

# NEWSLETTER

# MARCH 2009

Issue No. 62

BRIGHTON & HOVE PALESTINE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

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**BHPSC**  
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For any urgent queries and immediate information phone 07984 438655

## VIVA PALESTINA! -

### A LIFELINE FROM BRITAIN TO GAZA

Most PSC supporters are aware of the spectacular convoy of over 100 vehicles that is currently making its way from the UK to Gaza, taking huge amounts of supplies and meeting thousands of supporters along the way. Two of the vehicles are from Brighton - they received a marvellous send-off when they left Brighton on Feb 13 to join the rest of the convoy in London. At the time of writing the news had just emerged that the Egyptian government had agreed to allow the convoy to cross into Gaza. Details of the convoy, with photos and daily updates, and info on how to support this epic project, can be found at [www.vivapalestina.org](http://www.vivapalestina.org).

## DIARY OF EVENTS FOR MARCH 2009

**BHPSC Stall - every Saturday 12-2pm at the Clock Tower** Volunteers always needed - Please contact Trini 01903 816540

### Next BHPSC Planning Meeting

Tuesday 3rd March @ 7.30pm

Caroline of Brunswick pub, 39 Ditchling Road

Everyone is welcome - please come and bring your ideas on how we can make our campaign more effective.

### Sunday 8th March

**A Concert for Gaza - plus rummage sale**

Friends' Meeting House, Ship Street

Rummage sale from 1.30pm

Concert 3-4 pm featuring kids 6-16 years with their band, singing songs about freedom and human rights from many times and cultures. Proceeds to Save the Children Fund in Gaza. Refreshments. Entrance: minimum donation £3.

### Monday 9th March, Friends Meeting House

**Palestinian Women Speak Out**

about living under Israeli occupation

6.00 - 7.15 pm: Middle Eastern food prepared by

Brighton Voices in Exile £3.50

7.30 - 9.00pm: Presentations and discussion

Speakers: Sirien from Tubas and Ghada from Jenin

**Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions Working Group**

**Thurs March 12th @ 7.30pm, Mary Magdalen's Community Centre, Upper North Street, Brighton.**

Get involved in the campaigns - all welcome.

### Friday March 13, 7.30pm

Regency Rm, Hilton Metropole Hotel, Kings Road

**Public Meeting organised by Brighton & Hove PSC**

**and Stop the War Coalition:**

**"Gaza & the War on Terror"**

with Tony Benn, President of Stop the War Coalition plus other speakers. Entry free - donations please.

### Palestine Fair Trade Stall

From March 7th at Fair Trade shop at Unit 9

Brighton Marina, selling olive oil, soap, handicrafts

from Gaza & refugee camps in Palestine. Contact

Brenda for details (01273 502406).

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## NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS FROM NATIONAL PSC...

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

**PSC mass lobby of Parliament**

Our aim is to get as many supporters of the Palestinian people to lobby their MP on three key areas: the immediate end to the blockade of Gaza; an immediate full embargo by the British Government of military equipment sales to Israel; and the suspension of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. We are also calling for the government to support the work of other countries in instigating an international war crimes tribunal against Israel over its actions in Gaza, and ensure that Israeli war criminals are brought to justice.

To make sure that MPs and the government are under no illusion over the strength of feeling that still exists, it is vital that we get as many people as possible to lobby their MP. There is a quick and simple online letter on the PSC home page that you can fill in asking for an appointment with your constituency MP - [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org).

On the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> PSC will hold a mass rally from 7pm, where among the speakers we hope to have one of the Norwegian doctors who were so prominent on our TV screens during the conflict with their eyewitness accounts of the atrocities committed by the Israeli Defence Forces.

Details of all these activities on the PSC website [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org).

## FORTHCOMING LOCAL EVENTS...

**Brighton & Hove PSC Annual General Meeting**  
Saturday 13 June 2009 - venue to be confirmed  
Speaker - Bruce Kent

Items for April 2009 newsletter  
Please send no later than 25 March to:  
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tel 01273 694537