

Network of Photographers for Palestine

Annual Report and Accounts

For the Year Ended

31 December 2018

Scottish Charity No: SC 046699

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**Network of Photographers for Palestine
Reference and Administrative information
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

Registered Address:

c/o Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre
City of Edinburgh Methodist Church
25 Nicolson Square
Edinburgh
EH8 9BX
e-mail: frankgthomas1@gmail.com
website: <http://nppalestine.org>

Scottish Charity Number:

SC 046699

Management Committee (Trustees):

The following were members of the management committee (trustees of the charity) during the financial year:

Rafat Abushaban (Chair) (resigned 31/1/2019)
Mahmoud Zwahre (Chair) (appointed 1/2/2019)
Phil Chetwynd (Secretary)
Frank Thomas (Treasurer)
John Badenhorst

Independent examiner:

Alison Tollick

Bankers:

Bank of Scotland plc
PO Box 1000
BX2 1LB

Network of Photographers for Palestine Annual Report of the Trustees For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

The trustees are pleased to present their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018. The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis, in accordance with accounting regulations for Scottish charities.

Structure, Governance and Management

Network of Photographers for Palestine is an unincorporated body, established by constitution in 2016, and is registered as a Scottish Charity (SC 0046699). The management of Network of Photographers for Palestine is entrusted to a Committee elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Committee during the year. Further reference and administrative information, including the names of trustees, is shown on page 2.

Charitable Purposes

The organisation's purposes are to promote greater awareness of Palestinian life and culture, and through this to raise awareness of human rights, international understanding and cross-cultural harmony by the following means:

- promoting the work of Palestinian photographers throughout Scotland.
- curating exhibitions of Palestinian photography in Scotland.
- arranging visits of Palestinian photographers to Scotland.
- arranging visits of Scottish photographers to Palestine.
- raising funds in pursuance of the above purposes.
- purchasing, taking on lease, hiring or otherwise acquiring, any property or rights which are suitable for the organisation's activities.
- carrying on any activities which further any of the above objects.

The objects, powers and restrictions are set out in full in the constitution.

Review of Activities 2018 – Chair's report

2018 was another busy year for NPP. Our main focus was the organisation of a tour for the outstanding photographic artist Mahmoud Alkurd from Gaza to the UK. Mahmoud has a unique style of photography that reflects the hopes and aspirations of many Gazans in these harsh times. Mahmoud's tour was delayed due to visa application procedures, but NPP is doing its best to help him arrive in the UK for a tour during March 2019.

However, undeterred by these initial visa problems, we duly went ahead and organised highly successful exhibitions of Mahmoud's work in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness. These were accompanied by stimulating Skype conversations between Mahmoud and members of the audiences at these exhibitions.

We are always impressed by the warm support we receive at our venues, and would like to take this opportunity of thanking once again management and staff of the Al-Asmoh Centre, Al Mas'ra, Nr Bethlehem; Out of the Blue, Edinburgh; Govanhill Baths, Glasgow; the Spectrum Centre, Inverness; and the Arbroath Public Library for their unstinting support and hospitality. Exhibiting our work in Arbroath, a historic town in E. Scotland has been a particular pleasure, offering as it does a new addition to our list of Scottish venues.

Another highlight of our year has been the collaboration we have enjoyed with Mohamad Zwahre of Al Mas'ra village and Birzeit University. Mohamad is a young man of great energy and enthusiasm who has organised two of our exhibitions "The Great Return March" and "Displaced" in his village. Al Mas'ra is frequently visited by overseas visitors to Palestine and our exhibitions there have been seen by large parties from Italy and France since we have shown our work there.

However, Mohamad's work on our behalf in Palestine has thrown into relief our continuing lack of active supporters there. One of our tasks for the coming year will be to build up a more

solid support base in the West Bank. Although our main focus remains that of showcasing Palestinian photography and providing opportunities for photographers to travel outwith Palestine, we also seek opportunities to extend our Network into all areas of Palestine to raise awareness of our work there and attract other young photographers to collaborate on our projects.

Another “first” for us during 2018 was the award of a \$1,600 grant from the A.M. Qattan Foundation in support of Mahmoud's tour of Scotland. We are deeply indebted to the Foundation for supporting our work, and indeed for extending the period of the grant to suit his forthcoming tour. We are now hoping to welcome Mahmoud in person during the month of March 2019 when we intend to retrace our steps from Edinburgh to Glasgow and Inverness, with a possible detour via Dundee. We would also like to thank the Schiehallion Trust for its very generous donation this year which enabled us to display Mahmoud's work throughout Scotland in his absence.

It is worthy of note that we don't intend to let our success in attracting grants prevent us from pursuing other fund-raising activities. We may still have to resort to crowd-funding in the coming year and would also urge members to consider committing to a regular monthly/half-yearly donation, using our 'Gift Aid' initiative. Our treasurer has put in a lot of hard work in refining this for us over the past year, and it would be a pity for this not to bear fruit in the months ahead.

Plans for 2019

For the coming months, we are focusing on arranging Mahmoud Alkurd's tour in March. Please keep an eye out for news of this tour as we will have to act rather speedily to make arrangements in the event that his visa is granted.

We will then be collaborating with Palmed, the international Palestinian medical charity, for our major summer exhibition. We have been asked to bring together a series of images showing the effects of the Occupation on the Palestinian health service.

Finally, we aim to expand our reach in Palestine in general and in the West Bank in particular working with our contacts in Ramallah, Nablus and Bethlehem to help us establish a more active presence there.

I would like to thank our members for supporting our work over the past year. Our task of opening the eyes of those around us to the realities of life and the humanitarian conditions across Palestine remains urgent.

Finally, I would also like to extend my appreciation of the work of the NPP's Secretary and Treasurer for their commitment and hard work in 2019, and to record my thanks to our Trustees who have worked hard to develop NPP throughout the past year. It has been a major year of development in our organisation, and we look forward to extending this into 2019.

Rafat Abushaban

Financial Review – Treasurer's report

As stated in the Chairman's report, our main activity in 2018 was organising the tour of images from Mahmoud AlKurd, the Gazan photographic artist. Although he wasn't able to accompany the exhibition, the project accounted for 67% of our income and 57% of our expenditure. Most of our other income came from sales of work by Mahmoud and other Palestinian artists and sending these takings as fees to them.

We treat the money from sales as 'restricted' i.e. not to be absorbed into the charity's general fund. Similarly donations received to fund the Mahmoud Alkurd tour, and money donated to a support fund for one of our collaborators in Palestine, Mohamad Zwahre, are 'restricted'. In all we have the following 4 restricted funds:

- Sales from the Displaced exhibition,
- Sales from the Mahmoud AlKurd exhibition,
- Funds for the Mahmoud Alkurd tour (including a repeat with, we hope, the artist himself in Scotland),
- Donations for Mohamad Zwahre support fund.

The receipts and payments recorded for 2018 for these funds and the general, unrestricted, fund are set out in the accompanying spreadsheet.

Over half of NPP's income in 2018 took the form of donations, and over half of our donations, some £1591 came from one source, the Schiehallion Trust. This donation was specifically for the Mahmoud Alkurd tour.

NPP organised sales of work by Palestinian photographers worth £1520. So far some £800 has been transferred in fees to the photographers. In the case of the 'Displaced' project we collected £520, incurred some costs in the form of materials (printing and frames) and bank charges (MoneyGram transfer fees), and sent £446 in fees to the photographers. We still have £600 or so to send to Mahmoud.

Travel appears under both receipts and payments because costs of air tickets were both incurred and refunded as planned trips by Mahmoud to Scotland were cancelled. The first time difficulties in Gaza prevented travel and the second time his visa application did not arrive at the British consul in Amman, Jordan. As a result NPP incurred a net loss of some £500. Although air travel may cost more it will be better in future if we delay buying tickets until all necessary visas have been granted. We have also incurred £134 in fees for visa applications.

We awarded Hamde Abu Rahman, one of our long-standing partners in Palestine, an award of £400 for services to photography in Palestine.

Almost half of our expenditure goes on exhibitions: some £500 on hiring venues, catering, etc; over £1600 on materials (printing, framing, fixtures, etc); and around £80 on publicity.

Finally, much of the money collected in Scotland is sent overseas for various reasons (fees to photographers, funding exhibitions, etc). We therefore have to spend some money in fees for money transfers, appearing in the accounts as bank charges.

The accompanying spreadsheet contains, as well as the statement of receipts and payments, the statement of balances and the notes to the accounts.

Frank Thomas
Treasurer

Approved by the Trustees on

and signed on their behalf by

Trustee

Date

Report of the Independent Examiner

To the Trustees of Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre

I report on the accounts of Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre (the charity) for the year to 31 December 2018, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alison Tollick

Date: