

THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1103211

Details

Other names	BSST
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2004-04-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	28 Huddleston Road London N7 0AG
Phone	07803 614255
Email	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	www.bsst.org.uk

Activities

Objects: A) THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, SICKNESS AND DISTRESS, THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF GOOD HEALTH FOR PALESTINIANS RESIDING WITHIN ISRAEL AND THOSE AREAS KNOWN AS 'THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' (THESE TOGETHER COVERING THE ENTIRE FORMER BRITISH MANDATE PALESTINE AND THE GOLAN HEIGHTS), AND PALESTINIANS LIVING AS REFUGEES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, B) THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS FOR PALESTINIANS WITHIN ISRAEL AND WITHIN THOSE AREAS KNOWN AS 'THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' (AS DEFINED ABOVE) AND PALESTINIANS WHO ARE LIVING AS REFUGEES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST C) THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS FOR JEWS, AND OTHERS WITHIN ISRAEL, D) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION IN BRITAIN AS TO THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND PRESENT SITUATION OF PALESTINIANS, BEDOUIN, JEWS AND OTHERS WITHIN ISRAEL AND WITHIN THOSE AREAS KNOWN AS 'THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' AS DEFINED ABOVE, AND PALESTINIANS LIVING AS REFUGEES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST; AND E) SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS THE TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION MAY, FROM TIME TO TIME, DECIDE

Activities: This Jewish initiative with supporters of all faiths and none, aims to help better relations between Jews, Palestinians and others living in Israel, the West Bank, Gaza and Golan, and as refugees in the wider Middle East. We work with Palestinians and Israeli Jews committed to a just resolution of the Israel/Palestine

conflict. We also support work with Golan Syrians and refugees/migrant workers.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Accommodation/housing, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** ISRAEL AND THOSE AREAS KNOWN AS 'THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' (THESE TOGETHER COVERING THE ENTIRE FORMER BRITISH MANDATE PALESTINE AND THE GOLAN HEIGHTS), MIDDLE EAST, BRITAIN
- Israel
- Northern Ireland
- Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£214,610	£191,371	-	-
2024-02-29	£323,353	£203,854	-	-
2023-02-28	£187,827	£192,178	-	-
2022-02-28	£234,173	£215,106	-	-
2021-02-28	£185,776	£169,877	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DR GILL YUDKIN	Chair	
COLIN WAINWRIGHT		2011-12-28
David John Sperlinger		2014-09-18
NAOMI ANN WAYNE		2003-09-07
Stephen Fox		2023-10-23

Accounts



British Shalom-Salaam Trust

Crossing Borders for Peace

Annual Report & Accounts

March 2024 – February 2025

From Our Chair

Tragedy – and determination - in Gaza

I write this to you, heartbroken at the constant stream of news from Gaza, each tragedy seeming to compete for the worst ever.

Despite repeated displacements of the population of Gaza, we have managed to maintain contact with our grantees there. We are pleased with our success. We have learned that a couple of projects could not go on, but more have continued doing what they do best, providing for local people's needs and being central to their communities' *sumud* – *steadfastness* – and survival.

Kotof, whom we have supported over the years, asked for money for their delightfully named project, 'Smiles in the Time of Crisis', the money being used for entertainment by their irrepressible clowns and actors within shelters and displacement centres, and for the increasingly needed psychological support. *The Haifa Association for children with Diabetes* somehow were able to buy insulin for however many children with Type 1 Diabetes they could still find. A BSST grant enabled them to buy glucose testing strips, a vital aid in managing their condition.

That 'Day After' which I wrote about last year is still tantalisingly and horrendously out of reach, but we have ringfenced funding specifically to support the people of Gaza in reestablishing their lives.

Misery – and resilience - in the West Bank

Meanwhile, since October 7th 2023, the West Bank has suffered from increasing attacks by settlers and the IDF on residents, their homes, their flocks, their olive trees. Families have been forced to flee and whole villages have been emptied.

We have made several grants to our partners in the West Bank. The small group of Israeli volunteers, who are the Villages Group, for years have befriended communities in the Masaffer Yatta region who are resisting expulsion. They have increased their visits from once a week to 3 or 4 per week. They sit and listen to the residents' terrible stories and their acts of resistance; they try to comfort them; they photograph the results of settler attacks, sometimes even witnessing them during their visits. We have sent funding for the Villages Group team to use for vital supplies to the traumatised villagers and for replacement of essential household items wantonly destroyed in the attacks. The courage of this group, some quite elderly, is wonderful.

Al Tafawk is the sole supplementary school and kindergarten in Jenin Refugee Camp. We have helped it as it rebuilds itself and its services over and over after destructive IDF assaults.

Passion for a just future – in Palestine and Israel

In Israel, where even families of hostages are abused and attacked, our grantees retain all their campaigning passion to work for equality and human rights.

The courage of all our partners, whom we celebrate in our report, helps and inspires us, in the safety of our homes, to continue what we do. And that, of course, is thanks to you, our many supporters, who generously donate to us. **THANK YOU** all of you. **WE WILL NOT GIVE UP.**



Dr Gill Yudkin
Chair, BSST

June 2025



Who we are

The British Shalom-Salaam Trust is the only British Jewish grant-giving charity working solely across 'Israel-Palestine-Golan'. This is the name BSST uses for the entire territory we cover: the state of Israel since 1948, and all the additional land - Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem, and Golan - occupied by Israel since 1967.

Our grants policy: challenging oppression – bringing justice and hope

BSST supports groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that seek creative and practical solutions to the needs of their communities. We see ourselves as enablers not prescribers. We do not impose our own programmes: we respond to needs identified by the groups we work with.

BSST favours small grassroots projects and is very willing to help the many groups tackling contentious issues and those often overlooked by major funders.

We don't seek out beneficiaries: they find us, mostly by word of mouth, occasionally via internet searches. The result is our very eclectic portfolio: around 750 grants have gone to some 200 organisations since BSST began its work in 2004.

Most grants go to Palestinian, Jewish and joint groups, but currently we also support East Jerusalem gypsies, Syrians in Golan and African asylum-seekers.



'Security' at Qalqilya, Photo N Wayne

Our Jewish identity defines our work and purpose. We seek:

- ✻ to make a positive and practical Jewish statement of opposition to the oppression of the Palestinian people across Israel-Palestine, and of the Syrian population of Golan.
- ✻ to oppose all discrimination against other minorities or sections of the communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan. These include women and LGBTQ+ people within the entire area; asylum seekers and migrant workers in Israel; gypsies in East Jerusalem; Ethiopian and Mizrahi Jews in Israel.
- ✻ to support the achievement of a just, democratic and sustainable peace based on equality, human rights and mutual respect between all communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan.

We also recognise that the rights of all Palestinian refugees must be a key part of any just peace settlement. However, with our limited resources, BSST has to restrict its grant-giving to people and projects within Israel-Palestine-Golan.



How we work

We deliver '**public benefit:**'

- ✿ mostly by providing grants to groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that have applied to BSST for support and that fall within BSST's guidelines.
- ✿ occasionally by making small grants in response to a general appeal.
- ✿ through our Post Box service, where BSST receives and manages charitable donations secured from friends and supporters in Britain by approved groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan.
- ✿ by organising our own emergency appeals in times of urgent need.

BSST itself is a virtual organisation, without employees or an office. Its volunteer trustees carry out all functions, working mostly online. This ensures that in a normal year, at least 98% of our expenditure goes on charitable grants. Unavoidable administrative overheads – bank charges, minimal postage and printing – usually make up just 1-2% of BSST's costs.



The wall next door, Photo N Wayne

BSST grantee groups are a great mix. Many employ paid staff and possess Israeli or Palestinian legal status analogous to that of British charities. However, we also work with informal, entirely volunteer groups with minimal infrastructure that are the most likely to struggle for mainstream funding.

Applicants do need internet access, but as we have been contacted successfully by tented desert communities with neither mains electricity, nor wifi, we are confident our online reliance is no obstacle, even to very deprived or isolated groups.

Our application process is simple: we, provide an online, user-friendly application form, take requests year-round and make decisions in weeks. BSST is also equally willing to provide core and project costs, which is greatly valued by grantees as core funds are often the most difficult kind of grant income to secure from donors.

Due diligence is especially important for BSST as our 'arms-length' consideration and approval of groups takes place at several thousand miles distance. We have therefore devised and operate careful and appropriate **evaluation policies and procedures**.

These include checking applications against our own policy criteria, and using external sources – newspaper and magazine articles, the groups' internet presence, and direct briefings from other organisations and individuals that we know in Israel-Palestine-Golan. We have also designed report-back procedures for the end of each funding period, using a short standard form adjusted individually for each project.

Finally, where possible, we meet grant and post box recipient groups. Trustees visiting Israel-Palestine-Golan include trips (at our own expense) to see projects we support.

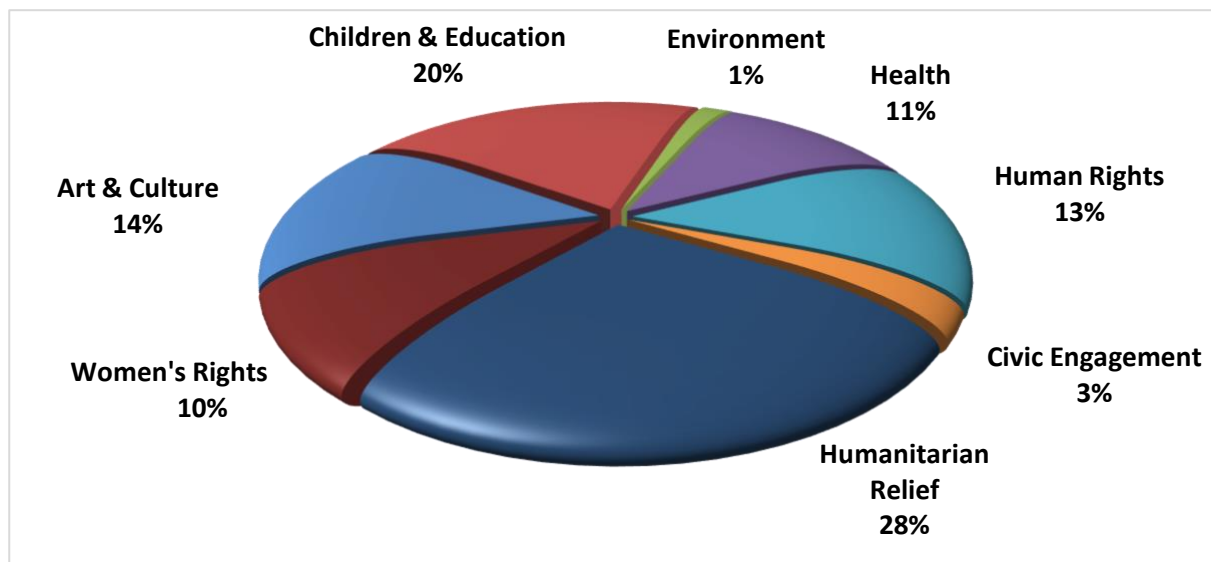


What we give

In 2024-25 successful applicant groups normally received a maximum grant of 30,000 shekels per year (its sterling equivalent ranging from £5,700 to £6,700, depending on very volatile exchange rates), while our current limit on donations we make to general appeals is about 5,000 shekels. BSST's own emergency appeals are not limited in any way.

Many organisations are never able to replace our funding, so BSST provides repeat grants year after year. By contrast, for some groups BSST's early support delivers the crucial pump-priming that eventually enables them to become independent of our assistance.

Our pie chart below gives a broad picture of the way our grant-giving divided up this year. BSST generally seeks to support projects which try to create new hope for the lives of their participants and beneficiaries rather than tackle sudden lack of food for humans or animals, or immediate homelessness. However, in 2024 we were forced to act differently, especially in the West Bank, where we felt we had to respond to ever-increasing house demolitions and pogrom-like settler vandalism and violence, all of which destroyed the essentials of life. This meant that the category 'humanitarian relief' - where the aim is to repair damage and address immediate wants – accounted for the largest total amount we donated.



BSST Expenditure 2024-25

How we raise funds

BSST has funders and beneficiaries of many backgrounds. Thousands of people have donated to us: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and those asserting no religious belief or identity. Faith organisations and peace groups also support us, and we raise significant sums from other charitable trusts.

As we have no endowment, every penny we give away we must first raise: our lifeblood is donations. We are immensely grateful to all our supporters, whose generosity enables us to assist those local organisations seeking in many ways to build a just peace in Israel-Palestine-Golan. This year, major donations to our general funds came from many individuals and the following organisations:

Barham Charitable Trust, Blue Moon Trust, CB&HH Taylor 1984 Trust, Eleanor Rathbone Trust, Funderbirds, John & Susan Bowers Fund, Leri Charitable Trust and two trusts that asked not to be publicly identified.



Why we matter



BSST does not promote any specific 'solution' to current, indeed, escalating injustices and oppression; we believe that is for the parties involved to negotiate. BSST sees its own role as helping people on the ground create the building blocks for a more humane society and a fair and **lasting peace** between the communities of Israel-Palestine-Golan



BSST has much evidence that we make a **real difference** to the groups we support and to their communities – from project reports, discussions with groups we fund, films, photographs, personal accounts, news stories and visits that we make.



At a purely practical level, if donors wish to reach local campaigners and activists in Israel-Palestine-Golan who are trying to strengthen their own communities, then giving to BSST is **simple and effective**. Our trustees have built up specialist knowledge and an extensive network of contacts and are skilled in making informed judgments about groups that other donors might find difficult to evaluate. We have strong relationships with many groups we fund, and we know that overwhelmingly they deliver on the work they have promised.



Our Jewish identity and commitment to a better future for all the people of Israel-Palestine-Golan is important to BSST, but not only to us. Often the groups we work with make it clear that, much as they value our grants, they equally **value who we are** and our aspirations for their lives in the years to come.



Children in Gaza in happier times: a summer camp run by Future Association for Development & the Environment



Projects BSST supported in 2024-25



AROUS ELBAHAR (Bride of the Sea) is a Jaffa-based Palestinian women's group. It tackles the huge social problems – domestic violence, unemployment, low educational achievement, crime, slum housing, drugs, single-parenthood and lack of women's economic independence – hidden behind the touristy glitz of the city's re-developed port area. Nearly 60% of Palestinian families in Jaffa live in severe poverty, with women suffering double discrimination.

This year AROUS ELBAHAR maintained its successful sewing and shop businesses enabling their women workers both to earn and to promote the organisation. Its busy free legal aid clinic continued handling problems specifically relating to Jaffa women's lives, especially employment and family problems, gender-based violence and sexual abuse. And it continued its courses for women and girls in financial literacy, coding and computing. It also launched a new Women's Business Development Programme, 'Women to Women,' where up to 100 aspiring, new and established local Palestinian businesswomen will support and mentor each other. BSST contributed to the cost of the new programme.

—facebook.com/arous.elbahar.jaffa

ARTEAM GARDEN LIBRARY is a welcoming community centre in south Tel Aviv, where most of the city's African asylum-seekers and migrant workers live. Amongst great deprivation, ARTEAM's Garden Library is an oasis of hope. It provides evening classes and family support for asylum-seeker parents, while their children have a safe space to play and study - an open-air multi-lingual library and homework area plus many after-school and holiday activities.



ARTEAM is at the heart of a major asylum-seeker parents' campaign against their children being sent – illegally – to hugely inferior segregated schools and kindergartens rather than mainstream services. BSST again supported ARTEAM's 'Educational Rights Project' - demonstrations, legal challenges, media coverage - against 'separate but equal' educational provision – a form of discrimination outlawed in the US seventy years ago.

—thegardenlibrary.com



FRAGMENTS THEATRE connects artists with each other, the local community, other art scenes in Palestine and with the outside world. Based in Jenin City, it provides a relatively safe space for children, women and young people to learn to express themselves via art and culture. It encourages artistic skills development and even enables some users to launch creative careers. In a city frequently targeted by Israel's army, FRAGMENTS gives hope to vulnerable groups and helps with stress and trauma management.

Despite its tiny budget, FRAGMENTS always has several projects on the go: children's storytelling; photography for young people; improving mental health through the arts; an ambitious schools' scheme involving 700 children and specialist trainers; a play created from community stories; and a women's fabric recycling course. BSST helped with core funding.

—fragments theatre pa.wixsite.com/fragments theatre

Drama at Fragments Theatre



FREDDIE KRIVINE INTIATIVE (FKI) was created by Israeli Jewish tennis enthusiasts who use their sporting passion to address Israel's ethnically divided and discriminatory society. The group works with parents, schools and local government, offering tennis to Palestinian child citizens of Israel. It sees the sport not only as healthy physical activity, but as a vehicle for raising the children's self-esteem, improving their job chances, and for crossing the vast socio-economic, educational and political gulf which separates them from Jewish children.

This year BSST supported the FKI 'After-school Tennis and Homework Club' which serves children from the small coastal towns Jisr az-Zarka and Fureidis. These suffer from extreme poverty, terrifying gun crime on the streets (with many parents keeping their children indoors after school) and a struggling education system (only about a quarter of secondary pupils finish their schooling). Twice weekly FKI's Afterschool Club buses 120 children aged 6-16 to a safe location where their tennis training is followed by Hebrew and English study.

'...with the ongoing war since October 7th, tensions and fears have escalated, making the need for safe, structured environments for these children more critical than ever...FKI's after school club is a lifeline...ensuring these children do not drop out of school is one of our top priorities...'



Children, staff and volunteers at the FKI Afterschool Club

—fkf-tennis.org



FADE is a community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp whose popular annual children and mothers' summer camp was supported by BSST. Sadly, summer 2023 proved to be the last experience of such communal joy for both children and mothers. Since October 7th their lives have been dominated by bombing, home displacement and terror.

Even so, via email and the occasional successful WhatsApp call, BSST has kept in contact and has learned that, against all the odds, the group continues to function. Though its Centre has been damaged, enough still stands for it to be crucial to the survival of the camp's community spirit and services; it's somewhere local people can seek advice, get practical and emotional help, charge their phones, do some photocopying, just hang-out, and, of course, take shelter.

This year, BSST funded FADE's project 'Bringing hope to Gaza's Children Amidst Conflict'. Instead of full days of activity which the summer camps provided, this delivered 24 two-hour sessions of dance, clowns, games, painting and drama for all children who turned up. FADE has told us that once the fun starts, the children – over five thousand in total – have temporarily forgotten their fear and sadness and become totally involved.

—facebook.com/the.futuer.gaza

Message from Ali Al-Derawi, director of FADE

I hope you are in good health. Unfortunately, the building next to the FADE headquarters was destroyed by Israeli occupation aircraft. Also, one of our employees – Raneen aged 23 - was killed, in addition to 5 children, and there were many injuries, including my child who was slightly injured and is currently recovering. Despite the killing, displacement, and shortages of food and medicine, we will work to defy all difficulties to stand by our people against this crazy aggression.

HAIFA ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES (HACD)

is a Gaza-based project, supporting children with Type 1 (insulin dependent) diabetes. It serves those children who live outside the refugee camps, for whom the Palestinian Ministry of Health, not UNWRA, is responsible. As the Ministry's support has been nowhere near sufficient, volunteer-run HACD has helped to fill the gap in the availability of insulin injection pens (held by the boy in the photo), testing strips and glucometers. It has also provided psychological and diabetes-management support.

Since October 7th 2023, BSST has kept in contact with HACD and provided funds to enable the group to overcome immense difficulties - extreme scarcity and rocketing prices as well as bombing and repeated displacement - to source and distribute diabetes clinical supplies.

—facebook.com/hacdhaifa





HEBRON INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES NETWORK (HIRN) is an audacious Palestinian group supported by BSST for many years. HIRN develops local projects in the West Bank areas of harshest Israeli Occupation; Hebron City and surrounding villages, and the settlement-dominated Gush Etzion area. Many HIRN projects promote education, especially for girls: science lab equipment for one girls' school and a new building for another. Other HIRN projects focus on emergency support for villagers in the besieged Massafer Yatta area - food, fuel, rebuilding homes destroyed by the IDF.

This year BSST paid for solar panels that HIRN was installing for a school in Hawara, a town a few miles south of Nablus which has frequently been prey to ferocious settler attacks. BSST also transferred Post Box funds to HIRN.

—friendsofhirn.wordpress.com

HUMANS WITHOUT BORDERS (HWB) is a remarkable group of Israeli organisers and drivers who, even on a shoestring, provide extensive services to West Bank Palestinian families whose sick children need advanced medical treatment in Israel or in occupied East Jerusalem.

HWB drivers take these sick children between checkpoint and hospital, assist with language and cultural issues, visit those who become in-patients, and help with accompanying relatives' expenses - food, lodgings, etc. as well as covering their own petrol costs. Meanwhile, HWB often pays for essential medical costs - equipment, medicines, routine hospital charges - which, increasingly, the Palestinian Authority won't fund.



'FAMILY DAY' is an HWB tradition: every year the group organises an expedition to give all the families they support a break and lots of fun. This time, sick children, their parents and siblings went to a brilliant holiday resort near Bethlehem.

Normally HWB volunteers are there in force too. Sadly, this year it was felt to be too difficult and dangerous for them to go across to the West Bank.

After October 7th, Israel introduced innumerable checkpoints *within* the West Bank and reaching Israeli border pick-up points became a major challenge. Often children could only reach clinical appointments on time if HWB funded taxis from home to pick-up point and then to hospital.

So HWB built up a regular cohort of taxi drivers who, in 2024, carried out a quarter of journeys, while its volunteers did a third. The rest were journeys by children who had to make many repeat trips (e.g. for dialysis); these last were taken via minibus provided by HWB's sister organisation and supporter Project Rozana. Overall, though HWB volunteer numbers fell significantly this year, the group still increased its total trips, continuing to assist around 100 children and families annually.

—humans-without-borders.org



ISHA L'ISHA – HAIFA FEMINIST CENTRE is the oldest grassroots feminist organisation in Israel. BSST assisted its 'Women Without Status' project for another year – helping victims of trafficking, asylum seekers, undocumented workers, and women whose legal or financial status is dependent on their relationship with an Israeli man. These women don't

qualify for state health or welfare services, lack employment and other civil rights and are at high risk of sexual and domestic violence. The project runs a 24-hour helpline, ensures women know their rights, provides emergency finance for food, rent, even abortions, and helps them develop skills, especially Hebrew language competence, to improve their employability.

—facebook.com/IshaLishaHaifaFeministCenter

JAFFA THEATRE: APEIROGON, THE SHOW will transform the novel 'Apeirogon', by Colum McCann, into a play in Hebrew to be performed in the Jaffa (Arab-Hebrew) Theatre in the remnants of Jaffa Old City. 'Apeirogon' is based on the real-life relationship between Israeli and Palestinian bereaved fathers Rami, mourning his teenage daughter, Smadar, who was killed by a Palestinian bomber, and Bassam, who lost ten-year-old Abir to an Israeli Border policeman's bullet. Together they overcame suspicions and animosity to become joint directors of the Israeli-Palestinian bereaved families organisation, the Parents Circle Families Forum.

The play is intended to contribute to peace education and cross-community communication and has been devised by leading playwright and expert in peace education, Avner Ben-Amos, and director, Sinai Peter (the latter having previously co-directed BSST-funded Hebrew/Arabic tragicomedy 'The Peacock of Silwan'). After each performance, there will be conversation circles - spaces for discussion and reflection about advancing the chances of peace.

"Once I thought we could never solve our conflict, we would continue hating each other forever, but it is not written anywhere that we have to go on killing each other. The hero makes a friend of his enemy. That's my duty. Don't thank me for doing it. That's all it is, my duty. When they killed my daughter, they killed my fear. I can do anything now."

"It struck him early on that people were afraid of the enemy because they were terrified that their lives might get diluted, that they might lose themselves in the tangle of knowing each other."

JAHALIN SOLIDARITY (JS) is a Palestinian project challenging Israel's settler-expansionist policy for East Jerusalem and the surrounding area. This policy includes targeting Palestinian residents for forcible displacement, so enabling new housing to be built for Israeli Jewish citizens. JS focuses especially on the Jahalin Bedouin, supporting their struggle against forced transfer from homes they have lived in for the last sixty years. BSST provided its Post Box service.

—jahalin.org



JORDAN VALLEY ACTIVISTS (JVA) is an Israeli group which provides a protective presence 24-7 for the Palestinian shepherd communities in the Jordan Valley. These tented communities live in extremely difficult conditions, very hot, dry and waterless, and to make their lives infinitely more challenging, they are tormented by ever increasing settler attacks.

Daily, JVA volunteers accompany shepherds to their grazing grounds, then at night they often sleep over in shepherd tents trying to prevent violent attacks or even deportation; this year the West Bank has seen eighteen communities forcibly displaced from their land. During 2024, JVA provided over 2000 escorts and night shift cover.

"After October 7th 2023, the settlers were given the green light to attack and usurp grazing lands, steal sheep and cattle and do whatever they want...with the support of the army and the police". JVA Volunteer

"A 7-years-old settler-kid invades, hangs Israeli flags on the premises of a Palestinian family and covers vandalised road signs in the north Jordan Valley. The authorities won't stop him even though he puts himself at risk. Social welfare? police? council? parents? anyone?! No. Its training time." JVA Volunteer

BSST, exceptionally gave two grants. One paid for a typical mix of needs; water (all of which must be bought in), hay for cattle, food parcels for one especially poor shepherd village, the large fines imposed on the shepherds when their animals or vehicles are seized, legal advice, and also for transport costs for JVA volunteers.

The second grant went towards 15 university students' tuition costs: shepherd families desperately want higher education for their children but often cannot pay the fees. JVA has established a special fund to help these families.



—facebook.com/JordanValleyActivists

KAFA ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE NEGEV supports the people of Rahat, Israel's largest Bedouin city and home to over 70,000 Bedouin belonging to dozens of clans. Previously self-contained communities, the clans have been forced together into a crowded urban environment by the Israeli government. Despite unemployment, communal tensions and crime, KAFA has forged a vibrant community organisation to tackle Rahat's endemic poverty and hopelessness. BSST again helped pay for KAFA's Bedouin Rights Centre, a walk-in-clinic on Rahat's main commercial square, staffed by a qualified and paid coordinator and six trained volunteers. These provide residents with practical advice and representation over day-to-day issues such as social welfare, residency, inheritance, debt and travel permits.



KOTOF EL-KHAIR ASSOCIATION is a community group in the central Gaza city of Deir el-Balah. It has long run an impressive range of services including cultural events, a kindergarten for a hundred children, women's rights workshops, disability training for families who support their relatives, medical days giving free healthcare, children's summer camps and humanitarian aid. Last year BSST upgraded KOTOF's kindergarten, installing broadband, smart screens, lap-tops and office equipment. Remarkably, this year, four months *after* October 7th 2023, KOTOF sent us photos and a report to confirm they had been able to complete the project.



Children in the kindergarten enjoying their new laptops in January 2024

BSST has kept contact with KOTOF, which is still providing services to its local community, and now also to refugees from other parts of Gaza. This year we funded 'Smiles in Times of Crisis', a six-month psychological support and entertainment activities project targeting 10,000 children and their families in shelters and displacement centres.

—facebook.com/kotofAssociation

LADA'AT – CHOOSE WELL is an impressive women's project offering information, support and counselling on contraception and unplanned pregnancy. It also runs healthy sexuality workshops for teenagers, trains medical and psychosocial professionals, and lobbies policy makers. Based in West Jerusalem, it serves thousands of users annually – secular and religious Jews, Palestinians, African asylum-seekers, foreign workers, and tourists.

Until around six years ago, though notionally available to Palestinians, LADA'AT's services supported very few Palestinian users. With BSST seed corn funding and encouragement, this situation was transformed, with the establishment of a successful 'Arabic Department' providing a full portfolio of services.

Although most work had to be paused immediately after October 7th, the organisation restarted a few weeks later, coping with a huge increase in demand, especially in East Jerusalem where school requests for workshops quadrupled by comparison with the previous year. BSST was very pleased to contribute to the costs of the Arabic Department.

—ladaat.org.il/en

Image from LADA'AT's very popular Arab Instagram account





AL MARSAD – ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS is the only Syrian human rights group in occupied Golan. When Israel captured Golan from Syria in 1967, 90% of residents fled; those 28,000 Syrians left now live on 5% of Golan’s territory, while 25,000 Israeli settlers live in the other 95%.



AL-MARSAD’s campaign – to get Israel to remove its abandoned landmines, which are mostly unmarked or poorly fenced off. Children playing are at huge risk of injury.

Israel’s 1981 annexation of Golan forced AL MARSAD to register as an Israeli NGO. This means it cannot access EU financial support available to Palestinian groups.

Despite this, it still manages to provide an impressive portfolio of services: advocacy, legal support, international and local lobbying and campaigning, education and cultural enrichment to help preserve Syrian Arab identity and remind us of Israel’s forgotten occupation. BSST approved a core grant.

—golan-marsad.org

NEGEV COEXISTENCE FORUM (NCF) is the only grassroots Jewish/Palestinian organisation campaigning for Bedouin communities’ human and civil rights in the Negev/Naqab. Over half the desert’s 250,000 Bedouin have been forced into government-built towns, freeing their land for Jewish farming and residency.

Yet many still resist compulsory urbanisation and even without basic infrastructure – water, electricity, roads, schools, healthcare – tens of thousands inhabit traditional herding communities, most in ‘unrecognised’ villages. NCF opposes the Israeli state’s constant destruction of these villages, and helps residents rebuild repeatedly.



There have been immense additional pressures on the already persecuted Bedouin communities in the Negev/Naqab since October 7th – including many more home demolitions, lack of security such as safe rooms and Iron Dome cover and worsening poverty. BSST was happy to renew its core funding.

—dukium.org



NEW PROFILE is a feminist group opposed to the state's glorification of military service. It is claimed that the IDF is Israel's 'great leveller'. NEW PROFILE says rather that widespread sexual harassment in the IDF reinforces gender inequality, while soldiers from poor families often get the worst postings, ensuring continuing disadvantage when their service ends. NEW PROFILE assists those who refuse conscription, either for health reasons or conscientious objection, providing free counselling, legal help, and anti-militarism training. It also cooperates with refusenik and other anti-military groups. BSST provided core funding.

—newprofile.org

PARENTS AGAINST CHILD DETENTION (PACD) is an Israeli parents group campaigning to end the violation of Palestinian children's rights when they are arrested and detained. While Jewish settler children suspected of crime receive the protection of Israel's civil courts and international law, their Palestinian counterparts, living maybe yards away, are tried in military courts where child protection laws don't apply. Often held for weeks, interviewed repeatedly without basic safeguards, these children nearly always plead guilty simply to end their misery.



PACD supporters protesting with empty food pots against Israel using starvation as a military tactic.

PACD's support network of Israeli women lawyers, academics, activists and therapists, has extensive experience in legal advocacy, media work and grassroots mobilisation. The group organises conferences, street rallies, online campaigns, exhibitions, media articles, readings, testimony, and other publicity, seeking to get the story of Palestinian child detention out to the Israeli public, to change attitudes and the law. This year, it plans to increase its professional experts' network and expand its interventions in international diplomacy. BSST gave core funding.

—pacd.org.il

RAHAT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) was set up by Bedouin women from Rahat City, aiming to eradicate violence in their Negev communities, especially by improving women's status. Many Bedouin girls are persuaded or forced to leave school very young, to marry or help with household chores. This severely limits their life/job prospects and perpetuates their economic dependence, risk of domestic violence and the poverty cycle. Through education and employment projects, RWA wants to go from individual empowerment to community-wide progress: educated, economically independent women are more likely to invest in their children's learning and well-being, enhancing the overall development of Bedouin society.

BSST contributed to the costs of RWA's training programme 'Driving Change - Empowering Bedouin Women through Vocational Training and Violence Prevention.' This one-year initiative includes a vocational course for thirty women aged 18-30 in kindergarten assistant training. Participants acquire key practical skills - child development, communication, safety and hygiene, plus basic business training. This last enables women to create their own home-based childcare services, or to get jobs in childcare.

—rwa.co.il/en



RURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) works in the villages of the South Hebron Hills, within 'Area C' of the West Bank which is entirely subject to Israel's control. For the last thirty years, Israel has used repeated home demolitions to try to force residents out. So far, these tactics have largely failed in the face of fierce women-led resistance from local groups like the RWA plus international pressure. The RWA also runs projects aimed at providing job opportunities for the village women, as well as education and leisure activities for the children.

This year BSST made two grants. The first was for humanitarian relief - emergency food packages - in a time of major IDF activity, and the second for summer camps providing fun activities and healthy lunches for around a hundred and thirty children spread across three Bedouin villages.

—theruralwomenassociation.wordpress.com

SADAKA REUT – ARAB JEWISH PARTNERSHIP brings Palestinian and Jewish young people together to create social and political change. Focusing on marginalized groups – Bedouin Palestinians, Ethiopian, Russian and Mizrahi Jews – it is active in universities where Palestinian /Jewish student interaction is rare. Promoting 'a shared society based on equality, solidarity, and justice', SADAKA REUT confronts issues of conflict and unequal power. Previously, BSST gave pump priming finance. Now we continue to provide our Post Box service.

—facebook.com/sadakareut

AL TAFAWK CENTRE is a supplementary school and community centre serving the most deprived children in Jenin Refugee Camp. Most pupils come from extreme poverty. Bread is often their only food, while their homes fail to provide even basic shelter, so that pupils mostly live on the streets. Though the children attend UN schools, the education provided is poor and the Centre compensates for its deficiencies, supporting pupils up to 16 in English, maths, Arabic, science, art, music and sport, while 3 to 6-year-olds enjoy the Refugee Camp's only kindergarten. As well as education, the Centre offers warmth, love and safety and ensures each child receives a daily hot meal and is properly clothed.



As last year, the IDF repeatedly invaded the Camp, vandalising the Centre, knocking holes in the building, destroying educational materials, toys, clothes supplies and medications. As well as its own grant, BSST ran a Ramadan appeal so, yet again, AL TAFAWK's Centre could be repaired and its stocks replenished.

—instagram.com/altafawkcenter

Instead of a wrecked building we choose to show some of the children for whom Al Tafawk is a lifeline – for education, food, clothing and loving care.



TENT OF NATIONS (ToN) is a Palestinian Christian project uniting volunteers from many countries, cultures and religions in peace-building and non-violent resistance. At its core is Daher's Vineyard, a family-run organic farm near Bethlehem where volunteers come to support the farm's owners. For three decades the Israeli state has challenged the family's fully documented legal ownership of the land, with family members unable to leave the farm unattended lest it is seized by the IDF.

Their peaceful resistance hasn't always prevented ruthless IDF destruction of crops and orchards – 1,500 young fruit trees were once wiped out in a single assault. However, so far, the owners have managed to stay put and repair destruction, continuing to live by and share their motto 'We Refuse to be Enemies'. BSST provided its Post Box service, as it has for many years.

—tentofnations.com

VILLAGES GROUP is a small Jewish-Palestinian group long supported by BSST. It works in Masaffer Yatta in the South Hebron Hills, an area where Israel is seeking to expel all the residents. The group is deeply involved in the Palestinian villagers' struggles to educate their children, prevent their land being seized and stop the destruction of their homes, indeed, their entire villages. BSST provided its Post Box service, plus three grants.

The first grant was for emergency supplies to help villagers whose homes and possessions have been repeatedly destroyed.

The second helped cover salary costs for Huda's Kindergarten, in the village of Khashem al-Daraj. Immensely popular, serving some fifty children and ensuring they enter school with a flying start.

The third was to rehabilitate the home of eight people in Khalet a-Dabe, a village whose residents are determined to stay put, but which is regularly destroyed.

Erella of the Villages Group with children in Masaffer Yatta



—villagesgroup.wordpress.com

+972 MAGAZINE is a free online publication owned by Israeli and Palestinian journalists committed to ending the Occupation, advancing human rights, and challenging the Israel-Palestine discourse, including reporting those voices overlooked by mainstream media. It has around a million annual readers and an international impact: the New York Times, CNN, the Guardian, BBC, and Le Monde Diplomatique pick up and, increasingly, collaborate on its carefully researched stories, while embassies often request briefings. BSST provided its Post Box service.

–972mag.com



Voices of Resistance

A Zoom Liberation Seder for Gaza

Since Covid, BSST, in cooperation with Jewish Voice for Labour (JVL) and Jews for Justice for Palestinians (JJP) has held a Zoom Liberation Seder, an adaptation of the traditional Jewish service which takes place in the home around the dinner table at the start of the festival of Pesach (Passover). Liberation Sederim have a long tradition in the Jewish Diaspora; a way we can draw on the Jewish festival of achieving freedom from slavery to express solidarity with others experiencing war, trauma, discrimination and misery now.

In BSST we remember the ongoing oppression by Israel of Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem, and their second-class status in Israel itself. We also remind ourselves of those unjustly held; hostages seized by Hamas and other groups on October 7th and thousands of Palestinian prisoners in Israel.

Though the Seder is normally a family service, we have been fortunate that each year a rabbi has been happy to preside for us. This time we were delighted to be joined by Rabbi Lev Taylor who ensured our Seder both helped us reflect on our own role in liberation struggles and was, again, great fun for the participants.



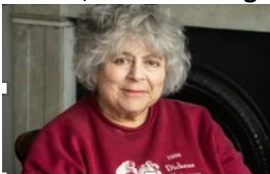
A modern take on the Seder Plate – vegetarian, perhaps vegan.

BSST's Liberation Seder is a combination of readings from the 'regular' Haggadah, twists on the traditional, and additional reflections specifically on the situation in Israel-Palestine-Golan. This year it included:

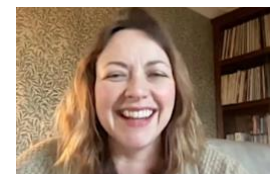


- a film made by artists collective **Led by Donkeys**, showing clothing items laid on a beach, one for each dead child in Gaza.
- **Mustafa Mustasha**, a journalist who spoke to us from Gaza
- a film made by the **Palestine Trauma Centre**, child therapy experts, showing us their amazing work in Gaza since October 7th
- a 'Marxist' adaptation of the Afikomen search devised by our BSST trustee **Stephen Fox**

- a fundraising appeal from our Patron, **Miriam Margolyes**



- **Rabbi Lev** who helped us finish the Seder with the traditional end-of-service songs!!!!



- singer **Charlotte Church**, who led us in 'We Shall Overcome'

BSST is very grateful to Mike Cushman of JVL for his enthusiastic personal support and technical expertise provided for this, as for our preceding sederim, to JVL and JJP for encouraging their members to participate, to Stephen Fox and Naomi Wayne, BSST trustees, for producing our Haggadah and recruiting guest participants – to all we say thank you. And, once again, gratitude to Rabbi Lev for officiating so warmly and inclusively.



Financial Reserves

BSST's policy is to hold in reserve the equivalent of 12 months administrative costs and an additional amount sufficient for two high priority grants of up to £6,000 each. Administrative costs are approximately £1,000/year, requiring total reserves of £13,000. At the end of FY25, unrestricted funds (including reserves) totalled £180,291. The difference between the target level of reserves and actual funds held is due to the requirement to raise funds before approving grants; the gap in timing between receiving donations and making grants; and the fact that much spending in Gaza has been delayed.

Statement Of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 1st July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Gill Yudkin, Chair

Colin Wainwright, Treasurer



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The British Shalom-Salaam Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust for the year ended 28 February 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ruth Hendrick FCA
14 Park Crescent
London N3 2NJ

1st July 2025



Accounts for the Year Ending 28 February 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		2024-25			2023-24		
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income							
Donations received		154,247	55,353	209,600	192,169	127,863	320,032
Gift Aid on donations		1,427	670	2,097	1,932	923	2,854
Bank interest		2,913	-	2,913	467	-	467
Total income		158,587	56,023	214,610	194,568	128,786	323,353
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities	2	119,204	71,599	190,803	127,558	75,881	203,439
Publicity/Fundraising	3	418	-	418	279	-	279
Administration	4	150	-	150	136	-	136
Total Expenditure		119,772	71,599	191,371	127,973	75,881	203,854
Net income / (expenditure)		38,815	(15,576)	23,239	66,595	52,904	119,499
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		141,476	63,390	204,866	74,881	10,486	85,367
Funds carried forward		180,291	47,814	228,105	141,476	63,390	204,866

BALANCE SHEET

		As at 28 February 2025	
	Note	28/2/2025 £	28/2/2024 £
Assets			
Cash at bank		218,675	197,533
HMRC Gift Aid		9,430	7,333
Total Assets		228,105	204,866
Reconciliation of funds			
Unrestricted funds		180,291	141,476
Restricted funds		47,814	63,390
Total Charity Funds		228,105	204,866

Notes to the Accounts

- The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2019 and applicable accounting standards.



	2024-25			2023-24		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
2 Charitable activities						
Grants made	118,506	71,599	190,105	126,844	75,881	202,725
Direct bank charges	698	-	698	714	-	714
	119,204	71,599	190,803	127,558	75,881	203,439
3 Publicity / Fundraising						
Publicity & Website	418	-	418	279	-	279
	418	-	418	279	-	279
4 Administration						
Bank charges	150	-	150	136	-	136
	150	-	150	136	-	136

5 Trustee expenses

There were no expenses paid to trustees in either 2024/25 or 2023/24.

6 Restricted Funds (including Post Boxes)

	1/3/24	Income	Expenditure	28/2/25
Children's Fund	187	225	0	412
Jenin Fund	7,480	240	7,480	240
Gaza and West Bank Fund (previously Trauma Fund)	41,788	3,290	20,210	24,868
+972 Magazine	3,086	22,421	15,300	10,207
Hebron International Resource Network	0	1,000	1,000	0
Jahalin Solidarity	1,392	4,439	5,709	122
Jenin Freedom Theatre	2,520	3,370	0	5,890
Sadaka Reut	0	7,000	7,000	0
Solidarity in Aid	0	18	0	18
Tent Of Nations	3,062	2,396	3,000	2,458
Villages Group	3,876	11,625	11,900	3,601
Total	63,391	56,024	71,599	47,816

7 Grants and Post Box Transfers Made

Organisation	£000s	Organisation	£000s
Arous Elbahar	7	Kotof El-Khair Association	6
Arteam Garden Library	5	Lada'at Choose Well	6
Fragments Theatre	5	Al Marsad	7
Freddie Krivine Initiative	6	Negev Coexistence Forum	5
Future Assoc for Development and Environment	5	New Profile	7
Haifa Association	5	Parents Against Child Detention	6
Hebron International Resource Network	4	Rahat Women's Association	5
Humans without Borders	6	Rural Women's Association	8
Isha L'Isha	7	Sadaka Reut Youth Partnership	7
Jaffa Theatre	7	Al Tafawk Centre	13
Jahalin Solidarity	6	Tent of Nations	3
Jordan Valley Activists	11	Villages Group	27
Kafa Association for Social Change in the Negev	5	+972 Magazine	15



BSST Governance

Personnel

BSST has no paid staff, premises or equipment. The trustees, each with extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on Israel-Palestine, carry out all functions including appointing and training new Board members. New trustees are recruited by personal contact and by advertisement.

Trustee meetings are held every four to six weeks, where general policy, income generation and grant decisions are made.

Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name	British Shalom-Salaam Trust
Charity Registration Number	1103211
Registered Address	28 Huddleston Road, London N7 0AG
Bankers	HSBC, 85 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BE
Independent Examiner	Ruth Hendrick FCA, 14 Park Crescent, London N3 2NJ
E-mail	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	bsst.org.uk

BSST Trustees

- ✿ **Stephen Fox** former academic leader and probation officer, now retired
- ✿ **Professor Gene Feder** Professor of primary care at Bristol Medical School and a GP in Bristol, resigned 28th January 2025
- ✿ **Dr David Sperlinger** retired Clinical Psychologist (Trustee for Income Generation)
- ✿ **Colin Wainwright** IT specialist (Treasurer)
- ✿ **Naomi Wayne** retired charity chief executive (Secretary)
- ✿ **Dr Gillian Yudkin** retired GP (Chair)

BSST Patrons

- ✿ Sir Geoffrey Bindman
- ✿ Sir Nicholas Hytner
- ✿ Professor Francesca Klug OBE
- ✿ Miriam Margolyes OBE
- ✿ Rabbi Jeffrey Newman
- ✿ Professor Susie Orbach
- ✿ Rabbi Danny Rich
- ✿ Claudia Roden
- ✿ Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah
- ✿ Alexei Sayle
- ✿ Professor Avi Shlaim
- ✿ Dame Janet Suzman
- ✿ Zoë Wanamaker CBE

BSST Advisory Group

- ✿ **Richard Kuper**, long-standing campaigner for Palestinian human rights, retired university lecturer and founder of Pluto Press.
- ✿ **Tony Lerman**, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, Vienna, and former Director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- ✿ **Hadas Ziv**, former Director of Public Outreach in Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and previously Executive Director. Winner of the 2009 Oak Fellowship for Human Rights.



THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1103211

Accounts

British Shalom-Salaam Trust

Crossing Borders for Peace



**Shalom
Salaam** 
THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST
Charity No. 1103211

Annual Report
& Accounts

March 2023 –
February 2024

From Our Chair



What an extraordinary and horrific year this has been.

BSST's financial year March 2023 to February 2024 has been divided almost in half by the appalling events of 7th October and then the unimaginable near destruction of Gaza, with most of its population displaced and tens of thousands of civilian deaths. As I write this in October 2024, there is no sign of an end to the Israeli attacks, which have now extended into Lebanon, while settler and IDF violence intensifies in the West Bank.

So what has BSST been doing this year?

Up until October 7th, our grant giving followed its normal pattern, except that in the West Bank, attacks both by settlers and the IDF became even more frequent and fierce in their violence. This caused us to launch a successful emergency appeal for Jenin, so we could repeatedly enable the *Al Tafawk* supplementary school in Jenin Refugee Camp to repair their premises, which have been repeatedly vandalised by the IDF.

Once war started, Gaza became our first priority and we suspended many regular applications. We had a very heartwarming response to our appeal for our "Trauma Fund" for Gaza, expecting that our help would be needed for the '*Day After*', which would surely come soon. However, a year on, that Day After seems no nearer.

Despite frequent power outages, this last year we have succeeded in contacting most of our grantees in Gaza, many of whom had suffered losses of family members, premises being damaged or lost entirely, and personal displacement. They have demonstrated extraordinary resilience, using their skills and experience as community activists to source food and other essentials to distribute to families, including refugees from Northern Gaza, who arrived at their door with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. Clowns and playleaders who, before the war had been bringing children a little fun, made valiant efforts to continue to entertain whichever children were around in any space that could be found among the destruction. We have been able to provide some financial support to Gaza groups, but like other developmental projects supporting work in Palestine, our funds for rebuilding communities await a time when we will be able to distribute them again.

Within Israel, groups such as *Parents against Child Detention*, *Kafa Association*, *Humans without Borders* and *Negev Coexistence Forum* all experienced increased demand because of the war on Gaza. A major problem has been that many Palestinians were immediately thrown out of work and their families have been left destitute.

Nevertheless, talking to our partners in Palestine and Israel gives us some hope to cling on to. Our expressions of solidarity are hugely valued, and we owe it to those 'on the ground' to continue our work, with faith that the '*Day After*' will become a reality and we will fully use all the funds our many supporters have so generously donated.

Thanks to all our donors and supporters for standing with us.

Dr Gill Yudkin
Chair, BSST

October 2024

Who we are

The British Shalom-Salaam Trust is the only British Jewish grant-giving charity working solely across 'Israel-Palestine-Golan'. This is the name BSST uses for the entire territory we cover: the state of Israel since 1948, and all the land - Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem, and Golan - occupied by Israel since 1967.

Our grants policy: challenging oppression – bringing justice and hope

BSST supports groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that seek creative and practical solutions to the needs of their communities. We see ourselves as enablers not prescribers. We do not impose our own programmes: we respond to needs identified by the groups we work with.

BSST favours small grassroots projects and is very willing to help the many groups tackling contentious issues and those overlooked by major funders.

We don't seek out beneficiaries: they find us mostly by word of mouth, occasionally via internet searches. The result is our eclectic portfolio: some 600 grants have gone to around 200 organisations since BSST started out in 2004.

Most BSST grants go to Palestinian, Jewish and joint groups, but currently we also support Golan Syrians, East Jerusalem gypsies, and African asylum seekers and migrant workers who now live in Israel.



Graffiti on the Israel's so-called 'separation wall'. Photo N Wayne

Our Jewish identity defines our work and purpose. We seek:

- ✿ to make a positive and practical Jewish statement of opposition to the oppression of the Palestinian people across Israel-Palestine, and of the Syrian population of Golan.
- ✿ to oppose all discrimination against other minorities or sections of the communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan. These include women and LGBTQ+ people within the entire area; asylum seekers and migrant workers in Israel; gypsies in East Jerusalem; Ethiopian and Mizrahi Jews in Israel.
- ✿ to support the achievement of a just, democratic and sustainable peace based on equality, human rights and mutual respect between all communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan.

We also recognise that the rights of Palestinian refugees must be a key part of any just peace settlement. However, with our limited resources, BSST has to limit its grant-giving to people and projects within Israel-Palestine-Golan.

How we work

We deliver public benefit:

- ✿ mostly by providing grants to groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that have applied to BSST for support and that fall within BSST's guidelines.
- ✿ occasionally by making small grants in response to a general appeal.
- ✿ through our Post Box service, where BSST receives and manages charitable donations secured from friends and supporters in Britain by approved groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan.
- ✿ by organising our own emergency appeals in times of urgent need.

BSST itself has neither employees nor an office. Its volunteer trustees carry out all functions, working mostly online. This ensures that in a normal year, at least 98% of our expenditure goes on charitable grants. Unavoidable administrative overheads – bank charges, minimal postage and printing – usually make up just 1-2% of BSST's costs.



Machsom Watch monitor border crossings.

Many BSST grant recipients employ paid staff and possess Israeli or Palestinian legal status analogous to that of British charities. However, we also support informal, entirely volunteer-run groups with minimal infrastructure that are the most likely to struggle for mainstream funding. We do need applicants to have email access, but as we have been contacted successfully by tented desert communities without mains electricity or wi-fi, we are confident that our online reliance is not an obstacle, even to very deprived groups.

Our application process is simple: we post grant criteria on our website, provide an online, user-friendly application form, take requests year-round and make decisions in weeks.

BSST necessarily operates at arm's length, so we have developed evaluation policies and guidelines to review our beneficiary groups. As well as measuring applications against our own criteria, we check other sources: internet presence, newspaper reports,

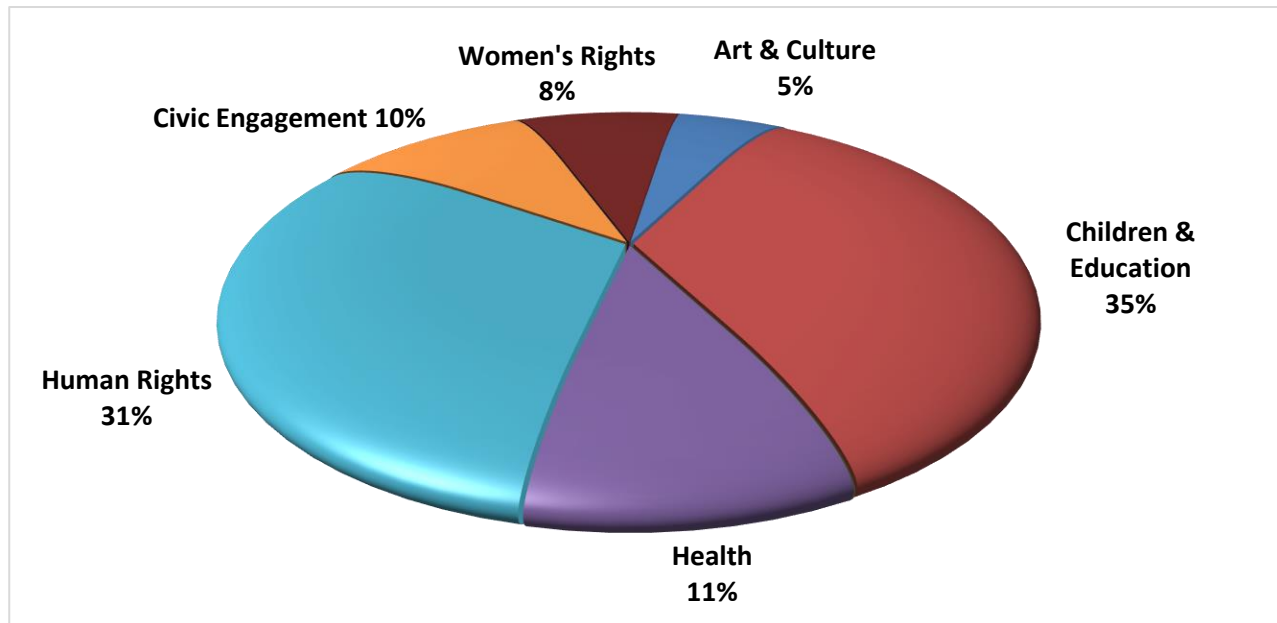
briefings from other groups and individuals in Israel-Palestine-Golan. We have also designed report-back procedures for the end of each funding period, using a straightforward standard form adjusted individually for each project. And we consult our Advisory Group whose members have specialist knowledge and close ties with Israel-Palestine.

Finally, where possible, we meet grant and post box recipient groups. Trustees visiting Israel-Palestine-Golan include trips (at our own expense) to see projects that we support.

What we give

In 2023-4 successful applicant groups received a maximum grant of 25,000 shekels per year (its sterling equivalent ranging from £6,000 down to £5,100, depending on Israel's very unstable exchange rate), while our current limit on donations that we make to general appeals is 5,000 shekels. BSST's own emergency appeals, do not apply a grant cap.

Many organisations are never able to replace our funding, so BSST provides repeat grants year after year. By contrast, for some groups BSST's early support delivers the crucial pump-priming that eventually enables them to become independent of our assistance.



BSST Expenditure 2023-24

How we raise funds

BSST has funders and beneficiaries of many backgrounds. Thousands of people have donated to us: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and those asserting no religious belief or identity. Faith organisations and peace groups also support us, and we raise significant sums from other charitable trusts.

As we have no endowment, every penny we give away we must first raise: our lifeblood is donations. We are immensely grateful to all our supporters, whose generosity enables us to assist those local organisations seeking in many ways to build a just peace in Israel-Palestine-Golan. This year, major donations to our general funds came from many individuals and the following organisations:

Amberstone Trust, Balcome Trust, Blue Moon Trust, CB&HH Taylor 1984 Trust, Disrupt Foundation, Eleanor Rathbone Trust, Fulton Charitable Trust, The Green Room, IHL Human Rights Fund, Jews for Justice for Palestinians, Jewish Voice for Labour, John & Susan Bowers Fund, Just Trust, Nancy Wishart Charitable Trust, Network for Social Change, Orr Mackintosh Foundation/Sharegift, Southall Trust and two trusts that asked not to be publicly identified.

Why we matter



While we do not promote any specific 'solution' to current inequalities and injustices – that is for the parties involved to negotiate – BSST sees its role as helping people on the ground to create the building blocks for a more humane society and a fair and **lasting peace** between the communities of Israel-Palestine-Golan



BSST has much evidence that we make a **real difference** to the groups we support and to their communities – from project reports, discussions with groups we fund, films, photographs, personal accounts, news stories and visits that we make.



At a purely practical level, if donors wish to reach local campaigners and activists in Israel-Palestine-Golan who are trying to strengthen their own communities, then giving to BSST is **simple and effective**. Our trustees have built up specialist knowledge and an extensive network of contacts and are skilled in making informed judgments about groups that other donors might find difficult to evaluate. We have strong relationships with many groups we fund, and we know that overwhelmingly they deliver on the work they have promised.



Our Jewish identity and commitment to a better future for all the people of Israel-Palestine-Golan is important to BSST, but not only to us. Often the groups we work with make it clear that, much as they value our grants, they equally **value who we are** and our aspirations for their lives in the years to come.



Children in Gaza in happier times: the summer camp run by Future Association for Development & the Environment

Projects BSST supported in 2023-24

AFAQ JADEEDA ASSOCIATION (New Horizons) is a community group serving Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, where over 80,000 people live in extreme poverty. It has long delivered social welfare, education and leisure activities. This year BSST funded its summer programme, providing fun and free lunches for 150 of the most deprived four- to five-year-olds, while their mothers learned parenting skills and how to support their children through stress and anxiety caused by Israel's bombing raids. Taking place before October 7th and the huge assaults on Gaza ever since, the camp represented the last period of simple joy and safety that the children and their mothers have experienced. Since that date, BSST is relieved to report that it has managed to have occasional email contact with AFAQ JADEEDA's director.

AHNA HON (We Are Here) is a community organisation working in an area of Palestinian villages northwest of Nazareth. Via vocational training, therapeutic and leisure activities, it aims to assist local Palestinians with disabilities build their self-esteem, develop friendships, learn how to live more independently and integrate into wider society. BSST helped fund a carpentry project training participants to produce wooden goods for sale, and to acquire a skill set enabling them to enter the job market.

AROUS EL BAHAR (Bride of the Sea) is a Jaffa-based Palestinian women's group, tackling the huge social problems – unemployment, deprivation, domestic violence, low educational achievement, crime and drugs – hidden behind the touristy glitz of the city's redeveloped port area. Nearly 60% of Palestinian families in Jaffa live in poverty, with Palestinian women suffering double discrimination. This year AROUS EL BAHAR maintained its sewing and shop businesses and its free legal aid clinic tackling employment and family problems, gender-based violence and sexual abuse. Plus, it expanded its financial literacy courses and established a new programme for women entrepreneurs. BSST contributed to core costs.

facebook.com/arous.elbahar.jaffa

COMMUNITY PEACEMAKER TEAMS (CPT), (previously 'Christian Peacemaker Teams') is an international body supporting peace worker teams in the West Bank. Embedded in rural areas of the West Bank where the Palestinian residents are under constant threat from IDF and settler incursions, the peace workers aim to provide protection by their very presence and by their training in nonviolent direct action. In CPT's words: reducing violence by 'getting in the way'. BSST provided its Post Box Service.

cpt.org/programs/Palestine

DOMARI SOCIETY OF GYPSIES IN JERUSALEM serves 2000 members of one of Israel-Palestine's smallest communities. Poor, nearly invisible, and with minimal education, their disadvantage is cemented by hostility from those around them. Domari men struggle to get work, the women are trapped by economic dependency and male violence, while their children are bullied at school and abandon education early. The DOMARI SOCIETY's welcoming Centre provides homework space and after-school tutoring for the children, plus literacy courses and vocational training for the adult women. BSST helped fund tuition in core subjects – English, Arabic, Maths, and, for the first time, Hebrew – along with tram fares and a meal for each child. After October 7th, when we learned that all the Domari men had lost their jobs and their families were destitute, BSST funded emergency food packages.

domarisociety.com

ELHAWAKEER ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT is a Nazareth-based group supporting Palestinian farmers, especially women. It teaches them how to improve their farming and business skills and to work more productively by pooling their resources. BSST supported its olive harvesting project, purchasing four small olive picking machines, so the villagers of Qifin on the West Bank side of 'the Wall' could band together and bring in their olive crops rapidly during the brief period that Israel allows access to their land on the Israeli side. After training, the farmers were well on target to start harvesting but following October 7th, the IDF barred them completely from entering their fields within Israel. ELHAWAKEER told us that those who tried were "either shot or arrested or physically blocked".

FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE confronts the failure of Israel's education system in teaching Israel-Palestine history. Tight state control creates an unchallengeable 'narrative', where critical thought is discouraged. By contrast, FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE provides a platform for thinking, learning and changing attitudes among both experienced and trainee teachers. Together with partner teacher training institutions, it offers degree modules and professional development programmes examining Palestinians' and Jews' different understanding, experience and beliefs. Each course is jointly led by Jewish and Palestinian women facilitators and serves equal numbers of Palestinian and Jewish women participants. BSST contributed to core costs.

friendshipvillage.org.il

FUTURE ASSOCIATION FOR FRIENDSHIP AND THE ENVIRONMENT (FADE) is a community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp whose annual summer camp for children and mothers has been supported by BSST several times before. After a COVID enforced break, the camp resumed, providing a summer of enjoyment for 100 children aged six to fifteen. Once again, for children in Gaza, this project proved to be their last experience of happiness and release from fear before October 7th. Since then, BSST has succeeded in keeping in contact with FADE's Director and has learned that against all the odds the Centre continues to function, as a place local people can seek advice, practical and emotional support, get their phones charged, take shelter and continue to have some sense of community.

facebook.com/the.futuer.gaza

GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTIVE (GSC) is based in the South Hebron Hills, opposing home demolition, supporting villages under attack, planting olive trees, running a guesthouse, holding workshops on Bedouin history and culture. BSST provided its Post Box service.

goodshepherdcollective.org

HAIFA ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES (HACD) is a Gaza-based project, supporting children with Type 1 (insulin dependent) diabetes. It serves those children who live outside the refugee camps, for whom the Palestinian Ministry of Health, not UNWRA, is responsible. As the Ministry's support is nowhere near sufficient, volunteer-run HACD helps fill the gap in the availability of insulin injection pens, testing strips and glucometers. It also provides psychological and diabetes-management support. BSST paid for clinical supplies and has managed to maintain contact with HACD since October 7th

facebook.com/hacdhaifa

HOPE FLOWERS SCHOOL serves a very deprived population just outside Bethlehem. Many pupils live in refugee camps and a high proportion have special needs. The school provides extensive social care alongside a regular primary education programme. Like everywhere in the West Bank, violent interventions by the IDF have ramped up since October 7th. BSST provided some emergency funding after the IDF blockaded the school, nearby homes were demolished and the children were severely traumatised

hopeflowers.org

HUMANS WITHOUT BORDERS (HWB) is an Israeli Jewish volunteer group supporting West Bank Palestinian families with children needing advanced medical treatment in Israel or in occupied East Jerusalem. HWB volunteers drive the children between checkpoint and hospital, assist with language and cultural difficulties, visit those who become in-patients, and help with accompanying relatives' expenses - food, lodgings, etc. Often HWB pays for essential medical costs - equipment, medicines, routine hospital charges - which, increasingly, the Palestinian Authority won't cover. BSST contributed to costs not covered by HWB's volunteers themselves.

humans-without-borders.org

ISHA L'ISHA - HAIFA FEMINIST CENTRE is the oldest grassroots feminist organisation in Israel. BSST assisted its Women Without Status project - helping victims of trafficking, asylum seekers, undocumented workers, and women whose legal or financial status is dependent on their relationship with an Israeli man. These women don't qualify for state health or welfare services, lack employment and other civil rights, and are at high risk of sexual and domestic violence. The project runs a 24-hour helpline, ensures women know their rights, provides emergency finance for food, rent, even abortions, and helps them develop skills, especially Hebrew language competence, to improve their employability.

facebook.com/IshaLishaHaifaFeministCenter

KAFA ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE NEGEV supports the people of Rahat, Israel's largest Bedouin city, and home to over 70,000 Bedouin belonging to dozens of clans. Previously self-contained desert communities, the clans have been forced together into a crowded urban environment by the Israeli government. Despite unemployment, communal tensions and crime, KAFA has forged a vibrant community organisation to tackle Rahat's endemic poverty and hopelessness. BSST once again funded its Bedouin Rights Centre, providing locals with practical advice and representation over day-to-day issues such as social welfare, residency, inheritance, debt and travel permits. BSST also provided emergency support after October 7th as some of the city's residents were killed and others kidnapped.

KOTOF EL KHAIR ASSOCIATION is a community group in the central Gaza city of Deir el-Balah. Its impressive range of services used to include cultural events, a safe children's play space, women's rights workshops, disability training, free healthcare access days, summer camps and humanitarian aid. BSST funded an ambitious project to enhance KOTOF's kindergarten which served 100 children. Broadband was installed, and equipment purchased: smart screens to aid interactive learning, laptops, a photocopier, colour printer and camera. The outside play area was also upgraded to make it safer and more fun to use. Remarkably, four months after October 7th KOTOF sent us a brilliant report showing how the project had been implemented. Since October 7th BSST has stayed in touch with its Director and the group is still providing services to its local community and to refugees from other parts of Gaza.

facebook.com/kotofAssociation

LADA'AT - CHOOSE WELL offers information, support and counselling on contraception and unplanned pregnancy. It also runs healthy sexuality workshops for teenagers, trains medical and psychosocial professionals, and lobbies policy makers. Based in West Jerusalem, it serves thousands of women annually - secular and religious Jews, Palestinians, African asylum-seekers, foreign workers and tourists. With BSST seedcorn funding and encouragement, since 2018 LADA'AT's previous inaccessibility to Palestinian women has been replaced by a very successful 'Arabic Department' providing a full portfolio of services. BSST was pleased to contribute to the costs of expanding this department during 2023.

ladaat.org.il/en

AL MARSAD – ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS is the only Syrian human rights group in occupied Golan. When Israel captured Golan from Syria in 1967, 90% of residents fled; those 28,000 Syrians left live on 5% of Golan's territory, 25,000 Israeli settlers in the other 95%. Israel's 1981 annexation of Golan forced AL MARSAD to register as an Israeli NGO, so it cannot access EU financial support available to Palestinian groups. It still provides an impressive portfolio of services; advocacy, legal support, local and international lobbying and campaigning, cultural enrichment, and education to preserve Syrian-Arab identity and remind us of Israel's forgotten occupation. BSST provided a core grant and its Post Box service.
golan-marsad.org

MASAFER YATTA WRESTLING CLUB is a sports venture for boys living in the Masafer Yatta region, a place area without mains water, grid electricity or social facilities, and with residents under permanent threat of eviction by the Israeli state and violent harassment from Israeli settlers. The club is the initiative of wrestling enthusiast, Sam, from the Centre for Jewish Non-Violence who, having lived for months in Palestinian homes as a 'Human Rights Defender', set it up to acknowledge the generosity of his villager hosts. BSST gave a grant for the boys' kit and to pay visiting Palestinian wrestlers to provide some of the training. After a break following October 7th, BSST was happy to hear the club had started again in February 2024.

MIN EL BAHAR (Sea Holidays for Palestinian Children) is a Jewish/Palestinian project bringing joy to West Bank Palestinian families who are cut off from the sea. Entirely volunteer-run and on a tiny budget, every summer MIN EL BAHAR brings 1,500 of the most disadvantaged Palestinian children and mothers for a day at the beach. The children get a few hours' freedom and fun, while their mothers relax together, briefly escaping domesticity and Occupation. The four Tel Aviv women organisers and their Palestinian colleagues across the West Bank recruit participants, arrange transport, entertainment and meals for dozens of day trips, and negotiate with the IDF so everyone gets through the checkpoints. Most funding comes from individuals, with BSST alone providing a regular major grant.
minelbahar.com

NEGEV COEXISTENCE FORUM (NCF) is the only grassroots Jewish/Palestinian organisation campaigning for Bedouin communities' human and civil rights in the Negev/Naqab. Over half the desert's 250,000 Bedouin have been forced into government-built towns, freeing their land for Jewish farming and residency. Yet many still resist compulsory urbanisation and even without basic infrastructure – water, electricity, roads, schools, healthcare – tens of thousands still inhabit traditional herding communities, most in 'unrecognised' villages. NCF opposes the Israeli state's constant destruction of these villages, and helps residents rebuild dozens, even hundreds of times. BSST provided core funding.
dukium.org

NEW PROFILE is a feminist group opposed to the state's glorification of military service. It is claimed that the IDF is Israel's great leveller: NEW PROFILE disagrees, saying that widespread sexual harassment reinforces gender inequality, while soldiers from poor families often get the worst postings, ensuring continuing disadvantage at their service end. NEW PROFILE assists those who refuse conscription, either for health or conscientious objection reasons, providing free counselling, legal help, and anti-militarism training. It also cooperates with 'refusenik' and other anti-military groups. BSST provided core funding and its Post Box service.
newprofile.org

AL NOUR ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT has long provided health, social and humanitarian support to the people of Deir al-Balah, a city in central Gaza. It has always been distinctive for its work integrating children with disabilities into the mainstream, and helping with emotional and behavioural problems, whether linked to disabilities or to the trauma of repeated military assaults on Gaza. BSST helped fund AL NOUR's summer camp

which provided art, theatre, sport and general play activities: this time it involved 100 children aged 4 to 6 years, and its timing ensured that it provided a precious period of joy and security before October 7th. Since then, the group has managed to continue supporting local people and refugees from other parts of Gaza and BSST has maintained email contact with them.

PALESTINE TRAUMA CENTRE (PTC) delivers family therapy, rapid intervention trauma relief, specialist psychotherapy and psychological training across Gaza. Its work includes its BSST-supported FRIDAY OF JOY initiative, which brings drama, clowns, games, painting and music into schools, playgrounds and streets throughout Gaza, and enables PTC to identify children needing extra support. This year BSST repeated its FRIDAY OF JOY grant, which was supposed to run till August 2024 and would have helped PTC work with around 12,000 children over twelve months. This plan ceased to be possible from October 7th onwards. However, BSST has maintained contact with PTC and knows that the group is engaged in every kind of community support that it can organise, including emergency food distribution, and when possible, on-street entertainment with children.

Ptcuk.org

PARENTS AGAINST CHILD DETENTION (PACD) is an Israeli parents group campaigning to end the violation of Palestinian children's rights when they are arrested and detained. While Jewish settler children suspected of crime receive the protection afforded juveniles by Israel's civil courts and by international law, their Palestinian counterparts, perhaps living only yards away, are tried in military courts where child protection laws don't apply. Terrified, they are often held for weeks, are interviewed repeatedly without basic safeguards being applied and nearly always plead guilty to end their misery. PACD organises conferences, street rallies, online campaigns, exhibitions, public testimony readings, media articles and other publicity, seeking to get the true story of Palestinian child detention out to the Israeli public, and to change the law. BSST provided core funding.

pacd.org.il

PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – ISRAEL (PHRI) is a campaigning and service-providing medico-human rights organisation. It believes that everyone for whom the State is responsible – Israeli citizens of all ethnicities and communities, non-citizen residents, migrant workers, asylum-seekers, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and Syrians in Golan – are equally entitled to healthcare. BSST provided its Post Box service.

phr.org.il

RURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) works in the villages of the South Hebron Hills, within 'Area C' of the West Bank which is entirely subject to Israel's control. For the last thirty years, Israel has used repeated home demolitions to try to force residents out. So far, these tactics have largely failed in the face of fierce women-led resistance from local groups like the RWA plus international pressure. The RWA also runs projects aimed at providing job opportunities for the village women, as well as education and leisure activities for the children. This year BSST paid for summer camps providing fun activities and healthy lunches for over a hundred children spread across three Bedouin villages.

theruralwomenassociation.wordpress.com

SADAKA REUT YOUTH PARTNERSHIP brings Palestinian and Jewish young people together to create social and political change. Focusing on marginalized groups – Bedouin Palestinians, Ethiopian, Russian and Mizrahi Jews – it is active in universities where Jewish/ Palestinian student interaction is rare. Promoting 'a shared society based "on equality, solidarity, and justice', SADAKA REUT directly confronts issues of conflict and unequal power. Previously, BSST gave several years pump priming finance. Now we provide our Post Box service

facebook.com/sadakareut

ST JOHN EYE HOSPITAL is the only charitable provider of specialist eye care in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, treating patients regardless of ethnicity, religion or ability to pay. It benefits from the BSST Post Box service.

stjohnseyehospital.org

AL TAFAWK CENTRE is a supplementary school and community centre serving the most deprived children in Jenin Refugee Camp. Most pupils come from extreme poverty: with homes unable to provide even basic shelter, and bread the only food, its pupils mostly live on the streets. Though the children attend UN schools, the education provided is poor and the Centre redresses its deficiencies, supporting pupils up to 16 in English, maths, Arabic, science, art, music and sport, while 3 to 6-year-olds enjoy the Refugee Camp's only kindergarten. As well as education, the Centre offers warmth, love and safety and ensures each child receives a daily hot meal and is properly clothed. During this year, the IDF repeatedly invaded the Camp, and repeatedly vandalised the Centre, knocking holes in the building, destroying toys, educational materials, clothes supplies and medications. As well as its regular grant, BSST also ran an emergency appeal so that Al Tafawk's Centre could be repaired and its stocks replenished.

[instagram.com/altafawkcenter](https://www.instagram.com/altafawkcenter)

TISHREEN is a Palestinian community group based in Taybeh, an economic and cultural hub city in the mostly Palestinian Triangle region of Israel. It focuses especially on women, young people and children and those engaged in the arts. Its passionate promotion of Triangle artists' creative work enhances the community's sense of self-worth and Palestinian cultural identity. TISHREEN's Cultural Café – art gallery, coffee shop, workspaces – is central to its ambitious plan to become the go-to Triangle artists' meeting space and resource. It is also somewhere the wider Palestinian community can meet, eat, and enjoy cultural and political discussion, book events, lectures, exhibitions, music, theatre, cinema etc. BSST provided core funding.

[facebook.com/TishreenAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/TishreenAssociation)

VILLAGES GROUP is a small all-volunteer Jewish-Palestinian group long supported by BSST. It provides support and solidarity to Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills and near Nablus and is deeply involved in the Palestinian villagers' struggles to educate their children, prevent their land being seized and stop their homes being destroyed. This year, BSST provided its Post Box service, plus a grant for the VILLAGES GROUP to manage. This helped cover salary costs for Huda's Kindergarten, in Khashem al-Daraj, an isolated south Hebron Bedouin village. Immensely popular, it serves some fifty children – from the village and surrounding hills – ensuring they are fully prepared to enter primary school.

villagesgroup.wordpress.com

+972 MAGAZINE is a free online publication owned by Israeli and Palestinian journalists committed to ending the Occupation, advancing human rights, and challenging the Israel-Palestine discourse, including reporting those voices overlooked by mainstream media. It has around a million annual readers and an international impact: the New York Times, CNN, the Guardian, BBC, and Le Monde Diplomatique pick up and sometimes collaborate in work on its carefully researched stories and regularly interview its writers, while embassies often request briefings. BSST provided its Post Box service.

972mag.com



STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 23rd November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Gill Yudkin, Chair

Colin Wainwright, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust for the year ended 28 February 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

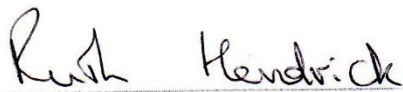
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ruth Hendrick FCA
14 Park Crescent
London N3 2NJ

23rd November 2024

Accounts for the Year Ending 28 February 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	2023-24			2022-23		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income							
Donations received		192,169	127,863	320,032	115,794	69,907	185,701
Gift Aid on donations		1,932	923	2,854	1,716	345	2,061
Bank interest		467	-	467	65	-	65
Total income		194,568	128,786	323,353	117,575	70,252	187,827
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities	2	127,558	75,881	203,439	114,855	76,417	191,272
Publicity/Fundraising	3	279	-	279	772	-	772
Administration	4	136	-	136	134	-	134
Total Expenditure		127,973	75,881	203,854	115,761	76,417	192,178
Net income / (expenditure)		66,595	52,904	119,499	1,814	(6,165)	(4,351)
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		74,881	10,486	85,367	73,067	16,651	89,718
Funds carried forward		141,476	63,390	204,866	74,881	10,486	85,367

BALANCE SHEET

As at 28 February 2024		
Note	28/2/2024 £	28/2/2023 £
Assets		
Cash at bank	197,533	80,888
HMRC Gift Aid	7,333	4,479
Total Assets	204,866	85,367
Reconciliation of funds		
Unrestricted funds	141,476	74,881
Restricted funds	63,390	10,486
Total Charity Funds	204,866	85,367

Notes to the Accounts

- The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2019 and applicable accounting standards.

	2023-24			2022-23		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
2 Charitable activities						
Grants made	126,844	75,881	202,725	114,150	76,417	190,567
Direct bank charges	714	-	714	705	-	705
	127,558	75,881	203,439	114,855	76,417	191,272
3 Publicity / Fundraising						
Fundraising	-	-	-	55	-	55
Printing postage stationery	-	-	-	320	-	320
Publicity & Website	279	-	279	397	-	397
	279	-	279	772	-	772
4 Administration						
Bank charges	136	-	136	134	-	134
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
	136	-	136	134	-	134

5 Trustee expenses

There were no expenses paid to trustees in either 2023/24 or 2022/23.

6 Restricted Funds (including Post Boxes)

	1/3/23	Income	Expenditure	28/2/24
Children's Fund	1,641	225	1,679	187
Gaza Fund	137	0	137	0
Jenin Fund	0	16,980	9,500	7,480
Trauma Fund	0	49,369	7,582	41,788
+972 Magazine	1,149	12,197	10,260	3,086
Christian Peacemaker Teams - CPT	725	0	725	0
Good Shepherd Collective	2,624	50	2,674	0
Jahalin Solidarity	1,214	178	0	1,392
Jenin Freedom Theatre	0	2,520	0	2,520
Al Marsad – Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights	0	15,000	15,000	0
New Profile	0	15,000	15,000	0
Physicians for Human Rights, PHR-I	125	0	125	0
Sadaka Reut	0	7,000	7,000	0
St. John's Eye Hospital	750	375	1,125	0
Tent Of Nations	972	2,090	0	3,062
Villages Group	1,150	7,801	5,075	3,876
Total	10,487	128,786	75,881	63,391

7 Grants and Post Box Transfers Made

Organisation	£000s	Organisation	£000s
Afaq Jadeeda Association	6	Al Marsad – Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights	21
Ahna Hon	4	Masafer Yatta Wrestling Club	1
Arous Elbahar	6	Min el Bahar	6
Community Peacemaker Teams	1	Negev Coexistence Forum	5
Domari Society of Gypsies in Jerusalem	9	New Profile	21
Elhawakeer	3	Al Nour Association for Community Development	6
Friendship Village	6	Palestine Trauma Centre	5
Future Association for Development and Environment	6	Parents Against Child Detention	6
Good Shepherd Collective	3	Physicians for Human Rights Israel	0.1
Haifa Association for Children with Diabetes	5	Rural Women's Association	6
Hope Flowers School	1	Sadaka Reut Youth Partnership	7
Humans without Borders	6	St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital	1
Isha L'Isha	5	Al Tafawk Centre, Jenin	15
Kafa Association for Social Change in the Negev	8	Tishreen	5
Kotof El Khair Association	6	Villages Group	9
Lada'at - Choose Well	6	+972 Magazine	10

BSST Governance

Personnel

BSST has no paid staff, premises or equipment. The trustees, each with extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on Israel-Palestine, carry out all functions including appointing and training new Board members. New trustees are recruited by personal contact and by advertisement.

Trustee meetings are held every four to six weeks, where general policy, income generation and grant decisions are made.

Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name	British Shalom-Salaam Trust
Charity Registration Number	1103211
Registered Address	28 Huddleston Road, London N7 0AG
Bankers	HSBC, 85 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BE
Independent Examiner	Ruth Hendrick FCA, 14 Park Crescent, London N3 2NJ
E-mail	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	bsst.org.uk

BSST Trustees

- ✿ **Stephen Fox** former academic leader and probation officer, now retired, appointed October 23rd 2023
- ✿ **Professor Gene Feder** Professor of primary care at Bristol Medical School and a GP in Bristol, appointed July 24th 2023
- ✿ **Dr David Sperlinger** retired Clinical Psychologist (Trustee for Income Generation)
- ✿ **Colin Wainwright** IT specialist (Treasurer)
- ✿ **Naomi Wayne** retired charity chief executive (Secretary)
- ✿ **Dr Gillian Yudkin** retired GP (Chair)

BSST Patrons

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ✿ Sir Geoffrey Bindman | ✿ Claudia Roden |
| ✿ Sir Nicholas Hytner | ✿ Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah |
| ✿ Professor Francesca Klug OBE | ✿ Alexei Sayle |
| ✿ Miriam Margolyes OBE | ✿ Professor Avi Shlaim |
| ✿ Rabbi Jeffrey Newman | ✿ Dame Janet Suzman |
| ✿ Professor Susie Orbach | ✿ Zoë Wanamaker CBE |
| ✿ Rabbi Danny Rich | |

BSST Advisory Group

- ✿ **Richard Kuper**, long-standing campaigner for Palestinian human rights, retired university lecturer and founder of Pluto Press.
- ✿ **Tony Lerman**, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, Vienna, and former Director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- ✿ **Miri Weingarten**, formerly of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, now Chief Executive of the Disrupt Foundation.
- ✿ **Hadas Ziv**, former Director of Public Outreach in Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and previously Executive Director. Winner of the 2009 Oak Fellowship for Human Rights.



Accounts

British Shalom-Salaam Trust

Crossing Borders for Peace



Annual Report & Accounts

March 2022 –
February 2023

From Our Chair

This Annual Report is for the financial year March 2022 to February 2023. However, we completed its text only a week after Hamas' horrific incursions into southern Israel, and as Israel was ramping up its terrifying bombing and likely ground assault on Gaza.



This timing meant we could not behave as if an immense and tragic disaster was not already underway, and I could not wait until next year's Report to express BSST's dismay and grief at these events. We have so many friends in Israel connected to those people who have been killed or kidnapped by Hamas – many of whom have been fierce anti-occupation activists. BSST has also supported at least a dozen Gaza groups over the years – we do not know if any of them – users, staff or volunteers – will survive Israel's onslaught. Our shared fear for the future in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel increase our determination to continue our work. Please help us in this endeavour.

Returning to this year of record, we were pleased that *Min El Bahar*, an Israeli group who arrange magical summer outings to the sea for Palestinian children from the West Bank, were back in business. I mention BSST's longest standing grantee here because they don't feature in our report; they didn't seek a grant, as their previous one had been waiting to be used after COVID shut them down for two years.

Though many projects recorded great achievements, 2022-3 brought considerable sadness. Palestinian villager Harun Abu Aram, who was shot in the neck by an IDF soldier in 2020 and was paralysed from the neck down, was supported throughout by our friends and partners, *HIRN* and the *Villages Group*. BSST had helped in this with funding. Aged 26, Harun died in February 2023 – a terrible tragedy but also a merciful release.

Another tragic but unexpected death was that of trustee Professor Annabelle Sreberny, after a short illness. This followed soon after trustee Professor Clare Ungerson resigned because of other commitments. Annabelle and Clare are greatly missed on our Board. We have since been joined by Professor Gene Feder and Stephen Fox as new Board members.

An additional source of great concern was Benjamin Netanyahu's return as Prime Minister in December 2022, after yet another general election. This time his position depended on forming a coalition with violent, extremist politicians; if he wanted to retain power, he would be hostage to their terrifying ideologies. It rapidly became clear that those who are the most threatened by Netanyahu's rabid ministerial team include many whom we support across Israel-Palestine-Golan.

Nevertheless, we refuse to give up hope – and our report, with its wonderful cohort of communities and activists tells you why.

Dr Gill Yudkin
Chair, BSST
October 2023



Who we are

The British Shalom-Salaam Trust is the only British Jewish grant-giving charity working solely across 'Israel-Palestine-Golan'. This is the name BSST uses for the entire territory we cover: the state of Israel since 1948, and all the land - Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem, and Golan - occupied by Israel since 1967.

Our grants policy: challenging oppression – bringing justice and hope

BSST supports groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that seek creative and practical solutions to the needs of their communities. We see ourselves as enablers not prescribers. We do not impose our own programmes: we respond to needs identified by the groups we work with.

BSST favours small grassroots projects and is very willing to help groups tackling contentious issues and those overlooked by major funders. However, we do not seek out beneficiaries: they find us, mostly by word of mouth, occasionally via internet searches. The result is BSST's eclectic portfolio: since we started out in 2004, some 600 grants have been given to around 200 organisations.



Farmers waiting in the rain at a gate into Qalqilya, a Palestinian town nearly entirely surrounded by Israel's 'separation wall'. The farmers cannot get to or from their fields until soldiers turn up to open the gate.

Most BSST grants go to Palestinian, Jewish and joint organisations, but we also support an East Jerusalem gypsy group, a Syrian organisation in Golan and projects working with African asylum seekers and migrant workers from around the world who now live in Israel.

Our Jewish identity defines our work and purpose. We seek:

- ✿ to make a positive and practical Jewish statement of opposition to the oppression of the Palestinian people across Israel-Palestine, and of the Syrian population of Golan.
- ✿ to oppose all discrimination against other minorities or sections of the communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan. These include women and LGBTQ+ people within the entire area; asylum seekers and migrant workers in Israel; gypsies in East Jerusalem; Ethiopian and Mizrahi Jews in Israel.
- ✿ to support the achievement of a just, democratic and sustainable peace based on equality, human rights and mutual respect between all communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan.

We also recognise that the rights of Palestinian refugees must be a key part of any just peace settlement. Sadly, with our limited resources, BSST is unable to include those living outside Israel-Palestine-Golan within our grant-giving.



How we work

We deliver public benefit:

- ✿ mostly by providing grants to groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that have applied to BSST for support and fall within BSST's guidelines.
- ✿ occasionally by making small grants in response to a general appeal.
- ✿ through our Post Box service, where BSST receives and manages charitable donations secured from friends and supporters in Britain by approved groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan.
- ✿ by organising our own emergency appeals in times of urgent need.

BSST itself has neither employees nor an office. Its volunteer trustees carry out all functions, working mostly online. This ensures that in a normal year, at least 98% of our expenditure goes on charitable grants. Unavoidable administrative overheads – bank charges, minimal postage and printing – usually make up just 1-2% of BSST's costs.

Many BSST grant recipients employ paid staff and possess Israeli or Palestinian legal status analogous to that of British charities. However, we also support informal, entirely volunteer-run groups with minimal infrastructure that are the most likely to struggle for mainstream funding. We need applicants to have email access, but as we have been contacted successfully by tented desert communities without mains electricity or wi-fi, we are confident our online reliance is not an obstacle, even to very deprived groups.

Our application process is simple: we post grant criteria on our website, provide an online, user-friendly application form, take requests year-round and make decisions in weeks.



Graffiti on Israel's 'separation wall'

BSST necessarily operates at arm's length, so we have developed evaluation policies and guidelines to review our beneficiary groups. As well as measuring applications against our own criteria, we check other sources: internet presence, newspaper reports, briefings from other groups and individuals in Israel-Palestine-Golan. We have also designed report-back procedures for the end of each funding period, using a straightforward standard form adjusted individually for each project. And we consult our Advisory Group whose members have specialist knowledge and close ties with Israel-Palestine.

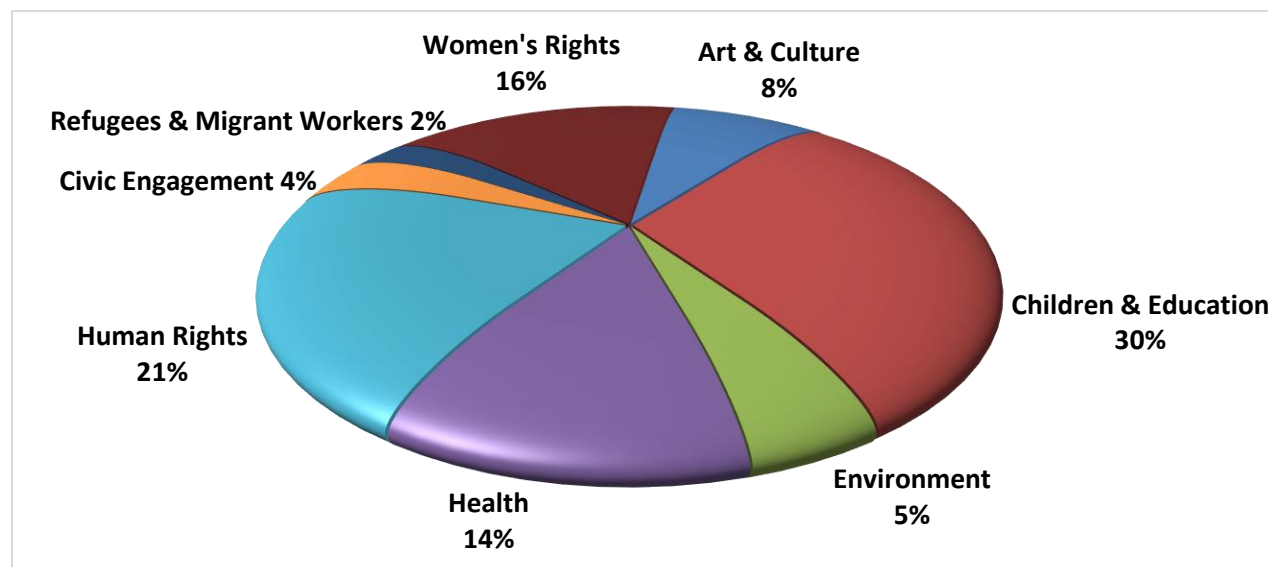
Finally, where possible, we meet grant and post box recipient groups. Trustees visiting Israel-Palestine-Golan include trips (at our own expense) to see projects that we support.



What we give

Successful applicant groups receive a maximum grant of 25,000 shekels per year (its sterling equivalent ranging from £6,000 down to £5,100, depending on Israel's very unstable exchange rate), while donations that we make to general appeals are limited to 5,000 shekels. BSST's own emergency appeals, do not apply a grant cap.

Many organisations are never able to replace our funding, so BSST provides repeat grants year after year. By contrast, for some groups BSST's early support delivers the crucial pump-priming that soon enables them to become independent of our assistance.



BSST Expenditure 2022-23

How we raise funds

BSST has funders and beneficiaries of many backgrounds. Thousands of people have donated to us: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and those asserting no religious belief or identity. Faith organisations and peace groups also support us, and we raise significant sums from other charitable trusts.

As we have no endowment, every penny we give away we must first raise: our lifeblood is donations. We are immensely grateful to all our supporters, whose generosity enables us to contribute to building a just peace in Israel-Palestine-Golan. This year, major donations to our general funds came from many individuals and the following organisations:

Barham Charitable Trust, Blue Moon Trust, Eleanor Rathbone Trust, Evan Cornish Foundation, IHL Trust, John & Susan Bowers Fund, Just Trust, Open Gate Trust, and two trusts that asked not to be publicly identified.

“being able to support in a small way the vital solidarity of BSST and its partners in Palestine helps lift our spirits a little in dark days.”

— *Message from longstanding BSST supporter and donor*



Why we matter



While we do not promote any specific 'solution' to current inequalities and injustices – that is for the parties involved to negotiate – BSST sees its role as helping people on the ground to create the building blocks for a more humane society and a fair and **lasting peace** between the communities of Israel-Palestine-Golan



BSST has much evidence that we make a **real difference** to the groups we support and to their communities – from project reports, discussions with groups we fund, films, photographs, personal accounts, news stories and visits that we make.



At a purely practical level, if donors wish to reach local campaigners and activists who are trying to strengthen their own communities, then giving to BSST is **simple and effective**. Our trustees have built up specialist knowledge and an extensive network of contacts and are skilled in making informed judgments about groups that other donors might find difficult to evaluate. We have strong relationships with many groups we fund, and we know that overwhelmingly they deliver on the work they have promised.



Our Jewish identity and commitment to a better future for all the people of Israel-Palestine-Golan is important to BSST, but not only to us. Often the groups we work with make it clear that, much as they value our grants, they equally **value who we are** and our aspirations for their lives in the years to come.



Combatants for Peace held a much-delayed olive trees planting in Al-Walajah village near Bethlehem, to honour Jeremy Hardy



Projects BSST supported in 2022-23

AFAQ JADEEDA ASSOCIATION (New Horizons) is a community group serving Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, where over 80,000 people live in extreme poverty. AFAQ JADEEDA provides a mix of social welfare, education and leisure activities including a kindergarten, library, computer lab, drama space, football team, and summer and winter camps for the most deprived children and their mothers.



The children enjoy a day trip

BSST funded AFAQ JADEEDA's summer programme for 150 four- to five-year-olds, providing fun activities plus free lunches to help with widespread malnutrition. Meanwhile, mothers learned parenting skills and how to support their children through the stress and anxiety caused by Israel's bombing raids.

—facebook.com/afaqjadeeda.association

AFRICAN REFUGEE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE is an African/Israeli group running tailor-made access courses to degree and vocational training for adult asylum-seekers. In 2022, ARDC amalgamated with SCHOOLHOUSE, a long-time BSST grant recipient and the leading group working with those adult asylum-seekers needing basic education and language skills.

BSST funded what is now ARDC's Schoolhouse Programme, supporting students with limited primary or secondary education from Sudan, Eritrea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Senegal. Fleeing traumatic violence in their home countries, then finding themselves the target of hostility in Israel, these communities struggle to tackle basic literacy as adults, especially through a second language and foreign culture.

The Schoolhouse Programme is unique, creating educational tools, curriculum content and teacher training designed specifically for asylum-seekers' needs. Its courses include English, Hebrew literacy, computing, video and photo editing, and GED test preparation.



—ardc-israel.org



ARTEAM: THE GARDEN LIBRARY is a welcoming community centre based in south Tel Aviv, where the city's African asylum-seekers and migrant workers live. In an area scarred by decades of deprivation, ARTEAM's Garden Library is an oasis of hope. It provides evening classes and family support for asylum-seeker parents, while their children have a safe space to play and study - an open-air multilingual library and homework area plus many after-school and holiday activities.



"Eliminate educational segregation in Tel Aviv schools"

ARTEAM is at the heart of a massive asylum-seeker parents' campaign against blatant and illegal discrimination: over 90% of their children are hived off into hugely inferior segregated provision rather than being admitted to mainstream schooling. For a third year, BSST supported ARTEAM's Educational Rights Project - demonstrations, legal challenges, media coverage - against what is described as 'Separate but Equal' educational provision - a form of discrimination outlawed in America's south by the US Supreme Court 70 years ago.

—thegardenlibrary.com

AL BUSTAN COMMUNITY CENTRE serves the Jahalin Bedouin who resettled in Jordan near East Jerusalem after being forced from the Negev in the 1950s. In 1967 their new home was occupied by Israel, and, as nearby Israeli settlement Ma'ale Adumim expanded, the community faced repeated eviction. Now the Jahalin's circumstances are wretched, their herding lifestyle and social fabric destroyed.

This devastation has inspired a rare degree-educated Jahalin woman to set up this remarkable community centre. For children it provides a homework space, after-school classes and activities, a summer camp and psychological support, while its training in clothes manufacture means their mothers can achieve some financial independence.

AL BUSTAN is a true 'shoestring' project - running on goodwill, almost no money and a loyal cohort of Israeli and international student volunteers from anti-Occupation Israeli group, Achvat Amim. BSST previously helped fund a new building for the Centre; this time, we paid for English language classes for the children.

—facebook.com/bustankindergarten





DOMARI SOCIETY OF GYPSIES IN JERUSALEM serves one of Israel-Palestine's smallest communities. In 1967 45,000 Domari fled from what was Jordan, and now only about 2,000 remain in East Jerusalem, plus 20-30,000 elsewhere in the West Bank and in Gaza.

Though always 'outsiders', the Domari have lived in Jerusalem for eight centuries. Traditional, poor, nearly invisible, and with minimal education, their disadvantage is cemented by hostility from those around them. Domari men struggle to get work, and women are trapped by economic dependency and male violence. Meanwhile, bullied at school and often lacking parental support, children abandon education early.

The DOMARI SOCIETY's welcoming Centre provides homework space and after-school tutoring for children, plus literacy courses and vocational training – hairdressing, catering, sewing – for adult women. BSST helped fund tuition in core subjects – English, Arabic, Maths, and, for the first time, Hebrew – along with tram fares and a meal for each child. Take-up figures show that previous parental disinterest and hostility is shrinking.



—domarisociety.com

FREDDIE KRIVINE INITIATIVE (FKI) was created by Israeli Jewish tennis enthusiasts who use their sporting passion to challenge Israel's ethnically divided and discriminatory society. For over twenty years they have been bringing tennis to Palestinian schools across Israel – as healthy physical activity, a base for improving participants' job chances, and a means for starting to connect Jewish and Palestinian children across the vast educational, economic, social, ethnic and political gulf that separates them.



FKI's longest-running project is in the Palestinian coastal village of Jisr al Zarqa – a beautiful location, yet a place of extreme poverty; minimal work prospects; a mere 22% of young people graduating from high school; widespread alcohol and drug addiction, and terrifying gun crime – where few Jewish organisations venture. Yet FKI is always present, recruiting hundreds of Palestinian children into tennis programmes, and tackling their wider social and safety needs: organising homework clubs, language lessons, community events, Jewish and Palestinian children's meetings. BSST again helped fund FKI's after-school work.

—fkf-tennis.org



GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTIVE (GSC) is a group based in the South Hebron Hills, opposing home demolition, supporting villages under attack, planting olive trees, running a guesthouse, beekeeping, and holding workshops on Bedouin history and culture. BSST provided GSC with its Post Box service.

—goodshepherdcollective.org

HAIFA ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES (HACD) is a Gaza-based project, supporting children with Type 1 (insulin dependent) diabetes who live outside the refugee camps, for whom the Palestinian Ministry of Health, not UNWRA, is responsible.

As the Ministry's support is nowhere near sufficient, volunteer-run HACD helps fill the gap in supplies of insulin injection pens, testing strips and glucometers. It also teaches families how to manage insulin-dependent diabetes and provides psychological support. BSST paid for clinical supplies.

—facebook.com/hacdhaifa



HEBRON INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES NETWORK (HIRN) is an audacious Palestinian group that BSST has supported for many years. HIRN develops local projects in the West Bank areas of harshest Israeli Occupation: Hebron City and surrounding villages, and the settlement-dominated Gush Etzion area.

A typical HIRN project was that supporting Ras al-Tin, an entire Bedouin community forced out of the South Hebron Hills by settler and IDF terror. Using two grants - from BSST and the Irish Teachers Union – HIRN was able to make the access road for Ras al-Tin's new location usable, so its children could reach their school.

HIRN also used funds BSST had collected in memory of Jeremy Hardy to plant grape vines with Tent of Nations.

—friendsofhirn.wordpress.com

Starting work on the road to Ras al-Tin



HUMANS WITHOUT BORDERS (HWB) is an Israeli Jewish volunteer group supporting West Bank and Gazan Palestinian families whose children need advanced medical treatment in hospitals in Israel or in occupied East Jerusalem. HWB volunteers drive these sick children to and from checkpoints and treatment centres, help with language and cultural difficulties by liaising between hospital staff and Palestinian family members, visit when the children become in-patients, and help cover accompanying relatives' expenses - food, lodgings, etc.



“ I counted the minutes until I could start giving rides and help ease the ongoing suffering and trauma of my Palestinian brothers and sisters. ”

— Alexandra Klein-Franke,
HWB Volunteer

Every year, HWB's volunteers make around 6,000 road trips, supporting over 100 families. At the same time, the organisation has expanded its fundraising to pay for essential medical costs – medical equipment, medicines, routine hospital charges – which the Palestinian Authority increasingly refuses to cover.

—humans-without-borders.org



Marathon Race: fundraiser for Women Without Status project

ISHA L'ISHA – HAIFA FEMINIST CENTRE is the oldest grassroots feminist organisation in Israel. For a third year, BSST provided core funding for its *Women without Status* project – helping victims of trafficking, asylum seekers, undocumented workers, and women whose legal or financial status is dependent on their relationship with an Israeli man.

Mostly the project supports Eastern European, Palestinian, African and Asian women: they don't qualify for state health or welfare services, lack employment and other civil rights, and are at high risk of sexual and domestic violence. Fearing deportation or separation from their children, their dealings with police and immigration are often traumatising. The project runs a 24-hour helpline, teaches women their rights, provides emergency finance for food, rent, even abortions, and helps them develop skills, especially Hebrew language competence, to improve their employability.

—facebook.com/IshaLishaHaifaFeministCenter



ISRAEL SOCIAL TV (ISTV) is a web-based group, using the short-film format to cover stories rarely reported by Israel's press and television, such as the Occupation, asylum seekers, the environment, the Nakba, LGBTQ+ rights and racism. ISTV is the only independent alternative visual-media organisation in Israel-Palestine. It has a 5000+ film archive, and reaches some 100,000 viewers monthly in Israel-Palestine-Golan and abroad.



Still from Justice Against Saeed, an ISTV report describing what happened in court to a Palestinian permanently disabled after a beating by young Jewish thugs

ISTV has frequently been fiercely attacked by the Israeli state. Most recently the government precipitated a financial crisis for the group by barring payment due from a publicly funded community tv channel, while also discouraging Israeli donors by withdrawing tax benefits. Alongside Covid's impact, these hostile actions have forced ISTV into a major strategic rethink. BSST concluded that the group was responding constructively to its difficulties, and needed our support as never before, so again made a core funding grant.

—tv.social.org.il

JAHALIN SOLIDARITY (JS) is a Palestinian project challenging Israel's settler-expansionist policy for East Jerusalem and the surrounding area. This policy includes targeting Palestinian residents for forcible displacement, thus enabling new housing for Israeli Jewish citizens to be built. JS focuses especially on the Jahalin Bedouin, supporting their struggle against forced transfer from the homes they have lived in for the last sixty years. BSST provided its Post Box service.



Bedouin children going to a school threatened with demolition

—jahalin.org

KOTOF ELKHAIR ASSOCIATION is a community group in the central Gaza city of Deir el-Balah. Its impressive range of services and activities include cultural events, a safe space for children to play and learn, women's rights workshops, disability training for families in supporting their relatives, medical days when local people can access free healthcare, children's summer camps and humanitarian aid.



BSST has previously assisted KOTOF in a variety of projects. With untreated health issues in Gaza being a major concern, this time BSST funded sight tests for five hundred six- to nine-year-olds, 120 of whom then received prescription glasses.

—facebook.com/kotofAssociation



LADA'AT – CHOOSE WELL is an impressive women's project offering information, support and counselling on contraception and unplanned pregnancy. It runs healthy sexuality workshops for teenagers, trains medical and psychosocial professionals, and lobbies policy makers. Based in West Jerusalem, it now serves thousands of users annually – both secular and religious Jews, Palestinians, African asylum-seekers, foreign workers, and tourists.



However, without culturally sensitive Arabic language provision, for many years LADA'AT was pretty much inaccessible to Palestinian women. This situation transformed after a 2018 visit by BSST trustees to discuss the issue. LADA'AT devised a BSST-funded project, including translating its website, and providing face-to-face and phone counselling in Arabic.

The immediate positive response by Palestinian women quickly led to the creation of an 'Arabic Department'. This provides a full portfolio of services, including Palestinian-run sex education within some East Jerusalem schools. LADA'AT and its users are delighted with the success and achievements of its Arab language services.

“ We found a void of accessible information in Arabic, presenting an incredible opportunity to make a real difference. It is truly a privilege that Arabic-speaking women in East Jerusalem have chosen to trust in us. ”

—ladaat.org.il/en

AL MARSAD – ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, established twenty years ago, is the only Syrian human rights group in occupied Golan.

When Israel captured Golan from Syria in 1967, 90% of residents fled and their villages were obliterated. In 1981 Israel formally annexed Golan, treating it since as part of the Israeli state, with its remaining Syrian population an oppressed second class: forced into cramped multi-story blocks, while Israeli settlers have spacious homes; receiving education which ignores Syrian history and culture; denied equal access to land and water; seeing an invasion of unwanted oil exploration. Now some 28,000 Syrians live on 5% of Golan's territory, with 25,000 Israeli settlers living in the other 95%.

Israel's annexation forced AL MARSAD to register as an Israeli NGO, meaning it could never access the EU financial support available to occupied Palestinian organisations. Yet, through



The Israeli army patrols the fence separating the Occupied Syrian Golan from the rest of Syria

great commitment and professionalism, the group succeeds in delivering valuable services to its Syrian population. These include advocacy, legal support, local and international lobbying and campaigning, cultural enrichment, and educational activities to contest Israel's discriminatory policies, preserve Syrian-Arab identity in the Golan and remind the world of Israel's forgotten occupation. As before, BSST provided a core grant and its Post Box service.

—golan-marsad.org



NA'AM – ARAB WOMEN IN THE CENTRE tackles some of the biggest problems for Palestinian society in Israel: ballooning levels of violent crime, especially internal Palestinian-community gender-based violence against women, and the failure of the Israeli state to deal with it.

NA'AM mostly serves poorer Arabic-speaking women in central Israel's mixed Arab-Jewish cities. It runs a walk-in centre where casework includes helping threatened and abused women file complaints, relocate from dangerous homes, and eventually become financially independent. It also supports surviving family members when a woman is murdered.



Images from Na'am's workshops on self-defence for girls. The workshops were run in conjunction with the Department of Social Services

However, NA'AM's clients rarely get legal redress. Complaints from Palestinian women citizens of Israel are mostly ignored or closed after minimal investigation, in stark contrast to those of Jewish victims. So NA'AM also operates strategically: working with police and judges to change attitudes and practice; advising local councils; lobbying the Knesset to improve victims' protection; training social workers; organising protests; and producing Arabic-language materials on tackling gender-based violence. BSST gave its first grant – for core funding.

—awc-naam.com

NEGEV COEXISTENCE FORUM (NCF) is the only grassroots Jewish/Palestinian organisation campaigning for Bedouin communities' human and civil rights in the Negev/Naqab.

250,000 Bedouin live in the huge desert area, with over half having already been forced into government-built towns, so freeing their land for Jewish farming and residency. Yet many still resist compulsory urbanisation. Despite being denied basic infrastructure – water, electricity, roads, schools, healthcare – tens of thousands of Bedouin still inhabit traditional herding communities in thirty-five 'unrecognised' and eleven newly recognised villages.

Central to NCF's work is opposing the Israeli state's constant destruction of the unrecognised villages, helping some residents rebuild dozens of times. Each demolition means total exposure of old and young, sick and frail, to freezing cold or extreme heat. Demolitions even took place during COVID lockdown, when Bedouin, like all Israeli citizens, were supposed to be staying indoors. BSST provided NCF with core funding.



In 2022 there were 2,745 home demolitions in the Negev/Naqab

—dukium.org



NEW PROFILE is a feminist group opposed to the state's glorification of military service that stretches from kindergarten throughout Israeli children's lives.

Not entering the army can blight education and job prospects. Even so, about half of 18-year-olds avoid conscription, while serving soldiers (especially from poor homes) often cut service short, and many reservists refuse recall. Though non-serving school-leavers are still mostly ultra-Orthodox, mental health exemptions and conscientious objections are increasing.

It is claimed that the IDF is Israel's great leveller. Yet NEW PROFILE says widespread sexual harassment reinforces gender inequality, while soldiers from poor families often get the worst postings, ensuring continuing disadvantage when their service ends. The group gives free counselling to some 1000 teenagers facing the draft each year, legal help, and specialist anti-militarism training for those working with young people. It also cooperates with 'refusenik' and other anti-military groups. BSST provided its Post Box service.



—newprofile.org

AL NOUR ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT provides health, social and humanitarian support to the population of Deir al-Balah, a sizeable town in central Gaza. Every year it runs a summer camp with art, theatre, sport and general play activities, this time for a hundred children aged 4 to 6 years. AL NOUR is distinctive for its commitment to 'positive social integration of children with disabilities into the mainstream, and to relieving emotional and behavioural disturbances'.



Mothers also take part in the camp activities, as well as special parent sessions where they learn to understand and cope with their children's problems, whether caused by disabilities or by the trauma of repeated military assaults on Gaza. AL NOUR reports that the camp is hugely popular, with families always wanting it to be extended. BSST provided core funding.

PALESTINE ETHAR ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ETHAR) is a newly established community group in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza. Working with kindergartens, schools and other grassroots community projects, it provides psychosocial services and food support for families struggling with poverty and the traumatic impact of IDF attacks. BSST funded a mix of fun activities and psychological support for 160 traumatised children, along with group sessions teaching 240 mothers how to help their children deal with crises.

—etharps.net





PALESTINE AL GHAD SCHOOL is a crucial innovator in a society that has rarely recognised the need for tailor-made educational provision for children with disabilities. Located in Nuseirat Refugee Camp in mid Gaza, it is the first school licensed by the Palestinian authorities to provide special needs education along with the Palestinian core curriculum.

AL GHAD serves over 150 children with learning difficulties, preparing them to live as full members of the wider community, including holding down jobs. Along with educational and psychological support for the children, the group provides specialist advice and training to their teachers, and awareness sessions for families and for the local community.



As Gaza is plagued by a very limited and irregular mains electricity supply, AL GHAD sought BSST's help to provide an alternative – solar powered - energy unit, so it could deliver continuous education, even during periods of electricity failure.

—facebook.com/alghadschool2006

RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (RHR) opposes the Israeli occupation, and works to protect and renew Palestinian olive trees. RHR was delighted to receive funds for olive tree planting – the final tranche of the money we collected in memory of comedian Jeremy Hardy.



—rhr.org.il



RURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) works in the villages of the South Hebron Hills, within 'Area C' of the West Bank which is entirely subject to Israel's control. For the last thirty years, Israel has used repeated home demolitions to try to force residents out. So far, these tactics have largely failed in the face of fierce women-led resistance from local groups like the RWA plus international pressure.

Along with fighting to stay put, the RWA runs projects aimed at providing job opportunities for the village women, as well as education and leisure activities for the children. These include handicrafts, poultry and beekeeping; children's summer camps; a transport service so older children reach school safe from settler attack, and nursery provision for the youngest ones.

This year BSST paid for summer camps providing fun activities and healthy lunches for over a hundred children spread across three Bedouin villages.



—theruralwomenassociation.wordpress.com

SADAKA REUT – ARAB JEWISH PARTNERSHIP brings Palestinian and Jewish young people together to create social and political change. Focusing on marginalized groups – Bedouin Palestinians, Ethiopian, Russian and Mizrahi Jews – it is active in universities where Jewish/Palestinian student interaction is rare.

Promoting 'a shared society based on equality, solidarity, and justice', SADAKA REUT confronts issues of conflict and unequal power.

Previously, BSST provided several years pump priming finance. Now we continue to provide our Post Box service.

“ One cannot ask for freedom and equality for a specific group alone. We either fight for all or we are hypocrites. ”

We must recognize and address the wrongdoings of the past and work to mend them if we want to be able to move forward.

—facebook.com/sadakareut

SOLIDARITY ARTS, ACTIVISM & HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION unites art with commitment to social justice via its annual *Solidarity Festival* held in Tel Aviv's Cinematheque. Here, Israel's only totally trilingual festival – in Arabic, Hebrew and English – shows films tackling globalisation, climate change and many human rights issues. The festival includes debates with film-makers and a competition.



'A Safe Place' is a drama created by the children of refugees and migrant workers. The film was chosen to represent Israel at the Children's Film Festival in Venice. The students could not attend as they do not have passports; they were able to see it at Solidarity's screening.

Its parallel programme, *Solidarity in the Periphery*, provides free screenings, workshops and discussions in disadvantaged and remote areas, like the Negev's unrecognised Bedouin villages and Arab/Jewish towns such as Acre, Lod, Maarlot -Tarshiha and Ramle. In these places, it especially looks to ensure women and children are in its audiences. BSST provided core funding.

—solidaritytlv.org



SUNBULA FAIR TRADE ORGANISATION supports especially deprived and marginalised communities in the West Bank/East Jerusalem and within Israel's Palestinian population. Members of SUNBULA's 25 supported producer groups benefit from its training in craft skills, product development and marketing. Meanwhile, SUNBULA sells the groups' very high-quality artisan produce in its fair-trade shops and on-line. By incorporating disappearing techniques in craft production today, SUNBULA also revitalises Palestinian cultural heritage.

SUNBULA managed a BSST grant for two groups. It paid the rent on a sewing workshop used by 36 Hebron women – mostly family breadwinners – so they could rebuild their fine embroidery business after Covid. It also covered transport costs for the Oasis Centre, a project in Beit Sahour teaching adults with special needs skills such as hand-silk-screening textiles, recycling paper-crafts, and candle-making.

—sunbula.org



AL TAFAWK CENTRE is a supplementary school and community centre serving the most deprived children in Jenin Refugee Camp. Most pupils come from extreme poverty. With homes unable to provide even basic shelter, and bread the only food, its pupils mostly live on the streets. Girls especially have little to look forward to, being pressured to marry young and become housewives and mothers.

Though the children attend UN schools, the education provided is poor. The Centre redresses its deficiencies, supporting children up to 16 in English, maths, Arabic, science, art, music and sport, while 3 to 6-year-olds enjoy the Camp's only kindergarten. The Centre also offers safety and ensures each child receives a daily hot meal and is properly clothed.

—instagram.com/altafawkcenter

TENT OF NATIONS (ToN) is a Palestinian Christian project uniting volunteers from many countries, cultures and religions in peace-building and non-violent resistance. At its core is Daher's Vineyard, a family-run organic farm near Bethlehem, where volunteers come to support the farm's owners.

For three decades the Israeli state has challenged the family's fully-documented legal ownership of the land, with family members unable to leave the farm unattended lest it is seized by the IDF. Their



peaceful resistance hasn't always prevented ruthless IDF destruction of crops and orchards – 1,500 young fruit trees were once wiped out in a single assault. However, so far, the owners have managed to stay put and repair Israeli destruction, continuing to live by and share their motto 'We Refuse to be Enemies'.

BSST gave part of the outstanding sum it had collected in memory of Jeremy Hardy – comedian and friend of BSST and of the Palestinian cause – to enable HIRN and ToN to plant grape vines. BSST also provided its Post Box service, as it has for many years.

—tentofnations.com



Cactus Mural, 2022, by Sobhiya Hassan Qais. From the show: "خشين" ("Rough"), curated by Farid Abu Shakra, Balqis Gallery, Nazareth

—tohumagazine.com

TOHU MAGAZINE is a young arts organisation with an international editorial board of Palestinians and Jews. It organises film screenings, workshops, and talks, but its core project is a free online magazine. Produced in Arabic, Hebrew and English, it focuses on work from Israel-Palestine while situating itself within the wider Middle East.

Though it encounters many obstacles in recruiting Palestinian contributors, TOHU continues to encourage a wide range of young writers and showcases visual content created by Palestinian, Israeli and international artists. BSST provided core funding to further develop the Arabic section of the magazine.

“ There is lack of supporting budgets, networking, encouragement of art in the local Palestinian educational environment, and the overall cultural disenfranchising atmosphere inside the Green Line. ”

— TOHU on the difficulty of recruiting Palestinian contributors

VILLAGES GROUP is a small Jewish-Palestinian group long supported by BSST. It works in the South Hebron Hills and near Nablus, and is deeply involved in the Palestinian villagers' struggles to educate their children, prevent their land being seized and stop their homes being destroyed.

This year, BSST provided its Post Box service, plus two small grants for the VILLAGES GROUP to manage. One helped cover salary costs for Huda's Kindergarten, in Khashem al-Daraj, an isolated south Hebron Bedouin village. Immensely popular, it serves some fifty children – from the village and surrounding hills – ensuring they enter primary school with a flying start



The other grant was emergency funding to enable a family whose home had been destroyed in the Massafer Yatta area – where Israel is trying to expel all Palestinian residents – to stay put by relocating into a local cave. BSST's grant meant the cave could be made both habitable and comfortable.

—villagesgroup.wordpress.com



VISION ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS (VACA) is a school in the East Jerusalem suburbs whose education methods are designed to support marginalised children who are ‘caught in the crosshairs of the Israeli occupation’.

The school’s ‘trauma-informed’ approach recognises how traumatic childhood events, such as war, occupation and poverty can wreak havoc on children’s mental and physical health. It therefore emphasises compassion, non-violence and holistic learning. Pupils learn coping skills, using art and music expression, therapeutic body movement, and other activities which build their self-esteem.

BSST helped fund a three-day cross-cultural and cross-border intensive teacher training course, introducing trauma-informed teaching methods to learner teachers both from Palestine and from Israel.



—houseofhope.vision



Resting under a tree while escorting Palestinian shepherds

WOMEN’S FUND FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – MACHSOM (CHECKPOINT) WATCH is an Israeli all-volunteer women’s organisation. Set up in 2001, the group publicises how the Israeli state uses checkpoints, military courts and blacklists to prevent Palestinians in the West Bank having freedom of movement and any kind of normal life. In recent years, the group has increasingly focused on Palestinian shepherding communities in the Jordan Valley: 20,000 of the poorest people in Israel-Palestine are constantly subject to shocking threats and actual violence from Israeli settlers and the IDF, aiming to expel them from their land and homes.

MACHSOM WATCH volunteers regularly travel to the Jordan Valley to escort shepherds as they take their flocks to graze. Often, they spend nights with the mothers and children and, when needed, they drive families to get medical care. To offer respite, the group also takes women and children to the sea or to nearby springs. BSST paid for transport costs.

“As older women, we have gained access to these communities through connections built over years. With a continuous presence we can help deter some settler violence. By escorting the shepherds, we help the Palestinians maintain their livelihood and access to grazing.”

We also raise awareness about the tragic situation in the Jordan Valley on social media and by sending reports to government, press and diplomats.

—machsomwatch.org/en



YOUTH OF SUMUD (YoS) is a grassroots group in the South Hebron Hills, a community at the forefront of settler aggression. Along with Palestinians, Jewish and international activists, YoS seeks to protect villages from settler attacks through strategic peaceful resistance, 'direct action', planting, creating beauty, rebuilding.

BSST gave YoS funding for such 'direct action' – creating a "*Mothers of Sumud Garden*" in Tuwani village to protect the land from confiscation, give children somewhere safe to play, and provide a space for village women to spend time together. YoS proudly presented BSST with photos of their precious new communal garden. However, with the very idea of 'peaceful resistance' being entirely alien to the settlers and their IDF protectors, it was desperately sad, but not surprising, to receive this message a few months later:



"Last night, extremist Israeli settlers sneaked in the Freedom Garden, destroyed and uprooted about 146 trees of different kinds (olives, grapes, figs, almonds, cacti) and some vegetables, thyme and sage.

This is the fifth attack during the past two years".

“ We are still struggling with the extremist settlers, they destroyed the trees and demolished part of the stone wall, and attacked my dad in the garden while we were planting trees. My Dad was lucky to survive – they broke both his arms. Then he was put in jail for one week. ”

Such destruction is all too normal for the West Bank, but 'Sumud' means 'steadfastness' and YoS said:

“ We are starting again and again to rebuild our garden and we will keep going. ”

—facebook.com/youthofsumud

+972 MAGAZINE is a free online publication owned by Israeli and Palestinian journalists committed to ending the Occupation, advancing human rights, and challenging the Israel- Palestine discourse,



including reporting those voices overlooked by mainstream media.

It has around a million annual readers and an international impact: the New York Times, CNN, the Guardian, BBC, and Le Monde Diplomatique pick up its carefully researched stories and regularly interview its writers, while embassies often request briefings. BSST provided its Post Box service.

—972mag.com

A view of the Tunnels Road in the occupied West Bank, built to connect Gush Etzion with Jerusalem. (Oren Ziv). From +972 article 'How to establish a new settlement without the world noticing'.



Children from the West Bank on a seaside trip organised by Israeli women's group Min El Bahar

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 30th November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Gill Yudkin, Chair

Colin Wainwright, Treasurer



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust for the year ended 28 February 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ruth Hendrick FCA
14 Park Crescent
London N3 2NJ

30th November 2023



Accounts for the Year Ending 28 February 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		2022-23			2021-22		
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income							
Donations received		115,794	69,907	185,701	158,540	72,800	231,340
Gift Aid on donations		1,716	345	2,061	2,061	770	2,831
Bank interest		65	-	65	2	-	2
Total income		117,575	70,252	187,827	160,603	73,570	234,173
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities	2	114,855	76,417	191,272	145,160	68,657	213,817
Publicity/Fundraising	3	772	-	772	1,019	-	1,019
Administration	4	134	-	134	270	-	270
Total Expenditure		115,761	76,417	192,178	146,449	68,657	215,106
Net income / (expenditure)		1,814	(6,165)	(4,351)	14,154	4,913	19,067
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		73,067	16,651	89,718	58,913	11,738	70,651
Funds carried forward		74,881	10,486	85,367	73,067	16,651	89,718

BALANCE SHEET

		As at 28 February 2023	
	Note	28/2/2023 £	28/2/2022 £
Assets			
Cash at bank		80,888	84,011
HMRC Gift Aid		4,479	2,418
Debtors	5	-	3,289
Total Assets		85,367	89,718
Reconciliation of funds			
Unrestricted funds		74,881	73,067
Restricted funds		10,486	16,651
Total Charity Funds		85,367	89,718

**Notes to the Accounts**

- 1** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2019 and applicable accounting standards.

	2022-23			2021-22		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
2 Charitable activities						
Grants made	114,150	76,417	190,567	144,210	68,657	212,867
Direct bank charges	705	-	705	950	-	950
	114,855	76,417	191,272	145,160	68,657	213,817
3 Publicity / Fundraising						
Fundraising	55	-	55	93	-	93
Printing postage stationery	320	-	320	590	-	590
Publicity & Website	397	-	397	336	-	336
	772	-	772	1,019	-	1,019
4 Administration						
Bank charges	134	-	134	78	-	78
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	192	-	192
	134	-	134	270	-	270

- 5 Debtors**
One payment could not be processed by a foreign intermediary bank. It was returned in 2022/23.

- 6 Trustee expenses**
There were no expenses paid to trustees in either 2022/23 or 2021/22.

7 Restricted Funds (including Post Boxes)	1/3/22	Income	Expenditure	28/2/23
Children's Fund	19	25,225	23,603	1,641
Gaza Fund	0	137	0	137
Olive Grove Fund	3,289	0	3,289	0
+972 Magazine	192	5,357	4,400	1,149
Christian Peacemaker Teams - CPT	725	0	0	725
Good Shepherd Collective	1,112	3,882	2,370	2,624
Hebron International Resource Network - HIRN	0	320	320	0
Jahalin Solidarity	562	2,712	2,060	1,214
Al Marsad – Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights	0	7,500	7,500	0
New Profile	0	15,000	15,000	0
Physicians for Human Rights, PHR-I	0	125	0	125
Sadaka Reut	0	7,000	7,000	0
St. John's Eye Hospital	375	375	0	750
Tent Of Nations	9,002	970	9,000	972
Tent Of Nations UK Friends - FOTON	1,000	0	1,000	0
Villages Group	375	1,650	875	1,150
Total	16,651	70,253	76,417	10,487



Notes to the Accounts (continued)

8 Grants and Post Box Transfers Made

Organisation	£000s	Organisation	£000s
Afaq Jadeeda Association	5	New Profile	15
African Refugee Development Center	5	Al Nour Association for Community Development	5
Arteam Garden Library	6	Palestine Ethar Association for Community Development	5
Al Bustan Community Centre	5	Palestine Al Ghad School	5
Domari Society	4	Rabbis for Human Rights	2
Freddie Krivine Initiative	6	Rural Women's Association	5
Good Shepherd Collective	2	Sadaka Reut Arab Jewish Youth Partnership	7
Haifa Association for Children With Diabetes	5	Solidarity Arts, Activism & Human Rights Association	5
Hebron International Resources Network - HIRN	5	Sunbula Fair Trade Organisation	5
Humans without Borders	5	Al Tafawk Centre	5
Isha L'Isha	5	Tent of Nations	10
Israel Social TV	6	Tohu Magazine	6
Jahalin Solidarity	2	Villages Group	6
Kotof El Khair Associaion	5	Vision Association for Culture and Arts	2
Lada'at	5	Women's Fund for Human Rights - Machsom Watch	5
Al Marsad – Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights	13	Youth of Sumud	5
Na'am Arab Women in the Centre	5	+972 Magazine	4
Negev Coexistence Forum	5		



Family separation – a Syrian woman uses a megaphone to speak to her relatives across the fence that separates occupied Syrian Golan from the rest of Syria (Al Marsad)

BSST Governance

Staff

BSST has no paid staff, premises or equipment. The trustees, each with extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on Israel-Palestine, carry out all functions including appointing and training new Board members. New trustees are recruited by personal contact and by advertisement.

Trustee meetings are held every four to six weeks, where general policy, income generation and grant decisions are made.

Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name	The British Shalom-Salaam Trust
Charity Registration Number	1103211
Registered Address	28 Huddleston Road, London N7 0AG
Bankers	HSBC, 85 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BE
Independent Examiner	Ruth Naftalin FCA, 14 Park Crescent, London N3 2NJ
E-mail	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	bsst.org.uk

BSST Trustees

- ✿ **Dr David Sperlinger** retired Clinical Psychologist (Trustee for Income Generation)
- ✿ **Annabelle Sreberny** Emeritus Professor of Media and Communication (died December 2022)
- ✿ **Colin Wainwright** IT specialist (Treasurer)
- ✿ **Clare Ungerson** Emeritus Professor of Social Policy (resigned December 2022)
- ✿ **Naomi Wayne** retired charity chief executive (Secretary)
- ✿ **Dr Gillian Yudkin** retired GP (Chair)

BSST Patrons

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ✿ Sir Geoffrey Bindman | ✿ Claudia Roden |
| ✿ Sir Nicholas Hytner | ✿ Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah |
| ✿ Professor Francesca Klug OBE | ✿ Alexei Sayle |
| ✿ Miriam Margolyes OBE | ✿ Professor Avi Shlaim |
| ✿ Rabbi Jeffrey Newman | ✿ Dame Janet Suzman |
| ✿ Professor Susie Orbach | ✿ Zoë Wanamaker CBE |
| ✿ Rabbi Danny Rich | |

BSST Advisory Group

- ✿ **Michael Ellman**, solicitor, has carried out missions of enquiry, judicial and electoral observation and training to over 25 countries including Israel and Palestine.
- ✿ **Richard Kuper**, long-standing campaigner for Palestinian human rights, retired university lecturer and founder of Pluto Press.
- ✿ **Tony Lerman**, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, Vienna, and former Director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- ✿ **Miri Weingarten**, solicitor, formerly of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and EU Advocacy Coordinator for a coalition of Israeli human rights groups.
- ✿ **Hadas Ziv**, Director of Public Outreach in Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, previously Executive Director and winner of the 2009 Oak Fellowship for Human Rights.

Accounts

British Shalom-Salaam Trust

Crossing Borders for Peace



Annual Report & Accounts

March 2021 –
February 2022

From Our Chair

We are increasingly sad and angry at the worsening situation in Israel-Palestine-Golan, with the Israeli Government and the IDF intensifying their attacks on the Palestinian people, with no international sanctions. The contrast with the Western response to the assault on Ukraine by Russia is startling. It underlines for BSST how much we are needed, to give practical as well as moral support to Palestinians and other oppressed communities, and to those Israelis who do stand up for them.



The devastating COVID pandemic is now in retreat, and partners in Israel-Palestine-Golan are returning to their usual activities. They have impressed us greatly with their swift adaptability; thus, Sunbula, a successful fair-trade cooperative selling the work of independent artisans, recognised that without immediate emergency finance, many of its members would go under, as the pandemic destroyed their market. BSST stepped in to cover short-term living costs to enable the worst hit artisans to weather the crisis.

This year, BSST supported 42 projects across Israel-Palestine-Golan through grants and via our post box scheme. The activities funded are as diverse as their geographic locations. Here's just a sample: physical healthcare and psychological trauma support in Gaza; pre-school education and sports projects in the South Hebron Hills; asylum seekers' education in Israel; women's rights in a tiny Palestinian village – and in a major Israeli city; repairing a precious community arts centre in Jenin; investigative and educational journalism in Israel; defending Palestinian children's rights against repressive detention.

Happily, with news of our work spreading, at the time of writing, BSST finds itself with the rare experience of some financial security! But we are not complacent: we know this will be fleeting, as ever more grant applicants approach us, while donors are under severe pressure supporting causes around the world.

In December 2021 Sir Antony Sher, a BSST patron since our foundation sadly died. Our thoughts were with his husband, Greg Doran, as well as Antony's other family members, friends and colleagues, and the innumerable admirers of his talents around the world.

Thank you once again to all our supporters. Please spread the word about us – forward this report to friends and family so they can enjoy it too and maybe even send us a donation!

Gill Yudkin

Dr Gill Yudkin
Chair, BSST

August 2022



Images: Front cover: A Palestinian girl plays with her hair in the water on the shores of Gaza City (Mohammed Zaanoun/Activestills). This page: Kotof Elkhair. Back cover: A Palestinian woman washes her children in her destroyed house in Gaza (Mohammed Zaanoun/Activestills).



Who we are

The British Shalom-Salaam Trust is the only British Jewish grant-giving charity established specifically to work across 'Israel-Palestine-Golan'. This is the name BSST uses for the area that we cover: the state of Israel since 1948, and the land occupied by Israel since 1967 (Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem, and Golan).



*Afaq Jadeeda
Scout Carnival*

Our grants policy: challenging oppression – bringing justice and hope

BSST supports groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that seek creative and practical solutions to the needs of their communities. We see ourselves as enablers not prescribers. We do not impose our own programmes: we respond to needs that the groups we work with identify.

BSST favours small grassroots groups but does not seek out possible beneficiaries: they find us, mostly through word of mouth and personal contacts, occasionally by internet searches. The result is BSST's eclectic portfolio of supported projects. Since we were founded in 2004, some 600 grants have been made to around 200 different organisations.

Most of BSST's grants go to Palestinian, Jewish and joint organisations, but we also donate to a Syrian group in Golan, and to projects working with African asylum seekers and migrant workers from around the world who now live in Israel. We are specially willing to help groups tackling difficult and contentious issues and those that may be overlooked by major funders.

Our Jewish identity defines our work and purpose in three ways. We seek:

- ✻ to make a positive and practical Jewish statement of opposition to the oppression of the Palestinian people across Israel-Palestine, and of the Syrian population of Golan.
- ✻ to oppose all discrimination against other minorities or sections of the communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan. Amongst others, these include women and LGBTQ+ people within the entire area; asylum seekers and migrant workers in Israel; gypsies in East Jerusalem; Ethiopian and Mizrahi Jews in Israel.
- ✻ to support the achievement of a just, democratic and sustainable peace based on equality, human rights and mutual respect between all communities within Israel-Palestine-Golan.

We also recognise that the rights of Palestinian refugees must be a key part of any just peace settlement. Sadly, with our limited resources, BSST is unable to include those living outside Israel-Palestine-Golan within our grant-giving.



How we work

We carry out our charitable work, delivering 'public benefit,' in these ways:

- ✿ mostly by providing grants to groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan that have applied to BSST for support and fall within BSST's guidelines.
- ✿ occasionally by making small grants in response to a general appeal.
- ✿ through our Post Box service, whereby BSST receives and manages charitable donations secured in Britain by approved groups in Israel-Palestine-Golan which do not have their own British charitable arm.
- ✿ by organising our own emergency appeals in times of urgent need.

BSST employs no staff and has no office. Its volunteer trustees carry out all functions, working mostly online. As a result, in a normal year, 98% of our expenditure goes on charitable grants. Unavoidable administrative overheads – bank charges, minimal postage and printing – usually make up just 1-2% of BSST's costs.

Many BSST grant recipients have paid employees and possess Israeli or Palestinian legal status similar to that of a British charity. However, we also support relatively informal, entirely volunteer-run groups with minimal infrastructure, that are the most likely to struggle for mainstream funding. We do need applicants to have email access, but as we have been contacted successfully by tented desert communities without mains electricity or wi-fi, we are confident our online reliance is not an insuperable obstacle, even to very deprived groups.

Our application process is very simple: we post our grant criteria on our website, provide an online, user-friendly application form, take requests year-round and make decisions in weeks.

BSST necessarily operates at arm's length, so we have developed evaluation policies and guidelines to review our beneficiary groups. As well as measuring applications against our own criteria, we check other sources: internet presence, newspaper reports, briefings from other groups and individuals in Israel-Palestine-Golan. We have also designed report-back procedures for the end of each funding period, using a brief standard form adjusted individually for each project. And we consult our Advisory Group whose members have specialist knowledge and close ties with Israel-Palestine.

Finally, where possible, we meet grant and post box recipient groups. Trustees visiting Israel-Palestine-Golan include trips (at our own expense) to monitor projects that we support.



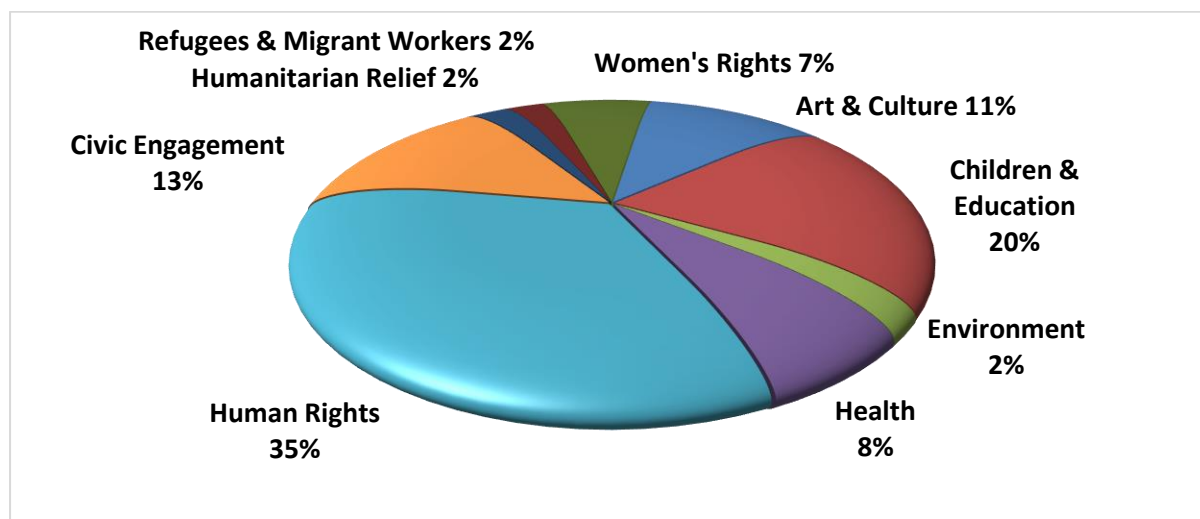
Settlers, protected by armed soldiers and dogs, invade playground in Susya



What we give

Groups that have applied successfully to BSST receive a maximum grant of £5,000 per year, while donations to general appeals are limited to £1,000. With BSST's own emergency appeals, there is no grant cap.

As many organisations never find it possible to replace our funding, BSST often provides repeat grants year after year. By contrast, for some groups BSST's early support delivers crucial pump-priming eventually enabling them to build a strong enough funding base to outgrow their need for our assistance.



BSST Expenditure 2021-22

How we raise funds

BSST has funders and beneficiaries of many backgrounds. Thousands of individuals have donated to us: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and those asserting no religious belief or identity. Faith organisations and peace groups also support us, and we raise significant sums from other charitable trusts.

As we have no endowment, every penny we donate we must first raise, so BSST's lifeblood is donations. We are immensely grateful to all our supporters, large and small, whose generosity enables us to contribute to building a just peace in Israel-Palestine-Golan. This year, major donations to our general funds came from many individuals and the following organisations:

“ I'm delighted to tell you that the trustees have decided to give BSST another grant for 2022. Our current policy is to support charities for three or four years ... we should be dropping you now. But we are so impressed with your work and feel you are very much 'our' kind of charity ... that we are breaking our own policy! ”

— A charitable trust advising BSST that it will fund us again!

Balcombe Trust, Barham Charitable Trust, Blue Moon Trust, Fleming Charitable Foundation, Founders for Good, IHL Trust, John & Susan Bowers Fund, Open Gate Trust, Pat Newman Memorial Trust, MSN Fund, Ripple Fund, Southall Trust, Stonehage Tempest Trust, and two trusts that asked not to be publicly identified.



Why we matter



While we do not promote any specific 'solution' to current inequalities and injustices – that is for the parties involved to negotiate – BSST sees its role as helping people on the ground create the building blocks for a more humane society and a fair and **lasting peace** between the communities of Israel-Palestine-Golan



BSST has much evidence that we make **a real difference** to the groups we support and to their communities – from the project reports we receive, discussions with groups we fund, photographs, films, personal stories, news reports and visits that we make.



At a purely practical level, if donors wish to reach local campaigners and activists who are trying to strengthen their own communities, then giving to BSST is **simple and effective**. Our trustees have built up much specialist knowledge and an extensive network of contacts and are skilled in making informed judgments about groups that other donors might find difficult to evaluate. We have strong relationships with many of the groups we fund, supporting them through the toughest of times, and we know that, overwhelmingly, they deliver on the work they have promised.



Our Jewish identity and commitment to a better future for all the people of Israel-Palestine-Golan is important to BSST, but not only to us. Often the groups we work with make it clear that, as much they value our grants, they equally **value who we are** and our aspirations for their lives in the years to come.



"They uproot – we plant, They chop down – we sow seeds" (Photo Tag Meir/Facebook).



Projects BSST supported in 2021-22

AFAQ JADEEDA ASSOCIATION (New Horizons) is a small community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, providing education, social welfare and health support, plus fun activities for the most deprived mothers and children. BSST has funded this group for several years, this time giving a COVID emergency grant.



—facebook.com/afaqjadeeda.association

AROUS EL BAHAR (Bride of the Sea) is a Jaffa-based Palestinian women's organisation, tackling the huge social problems – unemployment, deprivation, domestic violence, low educational achievement, crime and drugs – hidden behind the touristy glitz of the city's redeveloped port area. Indeed, nearly 60% of Palestinian families in Jaffa live in poverty, with Palestinian women especially suffering 'double discrimination' as women and members of a national minority.



This year AROUS EL BAHAR continued to run *JaffaDolls*, its sewing business employing women aged 50+, and its free legal aid clinic, tackling work problems, family issues, gender- based violence and sexual abuse. It also expanded its financial literacy courses and its training for entry into work and education and opened a second-hand shop which has immediately brought in significant profits.

BSST's grant contributed to core costs.

—facebook.com/arous.elbahar.jaffa



ARTEAM: THE GARDEN LIBRARY is a welcoming Tel Aviv community centre located in Levinski Park in south Tel Aviv. Formerly home to a very poor and largely ignored Jewish population, nowadays some 80% of local residents are African asylum-seekers and migrant workers. In an area scarred by decades of deprivation, ARTEAM's Garden Library is an oasis of hope. For adults it provides evening classes and family support, while children love its open-air multilingual library and homework space and its after-school and holiday activities.



Though discrimination in education is supposedly illegal in Israel, asylum-seeker children have long been excluded from mainstream schools. Instead, they are confined to second-rate provision where they soon fall behind their Israeli peers. This year BSST repeated its funding for ARTEAM's Educational Rights Project, supporting asylum seeker children to transfer into the mainstream state education sector.

“

Thank you so much for your solidarity and for believing in us for such a long time. ... the Garden Library has grown so much and you have a big part in this growth.

”

— ARTEAM Director

—thegardenlibrary.com



DESERT EMBROIDERY: THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WOMEN'S STATUS

is based in Lakia, a very poor township created by the Israeli state to force Bedouin families from a rural to an urban life. Founded by Bedouin women, DESERT EMBROIDERY is now a thriving business, teaching embroidery to fifty women in the Lakia area, selling their products and generating income from its Visitors Centre.

DESERT EMBROIDERY also sponsors projects which confront the widespread violence in Bedouin homes, schools, and more widely. Many pressures induce frustration and anger, especially among men and boys: rapid and imposed change in a patriarchal society, girls outstripping boys in education and work options, severe poverty, endemic unemployment, continuing house demolitions, and overcrowded schools.

This year DESERT EMBROIDERY supported a youth leadership community theatre project for thirteen to fifteen year-olds, *Breaking the Cycle of Violence in Bedouin Society*. The teenagers learned why violence happens and how to resolve conflict peacefully, at the end sharing their new understanding using a play they created for their community. BSST funded a youth and theatre worker to lead the project.

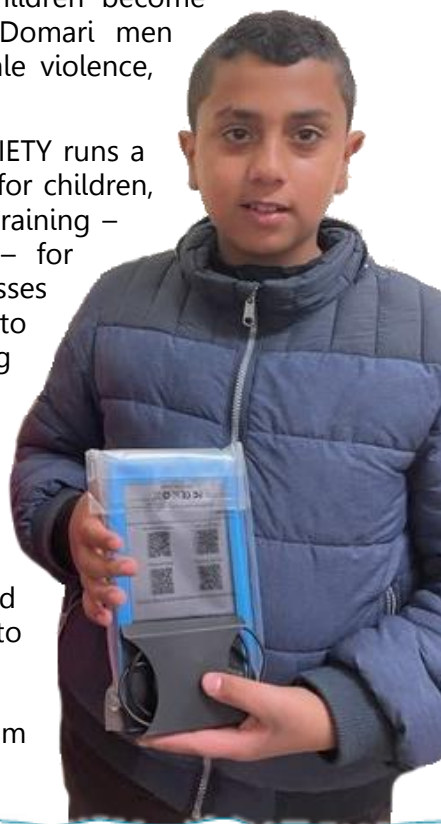
—desert-embroidery.org



DOMARI SOCIETY OF GYPSIES IN JERUSALEM serves one of Israel's smallest minority communities. Originally from India, but for centuries an intrinsic part of East Jerusalem, the three thousand Domari are very traditional, nearly invisible to outsiders, extremely poor and subject to much discrimination. Very early on, their children become alienated from the education system. In adulthood Domari men struggle to find work, while women are trapped by male violence, economic dependency and domesticity.

To break these cycles of disadvantage, the DOMARI SOCIETY runs a Centre providing after-school tutoring for children, plus literacy courses and vocational training – hairdressing, catering and sewing – for adult women. With face-to-face classes impossible during COVID, a way had to be found to deliver distance learning to children whose families are too poor to own computers or pay for broadband. While the DOMARI SOCIETY developed its e-learning curriculum, BSST provided funds to purchase 20 tablets and wireless sticks to distribute to the Centre's child users.

—domarisociety.com



FRAGMENTS THEATRE is a tiny community arts project in the heart of Jenin City. Housed in a restored ancient Turkish building, it introduces local children and young people to theatre, film and circus. Equally important, it provides its users with a refuge, a rare and precious safe space, desperately needed in a city where Israeli army incursions can happen almost daily, traumatising the residents and helping to produce Jenin's high levels of family stress and domestic violence.



The theatre's storm-damaged roof

Unsurprisingly, there was consternation when an unexpected and extreme storm damaged the building and rendered it unusable. BSST's grant helped fund the repairs.

—facebook.com/Fragments-Theatre-105680450999776



FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE is an ambitious project confronting the failure of Israel's education system in teaching Israel-Palestine history. Tight state control creates school environments and curricula with a dominant and unchallengeable 'narrative', where critical thought is discouraged. Every new teacher generation then reproduces these weaknesses.



FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE provides a platform for thinking, learning and changing attitudes. Together with its partner teacher training institutions, FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE offers degree modules and professional development programmes which examine Jews' and Palestinians' different knowledge and understanding, experience and beliefs. Each course is jointly led by Jewish and Palestinian women facilitators and brings together equal numbers of Jewish and Palestinian women participants.

BSST again contributed to core costs.

—friendshipvillage.org.il

FUTURE ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT (FADE) is a community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp whose annual summer camp for children and mothers has been supported by BSST. With its summer camps halted by COVID, FADE turned its focus to domestic living conditions.



The constant electricity outages in Gaza have led to fires in poor communities where children have died. For a second year, BSST funded FADE's *Safe Lamps* project – sustainable lighting powered by rechargeable batteries for a hundred of the refugee camp's most deprived families. As well as saving lives, this project improves educational chances, as it delivers increased hours of light for children and young people to study. BSST also gave FADE a COVID emergency grant.

—facebook.com/the.futuer.gaza

GAZA BOOKSTORE is a project to rebuild a hugely popular bookshop destroyed when the IDF bombed Gaza in May 2021. The dream of one man, Samir Mansour, the bookshop served as a community library and meeting place for writers and readers, young and old. Created over two decades, it was reduced to dust in minutes by Israel's air force.

BSST responded to an urgent appeal from two human rights lawyers to ensure the bookshop could be reborn. Eight months later, it was – in refurbished premises, just a hundred yards from the site of the old shop, but three times larger – and stocked with 300,000 volumes donated by individuals, publishers and booksellers from around the world.



Samir Mansour looks at a book in front of the remains of his store



GRASSROOTS ACCOMPANIMENT & LANGUAGE EXCHANGE / THIS IS NOT AN ULPAN (GALE/TINAU) is an ambitious project in the South Hebron Hills, where the Palestinian population risks constant settler and IDF violence. Palestinian non-violent resistance campaigners and villagers along with Jewish anti-Occupation activists have teamed up with TINAU, a unique Jewish/Palestinian Hebrew/Arabic school, to provide a combined human rights and language programme.

TINAU will train local Palestinian teachers in intensive Arabic teaching, while GALE recruits Israeli Jewish 'human rights defenders' (HRDs) to live in the villages, documenting human rights violations, and de-escalating settler and IDF violence. The HRDs will also learn Arabic from the local teachers, while villagers learn Hebrew from GALE.



Settlers preparing for an attack on the village of Twani

BSST supported a pilot project last year, when, sadly, appalling weather plus COVID caused endless complications; language skills training took longer than expected; and settler and IDF incursions kept everyone from their studies.

Army and environmental authority chased a flock near Jenba and the green line. We arrived while they were still chasing them and had some altercation (environment authority tried to crash into local Palestinians). The authorities 'arrested' the flock but they were later released. The shepherd was arrested for crossing illegally into '48 and threatening an authority.

We accompanied local Palestinian to file a complaint at the police station after he was brutally beaten by settlers on his land the previous Saturday. Also accompanied a father and his two sons to file a complaint against a settler who shot in the air to scare the boys while they were shepherding. Accompanied a family to a hearing in connection to the shepherd who was arrested and whose flock was taken for entering into '48. Called to a tent confiscation near Khalet al-Daba.

An extract of two typical days from GALE's daily log

BSST was grateful for the reflection and copious information – including a horrifying day-by-day chronicle of settler and IDF hostilities – provided by the project leaders. We are happy to fund a second pilot year. We were also delighted to find the project's imagination and optimism had made it into the pages of the Guardian.

“ Before we had to wait to report settler problems, now our Israeli allies can get very close and document everything. The Israelis are learning what it is like to live here. And our children are learning that Jews are not just settlers and soldiers. ”

— Nasser Nawaja, Palestinian local activist

“ Long term, we are just plugging holes in a boat. If what drives you is anger and shame, then this would be exhausting. But if you come from a position of accepting that this brings benefits for both us and them, it's a different perspective. ”

— Matan Brenner-Kadish, Israeli activist

—thisisnotanulpan.com



Car windows broken by settler violence in South Hebron

GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTIVE (GSC) is a group based in the South Hebron Hills, opposing home demolition, supporting villages under attack, planting olive trees, running a guesthouse, beekeeping, and holding workshops on Bedouin history and culture. BSST provides GSC with its Post Box service.

—goodshepherdcollective.org

HAIFA ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES (HACD) is a Gaza-based project, supporting children with Type 1 (insulin dependent) diabetes who live outside the refugee camps, so are the responsibility of the Palestinian Ministry of Health rather than UNWRA.

As the Ministry's support is nowhere near sufficient, volunteer-run HACD fills the gap, supplying children with insulin injection pens, plus testing strips and glucometers for monitoring blood glucose. It also teaches families how to manage insulin-dependent diabetes and provides psychological support. BSST helped pay for clinical supplies.

—facebook.com/haifahacd2012



HEBRON INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES NETWORK (HIRN) is an audacious Palestinian group that BSST has known for many years. HIRN develops projects where the Occupation is most harsh: Hebron City and surrounding villages, and the settlement-dominated Gush Etzion area. This year BSST provided HIRN with its Post Box service and two small grants.

BSST helped HIRN cover the health care and living costs of Harun Abu Aram, a young Palestinian from a cave-dwelling family in the South Hebron Hills. On his 24th birthday, as he was desperately holding on to a neighbour's electricity generator to stop it being seized by the Israeli military, Harun was shot in the neck by an IDF soldier. Now permanently paralysed from the neck down and entirely dependent on his family, Harun has received neither an apology nor any compensation from the Israeli state.

BSST also supported the Wadi al-Hussein kindergarten that is cut off from the rest of Hebron City by the adjoining and fiercely hostile Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba. During the COVID pandemic, when the kindergarten couldn't pay its three women teachers, HIRN stepped in with three months' salary, while a BSST grant covered the remaining six months.

—facebook.com/HIRN-388180624554795



HOPE FLOWERS SCHOOL serves a very deprived population just outside Bethlehem. Many pupils live in refugee camps and a high proportion have special needs. The school provides extensive social care alongside a regular primary education programme. In normal times the school has a steady funding base, but the COVID pandemic brought a great increase in welfare demands and BSST assisted with an emergency grant.



—hopeflowers.org

HUMANS WITHOUT BORDERS (HWB) is an Israeli Jewish volunteer group supporting West Bank and Gazan Palestinian families whose children need advanced medical treatment from hospitals in Israel or in occupied East Jerusalem. Volunteers drive sick Palestinian children between checkpoints and treatment centres, liaise with hospital staff, visit child patients and purchase necessities for accompanying relatives. HWB never lets a child down: if no volunteer driver is available, the group always pays for a taxi.



HWB hosted children and their families for a summer outing

Though COVID made a service dependent on ageing retiree drivers impossible, some new young driving volunteers joined, and its retirees switched to fundraising to pay for the extra taxis needed. By 2021 the service was nearly back to normal: 110 children supported, 80 volunteers making 4800 trips, while its now regular taxi drivers did another 1,000 journeys.

HWB also expanded its routine fundraising to make up for the Palestinian Authority's refusal to fund many essential medical needs.

Sometimes the group even pays hospitals for life-saving medical procedures, as well as buying medications and equipment and covering 'ancillary' costs like lodgings for parents while their children are in-patients.

“ In this little piece of God's land ... helping the Palestinians is a clear political act ... consistent with my heart's desires to liberate our two peoples from the Occupation and allow all residents to have personal, social and national freedom. ”

— Judith, former Machsom Watch activist

“ Through volunteering, I offer my grown-up children a better model of co-existence, not to mention the actual encounters with the families and the children that completely capture my heart. ”

— Yael, activist and tour guide

—humans-without-borders.org



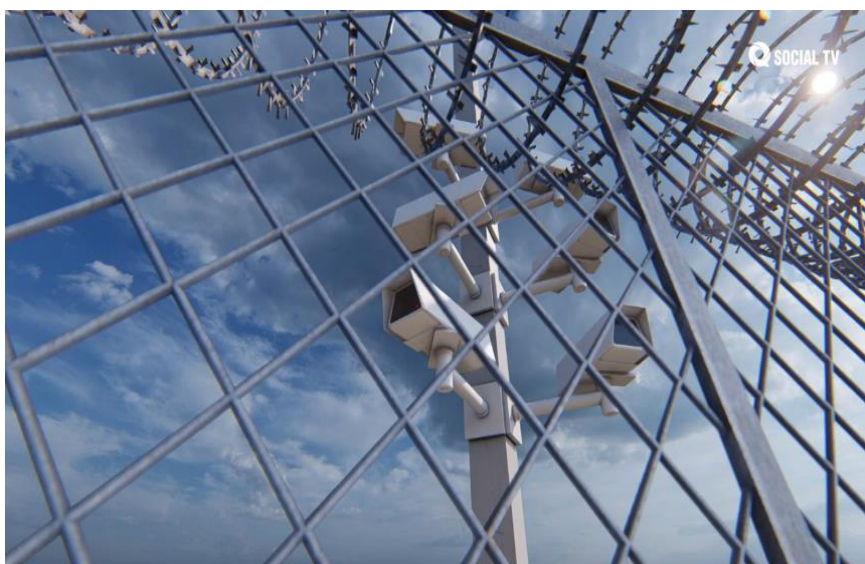
ISHA L'ISHA – HAIFA FEMINIST CENTRE is the oldest grassroots feminist organisation in Israel. For a second year, BSST provided core funding for its *Women without Status* project – helping trafficking victims, asylum seekers, undocumented workers and women whose legal or financial status is dependent on their relationship with an Israeli man.

Mostly the project supports East European, Palestinian, African and Asian women. They don't qualify for state health or welfare services, lack employment and other civil rights, and are at high risk of sexual and domestic violence. Fearing deportation or separation from their children, their dealings with police and immigration are often traumatising. The project runs a 24-hour helpline, teaches women their rights, provides emergency finance for food, rent etc, and helps them with skills, especially Hebrew language, to improve their employability.

—facebook.com/IshaLishaHaifaFeministCenter

ISRAEL SOCIAL TV (ISTV) is a web-based media group, using the short-film format to cover stories rarely reported by Israel's press and television – the Occupation, asylum seekers, the environment, the Nakba, LGBTQ+ rights, racism and general socio-economic issues. It has made over 5,000 films in Hebrew, with most also translated into English and/or Arabic. It reaches some 100,000 viewers monthly in Israel-Palestine-Golan and abroad.

In recent years, ISTV's finances and activities have been fiercely attacked by the Israeli government. BSST has long supported the group and again made a grant towards core funding



Using facial recognition, Israel's Blue Wolf surveillance system tracks the whereabouts of a large number of Palestinians, as well as Israeli activists. This is documented in ISTV's film 'Under Surveillance | Israeli Dystopia of Surveillance and Facial Recognition'.

—tv.social.org.il

JAHALIN SOLIDARITY (JS) is a Palestinian project challenging Israel's settler-expansionist policy for East Jerusalem and the surrounding area. This policy includes targeting Palestinian residents for forcible displacement, to enable new housing for Israeli Jewish citizens to be built. JS focuses especially on the Jahalin Bedouin, supporting their struggle against forced transfer from the homes they have lived in for the last sixty years to a site alongside Jerusalem's rubbish dump. BSST provided its Post Box facility.

—jahalin.org



KAFA ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE NEGEV

supports the people of Rahat, Israel's largest Bedouin city, and home to over 70,000 Bedouin belonging to dozens of clans.

Previously self-contained desert communities, the clans have been forced together into a cramped and crowded urban environment by the Israeli government. Those thousands of Bedouin still holding on to their traditional way of life in their 'unrecognised villages' are at constant risk of similar forcible transfer. Despite unemployment, communal tensions and crime, KAFA has forged a vibrant community organisation, determined to tackle Rahat's endemic poverty, hopelessness and lack of self-esteem. It organises charitable support for the poorest and encourages many residents, especially young people, into social activism. This year BSST helped fund its Bedouin Rights Centre, providing local people with practical advice, advocacy and representation over day-to-day issues such as social welfare entitlements, residency permits, inheritance, debt rescheduling, and travel permits between Israel and Gaza.



KOTOF ELKHAIR ASSOCIATION is a community group in the central Gaza city of Deir el-Balah. Its impressive range of services and activities include cultural events, a safe space for children to play and learn, women's rights workshops, disability training for families in supporting their relatives, medical days when local people can access free healthcare, children's summer camps and humanitarian aid.

BSST has funded KOTOF several times and this year we supported an ambitious COVID-inspired project – distance learning for kindergarten children. Sixty teachers were taught how to devise and carry out online teaching, parents were shown how to use electronic media – mostly, mobile phones – for distance learning, and fifteen kindergartens were given laptops for delivering the course material. We also provided a COVID emergency grant to help pay for 'psychological support days' reaching 5,000 children.



—facebook.com/kotofAssociation



LAWYERS FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE (LGG) was founded in Nazareth by a group of young Palestinian lawyers to challenge the corruption, nepotism, maladministration, abuse of power, inflated salaries and poor service delivery associated with the clan-basis of much Palestinian local government in Israel.

LGG runs a busy Arab-language anti-corruption hotline. Its education service has worked with dozens of secondary schools teaching students principles of good governance and democracy, and has provided practical training to many hundreds of local council personnel. LGG also has a growing role in policy intervention, especially regarding local government transparency, tackling crime and violence, and ensuring environmental protection.

However, the core of its operations is litigation, where LGG has a remarkable 93% success rate in precedent-setting claims against local councils. In its monitoring and enforcement of Palestinian local councils' performance, it has become a significant force to be reckoned with. Once again, BSST provided core funding.

—facebook.com/Lawyers.for.Good.Governance



As part of LGG's "Youth for Good Governance", students organized a clean-up day in Umm al-Fahm.

AL MARSAD – ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS is a Syrian community group established in territory occupied by Israel in 1967, then annexed in 1981 and since treated as part of the Israeli state. When 130,000 former residents fled in 1967, the IDF destroyed nearly all their villages and farms. The remaining 27,000 Syrians now live in the far north on 5% of Golan, with the other 95% home to 23,000 Israeli settlers.

To operate legally, AL MARSAD had to register as an Israeli NGO, so cannot access the European financial support available for West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza groups. Yet its determined fundraising still enables it to deliver a wide range of valuable services to Golan's remaining Syrian population:

- ✿ Campaigning against human rights violations in Golan
- ✿ Free legal information, advice and mediation
- ✿ Test cases in the Israeli courts
- ✿ Information and workshops on employment, housing, residency, women's rights, family separation, natural resources, landmines, Syrian Golan history and civil society activism
- ✿ Cultural events

During COVID most work continued remotely. Only cultural events stopped entirely, so when face-to-face life resumed, AL MARSAD promptly ran a week-long Cultural Festival - concerts, poetry readings, films, art exhibitions, debates, creative workshops and alternative tourism. As previously, BSST provided a core grant and its Post Box service

—golan-marsad.org



Reem Talhami performing at a concert as part of Al Marsad's Jawlan Cultural Days Festival.



MASSAFER YATTA SPORT CLUB is a new sports venture for young people of the Massafer Yatta region in the West Bank. In this desert area dotted with small Palestinian villages there is no access to mains water, grid electricity or social facilities, and with residents under permanent threat of eviction by the Israeli state, life is difficult, stressful and insecure.

The club is the initiative of wrestling enthusiast, Sam, from the Centre for Jewish Non-Violence, who lives in Palestinian village homes in Massafer Yatta as a 'Human Rights Defender' and participates in the GALE/TINAU language project.



“ This sports project will help the children of the Massafer Yatta community by providing them with a constructive hobby and a great stress-reliever. It will also help enrich the relationship between international (human rights) activists and (the village of) Umm el Kheir beyond “just” anti-Occupation work. ”

— Sam, wrestling coach

BSST's grant topped up Sam's own fundraising efforts and helped purchase a wrestling mat. Once the boys' wrestling classes are established, the club hopes to start girls' gymnastics and yoga classes.

NEGEV COEXISTENCE FORUM (NCF) is the only grassroots Jewish/Palestinian organisation campaigning for Bedouin communities' human and civil rights in the Negev/Naqab.

Around 250,000 Bedouin live in the huge desert area, with over half already having been forced into government-built towns, thus freeing up their land for Jewish farming and residency. Yet many continue to resist compulsory urbanisation. Despite being denied basic infrastructure – water, electricity, roads, schools, healthcare – tens of thousands of Bedouin still inhabit traditional herding communities in some thirty-five 'unrecognised' and eleven newly recognised villages.

Central to NCF's work is opposing Israel's repeated destruction of the unrecognised villages, some of which have been torn down by the state - then rebuilt by residents – dozens of times. Each demolition means total exposure of old and young, sick and frail, to freezing cold or extreme heat. Demolitions even took place during COVID lockdown, when Bedouin, like all Israeli citizens, were supposed to be staying indoors. BSST provided NCF with core funding.

—dukium.org



Home demolition

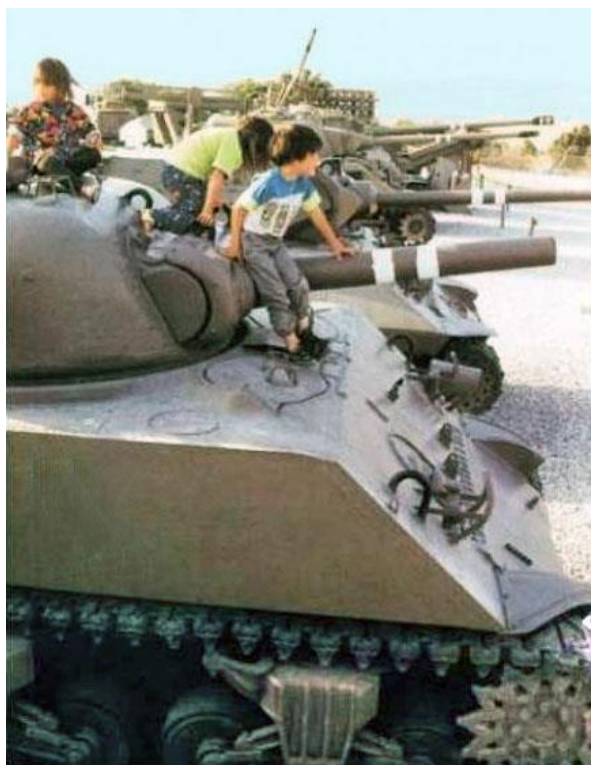


NEW PROFILE (NP) is a feminist group opposed to Israel's promotion of military service from kindergarten onward. It believes that "the militarism embedded in all aspects of Israeli society exacerbates violence, racism, and sexism whilst weakening civilian and democratic values."

Not entering the army can blight education and job prospects. Even so, about half of 18-year-olds avoid conscription, while serving soldiers (especially from poor homes) often cut service short, and many reservists refuse recall. Though non-serving school-leavers are still mostly ultra-Orthodox, mental health exemptions and conscientious objections are increasing.

It is claimed that the IDF is Israel's great leveller. Yet NP says widespread sexual harassment reinforces gender inequality, while soldiers from poor families often get the worst postings, ensuring continuing disadvantage when their service ends. NP provides free counselling to around a thousand teenagers facing the draft each year, as well as legal help, and specialist anti-militarism training for those working with young people. It also cooperates with 'refusenik' and other anti-military groups. BSST repeated its core funding grant and provided its Post Box service.

—newprofile.org



OBJECTOR FILM – ISRAELI IMPACT PROJECT is inspired by a recent award-winning documentary that follows a young Israeli Jewish woman as she questions her family's military legacy and is then imprisoned for refusing compulsory military service. The *Impact Project* includes film screenings and structured guided conversations that enable young Jews from a variety of Israeli backgrounds to consider how conscientious objection, feminism and youth-led peace movements might produce a viable democratic future for Israel-Palestine. BSST provided its Post Box service.



PALESTINE TRAUMA CENTRE (PTC) delivers family therapy, rapid intervention trauma relief, specialist psychotherapy and psychological training across Gaza. Its work includes its BSST-supported FRIDAY OF JOY initiative, which brings drama, games, painting and music into schools, playgrounds and streets throughout Gaza, and enables PTC to identify children needing extra support. This year BSST gave PTC an emergency COVID grant.

—Ptcuk.org



A family therapy session

“ Last night - a night from hell. A huge explosion, then a power cut. Another air strike, and another, and another! My four children jumping on me screaming. My 7-year-old was weirdly silent, shivering. I could feel every part of her moving. Then a huge flame of fire entered from the window, all my kids screamed at once: Mummy please make it stop, we're going to die. ”

— A mother in Gaza recorded her experience

PARENTS AGAINST CHILD DETENTION (PACD) supported by the **PUBLIC COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE IN ISRAEL (PCATI)** is an Israeli parents group campaigning to end the violations of Palestinian children's rights when they are arrested and detained. While Jewish settler children suspected of a crime receive the extensive protection afforded juveniles by Israel's civil courts and by international law, their Palestinian counterparts, perhaps living only yards away, are tried in military courts, where child protection laws don't apply.



"First Stage: Night-time Intrusion and Arrest". PACD's "Illustrators Draw Arrests" campaign invited Israeli artists to show the treatment of detained Palestinian children, all of which is contrary to International and Israeli laws on children's rights.

At any given moment, between 150 and 250 Palestinians aged 12 to 18 are detained or imprisoned by Israeli authorities, many on flimsy stone throwing allegations. Usually, they are locked up for months, without parental contact or legal help. Pleading innocent means lawyers' fees, even longer in jail, and hearings in Hebrew, a language that very few of them know. With a 95% conviction rate, children mostly plead guilty to end the misery.

PACD organises conferences, street rallies, online campaigns, exhibitions, public testimony readings, media articles and publicity, seeking to get the true story of Palestinian child detention out to the Israeli public, and to change the law. BSST provided core funding.

—pacd.org.il

“ They are seized from their beds in the middle of the night. They are blindfolded for hours. To Israelis a child is a child, unless he is Palestinian. ”

— Ha'aretz



PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – ISRAEL (PHRI) is a campaigning and service-providing medico-human rights organisation. It believes that everyone for whom the State is responsible – Israeli citizens of all ethnicities and communities, non-citizen residents, migrant workers, asylum-seekers, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and Syrians in Golan – are equally entitled to healthcare.

PHRI runs a south Tel Aviv clinic for asylum seekers and foreign workers and free weekly clinics in West Bank Palestinian villages. It has close links to Palestinian health providers, bringing medical supplies into Gaza and the West Bank during crises, and negotiating permits for Palestinians to enter Israel for specialist treatment. BSST provided its Post Box service in addition to an emergency Covid grant.

—phr.org.il



Demonstration for equality in education

SADAKA REUT – ARAB JEWISH PARTNERSHIP (SR)

brings Palestinian and Jewish young people together to create social and political change. Focusing on marginalized groups – Bedouin Palestinians, Ethiopian, Russian and Mizrahi Jews – it works in universities where Jewish/Palestinian student interaction is rare.

For nearly four decades SR has worked with thousands of young people and developed new generations of campaigning activists, promoting 'a shared society based on equality, solidarity, and justice'. Unlike many Palestinian/Jewish projects, which prioritise cultural exchange, SR confronts the tougher issues of conflict and unequal power relations. Many SR 'graduates' have become leading commentators and activists involved in anti-Occupation and anti-oppression politics. Once again, BSST provided its Post Box service.

—reutsadaka.org

SANAD YOUTH ASSOCIATION aims to empower the local community in the Palestinian town of Jatt in Israel's deprived Triangle region. It focuses especially on young people as potential leaders of community change, helps them to improve their life skills, tackle gender inequality and racism, combat violence and strengthen their own democratic involvement in local politics and government.

SANAD runs a Learning Centre to encourage lifelong education, including courses in organisational capacity building and personal skills development. It also offers consultancy services, infrastructure support, office space and facilities, and micro-grants for local social initiatives. BSST contributed core funding.

—www.sanadw.org





SCHOOLHOUSE provides tailor-made education every year for six hundred asylum seekers aged 18 to 50. Mostly from Sudan and Eritrea, its students include university graduates and those with no schooling at all. Many are traumatised by experiences in their home countries, exacerbated by hostility since reaching Israel. Most find it tough as adults tackling basic literacy, especially through a second language and foreign culture.

SCHOOLHOUSE introduces study techniques to students and provides practical information about living in Israel. It also teaches computer skills, Hebrew and English. This year BSST core funding helped cover classroom rent and supported the salary costs of teaching staff.



—schoolhouse.org.il

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE-HAIFA (SDC-HAIFA) is a community development organisation established four decades ago in one of the poorest Palestinian neighbourhoods in Haifa. It aims to strengthen Palestinian civic engagement, and campaigns for Palestinians to be fully and equally integrated into the life of one of Israel's most 'mixed' cities, including getting an equal slice of the municipal cake when it comes to provision of local services.



With COVID underlining the need for adequate digital communication, BSST funded SDC-HAIFA to upgrade their outdated website to be more user friendly and, for the first time, accessible on mobile phones, and to develop an interactive 'Resilience Pack' to support Palestinian households coping with crisis situations such as cyber-bullying.

—sdc-haifa.org

SOLIDARITY ARTS, ACTIVISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION unites art with commitment to social justice via its annual Solidarity Festival held in the Tel Aviv's Cinematheque. Here, Israel's only totally trilingual festival – working in Arabic, Hebrew and English – shows films tackling globalisation, climate change and many human rights issues. The festival includes a competition and debates with film-makers.

Its parallel programme, Solidarity in the Periphery, provides free screenings, workshops and discussions in remote and disadvantaged areas, like the Negev's unrecognised Bedouin villages and Arab/Jewish towns in northern Galilee. BSST again helped fund the Arabic/Hebrew/English branding, marketing, publicity, and subtitling.

—solidaritytlv.org





SUNBULA FAIR TRADE ORGANISATION supports marginalised communities in Israel-Palestine through the promotion of traditional handicrafts. Its fair-trade shops in Sheikh Jarrah and on the Nablus Road, East Jerusalem plus its on-line service sell high quality artisan products on behalf of producer groups across the occupied Palestinian territories and from the Palestinian community within Israel. It currently supports 25 groups with over a thousand members via training in craft skills, product development and marketing.



During the COVID pandemic, the combined effect of lockdowns and the tourism collapse meant sales dropped dramatically and producer groups ran into serious cash flow problems threatening their very existence. SUNBULA raised sufficient emergency cash to enable six of the most precarious artisan groups, with a total membership of nearly 500 artisans, to survive the worst of the



Olive-wood spoons and, left, Nisf Jubeil Ceramics

pandemic. BSST's grant helped the six groups pay wages and purchase craft materials essential to continuing production of their goods.

—sunbula.org

TISHREEN is a Palestinian community group based in Taybeh, an economic and cultural hub city in the mostly Palestinian Triangle region of Israel. TISHREEN focuses especially on women, young people and children and those engaged in the arts. Its passionate promotion of Triangle artists' creative work is aimed at enhancing the community's sense of self-worth and Palestinian cultural identity.

TISHREEN's Cultural Café – an art gallery, coffee shop and work spaces – is central to its ambitious plan to become the go-to Triangle meeting space and resource, for artists to produce and exhibit. It is also somewhere the wider Palestinian community can meet, eat, and enjoy cultural and political discussion, book events, lectures, exhibitions, music, theatre, cinema etc. Via its Cultural Café, TISHREEN hopes to encourage local Palestinian artists to remain in the Triangle rather than flocking to the big cities in Israel and abroad. BSST provided core funding.



"Dismantling / Rebuilding", a Tishreen exhibition showcasing emerging female artists

—facebook.com/TishreenAssociation



TOHU MAGAZINE is a young arts organisation with an international editorial board of Palestinians and Jews. It organises many film screenings, workshops, and talks, but its core project is a free online magazine. Produced in Arabic, Hebrew and English, it focuses on work from Israel-Palestine while situating itself within the wider Middle East. TOHU encourages young writers and showcases visual content created by Palestinian, Israeli and international artists. BSST continued core funding for further developing the Arabic section of the magazine.

—tohumagazine.com



An exhibition of Michael Baers's earlier project 'Picasso in Palestine', exhibited in Tohu's online article 'The Invisibility of a Bomb Ship: On Michael Baers's Invisibility Chronicles, Part One' (Photo Michael Baers)

TORAT TZEDEK (TORAH OF JUSTICE) is a Jewish human rights charity based in East Jerusalem that supports Palestinian residents of Silwan, who are confronting forcible



Jawad Siam enters his home in Silwan (Still from Emek Shaveh/YouTube, "Jawad Siyam")

attempts by powerful Jewish settler organisations to take over their homes. On behalf of TORAT TZEDEK, the New Israel Fund issued a desperate appeal to help Jawad Siam, social worker and leading Palestinian activist, who had lost a 20-year legal struggle to retain the home belonging to his extended family in Silwan.

Jawad is an iconic figure in the Silwan community's resistance to the settler

groups' plans for 'Judaising' this part of East Jerusalem. When his legal battle ended, he faced bankruptcy and losing the remnants of his property if he didn't meet huge costs: legal bills, charges for police time, and 'rent' for living in the family home. BSST, which formerly funded the Madaa Silwan Community Centre established by Jawad, contributed to the TORAT TZEDEK appeal.

—torat-tzedek.org



TWANI ACTIVISM CENTRE is a precious community facility in the beleaguered Massafer Yatta area in the South Hebron Hills. Ten years ago, a mother and son, both leading local Palestinian activists, gave part of their home for a children's psychotherapeutic support facility, a 'museum of resistance,' and accommodation for up to ten visitors. The CENTRE also houses a women's cooperative, producing craft products for sale there and online.

“ Here tourists wishing to learn about non-violent struggle for peace in Israel-Palestine can hear local testimonies, rest and sleep ... I share with them why I believe in non-violent resistance against the Occupation and in cooperation with Jews for justice in our land and equality for all. These ten years, our Centre has hosted over 20,000 people - Israelis, Palestinians and Internationals. ”
— Basel Adra, co-founder of the Twani Activism Centre



A settler sprays toxic gas in the face of a Palestinian farmer in Massafer Yatta

Though Israel has a near-total ban on Palestinian construction, mother and son found an ingenious way of building the CENTRE, donating the cellar and cave beneath their home. The three Palestinian and three Jewish volunteer activists who now oversee the facility are carrying out renovations to make it more comfortable and welcoming. These include a new restaurant run by the women's cooperative to feed visiting activists. BSST paid for kitchenware, restaurant furniture, new doors and floor tiles, and repairs to the CENTRE's electrics.

VILLAGES GROUP is a small Jewish-Palestinian group working in villages in the South Hebron Hills and near Nablus. It is deeply involved in the Palestinian villagers' struggles to educate their children, prevent their land being seized and stop their homes being destroyed. This last year, along with HIRN, it has done everything in its power to help Harun Abu Aram who was shot in the neck by an IDF soldier. BSST has supported the VILLAGES GROUP since our charity was founded and this year provided it with our Post Box Service.

—villagesgroup.wordpress.com



Erella, a founder member of the Villages Group, talks to Jaber, whose Khalat A-Dhaba home has been demolished for the fourth time.



YOD BET B'HESHVAN hosts the project **TAG MEIR** which unites more than 50 groups across Israeli Jewish life, from Orthodox to secular. It describes itself as "the only organisation fighting racism in Jewish society specifically with a Jewish voice, promoting pluralism, respect for the Other and tolerance, as values rooted in Jewish tradition."

TAG MEIR's huge range of activities normally includes visits to (mostly) Palestinian victims of racist attacks; seeking compensation for victims; providing racism awareness training to religious Jewish and Palestinian teachers; election campaigning against racism; and legal action against religious leaders who incite hatred. BSST was pleased to learn that though its work celebrates personal contact, moving online during COVID lockdown didn't stop TAG MEIR from operating very effectively – with video conferencing and letters from the public replacing in-person visits to victims of hate crime, while using Zoom and social media for training, information, and election campaigning. Once again, BSST provided core funding.



—facebook.com/tagmeirisrael

350 Jewish and Arab activists joined Tag Meir's Flower Parade

+972 MAGAZINE is a free online publication owned by Israeli and Palestinian journalists committed to ending the Occupation, advancing human rights, challenging the Israel-Palestine discourse, including reporting those voices overlooked by mainstream media. It has around a million annual readers and an international impact: the New York Times, CNN, the Guardian, BBC, and Le Monde Diplomatique pick up its carefully researched stories and regularly interview its writers, while embassies often request briefings.

+972's work can be dangerous. Israeli police and soldiers and the Palestinian police often threaten violence and destroy journalists' equipment, and reporters have been wounded and killed. +972 has upgraded staff protection, increasing insurance cover, running extra cyber-security training, and building reserves against possible SLAPP lawsuits ("strategic lawsuits against public participation.") BSST helped pay for legal, insurance and security costs and provided its Post Box service.

–972mag.com



Children in Jinbeh watch as the Israeli army conducts a drill. Israel has declared the village to be part of a military training zone and threatened the community with demolition of their homes and destruction of their livelihoods. Reported in +972's "Explainer: The threat of mass expulsion in Masafer Yatta". (Photo Oren Ziv/Activestills)



From Gaza Dances to 'Jeruselema' (WeAreNotNumbers.org)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 15th September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Gill Yudkin, Chair

Colin Wainwright, Treasurer



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust for the year ended 28 February 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ruth Naftalin FCA
14 Park Crescent
London N3 2NJ

15th September 2022



Accounts for the Year Ending 28 February 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		2021-22			2020-21		
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income							
Donations received		158,540	72,800	231,340	127,368	57,229	184,597
Gift Aid on donations		2,061	770	2,831	673	495	1,168
Bank interest		2	-	2	11	-	11
Total income		160,603	73,570	234,173	128,052	57,724	185,776
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities	2	145,160	68,657	213,817	103,585	65,660	169,245
Publicity/Fundraising	3	1,019	-	1,019	550	-	550
Administration	4	270	-	270	82	-	82
Total Expenditure		146,449	68,657	215,106	104,217	65,660	169,877
Net income / (expenditure)		14,154	4,913	19,067	23,835	(7,936)	15,899
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		58,913	11,738	70,651	35,078	19,674	54,752
Funds carried forward		73,067	16,651	89,718	58,913	11,738	70,651

BALANCE SHEET

		As at 28 February 2022	
	Note	28/2/2022 £	28/2/2021 £
Assets			
Cash at bank		84,011	62,812
HMRC Gift Aid		2,418	7,839
Debtors	5	3,289	-
Total Assets		89,718	70,651
Reconciliation of funds			
Unrestricted funds		73,067	58,913
Restricted funds		16,651	11,738
Total Charity Funds		89,718	70,651

**Notes to the Accounts**

- 1** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2019 and applicable accounting standards.

	2021-22			2020-21		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
2 Charitable activities						
Grants made	144,210	68,657	212,867	102,697	65,660	168,357
Direct bank charges	950	-	950	888	-	888
	145,160	68,657	213,817	103,585	65,660	169,245
3 Publicity / Fundraising						
Fundraising	93	-	93	-	-	-
Printing postage stationery	590	-	590	358	-	358
Publicity & Website	336	-	336	192	-	192
	1,019	-	1,019	550	-	550
4 Administration						
Bank charges	78	-	78	72	-	72
Sundry expenses	192	-	192	10	-	10
	270	-	270	82	-	82

5 Debtors

One payment could not be processed by a foreign intermediary bank. It was returned in 2022/23.

6 Trustee expenses

There were no expenses paid to trustees in either 2021/22 or 2020/21.

7 Restricted Funds (including Post Boxes)

	1/3/21	Income	Expenditure	28/2/22
Children's Fund	95	225	301	19
Gaza Fund	0	7,935	7,935	0
Olive Grove Fund	3,289	0	0	3,289
+972 Magazine	389	4,188	4,385	192
Christian Peacemaker Teams - CPT	725	0	0	725
Good Shepherd Collective	1,601	3,681	4,170	1,112
Hebron International Resource Network - HIRN	25	346	371	0
Israel Social TV	0	128	128	0
Jahalin Solidarity	0	3,812	3,250	562
Al Marsad – Arab Human Rights Centre in Golan Heights	0	20,000	20,000	0
New Profile	0	10,000	10,000	0
Objector Film	0	5,029	5,029	0
Physicians for Human Rights, PHR-I	1,125	1,375	2,500	0
Sadaka Reut	0	8,000	8,000	0
St. John's Eye Hospital	0	375	0	375
Tent Of Nations	2,152	6,850	0	9,002
Tent Of Nations UK Friends - FOTON	1,000	0	0	1,000
Villages Group	1,338	1,625	2,588	375
Total	11,739	73,569	68,657	16,651



Notes to the Accounts (continued)

8 Grants and Post Box Transfers Made

Organisation	£000s	Organisation	£000s
Afaq Jadeeda	2	Al Marsad	25
Arous el Bahar	5	Massafer Yatta Sport Club	1
Arteam Garden Library	5	Negev Coexistence Forum - NCF	5
Association for the Improvement of Women's Status Lakia	5	New Profile	15
Domari Society	5	Objector Film	5
Fragments Theatre	1	Palestine Trauma Centre	2
Friendship Village	5	PCATI/PACD Parents Against Child Detention	5
Future Association for Development and Environment	7	Physicians for Human Rights - Israel	3
GALE / This is not an Ulpan	4	Sadaka Reut Youth Partnership	8
Gaza Bookshop	1	Sanad Youth Association	5
Good Shepherd Collective	4	Schoolhouse	5
Haifa Association For Children With Diabetes	5	Social Development Committee Haifa	4
HIRN	4	Solidarity Arts, Activism and Human Rights Association	5
Hope Flowers School	1	Sunbula Fair Trade Organisation	5
Humans without Borders	6	Tishreen	5
Isha L'Isha	5	Tohu Magazine	4
Israel Social TV	5	Torat Tzedek's Silwan Campaign / New Israel Fund	1
Jahalin Solidarity	3	Twani Activism Centre	3
Kafa Association for Social Change in the Negev	5	Villages Group	3
Kotof Elkhair Association	7	Yod Bet B Heshvan - Tag Meir	5
Lawyers for Good Governance	5	+972 Magazine	9



Separation wall with graffiti image of autistic Palestinian Lyad Al Halaq, killed by Israeli police.
(Photo Heather Sharona Weiss/Activestills)

BSST Governance

Staff

BSST has no paid staff, premises or equipment. The trustees, each with extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on Israel-Palestine, carry out all functions including appointing and training new Board members. New trustees are recruited by personal contact and by advertisement.

Trustee meetings are held every four to six weeks, where general policy, income generation and grant decisions are made.

Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name	The British Shalom-Salaam Trust
Charity Registration Number	1103211
Registered Address	28 Huddleston Road, London N7 0AG
Bankers	HSBC, 85 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BE
Independent Examiner	Ruth Naftalin FCA, 14 Park Crescent, London N3 2NJ
E-mail	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	bsst.org.uk

BSST Trustees

- ✿ **Dr David Sperlinger** retired Clinical Psychologist (Trustee for Income Generation)
- ✿ **Annabelle Sreberny** Emeritus Professor of Media and Communication (appointed July 2021)
- ✿ **Colin Wainwright** IT specialist (Treasurer)
- ✿ **Clare Ungerson** Emeritus Professor of Social Policy
- ✿ **Naomi Wayne** retired charity chief executive (Secretary)
- ✿ **Dr Gillian Yudkin** retired GP (Chair)

BSST Patrons

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ✿ Sir Geoffrey Bindman | ✿ Claudia Roden |
| ✿ Sir Nicholas Hytner | ✿ Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah |
| ✿ Professor Francesca Klug OBE | ✿ Alexei Sayle |
| ✿ Miriam Margolyes OBE | ✿ Sir Antony Sher |
| ✿ Rabbi Jeffrey Newman | ✿ Professor Avi Shlaim |
| ✿ Professor Susie Orbach | ✿ Dame Janet Suzman |
| ✿ Rabbi Danny Rich | ✿ Zoë Wanamaker CBE |

BSST Advisory Group

- ✿ **Michael Ellman**, solicitor, has carried out missions of enquiry, judicial and electoral observation and training to over 25 countries including Israel and Palestine.
- ✿ **Richard Kuper**, long-standing campaigner for Palestinian human rights, retired university lecturer and founder of Pluto Press.
- ✿ **Tony Lerman**, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, Vienna, and former Director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- ✿ **Miri Weingarten**, solicitor, formerly of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and EU Advocacy Coordinator for a coalition of Israeli human rights groups.
- ✿ **Hadas Ziv**, Director of Public Outreach in Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, previously Executive Director and winner of the 2009 Oak Fellowship for Human Rights.



THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1103211

Accounts

British Shalom-Salaam Trust

Crossing Borders for Peace



Annual Report & Accounts

**Shalom
Salaam** 
THE BRITISH SHALOM-SALAAM TRUST
Charity No. 1103211

March 2020 –
February 2021

From Our Chair

March 2020 to the end of February 2021 was like no other year: it was ushered in with the arrival on our shores of Corona Virus, soon to be named Covid-19, which rapidly became a pandemic.



We already knew that our partners in Israel/Palestine were flexible and innovative, so we weren't surprised when many organisations with which we work stopped their normal activities to respond to the immediate Covid-related needs of the communities they serve. These included providing health advice; hygiene packs; food for families where breadwinners had lost their jobs; books; and educational help and toys for children trapped at home in cramped surroundings because their schools and nurseries had closed. In several instances, this annual report reflects the adjustments the groups we support have had to make. BSST also reacted by pausing our regular activities and application procedures and offering, as rapidly as we could, emergency funds to those groups and projects in most need.

BSST is now fully back to our usual work, though we still hold our trustee meetings and discussions with visitors from Israel/Palestine online rather than face to face. And, of course, requests for our help have continued to arrive, from both our regular grantees and also from new groups that have found us through our spreading network.

We have also had some Board changes. We were happy, in November, to welcome Clare Ungerson as a new trustee. However, only two months later, Anthony Bale stepped down from our Board, because of his increasing work commitments. We were very sad to see him leave and thank him for his contribution to BSST - including his annual 10km sponsored runs - and to the projects we work with.

As always, we must give an especially large thank-you to ALL our supporters, great and small, who enable us to do our core work of supporting groups who make life in the troubled region of Israel/Palestine a bit better and spread hope and optimism in their communities.

Enjoy this report and pass it on to family, friends and colleagues. We'd love to receive their donations too!

Gill Yudkin

Dr Gill Yudkin
Chair, BSST

August 2021



Images: Front cover: From +972 article How a Palestinian shoemaker started the West Bank's only mask factory overnight (+972/Amjad Zaghir). P2 & back cover: Installing LED panels (FADE). P3: Demolition of Khirbet Humsa community, (Activestills/Oren Ziv). P5: Soldier manhandles villager (HIRN). P6: Covid emergency rations (Kotof el-Khair). P22: Animation workshop (Bozour Theatre). P23: From video *Gaza Dances to 'Jeruselema'* (WeAreNotNumbers.org).



Who we are

The British Shalom-Salaam Trust is the only British Jewish grant-giving charity established specifically to work across Israel/Palestine, the area comprising Israel since 1948 and the land occupied by Israel since 1967 (the West Bank including East Jerusalem, Gaza and the Golan).

At BSST our Jewish identity is central to our work. By our actions we hope to represent a positive and practical Jewish statement of opposition to the oppression of the Palestinian people, and support for a just and democratic peace in Israel/Palestine.

Our grants policy: challenging oppression – bringing justice and hope

We are committed to promoting political, social and economic justice, including a sustainable resolution of the conflict in Israel/Palestine based on democracy, equality, human rights and mutual respect between all communities. Beyond these basic principles, we are driven by the needs identified by the groups with which we work, not our own preconceptions, plans or programmes.



BSST favours small grassroots groups, but we do not seek out possible beneficiaries: they find us, mostly through word of mouth and personal contacts, occasionally by internet searches. This approach has produced our eclectic portfolio of supported projects – since we were founded in 2004 some 500 grants have gone to around 150 different organisations.

BSST assists regardless of ethnicity or religion. Most of our grants go to Palestinian, Jewish and joint groups, but we also donate to organisations aiding African asylum-seekers and migrant workers from around the world who now live in Israel. We are especially willing to help groups tackling difficult and contentious issues and those that may be overlooked by major funders.



How we work

Required under British charity law to deliver 'public benefit', we do so in three ways:

- by making our own grants to qualified applicant groups in Israel/Palestine;
- through our Post Box service, managing charitable donations secured in Britain by approved Israeli/Palestinian groups with no British charitable arm;
- by organising emergency appeals and providing funding in times of urgent need.

Many of our grant recipients employ paid staff and possess an Israeli or Palestinian legal status approximating to a British charity. However, we also support relatively informal groups, that have minimal infrastructure, are entirely volunteer-run and are the most likely to struggle for mainstream funding. We do need applicants to have email access, but given that tented communities in the Negev desert, without mains electricity or wi-fi, manage to contact us, we are confident our reliance on online working is no obstacle even to the most deprived groups.

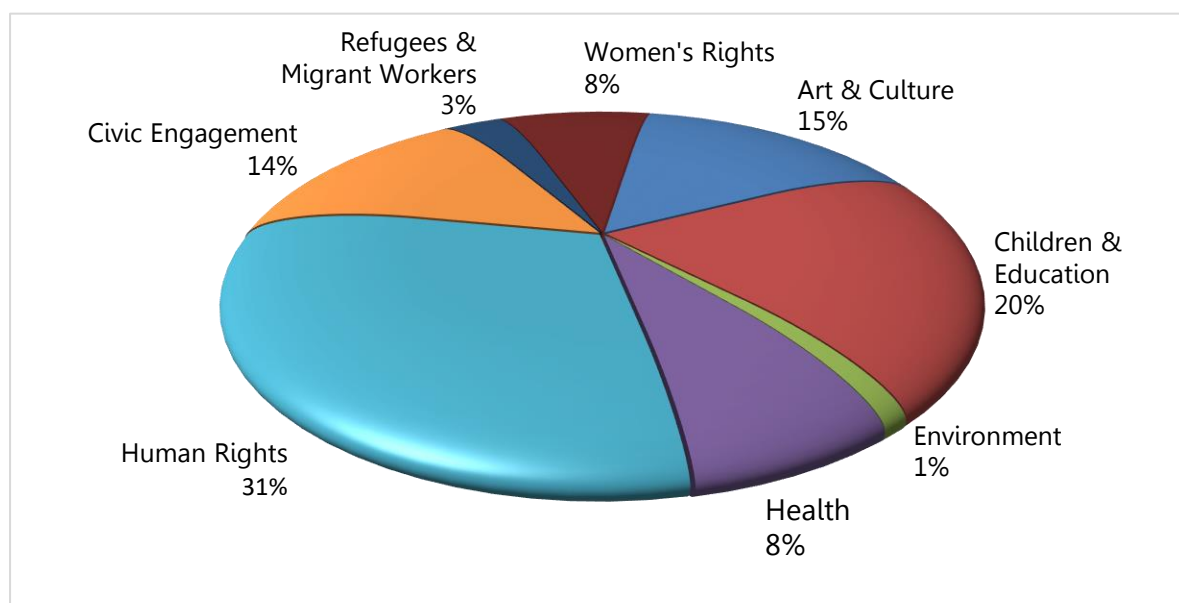
Our application process is very simple: we post our grant criteria on our website, provide an online, user-friendly application form, take requests year-round and make decisions in weeks.

BSST necessarily operates at arm's length, so we have developed evaluation procedures to review our beneficiary groups. As well as measuring applications against our own criteria, we check other sources: internet presence, newspaper reports, briefings from other groups and individuals in Israel/Palestine. We have also designed report-back procedures for the end of each funding period, using a brief standard form adjusted for each project, and we consult our advisory group whose members have specialist knowledge, and some of whom live in Israel/Palestine.

Finally, when possible, we meet grant and Post Box recipients personally. When trustees visit Israel/Palestine, we include trips - at our own expense - to groups we are supporting.

What we give

Typically 98% of our expenditure goes on charitable grants. Grants are usually capped at £5,000 per year per organisation, except in an emergency or when we run a special appeal. However, we make many repeat awards year after year, as the groups we support often find it impossible to replace our funding.





How we raise funds

BSST has funders and beneficiaries of many backgrounds.

Since our formation, thousands of individuals have donated to us: Jews, Christians, Muslims, and those asserting no religious belief or identity. Faith organisations and peace groups also support us, and we raise significant sums from other charitable trusts.

“

I really like the way money to your trust is allocated, very hands on to smaller Palestinian enterprises. Good Shabbos, and have a pleasant weekend!

”

— Donor to our Liberation Seder
Covid emergency appeal

As we have no endowment, every penny we donate we first have to raise, so our life-blood is the donations you give to us. We are hugely grateful to all our supporters, large and small, individuals and grant-making organisations, whose generosity enables us to contribute to building a just peace in Israel/Palestine.

Major donations to general funds came from a legacy of Carole Underwood and the following organisations:

Balcombe Charitable Trust, Barham Charitable Trust, Bernard Gold Foundation, Blue Moon Trust, Calpe Trust, Community of the Presentation Trust, Funderbirds, IHL Trust, John and Susan Bowers Fund, Just Trust, MSN, Newcastle Reform Synagogue, Open Gate Trust, Stonehage Fleming Charitable Foundation, Thomas Sivewright Catto Charitable Settlement, WF Southall Trust and three trusts that prefer not to be identified.

Along with regular income, in 2020 BSST launched an emergency Covid appeal, which netted £17,000, including a generous matching-funds contribution from one supporter and a substantial donation from a charitable trust.

Why we matter

BSST trustees have built up much specialist knowledge and a large network of contacts, and we are skilled in making informed judgments about groups that others might find difficult to evaluate. We have also established strong relationships with many groups we fund, supporting them through the toughest of times. We know that, overwhelmingly, these groups deliver on the projects they have proposed.

We particularly value the gratitude expressed by the organisations that BSST assists - it goes beyond appreciation of the financial aid the BSST has made. The groups are committed to building democracy, justice and peace between Israel/Palestine's different communities, and are grateful to receive support from an international donor with a Jewish identity.





COVID and BSST

In this unprecedented year, BSST worked hard to help our beneficiaries through the Covid crisis. Happily, only a few of these groups had to suspend activity entirely, but most did have to rejig their work, and confront new demands.

Emergency Support

BSST responded to the necessity of socially distanced communal events by quickly organising an online 'Liberation Seder'. Jointly sponsored by Jewish Voice for Labour, Jews for Justice for Palestinians, and the Jewish Socialist Group, it attracted over 200 British and overseas participants.

BSST Patron, Rabbi Danny Rich, presided magnificently, while our much-appreciated readers included Nizar Ayoub from Al-Marsad, a BSST-supported Syrian project in the Occupied Golan, and Hisham Qawasmeh, teenage son of Hamed, the founder of longstanding BSST partner, the Hebron International Resource Network.

Magician Ian Saville hid - and later found - the Afikomen, while, as usual, Elijah didn't appear! Instead, another BSST Patron, comedian and author Alexei Sayle, made a wonderful Covid Seder Emergency Appeal.

BSST distributed seventeen emergency £1,000 grants. All recipients bar Bethlehem University were current or former recipients of BSST support, with two desperate groups in Gaza each getting two grants.



- **AFAQ JADEEDA** (Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Gaza): health bags containing hand sanitizer, soap, gloves, cleansing alcohol, etc.
- **ARTEAM GARDEN LIBRARY** (South Tel Aviv): food packages, books and toys for asylum-seeker/migrant worker families who lost their jobs through Covid.
- **BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY**: e-tablets to enable impoverished students to do online learning.
- **CITIZENS BUILD A COMMUNITY** (Lod): face masks, food, etc., for young people from very deprived families.
- **DOMARI SOCIETY OF GYPSIES** (East Jerusalem): food, books, toys, Ramadan gifts for children in this tiny community.
- **FUTURE ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (FADE)** (Nuseirat, Gaza): food and masks for children.
- **HOPE FLOWERS SCHOOL** (Bethlehem): hot meals and other essentials for primary-age pupils, many from refugee camps.
- **KOTOF EL-KHAIR** (Deir el-Balah, Gaza): food vouchers, e-tablets for children's education.
- **NEGEV COEXISTENCE FORUM**: better internet connectivity so unrecognised Bedouin villages could access health information
- **AL NOUR ASSOCIATION** (Deir el-Balah, Gaza): emotional support sessions and health packs for children.
- **PALESTINE TRAUMA CENTRE** (Gaza): psychological support sessions, food, Eid gifts for children.
- **PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS-ISRAEL** (Jaffa): help to maintain PHRI's Jaffa clinic for migrants and asylum-seekers.
- **RURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION** (South Hebron Hills): health/cleansing materials, food, clothing, seeds for home gardens, all assisting very deprived families.
- **SANAD ASSOCIATION** (Jatt, Triangle Region): face masks, food, online educational support for children.
- **SCHOOLHOUSE** (Tel Aviv): help with continuing education services to asylum-seekers.



Projects BSST supported in 2020-21

In addition to the organisations BSST provided with emergency Covid support, we continued to assist via our regular grant programme and by Post Box transfers.

AFAQ JADEEDA ASSOCIATION (NEW HORIZONS) is a small community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, where over 80,000 people live in extreme poverty. AFAQ JADEEDA provides a mix of social welfare, education and leisure, including a kindergarten; library; computer lab; drama space; football team; and summer and winter camps for the most deprived children and their mothers.

BSST funded AFAQ JADEEDA's three-month winter camp. Beside fun activities, 200 mothers and their pre-school children learned how to stay safe from Covid and received health protection kit and a daily fruit and juice ration.

—facebook.com/afaq-jadeeda-association



Bread making at the Afaq Model Kindergarten

ARTEAM: THE GARDEN LIBRARY is a welcoming community centre in Levinski Park, south Tel Aviv. Some 80% of local residents are migrant workers and African asylum-seekers. In an



area scarred by deprivation, ARTEAM's Garden Library is an oasis of hope. For adults it provides evening classes and family support, while children use its open-air multilingual library and homework space and take part in after-school and holiday activities.

This year BSST helped fund ARTEAM's new project, *Promoting the Educational Rights of Children*. Though pupil

segregation is unlawful, mainstream schools routinely refuse to admit asylum-seeker children who end up in inferior institutions, which ignore their specific needs.

“ ... many asylum-seeker children reach high school with poor language skills – they can barely read and write. Verbal skills in Hebrew and mother-tongues are poor, and often their cognitive and emotional development is severely impeded. ”

ARTEAM's new project supports parents committees that are campaigning to integrate asylum-seeker children into Israeli mainstream schools.

—thegardenlibrary.org



AZ THEATRE / THEATRE FOR EVERYBODY (AT/TE) is a partnership between projects in Britain and Gaza, long supported by BSST. This year, we helped fund a new, first-time Arabic-language adaptation of *The Emigrants* by Polish emigre writer Stanislaw Mrozek.

“ We want to take part in society through art. Through plays, we can contribute to change attitudes, to shake preconceived ideas. We do not lecture, we just stimulate people, question them about themselves. Our theatre is committed to life in its fullness but is not directly political: we do not deliver messages. —Theatre for Everybody, Gaza ”



Rehearsal of The Emigrants

Described by AT/TE as portraying ‘the illusions and smashed dreams of two emigrants to the rich world ... absurdist and slapstick, tragic and comic by turn’, it is planned for *The Emigrants* to reach hundreds of Gaza 18-25 year olds who dream of emigration. Using performance along with post-show international Zoom discussion, AT/TE aims to help their audiences express their frustration, while also making international friends and contacts, and rethinking whether emigration is really a solution.

—aztheatre.org.uk

BOZOUR (SEEDS) THEATRE is new to BSST. The only women's theatre project in Gaza, its three members trained in Poland, Egypt and Jerusalem. They have worked with women and children in Gaza theatres for two decades. With no theatre of their own, this director, cartoons/animation specialist, and scriptwriter/production designer, raise one-off grants for each of their projects.

BSST funded *Our Children Love Life*, a mix of story-telling, drama and drawing, where over two hundred children aged 9 to 15 created stories about their lives, and learned how to turn their words and pictures into an animated film.



An animation workshop

“ We need to enhance the role of women, children and youth through theatre, conveying their societal issues. We must establish a drama school to raise generations capable of creating artistic works so theatre in Gaza will become significant. —Wissam Dirawi, Director ”

—facebook.com/bozourtheater



FRAGMENTS THEATRE is an ambitious community arts project that introduces children and young people in Jenin City to theatre, film and circus. Though run on a shoestring, it delivers a huge range of activities: plays and workshops, drama therapy, film festivals, stand-up comedy training, and Palestine's first comedy club.

“ Fragments strives to provide a safe space for children, women and youth ... to develop the chance of building a career in the arts, support marginalized artists in Jenin, and promote the arts as a vehicle for community change. ”

FRAGMENTS' safe space brings respite from the high levels of family stress and domestic violence in Jenin, which Covid restrictions badly exacerbated. BSST part-funded an Egyptian and a Welsh professional storyteller to 'zoom in' to Jenin, to teach children puppet-making and puppetry skills and the art and techniques of storytelling.



Fragment's Contemporary Art Exhibition

—fragmentstheatre.com

FREDDIE KRIVINE INITIATIVE (FKI) expressly acknowledges Israel's ethnically-divided, hugely unequal and discriminatory society and sees tennis as a vehicle for some positive change. Its biggest project is in Jisr al-Zarqa, Israel's poorest Palestinian town, where other Jewish organisations rarely venture. Yet every year, along with Jisr's local council, FKI recruits hundreds of young Palestinians to play tennis in school and in schemes hosted by a Jewish farm cooperative. FKI also supports an afterschool homework club and English tutoring.



BSST helped fund a *Jisr Tournament Team* for the most promising children. During Covid lockdown, FKI moved online, setting up WhatsApp groups for children and coaches to message each other and for parents to post photos and videos of their children practising. FKI also kept close tabs on the impact of Covid on Jisr's children.

“ ... continuing lockdowns for families living in cramped conditions in a small Arab village is stressful, both mentally and physically. Many parents have menial jobs, and cannot work from home, leaving children alone for many hours ... we have been cooperating with the Jisr municipality to roll out an additional program for the most at-risk kids, aged 12-14, led by our club coach. ”

—fkf-tennis.org



FUTURE ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (FADE), a community group in Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, runs an annual summer camp that BSST has funded for several years. This year FADE wanted something very different – fire prevention.

“ Yusef, Muhammad and Mahmoud Al-Hazin (4, 5, 6 years old) died in their bedroom because of a candle, a light which turned into fire ... this hungry fire is telling us: 'I warn you not to continue the silence about deep problems in Gaza, preventing the entry of gas and diesel to run the electricity stations'. ”
—Director of FADE



Installing an LED panel

Gaza's electrical supply is notorious for being unreliable and, mostly, unavailable. This results in frequent fires: from system overload when power comes on, or from use of candles or kerosene during the 18-22 hours daily when it doesn't. Lack of power also harms children's ability to study.

BSST paid for a hundred battery-powered and rechargeable LED panels – each giving at least eight hours continuous lighting per full charge - to go to the poorest families. This benefitted at least 500 children.

—facebook.com/the.futuer.gaza

GRASSROOTS ACCOMPANIMENT & LANGUAGE EXCHANGE / THIS IS NOT AN ULPAN (GALE/TINAU) is a new human rights and language programme in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, where villages are at constant risk from settler and IDF violence.

GALE was initiated by Palestinian non-violent resisters *Youth of Sumud*; the Israeli Jewish villager-support group *Ta'ayush*; the international *Centre for Jewish Non-Violence*; and villagers from A-Twaneh, Susya and Umm al-Kheir. GALE's partner, TINAU, is Israel's only language school run by Jews, Palestinians, locals and newcomers teaching both Hebrew and Arabic.

In a pilot, TINAU trained local teachers to teach Arabic as a second language, while GALE recruited Israeli 'human rights defenders' (HRDs) to live and work in the South Hebron Hills villages for three-month periods. Using TINAU's specially designed programmes, the Israeli HRDs learned Arabic from the local teachers, and villagers learned Hebrew from a GALE member.

BSST covered 60% of the expenses in the pilot project.



A Palestinian child from Susya teaches a project participant Arabic

—thisisnotanulpan.com



GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTIVE (GSC) is based in the South Hebron Hills. In non-Covid times GSC supports olive tree planting; opposition to home demolition; a guesthouse; beekeeping; and a greenhouse. They also facilitate workshops on subjects as disparate as Bedouin bread-making and textile production; the history of shepherding in Israel/Palestine; and indigenous Bedouin conflict resolution. We provide GSC with the BSST Post Box service.

“

Our workday in the South Hebron Hills is not only a small step into building a livelihood for Palestinians in this area ... working for the very basic needs of those who are denied, it is a small but practical step towards justice.

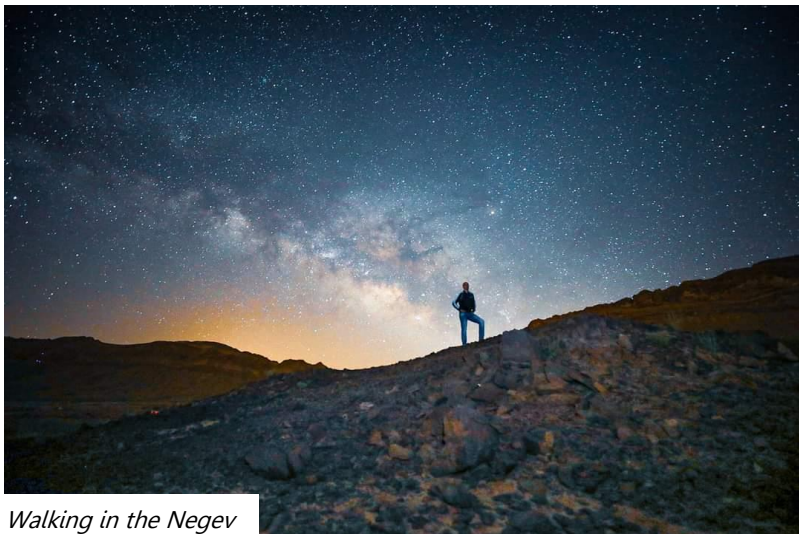
”



Examining an aerial photograph of Umm al-Khair produced by Bimkom, an Israeli planning and zoning rights group

—goodshepherdcollective.org

HARABA ASSOCIATION FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT is a new,



Walking in the Negev

Negev-based Bedouin group. It aims to create a sustainable 'Desert Tourism' celebrating Bedouin culture, in contrast to the Negev's burgeoning mass tourism industry run by Israeli Jewish companies, which either ignores or romanticises the traditional Bedouin way of life. This mass tourism neither threatens state policies of Bedouin eviction and forced urbanisation, nor contributes to Bedouin economic development.

HARABA is targeting 'solidarity visitors' who wish to learn about and support the local people. Its programme centres around the Negev's 'unrecognised' villages, home to some 70,000 Bedouin. HARABA intends several unrecognised villages to become 'alternative' tourist locations, with tours led by young Bedouin men and women, trained in Bedouin history, identity and heritage, desert sustainability, and in the English language.

“

We oppose the overexploitation of local resources, but we consider desert tourism a natural source of livelihood ... enabled and organized for the benefit of the most dispossessed Bedouin communities ... We see unrecognized villages as ideal for tourist hubs – oases in the middle of the Naqab Desert. We also believe Arab youth are the most capable of designing a nomadic tourist experience and present Bedouin culture to visitors.

”

—haraba.org



HEBRON INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES NETWORK (HIRN) is an audacious Palestinian community group with a long and close relationship with BSST. It develops projects, especially promoting girls' education, in those parts of the West Bank where the Occupation is most harsh: Hebron City and its surrounding villages, and in the Gush Etzion area now dominated by Jewish settlements.

We have provided HIRN with the BSST Post Box service for many years; although we no longer collect the bulk of HIRN's UK donations, we continue to pass on occasional contributions. In addition, BSST has given many project grants; in 2020 we assisted a joint HIRN/Rural Women's Association scheme to provide catch-up classes for children whose schooling was severely damaged because of Covid restrictions.

—facebook.com/HIRN-388180624554795

Lessons during Covid

ISRAEL SOCIAL TV (ISTV) is a web-based media group that covers stories rarely reported by Israel's press and television: the Occupation, asylum-seekers, the environment, the Nakba, LGBTQ+ rights, racism and general socio-economic issues. It has made over 5,000 films in Hebrew, with most also translated into English and/or Arabic. It reaches some 100,000 viewers monthly in Israel/ Palestine and further afield.

In the last few years, ISTV's finances and activities have been fiercely attacked by the Israeli government. BSST has long supported ISTV and again provided core funding.



Still from ISTV's article 'Remote Learning – A fantasy'

“ We want to promote a society where the media is democracy's watchdog – that motivates citizens to be involved and become activists. We see ourselves as part of the human rights and social change community in Israel. ”

—tv.social.org.il/en



'JEREMY HARDY'S OLIVE GROVES' is BSST's tribute to the British comedian and passionate supporter of Palestinian rights – and of BSST – who died in February 2019.

The obsessive destruction of ancient olive trees by Israeli settlers and the IDF is one of the most visible ways the Occupation attacks Palestinian lives and livelihoods: an assault on both a Palestinian national symbol and on an essential food source and income generator for rural Palestinians. After Jeremy's death, we appealed through the Guardian newspaper for donations to help Palestinians replace wrecked olive groves. In our second year, we were delighted that IDF hostility could not stop RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS from planting 100 new trees.



IDF obstructs planting olive trees

“ The planting took place in the West Bank village of Burin. We would like to report it was uneventful, but that is a blessing we have yet to encounter ... on this day too our volunteers encountered violence on the part of the security forces. In spite of unprovoked confrontation, RHR brought 150 volunteers to plant over 100 trees and to stand up for peace and human rights! —Rabbis for Human Rights

—Rabbis for Human Rights: rhr.org.il/eng

JERUSALEM AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTRE (JACC) is the only charity solely focused on the city's 3000+ asylum-seekers. It provides support and education, including kindergarten music classes, and adults' Hebrew, English and computer lessons. It also runs a Rights Advocacy Centre (RAC) safeguarding users' employment, healthcare and residency rights. The RAC is professionally managed, but staffed by dozens of trained volunteers. Our grant helped pay for the manager's salary.



Loading food supplies

“ Coronavirus has exacerbated existing problems and created new ones. 90% of asylum-seekers are out of work ... many still missing wages from before lockdown. The Deposit Law required employers to put 20% of each asylum-seeker's salary in a fund, accessible only on leaving the country. Now that law is overturned, people need our assistance to claim ... we suspect the money was often pocketed by the employer.

—jacc.org.il/home-eng



KAFA ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE NEGEV

supports the people of Rahat, Israel's largest Bedouin city, home to over 70,000 Bedouin, divided among many clans. Previously, self-contained desert communities, these clans are now forced together into a crowded alien urban environment. The Israeli government aims to transfer to Rahat the remaining thousands of Bedouin still living their traditional way of life in the Negev's 'unrecognised' towns and villages.



In spite of extreme poverty, huge unemployment, fierce communal tensions, high crime and little hope, KAFA has forged a visionary community organisation, confronting clan divisions and running an ambitious city-wide social activism programme creating 'a cohesive, politically confident Bedouin community, able to negotiate with the Israeli state'

Every year KAFA trains two dozen 16 and 17 year olds, two thirds girls, in community development, where each participant must develop and implement a social initiative. As well as acquiring vital personal skills (e.g. public speaking, creative problem solving) the project helps build a professional political culture.

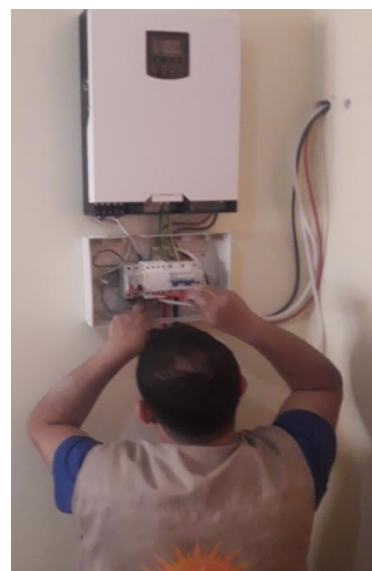
KOTOF EL-KHAIR ASSOCIATION is a community group in the central Gaza city of Deir al-Balah. With a tiny budget, it provides an impressive range of activities: cultural events; a safe space for children to play and learn; women's rights workshops; capacity-building classes for women and young graduates; training for families with disabled members in how better to support their relatives; medical days when local people can access free and specialist healthcare; children's summer camps; and humanitarian aid.

BSST funded the purchase and installation of a solar energy unit for KOTOF's building.

“ The prolonged power outages in the Gaza Strip continue, and the difficult economic situation affects the services we can provide to vulnerable groups. A solar energy unit for Kotof's premises would enable us to continue providing services to nearly 10,000 vulnerable people. ”



Kotof's Mind and Body Centre treats psychological stress



Installing the solar energy unit

—facebook.com/kotofAssociation



LADA'AT – CHOOSE WELL is an Israeli women's project offering information, counselling and support on contraception and unplanned pregnancy. It runs healthy-sexuality workshops for teenagers, trains medical and psychosocial professionals, and lobbies policy makers. Based in Jerusalem, it serves thousands of clients annually - religious and secular Jews, Palestinians, African asylum-seekers, foreign workers, and tourists.

BSST renewed our funding for workshops for African asylum-seeking women, plus face-to-face and phone counselling for African and Palestinian women, the latter in Arabic. African women users have great difficulty accessing family planning and abortion services, while Palestinian women's overriding concern is secrecy.



Lada'at's flier announcing that it now offers services in Arabic

“ Since Covid began many girls say their homes are not safe. Covid 'sheltering' has created dilemmas: a teenager wants an abortion without her parents knowing but she is in quarantine with her family. How can we counsel when teens can't find a secluded space at home to talk? ”

We recruited an Arabic-speaking volunteer counsellor ... We have greatly expanded our social media activity and are improving our website's Arabic content.

—ladaat.org.il

AL MARSAD – ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS is a Syrian campaigning and service organisation, working in an area that was occupied in 1967, then annexed in 1981, and since treated as part of Israel. 130,000 former residents fled, and the IDF destroyed nearly all their villages and farms. The remaining 26,000 Syrians live in the far north on 5% of the Golan, with the other 95% home to 23,000 Israeli settlers.

To operate at all, AL MARSAD had to register as an Israeli NGO, so cannot access the extensive European support available to groups elsewhere in the Occupied Territories. Yet its determined fundraising - including our repeated grants for core costs - delivers an impressive range of services for the Golan's remaining Syrian population:



Golan families peer through binoculars and talk on the phone to relatives across the fortified ceasefire line

- Campaigning against human rights violations in the Golan
- Free legal information, advice and mediation
- Test cases in the Israeli courts
- Education on employment, housing, women's rights, residency, family separation, natural resources, landmines, Syrian Golan history, identity, culture and civil society activism
- Skills training for other Syrian groups
- Alternative Tourism

—golan-marsad.org



MIN EL BAHAR is a joint Tel Aviv/West Bank project which every year brings some 1,500 especially disadvantaged Palestinian children and their mothers from their West Bank towns and villages for day trips to Jaffa beach.

As for many years past, we approved a BSST grant but in spite of the organisers' efforts, Covid rendered these cherished annual outings impossible. We expect them to resume next year.

—en.minelbahar.com

West Bank women enjoying a rare experience at the sea



NEW PROFILE (NP) is a feminist group opposed to Israel's promotion of military service from kindergarten onward.

“ Israel's social system is structured on militarized hierarchical status, which directly affects women, Palestinian citizens of Israel, and other minority sectors. These patriarchal values are everywhere: home, workplace, politics... They promote values that continue to sanction combat, violence, and gender-based hierarchies. ”

—Ruth, an NP founder, whose four sons refused to be conscripted

Not entering the army can blight education and job prospects. Even so, about half of 18-year-olds now avoid conscription, while serving soldiers (especially from poor homes) often cut service short and many reservists refuse recall. Though non-serving school-leavers are still mostly ultra-Orthodox, mental health exemptions and conscientious objections are increasing.

It is claimed that the IDF is Israel's great leveller. Yet NP says that widespread sexual harassment reinforces gender inequality, while soldiers from poor families often get the worst postings, ensuring

continuing disadvantage when their service ends. NP provides free counselling to around a thousand teenagers facing the draft each year as well as legal help and specialist anti-militarism training for those working with young people. It also works with 'refusenik' and other anti-military groups. BSST repeated our core funding grant.



Israeli children are introduced to guns at an early age.

Photo: Activestills.org

—newprofile.org/English



PALESTINE TRAUMA CENTRE (PTC) is a therapeutic group, going out from its Gaza City base to work locally with those traumatized by ongoing conflict and Occupation. PTC usually delivers family therapy, rapid intervention trauma relief, and professional training. Its popular *Friday of Joy* initiative brings drama, games, painting and music into schools, playgrounds and streets throughout Gaza.



Distributing Corona virus information to Gazan families

Covid forced a major reorganisation, with the focus shifting to health information, disease prevention and tackling poverty. Its anti-Covid campaign included training volunteers in hygiene and social distancing messaging; organising specialist online training for professional staff; making health information radio broadcasts; providing phone counselling; an emergency hotline; children's exercise videos; and delivering food, hygiene packs and children's clothing to those most in need.

—ptcuk.org

PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – ISRAEL (PHRI) is a campaigning and service-providing medical human rights organisation. Its aim is that everyone that the State is responsible for – Israeli citizens from all ethnicities and communities, non-citizen residents, migrant workers, asylum-seekers, and those in the Occupied Palestinian Territories – has equal access to healthcare.

PHRI holds a south Tel Aviv clinic for asylum-seekers and foreign workers excluded from mainstream Israeli services, and provides free weekly clinics in West Bank villages where access to medical services is most limited. It has close links to



Palestinian health providers, bringing medical supplies into the Occupied Territories during crises, and negotiating permits for Palestinians to cross into Israel for specialist treatment.

BSST provided our Post Box service in addition to an emergency Covid grant.

“ Last week we released a report that has kept us up at night. *A Life Exposed - Military Invasions of Palestinian homes in the West Bank* was produced by Yesh Din, PHRI and Breaking the Silence ... with no advance warning, warrant or legal basis, Israeli soldiers raid the homes of Palestinian families ... more than 200 invasions every month ... They take a heavy toll on mental health: many parents spoke about (their children's) behavioural changes, irritability, anger outbursts, breaking their toys, sleep disruptions, separation anxiety ... and one suicide attempt. ”

—phr.org.il/en



RURAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) is based in the South Hebron Hills villages, in 'Area C' of the West Bank, and so entirely subject to Israel's control. For the last thirty years, Israel has used repeated home demolitions to try to force the residents out. So far, this strategy has failed in the face of fierce women-led resistance that has resulted in extensive international support for the villagers.



RWA runs many projects: handicrafts; poultry and beekeeping; nursery provision; a transport service so the older children reach school safe from attack by settlers; and annual camps bringing some fun in the long summer break. This year, along with HIRN, RWA delivered catch-up classes to reduce the impact of Covid restrictions on primary children's schooling.

—theruralwomenassociation.wordpress.com

SADAKA REUT – ARAB JEWISH PARTNERSHIP (SR) brings Palestinian and Jewish young people together to create social and political change. It emphasises marginalized groups – Bedouin Palestinians, and Ethiopian, Russian and Mizrahi Jews – and works in universities where there is normally little Jewish/Palestinian student interaction.



A Sadaka Reut tour in Lod

For thirty years, SR has developed new generations of young campaigning activists and leaders promoting '*a shared society based on equality, solidarity, and justice*'. Unlike many Palestinian/Jewish projects, which prioritise learning about the other's culture, SR confronts the tougher issues of conflict and unequal power relations. BSST supports SR with our Post Box service.

—reutsadaka.org



SCHOOLHOUSE provides tailor-made education every year for six hundred asylum-seekers aged 18 to 50. Mostly from Sudan and Eritrea, its students include university graduates and those with no schooling at all. Many are traumatised by experiences in their home countries, exacerbated by hostility since reaching Israel. Most find it tough tackling basic literacy, especially through a second language and a foreign culture.



SCHOOLHOUSE teaches study techniques and provides practical information about living in Israel. It also teaches computer skills, Hebrew and English. For the fourth year, BSST contributed towards teacher training and curriculum development.

“ Covid meant many students were forced to look for new jobs ... yet continued to prioritize education in this crazy year. We were proud to see them move to on-line learning, especially as most aren't tech-literate, lack computers or stable internet, must rely on cell-phones and have no quiet place to attend class. We offered to suspend studies instead of moving to Zoom - most insisted on continuing and stuck with it ”

—schoolhouse.org.il

SOLIDARITY ARTS, ACTIVISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION unites art with



Still from Ido Chen's film 'Fluently Stumbling' shown in the festival

commitment to social justice. Each December Tel Aviv Cinematheque hosts the *Solidarity Festival* with films tackling globalisation, the Occupation, women's rights, LGBTQ rights, and climate change. The festival also holds a competition and debates with film-makers, including online participation from Gazan film activists who are prevented from attending in person. Its parallel programme, *Solidarity in the Periphery*, provides free screenings and workshops in remote and disadvantaged areas.

SOLIDARITY is the only entirely trilingual Israeli film festival. BSST helped fund the Arabic/Hebrew/English branding, marketing, publicity and subtitling.

“ (Covid meant) we moved our Israeli Periphery events online, with very well attended digital screenings plus Zoom discussions with filmmakers and human rights experts ... We assume we can hold the Solidarity Festival itself as normal, but are planning to be online if need be. We will put special emphasis on pandemic-related human rights issues and the impact on Arab-Jewish relations in Israel. ”

—solidaritytlv.org



ST JOHN EYE HOSPITAL is the only charitable provider of specialist eye care in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, treating patients regardless of ethnicity, religion or ability to pay. It benefits from the BSST Post Box service.

—stjohnseyehospital.org



TISHREEN is a Palestinian community group, committed to social transformation. Based in Taybeh, an economic and cultural hub city in the mostly Palestinian Triangle region of Israel, the group focuses especially on women, young people and children and those engaged in the arts. It promotes Triangle artists' creative work so as to enhance the community's sense of self-worth and Palestinian cultural identity.



Tishreen's Cultural Café uses arts as an agent of social and political change

Its Cultural Café - an art gallery, coffee shop and work spaces - is central to its ambitious plan to become the go-to Triangle meeting space and resource for artists to produce and exhibit; it is also a space where the community can meet, eat, and enjoy cultural and political discussion, book events, lectures, exhibitions, music performance, theatre, and cinema. TISHREEN wants the Cultural Café to encourage Palestinian artists to remain in the Triangle rather than flocking to the big cities in Israel and abroad. BSST provided core funding.

“ ... arts and culture can promote enlightened, progressive and democratic values and be a major driver of social change ... The arts are not independent of the social, political and economic spheres where they are created ... we aim to support local artists so they produce works critically reflecting life in the Triangle. ”

—tishreen.net



Video production at the Triangle Cinema Forum



TOHU MAGAZINE is a young arts organisation with an international editorial board of Jews and Palestinians. It organises events, screenings, workshops, and talks, but its core project is a free online magazine in Hebrew, Arabic and English. This highlights work from Israel/Palestine while situating itself within the wider Middle East. TOHU encourages young writers in Hebrew and Arabic, and showcases visual content created by Israeli, Palestinian and international artists.

This year TOHU began collaborating with writers from Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt. It also launched podcasts of discussions with artists and recordings of published texts. BSST provided core funding which will enable further development of the Arabic section of the magazine.



Part of Iris Hassid's monograph: A Place of Our Own, by Schlit Publishing. See Tohu article by Reem Ghanayem: Neither Here nor There: The Voice of Young Arab Women on the Border Line Between Perilous Identities

“ We represent a non-violent resistance and support for Palestinian culture and the Arabic language. The magazine does not follow the normal Israeli discourse: while openly against the Occupation, we are not a ‘coexistence’ project. ”

—tohumagazine.com

TAG MEIR (BRIGHT TAG) unites over 50 groups across Israeli Jewish life, from Orthodox to secular. It describes itself as the only organisation fighting racism in Jewish society specifically with a Jewish voice.



TAG MEIR's activities normally include visits to Palestinian victims of racist attacks; seeking compensation for these victims; providing racism awareness education to religious Jewish and Palestinian teachers; election campaigning against racism; and legal action against religious leaders who incite hatred.

When Israel entered Covid lockdown, TAG MEIR told BSST it could work effectively entirely online. For example, video conferences and letters from the public replaced its visits to victims of hate crimes.

Once again, BSST provided core funding.

—tag-meir.org.il/en

After days of riots and violence, Jewish and Arab residents of Akko come together to clean their streets



+972 MAGAZINE is a free online publication run by Israeli and Palestinian journalists committed to ending the Occupation, advancing human rights, challenging the mainstream discourse about Israel/Palestine, and reporting those voices overlooked by mainstream media. +972 has an annual readership of around one million. Its impact is international; the New York Times, CNN, the Guardian, BBC, and Le Monde Diplomatique pick up its stories and regularly interview its writers, while embassies frequently request briefings.

+972's work can be dangerous. Israeli police and soldiers and the Palestinian police often threaten violence and destroy journalists' equipment; reporters have been wounded and killed. +972 has upgraded staff protection, raised insurance cover, offered extra cyber-security training, and built reserves against possible SLAPP lawsuits ('strategic lawsuits against public participation' – intended, as the acronym indicates, to intimidate and silence critics). BSST gave core funding to help pay legal, insurance and security costs. BSST also provided our Post Box service.



From +972 editors picks: Palestinian activists destroy part of the separation wall in Bir Nabala. Photo: Activestills

—972mag.com





Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 13th September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Dr Gill Yudkin, Chair

Colin Wainwright, Treasurer

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the British Shalom-Salaam Trust for the year ended 28 February 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ruth Naftalin FCA
14 Park Crescent
London N3 2NJ

13th September 2021

Accounts for the Year Ending 28 February 2021**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	2020-21			2019-20		
Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income						
Donations received	127,368	57,229	184,597	105,344	57,932	163,276
Gift Aid on donations	673	495	1,168	3,376	546	3,922
Bank interest	11	-	11	41	-	41
Total income	128,052	57,724	185,776	108,761	58,478	167,239

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (continued)**

		2020-21			2019-20		
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities	2	103,585	65,660	169,245	126,087	57,483	183,570
Publicity/Fundraising	3	550	-	550	2,657	-	2,657
Administration	4	82	-	82	72	-	72
Total Expenditure		104,217	65,660	169,877	128,816	57,483	186,299
Net income / (expenditure)		23,835	(7,936)	15,899	(20,055)	995	(19,060)
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		35,078	19,674	54,752	55,133	18,679	73,812
Funds carried forward		58,913	11,738	70,651	35,078	19,674	54,752

BALANCE SHEET

		As at 28 February 2021	
		28/2/2021 £	28/2/2020 £
Assets			
Cash at bank		62,812	48,082
Debtors (HMRC Gift Aid)		7,839	6,670
Total Assets		70,651	54,752
Reconciliation of funds			
Unrestricted funds		58,913	35,078
Restricted funds		11,738	19,674
Total Charity Funds		70,651	54,752

Notes to the Accounts

- 1** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2015 and applicable accounting standards.

		2020-21			2019-20		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
2 Charitable activities							
Grants made		102,697	65,660	168,357	124,971	57,483	182,454
Direct bank charges		888	-	888	1,116	-	1,116
		103,585	65,660	169,245	126,087	57,483	183,570



Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
3 Publicity / Fundraising						
Printing postage stationery	358	-	358	555	-	555
Website and leaflet	192	-	192	2,102	-	2,102
	550	-	550	2,657	-	2,657
4 Administration						
Bank charges	72	-	72	72	-	72
Sundry expenses	10	-	10	-	-	-
	82	-	82	72	-	72

5 Trustee expenses

There were no expenses paid to trustees in either 2020/21 or 2019/20.

6 Restricted Funds (including Post Boxes)

	1/3/20	Income	Expenditure	28/2/21
Children's Fund	3,270	20,225	(23,400)	95
Christian Peacemaker Teams	725	-	-	725
Gaza Fund	3,000	0	(3,000)	-
Good Shepherd Collective	1,351	2,670	(2,420)	1,601
Green Olive Collective	95	-	(95)	-
Hebron International Resource Network – HIRN	-	1,050	(1,025)	25
Al Marsad	-	12,540	(12,540)	-
New Profile	-	9,500	(9,500)	-
Olive Grove Fund	6,194	95	(3,000)	3,289
Physicians for Human Rights Israel	625	1,500	(1,000)	1,125
Sadaka Reut	-	7,000	(7,000)	-
St. John's Eye Hospital	750	375	(1,125)	-
Tent Of Nations	1,473	679	-	2,152
Tent Of Nations UK Friends - FOTON	1,000	-	-	1,000
Villages Group	563	775	-	1,338
+972 Magazine	629	1,410	(1,650)	389

7 Grants and Post Box Transfers Made

Organisation	£000s	Organisation	£000s
Az Theatre / Theatre for Everybody	4.0	Lada'at	5.0
Afaq Jadeeda	7.0	Al-Marsad	17.5
Arteam Garden Library	6.0	Min el Bahar	5.0
Bazour Theater	5.0	Negev Coexistence Forum (NCF)	1.0
Citizens Build a Community	1.0	New Profile	14.5
Domari Society of Gypsies in Jerusalem	1.0	Al-Nour Association for Community Development	1.0
Fragments Theatre	3.0	Palestine Trauma Centre	6.0
Freddie Krivine Initiative	4.5	Physicians for Human Rights – Israel	2.0
Friends of Bethlehem University	1.0	Rabbis for Human Rights (Jeremy Hardy Olive Groves)	3.0
Future Association for Development and Environment	7.0	Rural Women's Association	4.4
Grassroots Language Programme / This is not an Ulpan	5.0	Sadaka Reut Youth Partnership	7.0
Good Shepherd Collective	2.4	Sanad Association	1.0
Haraba Association for Economic, Social and Educational	5.0	Schoolhouse	5.0
Hebron International Resources Network	1.0	Solidarity Human Rights Film Festival	4.0
Hope Flowers School	1.0	St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital	1.1
Israel Social TV	5.0	Tishreen	5.0
Jerusalem African Community Center	5.0	Tohu Magazine	3.0
Kafa Association for Social Change in the Negev	4.0	Yod Bet B Heshvan - Tag Meir	5.0
Kotof el-Khair Association	4.2	+972 Magazine	6.7

BSST Governance

Staff

BSST has no paid staff, premises or equipment. The trustees, each with extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on Israel/Palestine, carry out all functions including appointing and training new Board members. New trustees are recruited by personal contact and by advertisement.

Trustee meetings are held every four to six weeks, where general policy, income generation and grant decisions are made.

Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name	The British Shalom-Salaam Trust
Charity Registration Number	1103211
Registered Address	PO Box 39378, London SE13 5WH
Bankers	HSBC, 85 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6BE
Independent Examiner	Ruth Naftalin FCA, 14 Park Crescent, London N3 2NJ
E-mail	bsst@bsst.org.uk
Website	bsst.org.uk

BSST Trustees

- **Professor Anthony Bale**, Professor of Medieval Studies (resigned January 2021)
- **Dr David Sperlinger**, retired clinical psychologist (Trustee for Income Generation)
- **Colin Wainwright**, IT specialist (Treasurer)
- **Clare Ungerson**, Emeritus Professor of Social Policy (appointed November 2020)
- **Naomi Wayne**, retired charity chief executive (Secretary)
- **Dr Gillian Yudkin**, retired GP (Chair)

BSST Patrons

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ➤ Sir Geoffrey Bindman | ➤ Claudia Roden |
| ➤ Sir Nicholas Hytner | ➤ Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah |
| ➤ Professor Francesca Klug OBE | ➤ Alexei Sayle |
| ➤ Miriam Margolyes OBE | ➤ Sir Antony Sher |
| ➤ Rabbi Jeffrey Newman | ➤ Professor Avi Shlaim FBA |
| ➤ Professor Susie Orbach | ➤ Dame Janet Suzman |
| ➤ Rabbi Danny Rich | ➤ Zoë Wanamaker CBE |

BSST Advisory Group

- **Michael Ellman**, solicitor, has carried out missions of enquiry, judicial and electoral observation and training to over 25 countries including Israel and Palestine.
- **Richard Kuper**, long-standing campaigner for Palestinian human rights, retired university lecturer and founder of Pluto Press.
- **Tony Lerman**, Senior Fellow, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue, Vienna, and former Director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- **Miri Weingarten**, solicitor, formerly of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and EU Advocacy Coordinator for a coalition of Israeli human rights groups.
- **Hadas Ziv**, Director of Public Outreach in Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, previously Executive Director and winner of the 2009 Oak Fellowship for Human Rights.

