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Newsletter, April 2023

1. 'Women's lives in Gaza near the border with Israel,' Dr.Mona El Farra, 7pm
Thursday 20th April @ Central United Reformed Church
2. Sheffield May Day Rally, City Hall, Monday, 1st May, 1.15pm
3. Boycott Action, Saturday 6th May, @ Sainsbury's, The Moor, 12o'clock
4. Nakba demonstrations: 13th May London and Liverpool; 15th May 4.30pm
Sheffield railway station
5. The On Going Nakba, Saif Kassis (BADIL) 16th May, 7pm @ Showroom 5.
6. Media: BBC Bias on Israel's assault on the Al Aqsa mosque
and Webinar, with Francesca Albanese (UN Special Rapporteur), Nur
Masalha and Ilan Pappé, 7pm Wed 26th April
7. Sheffield's campaign against Israeli apartheid: sign the pledge!
8. Small Park, Big Run 2023

Please pass this newsletter to friends and urge them to sign up to receive their own copy by clicking [this link!](#)

7PM THURSDAY 20th APRIL

@ Central Reformed United Church (upper hall)
60 Norfolk St, Sheffield City Centre, S1 2JB



Dr. Mona El-Farra has been for many years an invaluable friend and inspiration for Palestine solidarity over a whole range of issues, including the children's projects and the Sheffield Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund. She is the Director of Gaza Projects of the [Middle East Children's Alliance](#) (MECA), human rights and women's rights activist, Vice President of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society of the Gaza Strip, and member of the Union of Health Work Committee.

**Sheffield May Day
March and Rally**

Assemble Devonshire Green 12 noon
March to City Hall Steps
Rally 1. 15 pm- 2pm

**Bring your
Union Banners**

Speakers include
Trade Unionists
fighting falling real wages
Musheir Al Farra Palestine Solidarity Campaign
Maria Vasquez-Aguilar, Sheffield Chile Solidarity Campaign
A speaker fighting Climate change
A speaker from Stand up to Racism

3. Boycott Action, 12 o'clock, Saturday, 6th May

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Palestinian homes are routinely demolished and to encourage people to “**Check the Label**” and steer clear of Israeli goods. At this time of year, supermarkets often have **dates** on their shelves, this year, during the month of Ramadan. **But** if the label says “**Produce of the West Bank**” or “**Produce of the Jordan Valley**” – then we know it comes from Israeli settlements –all of them on stolen Palestinian land and all of them illegal under international law.

Speak to the Manager and ask why the shop supports an Apartheid regime.

We are planning further action to make supermarkets take notice – the message is: we don’t want anything for sale in Sheffield from Israel.

Note: Dates are not the only item: from time to time, peppers, potatoes, avocados and fruit come from Israel or occupied Palestinian lands.

4. **NAKBA 75 - on Saturday 13 May**

FREE PALESTINE - END APARTHEID – END THE OCCUPATION

Join us in solidarity with the Palestinian struggle for justice:

in Central London, 12pm The BBC, Portland Place, London W1A

or in Liverpool 1pm BOMBED OUT CHURCH, Lece St. L1 2TR

and in Sheffield @ 4.30pm Monday 15 May, rally/leafleting outside railway station.

In May of this year, Palestinians will be commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, the process of ethnic cleansing, colonial dispossession that saw over 750,000 Palestinians driven into exile and more than 500 towns and villages wiped from the map. **We mark the Nakba not just as an historical event but as a continuing process of oppression enacted over the past 75 years** though ongoing colonisation of land, enforcement of apartheid and military occupation.

The Palestinian people need our solidarity now more than ever.

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We are unable to afford to hire a coach to London on 13th May but several of us will be travelling to London by the **train that leaves Sheffield @ 9.29am.**

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THE ONGOING NAKBA with

Saif Kassis of Badil

**Tuesday 16th May, 7pm
Showroom 5, Sheffield**

May 15th this year will mark the 75th anniversary of the Nakba when more than 750000 Palestinians became refugees and over 500 villages were destroyed.

The Nakba continues every day through a system of apartheid that sees Palestinians suffer

- arbitrary arrest
- house demolitions
- restrictions on movement
- denial of clean water supplies

We are really pleased to welcome Saif, the international advocacy officer for Badil, who will give us an up to date view and tell us more about Badil's important work defending refugee rights.

Come to the meeting and find out more about what we can do to stand with Palestinian people!

FREE PALESTINE - END APARTHEID – END THE OCCUPATION - RIGHT

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6. BBC Bias EXPOSED Live On Air By Palestinian Journalist MOHAMMED EL-KURD a co-founder of the #SaveSheikhJarrah movement

Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EB1EwwDdFB4>



**Webinar: Francesca Albanese, UN Special Rapporteur for Palestine
with Profs. Nur Masalha and Ilan Pappé
Wednesday 26th April, 7pm register free [HERE](#).**



Sheffield's campaign against Israeli Apartheid

[A joint action](#), in March, by the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid and XR at the town centre Barclays. A parade with music, flags, posters and banners spread the word.

See some of the action on [this video](#), highlighting **two of the most shameful of Barclays' investments**:

- in fossil fuels in Europe, an engine behind the climate crisis **AND**
- in Israeli arms companies, despite that state's position as the only Apartheid Regime on the planet.

Sheffield Palestine Anti-Israeli Apartheid Coalition campaigns in support of the international Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement.

A workshop last month discussed in detail the **Sheffield Pledge**. If you haven't already done so, please [find the Pledge here and sign up](#), either as an individual, or on behalf of your organisation

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Wear a badge with pride! We have taken delivery of 250 of these badges – available at just £1 each! You can get yours from members of the Coalition and they will be on sale at future events.



[small park BIG RUN](#) is back on June 17th and 18th and is open for [entries](#). This is a wonderful solidarity event and major fundraiser for Sheffield Palestine Cultural Exchange and Sheffield Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund.



The theme this year is [Israeli Apartheid](#) and we will be looking to display information around the park to raise awareness about this.

Look out for

- Mahmoud Zwahre, a Palestinian supporting local farmers near Bethlehem, who will be planting a solidarity tree;
- lanterns, kites and Samba bands;
- local Heeley runners talk on going to the Palestine Marathon
- and our final celebration: join six Sheffield choirs in [the mass sing to Gaza](#) of You Will Never Walk Alone. The programme is still being put together and it is available [here](#).

You may think this is not for you - but this **is** for **everyone**. You do not have to run - you can walk or hop or go round on stilts (this has been done) - and we especially want to encourage entries from people who might need [support to join in](#).

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