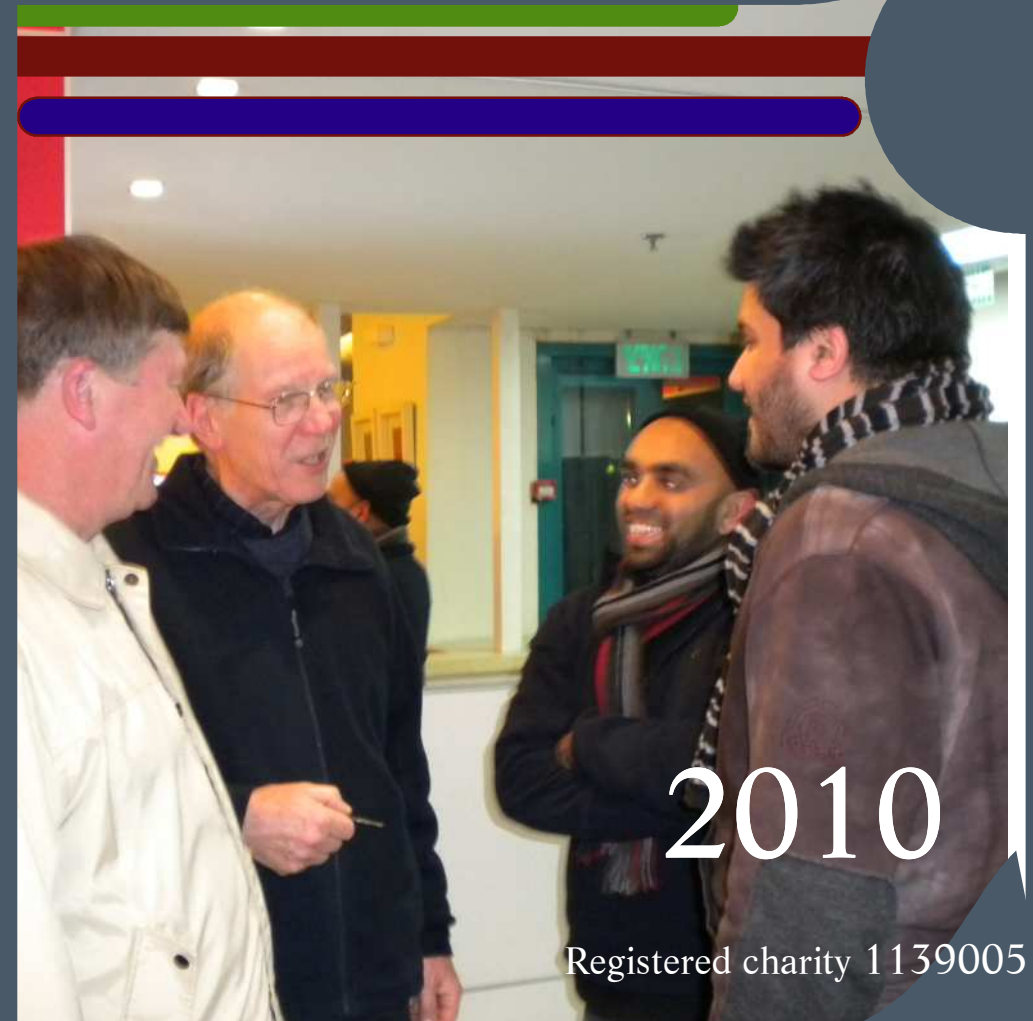




FODIP

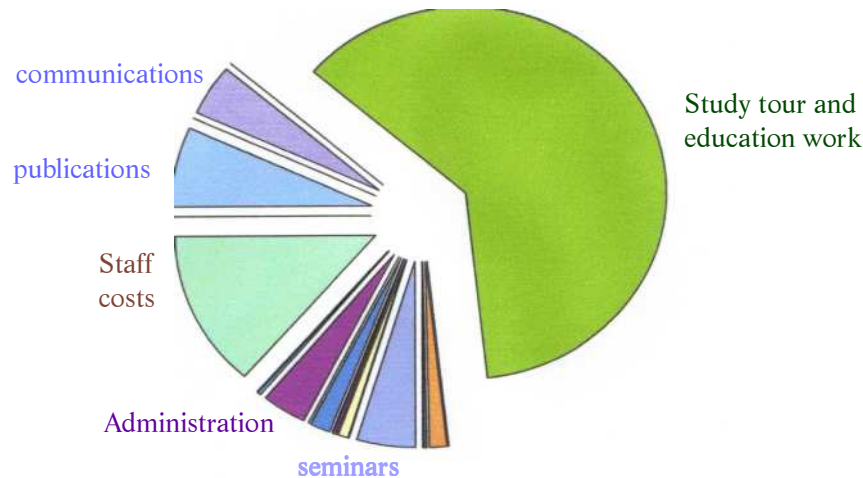
The Forum for Discussion of
Israel and Palestine



2010

Registered charity 1139005

FODIP EXPENDITURE 2010



Patrons:

Lord Harries of Pentregarth
 Rabbi Dr Tony Bayfield
 Shaykh Dr Abdal Hakim Murad
 Dr Usama Hasan

Trustees

Mr Steven Longden (Chair)
 Rev Bob Day (Secretary)
 Mr Pasha Shah (Treasurer)
 Revd Jonathan Dean
 Rabbi Warren Elf



The forum for Discussion of Israel
 and Palestine
 52 Cornmarket Street
 Oxford
 OX2 7HT

T 01865 304 074
 F 01865 30 40 01

info@fodip.org

www.fodip.org

Director: Dr Jane Clements

Limited company no. 7343229
 Reg. Co. Address: Star House
 102 Grafton Road, NW5 4BA

STUDY TOUR



FODIP is unique.

It works with inter faith dialogue groups in the UK - but it deals with the really difficult issue which threatens good relations between Jews, Christians and Muslims, - the Israeli Palestinian situation.

FODIP takes no political position, but its supporters hope and pray that people of all faiths and none in the UK - no matter what their views-will learn to listen, explore and work together for peace, justice and reconciliation here and in the Holy Land.

This has been a productive year for FODIP. Over 300 people have attended FODIP seminars, film shows and events around the country, including London, Greater Manchester and Blackburn. FODIP provides participants with a unique platform to speak freely on especially sensitive issues, and to express fears and hopes within a framework of trust. For this reason, FODIP has been proactive in arranging 'closed' invitation-only events to help people meet in confidence and with 'Chatham House Rules'.



"It was stunning and overwhelming to discover new dimensions of my own faith whilst sharing important 'moments of faith' with Muslims and Jews."

"It was an absolute privilege to be included in the group and even in the more uncomfortable and challenging moments I have learned a great deal."

"I will always treasure the experience and fully intend to translate it into practical action which will work to unite faith communities both in the UK and in Israel/Palestine."



Questions Without Borders' Study Tour

FODIP staff and partners have a wealth of experience in delivering good quality, inspirational and educational tours to Israel and the West Bank for Jews, Christians and Muslims



"I have never had such a wide-ranging and thought-provoking travel experience in such a short time."

In January, 17 participants - ministers, rabbis, students, youth and community leaders and government workers - heard from young people involved in dialogue, as well as inspirational speakers, and explored practical educational and community initiatives. Home hospitality was a particular feature, with participants enjoying Friday night in Jewish homes, refreshments in East Jerusalem and coffee with kibbutzniks. There were also opportunities to experience something of each others' worship, and to take time for individual spiritual refreshment. As a result of the trip, participants have begun working together specifically to further the aims of FODIP.

Tough Options

This is FODIP's central, ground breaking programme. It facilitates productive conversations on the Israeli Palestinian situation with the same spirit of openness and goodwill which characterises other interfaith dialogues. 'Tough Options' works with local groups, using our tried and tested approach. The 'Hear to Hear' methodology is a unique FODIP concept, focusing on the need to hear and understand

both our own responses to events and situations, and those of our partner in dialogue. Participants have included local activists and facilitators from London, Hertfordshire, the North West and Birmingham, working in interfaith education, through communities, schools and colleges. *This process has been developed in partnership with ICA-UK and sponsored by MB Reckitt Trust.*



Providing Advice, Information and Consultation

To make good use of its expertise on limited resources, FODIP has continued to build strong working relations with partner organisations and is a point of contact for others.

FODIP has firmly established itself as a respected point of contact and referral for others. Organisations with which we have worked and engaged this year include:

the Anglican Communion,
the Church of England,
the Methodist Church,
the Board of Deputies of British Jews,
the National Union of Students,
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland,
Friends of the Bereaved Families Forum,
Manchester University Israel Palestine Forum,
Pax Christi,
the National R.E. Council of England and Wales,
Greenbelt,
the Council of Christians and Jews and
St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace.

Theology Working Group

Finding theological routes for collective reflection is vital to this work. The Christian Theology Working Group comprised academics from a range of disciplines including leading systematic theologians, philosophers and Biblical scholars. During the year, the project (initially sponsored by the Sir Halley Stewart Trust) completed its work on Christian approaches to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. The papers are due to be published imminently under the title *Talking of Conflict: Christian Reflections on Israel and Palestine*. It is hoped that this will be followed by similar Jewish and Muslim work.

Neighbours for Peace Project

Christina Agnew, of the Lorna Young Foundation, organiser of a workshop held in May for those involved, said that the process:

"has already led to greater co-operation of regular 'idea trading' and complementary links both between the faiths and (unexpectedly) within the same faiths. [It has enabled local events] supporting Palestinian/Israeli relations within the Faith Network for Manchester, the Manchester Muslim-Jewish Forum, Tameside Interfaith Network, Oldham Peacemaker and other local Christian/Jewish/Muslim networks which have become interested in the 'trade' involvement of the workshop members."



This exciting project is a very practical way of helping communities to come together over this issue.

Sponsored by the Scurrah Wainwright Charity, this encourages local groups and individuals to form consortia to support and educate others about Israeli/Palestinian initiatives which work for a shared future.

The support is locally based and run, and involves an inter religious/cross-communal element, drawing on established links and relationships.

(Left: Members of the Bereaved Families Forum speak formally and informally to Manchester groups..)