

**SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Unaudited

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

Registered Charity Number 1133499

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SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Committee Report

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

The members of the Trustees during the year were:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Val Johnson | Chairperson |
| Sara Gowen | Treasurer/Secretary |
| Catherine Gaze | |
| Hilary Smith | |
| Beverley Booker | |

Principal address

124 Cliffe Road
Sheffield
S8 9DN

Independent examiner

Susan Groves
Bookkeeping & Training Services
77 Mansfield Road
Intake
Sheffield
S12 2AH

Bank

Yorkshire Bank
681 Chesterfield Road
Sheffield
S8 0RY

Management committee's responsibilities for the financial statements

The management committee are responsible for preparing financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and of the surplus or deficit of the group for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the management committee are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The management committee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and enable the management committee to prepare financial statements. The management committee are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Trustee Report

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

This year's scholarships

This year we are supporting 58 students in Gaza and 3 in the West Bank – a total of 61. In June 2020 we sent £31,000 to Gaza to cover 58 scholarships. This sum also included a 5% admin fee to Afaq Jadeeda. We sent £8000 to the West Bank via our partner the Teachers Creativity Centre, which covered 3 scholarships. 14 students graduated this year.

Impact of Covid-19 pandemic

It has been a difficult negotiating a world-wide pandemic and continuing to fundraise and support our students in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This academic year has been hard for them, often having to take lessons online when the internet service can be poor and only available for a few hours a day. Our students wrote to us about the impact of the pandemic

*My name is **Amal Ashour** and I'm a student of pharmacy at the University of Palestine.*

Because of the significant and rapid spread of coronavirus in the Gaza Strip, all educational centres and institutions, including universities, have closed and we now have to stay at home.

We are continuing our studies through e-learning.

because the internet speed is slow or I can't get connected.

It is very stressful for me. I have become even more anxious about the internet not working than about the exams themselves.



Trustee Report

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

My name is Iba'a Yosif Hamoda and I'm studying engineering.

Things get more difficult every day. Although I'm used to the electricity getting cut off on a daily basis, the situation is now more difficult as I need to have electricity for long periods of time to be able to run my laptop and continue my laptop and continue my studies.



Electronic education was imposed as a result of the lockdown, which has been imposed to limit the spread of coronavirus, but with power cuts and not being able to access the internet I find it difficult to follow the lectures.

I have been suffering terribly from the cold as I need to stay up and study at night and the exams take place at night. The electricity is often cut off. I was able recently to purchase a small battery to run my laptop and sometimes I use the light on my phone to study and take exams. Not going to university is bothering me as I need to communicate with my colleagues and tutors, but my fear of being infected with coronavirus has forced me to stay home all the time.

I hope to be successful in my studies and to meet the expectations of my loved ones, especially my mother who is struggling to provide for all my needs whilst I finish my studies.

SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Trustee Report

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

Fundraising

We have received funds through a range of fundraising activities including regular donations through standing orders to one-off events. We have continued to be supported with fundraising activities and donations by Saddleworth Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund, Bolton Socialist Club, Sheffield Palestine Education Network and Rotherham Friends of Palestine. Of particular note was the Small park BIG RUN in June 2020. The event had to be held online due to the Covid19 pandemic but still managed to raise a fantastic £8506 of which £4253 came to the Fund (the same amount went to Khuza'a Children's Play and Heal Project).

Sheila Abdullah, a Fund supporter from the very start, who has very sadly died left the Fund a legacy of £500 for which we are most grateful. Sheila often spoke up for the rights of Palestinian women and was a champion for women's health.

How the Fund works

The Fund is managed in Sheffield by a small coalition of women working in partnership with the Sheffield Palestine Solidarity Campaign, and in Gaza by a panel drawn from the Board of Directors of the Red Crescent Society and the Union of Health Work Committees, with administrative support from Afaq Jadeeda. In West Bank we work with a committee of women, all of whom are active around women's education and employment. We route our payments for scholarships in the West Bank through the Teachers Creativity Centre based in Ramallah.

In Gaza candidates for scholarships are nominated by their local community centre and are either ready to enter university or are in the first or second year of a course but unable to continue for financial reasons. There are strict selection criteria for the Scholarship Fund, which include having attained 65% or above in high school grades, socio-economic background, commitment to the community, and personal and family circumstances such as a recent home demolition, or war injuries.

Our partners in the West Bank have adapted these criteria for their own student selection process and, as in Gaza, they keep in contact with the scholarship students and help them

overcome problems in completing their courses, i.e. not being able to afford transport, books, equipment etc. Our partners can sometimes access other small amounts of funding to cover these additional costs.

In Britain the Fund's supporters make donations or monthly contributions through a standing order and/or by organising or taking part in fundraising events. Any contribution is much appreciated. Standing orders are particularly welcome as they enable us to estimate our income more accurately and to plan.

SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Examiner Statement

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

I report on the accounts for Sheffield Palestine Women's Scholarship Fund which are set out on pages 7 to 9

Respective responsibilities of the management committee and the examiner

As the management committee you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is my responsibility to state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the account by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or:
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records

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

Date: 8/9/21
Signed: 

Susan Groves
Independent Examiner
Bookkeeping & Training Services

**SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Receipts and Payments account

For the Year Ending 31 March 2021

| | Notes | Total | Total |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| Receipts | 1 | 2021 | 2020 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Donations | | 19,343 | 9,204 |
| Fundraising | | 23,975 | 21,736 |
| Legacy | | 500 | - |
| Total receipts | | 43,818 | 30,940 |
| Payments | | | |
| Afaq Jadeeda | | 31,000 | 30,450 |
| Teachers Creativity Centre | | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Bank Admin charges | 2 | 50 | 50 |
| Bank Charges | 3 | 275 | 234 |
| Independent examination | | 50 | 50 |
| Newsletter | | 200 | 400 |
| Fundraising costs | | 2,478 | 1,114 |
| | | 42,053 | 40,298 |
| Net receipts/(payments) | | 1,765 | (9,358) |
| Fund balances brought forward | | 52,772 | 62,130 |
| Fund balances carried forward | | 54,537 | 52,772 |

**SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2021

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Assets | | |
| Balance of Bank account | <u>54,537</u> | <u>52,772</u> |
| | <u>54,537</u> | <u>52,772</u> |
| Liabilities | | |
| | £ | £ |
| Independent examination 2021 | <u>50</u> | <u>50</u> |
| | <u>50</u> | <u>50</u> |

Committee member Sara Gowen Dated 06/09/2021

Committee member V. John Dated 06/09/2021

On behalf of the management committee

**SHEFFIELD PALESTINE WOMEN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ending 31 March 2021

1 Receipts and payments accounts

Because the level of income and expenditure is below £100,000, the group has opted for accounts prepared on a receipts and payments rather than an accruals basis. This is in line with Charity Commissioners guidelines for small charities and is more appropriate for this project

2 Bank Admin Charges

charges relating to the cost of transferring money to Afaq Jadeeda and Teachers Creativity Centre in Palestine

50

3 Bank Charges

An amendment has been made to the amount listed in the 2020 accounts .

The amount was incorrectly split between Bank Charges and Bank Admin charges.