PB
Tuesday 11th March
Staffordshire University, Stoke on Trent -12 noon, Boardroom, Students' Union
Tuesday 11th March
Manchester 6.30 venue tbc
Tuesday 11th March
Birmingham – 7pm Council House
Wednesday 12th March
Nottingham – 7pm Bass Management Centre Nottingham Trent University Goldsmith Street
Wednesday 12th March
Leeds University –12 noon, mtg room 2, ARC Students' Union

Wednesday 12th March
Walsall time and venue tbc
Wednesday 12th March
Leeds 7.30 venue tbc
Thursday 13th March
Manchester University
1-2 pm, Gender research network- Humanities Centre Bridgeford Street 1.69/1.70
5pm Biko's Café, Steve Biko Building, Manchester Student Union
Thursday 13th March
Blackburn – meeting at Blackburn College
Thursday 13th March
Pendle - 7.30 pm Brierfield Community Centre,
Friday 14th March
Ormskirk 7.30 Church Hall (contact 01704 889069 for details)
Friday 14th March
York 12.00 noon at the Spurriergate Centre
(at the Ouse Bridge end of Coney Street)
Friday 14th March
Pendle – meeting at Nelson and Colne College
Saturday 15th March
Manchester twinning meeting and lunch
10.30 am – 2pm Safad Restaurant, Whitworth Street,
behind coach station.

The women who came

Occupation + place

Student - Al Quds University, Abu Dis (a student from Bethlehem)
Student - Al Quds Open University, Salfeet
Student - An Najah University, Nablus,
Nurse - Beit Leed, Tulkarem District
Social worker - Beit Leed, Tulkarem District
Social worker in health committee - Ramallah
School secretary - Aizariyeh
Agricultural engineer – Jenin
* Human rights worker from Al Walaja invited – tickets bought etc but unable to come as sister very ill *

Note on the selection of participants

The women were chosen in different ways by their twinning partners and by the co-ordinating team. There was no suggestion that they should be able to speak good English – we planned to get interpreters if needed – because although it is really good to have educated English-speakers it is also useful to have people who represent other parts of society. In the event we had a wide spread of different people. We arranged for them to meet before they came and to travel together, and by the time they arrived they had already formed themselves into a good team!

Organisation, main phases

The Network committee asked Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association to take the lead on the national organisation. CADFA used its links in Abu Dis to help organise visas and preparation meetings for the Palestinian women and

in England communicated by phone and email with a lead person from the committee to organise the visits in each host place.

The main parts of the preparation were

- Communicating with the twinning network as a whole
- Getting commitment from groups to host visitors
- Bids for funding (unfortunately the Palestinian delegation proved unable to help)
- Setting up occasional newsletters for English groups (called “updates” – went up to number 9)
- Working with groups in Palestine to get guests identified, invitation letters, liaison with consulate, tickets bought etc
- Setting up occasional newsletters for Palestinians with information about the trip (called??? – went up to number 6)
- Questionnaire for Palestinian participants and reminders (6 of the 9 returned them)
Building and working on the programme in England (went into about 14 drafts) and sending them to the group of hosts and the final one to the Palestinian visitors too
- Making a map for Palestinian visitors – England with routes, London boroughs
- Sending questionnaire and information about visitors coming to them to English hosts
- Making a leaflet for the national tour with a space for each group to add its own information
- Distributing the leaflet
- Doing a draft press release so that each group could seek publicity
- Organising pre-travel meeting in Palestine, answering questions to Palestinian visitors,
- Researching travel and cheapest routes, buying tickets
- Liaising with each host group about public meetings, hosts, travel etc
- Checking who would be with each group at which stage
- Encouraging people to write reports on each day, setting up a blog
- Induction meeting and travel pack for each Palestinian

Programme

The final version of the programme is attached as an appendix. The main thoughts that guided this were:

The need for the whole group to

- be together at least at the beginning, middle and end of the visit
- have clear information about the aims of the trip and what they would be doing, an induction at the beginning, an evaluation at the end
- be looked after, with someone with them always
- and able to link to other groups

the need for each visitor to

- do a public meeting at the place that had invited them

- to have clear time off to rest
- not to do too much travelling (we knew there had to be travelling)

Once it was established which groups would be bringing people, there was a jigsaw puzzle to be done and it was solved by putting people into two groups after the initial induction (at Heathrow airport!) and then in three groups for the rest of the journey, so people each did some of the meetings and some of the travelling, not all of it.

We did try and cut travelling by seeing if we could afford the cost of people flying into Heathrow and out of Manchester, but as no extra funding was forthcoming, we had to bring people back to London by train.

Blog – <http://women2008.blogspot.com>

We set up a blog hoping that it would make communication (including of photographs) very easy during the visit itself, but a lot of people found it very hard to start using; some people forwarded things to be put on the blog; some groups didn't manage to get on to the blog at all. It certainly was nice to read other people's reports.

We also encouraged every group to take part in writing reports of what happened, asking different people to put something on the blog every day – and many of them did, or sent contributions by email. These can still be seen on the blog.

Follow-up

We had a meeting in Manchester after the public meetings were over, with all the women but one (Sharifa had gone early to speak on behalf of the delegation at the anti-War rally), and did a full spoken evaluation of the visit with the women and some of the twinning groups then.

After the women left, the considerations were

- Continuing to encourage people to contribute to the trip so we could balance the books
- Evaluating how it had gone
- Feeding this back to the twinning networks in Britain and in Palestine
- Action arising from the lessons of the trip – see conclusion

In addition, each twinning group has its own list of activities to do as follow-up to really make the most of the trip.

We sent evaluation forms to every twinning network group and to all the women visitors and we asked the women to write reports of the visit. On both sides, we had full and careful answers from some, shorter from others and no answers at all from others - as is the way of things. But overall we had masses of feedback.

Finances

Income was as below: **£7,962**

Expenditure was **£8061.31** (this is central expenditure). But do see note (*) below.

Tower Hamlets	£888
Pendle	£1,600
Exeter	£400
Luton	£400
West Lancs	£400
Haringey	£800
Nottingham	£400
Birmingham	£400
Watford	£400
Leeds students	£400
Donation	£37
CADFA	£1,137
Manchester students	£300
Walsall donation	£150
Staffordshire students	£200
LSE students	£50
	£7,962

(*) Financial outcome

In the end, £420 was returned from the unused air fare..

There was therefore about **£320 surplus** on the trip, and after consideration it was decided that the Network would keep this money on the understanding that each of the ten town-twinning groups that paid for visitors (bold in list above) will be deemed to have paid their membership for next year in advance. The Network committee also thanks them for participating in a great trip that really promoted twinning.

Notes on funding for the future

The real costs of the visit were higher.

- (1) Host groups put in money for food etc that is not accounted for here; though some may have covered this from donations and entrances to meetings etc, which most of them also kept
- (2) Management costs though hidden were huge. At central level it represented on average half a week's work per week over three and a half months plus further work in Palestine and by full-time escorts during the visits. If these things depend on people staying out of work to sustain our visit it is a massive subsidy that we can not depend on in the future.

Further notes on fundraising:

- We worked hard to create liaisons between groups to raise £800 per visitor person between two places where possible
- We were extremely careful about transport costs and buying them well in advance helped.
- Money came in slowly so we had to depend on a big loan from one of our members - thank you very much for this.
- There was a big variation in the amounts put in by different groups and some new groups were extremely unrealistic about the costs of bringing a visitor.
- We were dismayed to find that in two cases, groups promised funding and then, after people had been invited, changed their offer. There was no way we were going to withdraw the offer in Palestine and discredit the whole network. (One of them later made it up)
- We hoped to return an amount from central funding towards local costs based on numbers hosted and length of time – this wasn't possible owing to transport costs though we have later credited the town-twinning groups with their membership for next year (see page 7).
- We paid CADFA a sum for management that was unrealistically low.
- We perhaps misread the enthusiasm for the idea on the part of a representative of the Palestinian Delegation when it was raised at the November conference, and foolishly thought there might be some help; we were very disappointed that they were not able to help.
- The estimate that we made and gave them was as follows:
 - **Participant costs** (including British visas, travel to Amman, flights to Britain, outings, food and incidental expenses for a week) @ £800 x 8 participants = **£6400**
 - **Management costs** (Preparation for the visit from December 07 on, including liaison and organisation as above, press links and dissemination after the visit, full-time visit leadership when they are here, hire of public halls and film equipment, transport within Britain, phone calls and admin costs) =**£3500**,
ie a total of £9900.
- We learned that our estimate of costs was too low. Our estimate for management was modest given the time it took – but we were not successful in raising it anyway.

Evaluation

People had different high spots – the women speaking at the women's demo, the contribution at the Stop the War demo, particular local meetings, local outings or breakthroughs. People remembered different funny bits (for the visitors, dogs in coats...) and tired bits and had drawn different lessons for their groups in the future. People had made friends and enjoyed themselves and were pleased with the public response to the visit.

Overall, evaluation by visitors, participants, host groups was overwhelmingly positive.

This first joint twinning visit was (judged immediately after it) a great success in terms of the aims that were set for it.

Established twinning groups enjoyed having visitors, new ones were heartened by the experience, the idea of twinning reached new places.

Many new links were made in twinning places, new ideas for pushing forward the twinning, articles in papers and on radio reached new audiences, friends were made.

It was useful for many twinning groups to have the full benefit of a visit (and often several people for a meeting) for only a day or two, leaving putting the wider arrangements hosting of a visit to others.

It was very good to have the student twinning movement and the town twinning movement working so well in co-operation.

The visit was well-organised, drew on a lot of experience of running local twinning visits and so ran smoothly. Pre-meetings, induction and evaluation meetings and solid back-up through the visit were all important. There are a lot of fantastic co-operative people in the twinning network and a huge sense of good will and collective endeavour.

Most groups were impressed by the thoroughness of the information their lead person was sent during the planning period. One group did not get all the information it needed on time.

The women visitors enjoyed it immensely and were heartened by it. They have gone back with the resolve of working to build the twinning network in Palestine.

To think about for another time:

- (1) Costing – see above
- (2) What do we do if people are ill? Should we be building in insurance costs? (This time one person needed a dentist).
- (3) It was a good idea to send out a questionnaire to visitors in advance, but some didn't return it, and a couple of groups did not get useful information they needed. Perhaps this should be made a condition of coming!
- (4) Some of the chosen visitors did not all know much about their twinning groups before they came. We organised a meeting for them which they found useful but we hope next time that their own twinning groups can support them more in this (though they will still appreciate meeting each other) and also help them get the needed papers, questionnaires and reports completed on time.

- (5) Probably similarly, in England, people's work and other pressures make things come in slowly. People have talked about press coverage and undoubtedly have photos but very few of them are so far pooled.
- (6) We must remember to tell people (specially if rail travel is planned) to travel light!
- (7) We built in rest time to our programme (see attached) and where it got whittled away it was unfair to the women. There was a temptation for each group to cram too much into their allotted time with the visitors!
- (8) How can we get better central press coverage for such a great event?

Conclusion

The visit has pushed forward the aims of the twinning movement and the individual groups. New links were made between twinning places that co-operated on the visit. It has left the twinning movement in a stronger position and we should build on it. It would be very exciting to do further joint visits. They need to be similarly smoothly run. It would be good to go to different places if possible. The lack of funding from outside was a serious problem and we were disappointed about this.

Careful central co-ordination is a huge amount of work, and this time it was not properly paid for. The twinning movement needs to seek more solid organisation and finances. We should do this sort of visit again and if possible on a regular basis, because this was excellent, heartening, educational and showed what both twinning with Palestine and working in a network can be all about.

Nandita Dowson.

**Twinning Network
Women's Visit
for International Women's Day 2008**

Programme

This programme is done in separate groups in this order:

RED

Rawan, student from Al Quds Uni in Abu Dis

Shatha, student from Al Quds Open Uni in Salfet

Imtethal, student from An Najah Uni in Nablus

Sharifa, works in a society for disabled children in Hebron

GREEN

Manal, agricultural engineer from Jenin

Wasfia, social worker and head of women's organisation from Beit Leed

Rawia, nurse from Beit Leed

BLACK

Rana teacher from Aizariya

Thureyah, social worker in Palestinian Health Relief - from Ramallah

Students: **Rawan, Shatha, Imtethal**

Date	Programme	Travel arrangements	Accompanied by	Stay
Thursday 6th March	Arrive Heathrow at 14.45 terminal 3, RJ 111 from Amman Meet Nandita and Pauline C Brief welcome meeting. Travel to Oxford 7pm eat 8pm student meeting Wadham	Coach to Oxford	Nandita Remember packs, food, Oyster cards	Wadham College, Oxford
Friday 7th March	Visit Oxford with Tony To Exeter To the sea at Dawlish Exeter town – social event 7pm Phoenix Arts Centre	Train to Exeter (change at Reading) 1pm -3.20 To Dawlish: 3.50-4.02	Nandita	Exeter Jannettja, Sarah Lizi, Mary
Saturday 8th March	Train to London Met by London people Bags back to home base Pauline to meet at station Imtethal go with Sharifa and Pauline to International Women's Day event 2pm Bromley TBC Lunch –if weather is good, in Hyde Park 2 – 2.15 pm Meet Palestinian Ambassador Prof Manuel Hassassian at the Palestinian Trade Fair at the Arab British Chamber of Commerce, 43 Upper Grosvenor Street W1K 2NJ 4pm Trafalgar Square, speak at International Women's Day event; 6pm Tower Hamlets evening event – meeting, eating, meeting Host groups take the women back	Exeter- London 9.54-12.30 Eve, Lynda, Miriam to meet with car Eve bring food 436 bus from stop H Paddington 94 bus from Marble Arch District line Embankment to Whitechapel With hosts	Nandita Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola Hayet (Pauline) From Traf Sq: Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola Nandita, Claire collect	Camden With Eve, Jane, Hayet
Sunday 9th March	Eve + Jane take to London Eye Meet Haringey group 10 am London Eye and do River Thames and London tourism; 1-4.30pm - Somers Town Community Centre Parliament Hill to see the view and visit to Nandita's Dinner with Hayet and Jane Turkish Restaurant in Great Portland Street	Nandita take to Euston	Shuma and others Hayet and Jane	Camden With Eve, Jane, Hayet
Monday 10th March	All get to Hayet's for 11 am 11.30 meet Mike and Keith from Watford main entrance to the	91 bus	Hayet, Nandita	Camden With Eve, Jane,

	LSE Old Building entrance in Houghton Street - return by 12.45 1pm to 2pm LSE St Clements Building room S50 2.45 -4.30 (talk 3-4) UCL Cruciform Building, Lecture Theatre 1, Gower Street 4.45 meet Mas 5-6 pm SOAS Palestinian cultural evening at SOAS 6-9 pm	Bus Walk Nandita collect	Lubna	Hayet
Tuesday 11th March	Eve + David collect with bags and drop at Euston Staffordshire University meeting 12 noon, boardroom, students' union followed by meetings with student journalists and twinned. Visit to Gladstone pottery museum Manchester town meeting, 7pm, Falafel Restaurant,	Meet 9.30 Euston Ticket Office Euston- Stoke 10.05-11.40 Stoke- Manchester about 5.30pm Manchester- Leeds	Nandita	Leeds
Wednesday 12th March	Morning free Leeds University meeting 12 noon, mtg room 2, ARC Students' Union. Leeds town meeting, Leeds Trades Union Centre 88 North Street, Leeds, LS2 7PN	---	Nandita	Leeds
Thursday 13th March	Manchester arrive about 10 am Bangladeshi women's group 1-2 Manchester University Seminar humanities building 5pm Biko's café, UM Student Union	Day return to Manchester	Anan	Leeds
Friday 14th March	York tourism and meeting 12.00 noon at the Spurriergate Centre (at the Ouse Bridge end of Coney Street)	Day return to York	Nandita Jean	Leeds
Saturday 15th March ** All join for meeting together	End of visit meeting and debrief in Manchester – twinning groups invited; meeting at 10.30 followed by lunch at Safad Restaurant, Whitworth Street Back to London Meal at Diwana's - Action Palestine students will come Hayet and Una join, back to rest.	Leeds to Manchester 8.40-9.37 Manchester – London 2.40 to 5.40	Nandita	Camden With Una and Hayet
Sunday 16th March	Day out – social – shopping – as needed Evening meal – venue tbc	---	Shuma, Una, Katherine Hayet	Camden

Monday 17th March	Paddington for lunch together at 12.00 Isfahan restaurant, tbc Leave Paddington at 1.30 to be at Heathrow at 2.30 and get flight RJ 112 at 14.25	Paddington to Heathrow, use return tickets	Local groups.	Amman
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Sharifa

Date	Programme	Travel arrangements	Accompanied by	Stay
Thursday 6th March	Arrive Heathrow Meet Nandita and Pauline. Brief welcome meeting. Travel to Exeter	Exeter – Paddington, Paddington – Exeter 18.36 – 9.15	Pauline	Exeter Jannettja, Sarah Lizi, Mary
Friday 7th March	School visits, university, lunch Rest, visit the sea at Dawlish + meet with others, above (**) Exeter town – social event 7pm Phoenix Arts Centre	---	Lizi / Nandita	Exeter Jannettja, Sarah Lizi, Mary
Same as Shatha, Imtethal and Rowan till Saturday 15 th .				
Saturday 15th March * All join for meeting together	End of visit meeting and debrief in Manchester – twinning groups invited; meeting at 10.30 followed by lunch at Safad Restaurant, Whitworth Street Back to London Join the Haringey group	Leeds to Manchester 8.40-9.37 Manchester – London 2.40 to 5.40	Nandita Haringey group	Haringey
Sunday 16th March	Day out – social – shopping – as needed	---	Haringey group	Haringey
Monday 17th March	Paddington for lunch together at 12.00 Isfahan restaurant, tbc Leave Paddington at 1.30 to be at Heathrow at 2.30 and get flight RJ 112 at 4.25	Paddington to Heathrow, use return tickets	Local groups.	Amman

Rana Thureyah				
Thursday 6th March	Arrive Heathrow Meet Nandita and Pauline. Brief welcome meeting. Travel to Exeter	Exeter – Paddington, Paddington – Exeter 18.36 – 9.15	Pauline	Exeter
Friday 7th March	School visits, university, lunch Rest, visit the sea at Dawlish + meet with others, above (**) Exeter town – social event 7pm Phoenix Arts Centre	---	Lizi / Nandita	Exeter
Saturday 8th March	Train to London Met by London people Bags back to home base Lunch –if weather is good, in Hyde Park 2 – 2.15 pm Meet with Palestinian Ambassador Prof Manuel Hassassian at the Palestinian Trade Fair at the Arab British Chamber of Commerce, 43 Upper Grosvenor Street W1K 2NJ 4pm Trafalgar Square, speak at International Women’s Day event; 6pm Tower Hamlets evening event – meeting, eating, meeting Host groups take the women back	Exeter- London 9.54-12.30 Eve, Lynda, Miriam to meet with car Eve bring food 436 bus from stop H Paddington 94 bus from Marble Arch District line Embankmen t to Whitechapel With hosts	Nandita Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola Hayet (Pauline) From Traf Sq: Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola Claire collect	Haringey
Sunday 9th March	Meet Camden group 10 am London Eye and do River Thames and London tourism; 1-4.30pm - Somers Town Community Centre Back to Haringey		Claire	Haringey
Monday 10th March	Haringey twinning meetings: College of North East London, Women’s Community Centre, Hornsey Girls’ School	---	Lynda	Haringey
Tuesday 11th March	Lynda meet Cristina 9.30 Euston ticket office Travel to Birmingham Birmingham event Council House 7pm	Euston- Birmingham 10.10-11.41	Lynda/ Cristina	Birmingham
Wednesday 12th March	tourism Walsall event		Cristina	Birmingham
Thursday 13th	Ormskirk meetings	Birmingham	Cristina	Ormskirk

March – Group one	Council leader 11 am, Lunch in Southport 2pm Mayor of Southport Public meeting in Southport Meal in Burscough Public meeting tbc	– Wigan 9.03-10.22 C03A C04A C07A C08A		
Friday 16th March	Bookshop coffee morning Edge Hill University Martin Mere Meal with group members 7.30 Ormskirk reception at Church Hall	---	Cristina	Ormskirk
Saturday 15th March ** All join for meeting together	To meet others in Manchester End of visit meeting and debrief in Manchester – twinning groups invited; meeting at 10.30 followed by lunch at Safad Restaurant Then Thureyah to Durham on 15:27 train. Rana to Haringey And Sharifa joins Rana to Haringey	Burscough 8.48 am Parbold 8.53 - Manchester Victoria 10 am Manchester – London 2.40 to 5.40	Cristina Haringey group collects at Euston at 17.40	Haringey
Sunday 16th March	Day out – social – shopping – as needed	---	Haringey nominee	Haringey
Monday 17th March	Paddington for lunch together at 12.00 Isfahan restaurant, tbc Leave Paddington at 1.30 to be at Heathrow at 2.30 and get flight RJ 112 at 14.25	Paddington to Heathrow, use return tickets	Local groups.	Amman

Manal Wasfia Rawia				
Thursday 6th March	Arrive Heathrow Meet Nandita and Pauline. Brief welcome meeting. Travel to Exeter	Exeter – Paddington, Paddington – Exeter 18.36 – 9.15	Pauline	Exeter
Friday 7th March	School visits, university, lunch Rest, visit the sea at Dawlish + meet with others, above (**) Exeter town – social event 7pm Phoenix Arts Centre	---	Lizi / Nandita	Exeter
Saturday 8th March	Train to London Met by London people Bags back to home base Lunch –if weather is good, in Hyde Park 2 – 2.15 pm Meet with Palestinian Ambassador Prof Manuel Hassassian at the Palestinian Trade Fair at the Arab British Chamber of Commerce, 43 Upper Grosvenor Street W1K 2NJ 4pm Trafalgar Square, speak at International Women’s Day event; 6pm Tower Hamlets evening event – meeting, eating, meetin	Exeter- London 9.54-12.30 Eve, Lynda, Miriam to meet with car Eve bring food 436 bus from stop H Paddington 94 bus from Marble Arch District line Embankment to Whitechapel	<u>Nandita</u> Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola Hayet From Traf Sq: Claire, Shuma, Jane Finola	Tower Hamlets Anna tbc and Finola
Sunday 9th March	Barnabas Church Solidarity with the Holy Land lunch there; Meet sisters at East London Mosque 3-4.30pm - Camden event return to Tower Hamlets	Various to meet at London Eye; bus 24; then with own group	Camden: Shuma Haringey Lynda Tower Hamlets: Miriam	Tower Hamlets Anna tbc and Finola
Monday 10th March	Travel to St Alban’s arrive about 11 ----- Verulamium Park University meeting 1pm Newspaper visit Manal: and possibly Cristina Luton meeting 7pm – Bury Park Community Centre Fundraising meal ----- Watford School meeting and then eve meeting Wasfia and Rawia to	St Pancras – St Alban’s Clive and Watford woman to collect and return	Miriam, then Cristina Sabah/ Maggie Sabah/ Watford woman	Harpender

	Watford supper 6 – 7:30pm meeting 7.30 Trade union hall, (side entrance + answerphone) Woodford Road, WD17 1PB Return to St Alban's			
Tuesday 11th March	Others travel to Nottingham Local radio tbc Palestinian cultural evening	Luton – Nottingham 10.53-12.26	Sabah tbc/ Pauline M.	Nottingh am Jane(2) Bronwin
Wednesday 12th March	Morning free Women's meal at Pakistani Centre Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens meeting Public meeting at Bass Management Centre Nottingham Trent University Goldsmith Street -7pm	---	Pauline M.	Nottingh am Jane(2) Bronwin
Thursday 13th March	Travel to Blackburn via Leeds Leeds people greet and have coffee together Blackburn College 12.30 Travel to Pendle by car Public meeting in Briarfield Community Centre 7.30	8 am to 10 am Rosie - Nottingham via Leeds 10.51-12.14 Leeds to Blackburn TBC	Rosie. to Leeds/ TBC Ayesha	Pendle Ayesha
Friday 16th March	Pendle/Preston meetings Nelson and Colne College Civic reception	---	Ayesha	Pendle Ayesha
Saturday 15th March ** All join for meeting together	To meet others in Manchester	Richard - lift to Manchester	Ayesha	Tower Hamlets
Saturday 15th March	End of visit meeting and debrief in Manchester – twinning groups invited; meeting at 10.30 followed by lunch at Safad Restaurant Back to London + Tower Hamlets	Manchester – London 2.40 to 5.40	ND TH group collects at Euston at 17.40	Tower Hamlets
Sunday 16th March	Day out About 11 ish London tourism – London Eye and boat trip – social – shopping – as needed	---	Tower Hamlets nominee	Tower Hamlets
Monday 17th March	Paddington for lunch together at 12.00 Isfahan restaurant, tbc Leave Paddington at 1.30 to be at Heathrow at 2.30 and get flight RJ 112 at 14.25	Paddington to Heathrow, use return tickets	Local groups.	Amman

Questionnaire for Palestinian women visitors

Please fill this in English or Arabic and return as soon as possible – thank you

Name	
Town	
<i>We asked you before to write a little about yourself – If you have answered any of these questions, please don't do it again. But if you haven't told us these things, please do now - Thanks!</i>	
... a bit about yourself and what you do	
... and what you hope to do in Britain	
Have you done anything with your twinning group before? Did you know about it before?	

Have you been to Britain before?	
Have you been abroad before? Where?	
How confident are you speaking English and do you need an interpreter?	
In Britain, what specially do you want to tell people about (in public meetings for example)?	
Will you need anything special for public meetings? (eg a projector?)	

For your hosts

FOOD – Please tell us what you eat or don't eat	
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RELIGION – Your religion and any arrangements we should make for you to pray etc	
HEALTH Is there anything we should know or any special arrangements we should make	
Anything else that will make you comfortable when you are with us?	

Thank you!

Evaluation of the Palestinian women's visit March 2008

Completed by....

Twinning group

What was your role in the visit?

Please tell us anything you think relevant about the visit – These are some headings to jog your memory

1. National planning + arrangements
2. Information you were given
3. Local planning + arrangements
4. Events in your area
5. Did the visit help people learn about the situation in Palestine?
Elaborate!
6. And did new people get involved?
7. Did it help the twinning on in your area?
8. High points of the whole thing
9. Low points/ points of difficulty/ suggestions for another time
10. Do you have ideas for next steps?
11. Anything else.

We would be also grateful for copies of press/ photos/ reports etc you could send us. And the blog www.women2008.blogspot.com is open to you.

Please email your responses to ----- as soon as you can.
Many thanks.