

## **What visitors say about visiting**

“It's almost 5 years since I started visiting (or "befriending" as we also call it). A friend had a tough job talking me into it but eventually I gave in because SDV were short of drivers and Dungavel is not easy to get to. A hundred visits later, I realise it has been one of the best decisions I ever made - the gratitude which is expressed by everyone we meet shows how important it is for detainees to know someone cares for them. As long as this detention centre exists we will continue to provide this invaluable service.”

“Through visiting I have met some very special and courageous people – the experience has made me more aware of, and keen to increasingly question, the society in which I live and our attitude to refugees and migrants”

“Each time I visit Dungavel, or talk to detainees on the phone, I am amazed at the fortitude of people who are detained without having committed a criminal act and with no date of release. I feel enormous admiration for those we visit.”

“I love volunteering with SDV, it's a really rewarding and humbling experience, at times I feel I gain more from the visit that I give as I learn so much from the people we visit.”

“I went to Dungavel for the first time last week, the whole group was really supportive and gave me the confidence I needed to talk to detainees.”