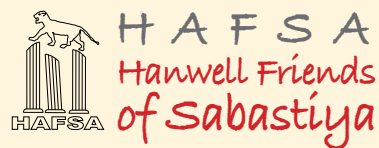




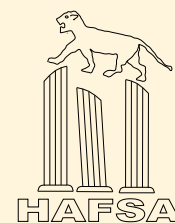
Colourful tables and chairs from HAFSA are now in the local nursery



**f Follow us** Hanwell Friends of Sabastiya- HAFSA

**@ Contact us** [info@hafsa.org.uk](mailto:info@hafsa.org.uk)

**Visit our website** <http://hafsa.org.uk/>



# HAFSA

## Hanwell Friends of Sabastiya

أصدقاء هانول و سبسطية "حفصة"

# Join us!

It's easy. We welcome new members who share our aims. You don't have to live in Hanwell or Sabastiya.

You will receive regular bulletins and information about our activities (film nights, social events, fund-raising stalls, trips to Sabastiya and more). We welcome new ideas and your involvement to further our aims.

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

£5 and donations welcome, payable by:

#### Bank transfer

Co-operative Bank, Acc no 65449004, Sort Code 08 92 99

**Paypal** on the HAFSA website

**Cheque** payable to HAFSA and mailed to:

HAFSA Treasurer, 109 Southdown Ave, Hanwell, London W7 2AE

When you pay your subscription please email [info@hafsa.org.uk](mailto:info@hafsa.org.uk) to let us know your name and we will add you to our mailing list.



Fundraising by HAFSA at the Hanwell Carnival

HAFSA members enjoying the eggs from hens funded by HAFSA

Breakfast in Sabastiya - all locally produced



Breads and pastries for local schools made by a Sabastiya women's co-operative



The Roman amphitheatre in Sabastiya is a prominent landmark



Building links between the people of Sabastiya in Palestine and Hanwell in west London



Our chicken project provided 66 families with hens and cockerels



# HAFSA - what we do

- Build friendship between people in Sabastiya and Hanwell
- Raise funds to support families in Sabastiya
- Finance sustainable grassroots projects
- Organise visits



HAFSA people visiting Sabastiya

We are not “political” but we listen to people living in Sabastiya. We learn about their needs and hardships as well as abuses of their human rights, while supporting them as best we can. HAFSA help promote a better understanding of the situation as well as an appreciation of the rich history and culture of Palestine.

**We hope you will join us!**

# Sabastiya



Roman columns, cafés and the football ground co-exist as a focal point in Sabastiya

Sabastiya is an amazing place in a beautiful setting with warm welcoming people.

It is a rural village with a population of 4,500 and its economy relies mainly on olive groves and orchards.

Sabastiya stands on historical and biblical land and can be proud of a number of important archaeological sites. Today you can see the ruins of ancient Sabastiya and feel the power of seven successive cultures dating back 10,000 years: Canaanite, Israelite, Hellenistic, Herodian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman. According to religious tradition, the head of John the Baptist is buried there.



HAFSA funded 80 gas masks for homes affected by tear gas fired by the Israeli army and funded first aid training for a new volunteer emergency team



HAFSA regularly give olive and fruit saplings for families in Sabastiya



Young volunteers in Sabastiya delivering HAFSA Ramadan food parcels to families in need



HAFSA provided coaching and equipment for the junior Sabastiya football team

The people of Sabastiya have been living under harsh Israeli military occupation since 1967 and suffer aggression by the nearby Israeli settlers. Despite these difficulties they remain positive and HAFSA support some of their many community initiatives.

With its rich history Sabastiya has great potential for tourism. HAFSA have already supported this by helping set up a new guesthouse in a restored Ottoman palace (<https://kayedpalace.wordpress.com>).

## The HAFSA friendship link



The idea originated from a “Palestine Day” held in Hanwell. From this, a group of people decided to establish a link with Palestine, and Sabastiya in the West Bank was interested.

In 2010 a delegation from Hanwell visited the municipality of Sabastiya and HAFSA was born.

## Where is SABASTIYA?

Sabastiya is 50 miles north of Jerusalem and it relies on the nearby city of Nablus for many of its services, shopping and employment. People go to Nablus for hospital treatment and to study at university. However, Israeli military check points can make travelling difficult.