

Dundee–Nablus Twinning Association

رابطة توأمة نابلس دندي

Press Notice

Thursday 28th October

Palestinian Volunteers in Dundee

Two volunteers from Dundee’s twin town of Nablus have arrived in the city to assist the Dundee-Nablus Twinning Association (DNTA) celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Twinning Agreement with the West Bank city

Rami Issa (25 years) and **Rafiq Zein Eddin** (22 years) are in Scotland as part of a European Voluntary Service project called “Awareness in Action”. During their stay in Dundee they will be responsible for staging a special exhibition focussing on Nablus in the Wellgate Library from 15-20th November. They will also help DNTA with other 30th Anniversary events.

As Palestinians, Rami and Rafiq were required to apply for visas to visit Scotland, always a slow and bureaucratic process for applicants coming from the Palestinian Occupied Territories. Uncertainty over this process caused DNTA to postpone its original plans for its main Anniversary exhibition.

Rami Issa lives in the Old City of Nablus. He has a degree in computer science and is excited by the opportunity to live and work in Dundee. He commented:

“Our work with Project Hope involved us acting as translators for international workers who came to Nablus to work with young people in the refugee camps. Now we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to work and live in one of Scotland’s main cities. Above all we have an opportunity to meet and to learn from ordinary Dundonians.”

Rafiq Zein Eddin lives in Majdel Bani Fadil, a village on the outskirts of the Nablus. He has a degree in English Literature and is thrilled by the prospect of working in this city of universities and centres of learning. He commented:

“Our lives in Nablus are dominated by military occupation, roadblocks and checkpoints. It will be a wonderful experience for us to enjoy the freedom of movement and speech that is the norm in Dundee and Scotland. I look forward to meeting as many ordinary Dundee people as I can.”

Ends