



Trustees Annual Report 2025

1. **Our Aim:** to enable children and school communities to explore Christianity, and reflect upon their own Spiritual Journey
2. **Trustees:**
John Playle (Chair from March 2025)
Nicola Dann (Resigned as Chair at the March 2025 AGM)
Wendy Yates (Treasurer)
Irene Denison
Jeff Trigg
Gill Ward (Vice Chair)
Christine Goodman (appointed February 2025)

3. Trustee Meetings:

During 2025 the Trustees met on seven occasions including the AGM (held on 19 March 2025). The Charity's manager attends these meetings but absents herself where matters discussed may lead to a potential conflict of interest. During the year, as well as standard agenda items, the following items were discussed:

- Staff Contracts and a number of key HR policies were reviewed and approved following advice from an independent HR consultant.
- Staff salaries – a 5% uplift was agreed at the July 2025 meeting and implemented for all staff from September 2025.
- Safeguarding policies and procedures were also reviewed and this is ongoing with the aim of a full revision being approved early 2026
- A review of Health & Safety policies is ongoing (by an independent H&S expert) and any necessary revisions are expected to be approved early 2026.
- No safeguarding incidents arose during the year.

We also held an away-day attended by Trustees and employed staff in May 2025 to reflect on current and potential future strategy and activities. This was facilitated by an external consultant and proved to be a very useful day. The theme for the day was the parable of the sower (Luke 8: 4-15) – reminding us that our role as a charity is essentially to faithfully plant seeds, recognizing that it is God who blesses and makes those seeds grow. We need to be faithful in this task that God has given to us and that even though we may not always see the longer-term outcomes of that sowing, our job is to faithfully fulfil the task.

4. Staffing

We currently employ 5 staff (3.06 FTE) on term-time contracts: 1 Manager; 3 Schools Workers; 1 Administrator. Our work in schools is also supported by a significant number of volunteers mainly drawn from local churches. We are extremely grateful for the dedication of all of our excellent staff and volunteers.

5. Activities during the year.

- **25th Anniversary celebrations**

Hand to Mouth was established as a charity in 2000 and therefore this year marked 25 years of activity. Various small-scale celebratory events occurred during the year and in September we held a major celebration dinner event which was attended by approximately 100 people, including past and present supporters and staff. This was a great opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the charity as well as thank all those who have contributed to the success of the charity. As part of this event a video was produced reflecting on the charity's journey since those early days. This video can be [viewed online](#).

- **Volunteer Thank-you event.**

As a small charity, we have always and continue to be indebted to and thankful for our volunteers who help to facilitate our ongoing work with schools. In November we held a thank-you tea party for our volunteers. We received some lovely feedback from volunteers who expressed how much they enjoyed and appreciated the afternoon. It was hugely encouraging to the staff who were once again reminded of the scale of the team that makes Hand to Mouth come to life.

- **Ongoing activities with Schools**

During 2025, we have continued to develop and deliver a range of activities in and with schools in West Yorkshire. During the year we visited 72 different schools, making 151 visits in total, working with 438 classes and 13,420 different children! We also led three different 'Partnership Days' bringing together communities of schools, thanks to grants provided by the Anchor Foundation. 11 of the schools we work with were unable to finance us coming to deliver sessions for them from school budgets, so these Partnership days provided unique opportunities for them fully funded. We have also had the privilege of leading 150 school staff members in adult Journeys or staff twilight training; providing staff with experience and tools that help enhance their spirituality and benefit the schools they work in.

Our work in schools has been a great success, through serving our school communities with high quality professional services and through facilitating opportunities for deeply meaningful spiritual growth and exploration of the Christian faith. Our ongoing work has been helped through successful grant applications that have supported us in our running costs and allowed us to serve more schools. This year due to some funding from the John James Trust we were also enabled to revisit 10 schools that we had lost in the last few years due to financial issues. Despite this, the decline in school budgets and their capacity to manage visitors and curriculum extras in schools, leaves us with gradual decline in our schools' work activity compared to previous years. In light of this, a Trustee half-day in early 2026 will focus on future strategy and funding issues

- **Ambassador Talks and promoting our work.**

We have had lots of wonderful opportunities to share our work through 4 Ambassador Talks at churches and small groups, encouraging people with news of the wonderful things that Hand to Mouth are doing in their local schools. We had the privilege of Bishop Smitha (The Bishop of Huddersfield) visiting us in a local school, which led to her inviting us to attend a Minister's training day and providing an Amazing Journey for the Ministers to experience as spiritual refreshment for them.

6. Manager's Report

"Plant good seeds of righteousness and you will harvest a crop of love. It is time for you to turn to me, your Lord and I will pour out blessings upon you." (Hosea 10:12).

As we come to the end of 2025, a year of celebration for 25 years of Hand to Mouth (HTM) this bible verse has a couple special meanings for us. First, the seeds of HTM were planted over 25 years ago when a few individuals faithfully and obediently followed God's call to start planting seeds of faith in our local schools. HTM has been harvesting crops of love ever since, and God has certainly poured out His blessings on us as a charity - the fact that we are still here is a testimony to that. As the current Manager of HTM I feel that I have been given this role as my responsibility for a season to look after, protect and grow the important work of the charity.

I am so thankful for all those who walk with myself and the staff team to turn ideas into the reality of making a real difference to the people we work with. Recently, thanks to a grant, we worked in a school where we have not been for 7 years. One girl at the school wrote this about her experience with us *"I used to think I wasn't good enough and that's because I was ashamed of my body, but now I know I shouldn't change for anyone. Thank you for helping me through this."* I am convinced that if we were not in these schools, these children and staff would not be getting the input that we are providing from anywhere else.

The second meaning from this bible verse is that we have got to keep planting those seeds. Through ongoing challenges of financial difficulties, time constraints and a world that says it values time to think and reflect but doesn't have a chance to facilitate it, Hand to Mouth will keep enabling school communities to explore Christianity and reflect on their own spirituality.

We are grateful to all those individuals and churches who continue to support our ongoing work through financial donations, prayer and volunteering their time. Several churches have shown us faithful support again this year, some of them giving to us regularly or providing an annual tithe. Others have given us financial support to deliver workshops in specific schools. We are thankful for the way these Churches have caught the vision of what HTM can offer to schools and partnered with us. Thanks specifically to All Hallows, Kirkburton; Kirkheaton Church; Dewsbury Minster; Holy Trinity Church, Huddersfield; St John The Divine, Rastrick; and St Thomas', Bradley. We are also grateful to various grant funders (listed in the financial report) who have supported our work, including grants towards overall running costs so that we could continue supporting children with their mental health and wellbeing. We are also very thankful to the faith support of the Crossroads Charity in Meltham who have helped us to be present in Meltham schools for a long number of years. In 2025, this enabled us to deliver all the days the schools had requested. This funding has now come to an end and we will need to look for different ways to support schools in Meltham.

We are also thankful to our staff team for their energy, ideas, enthusiasm and support throughout the year, making the delivery of HTM sessions so successful that schools want us back! We have an amazing team of volunteers who support our 'Amazing Journeys' and whose time, commitment and focus create unique and special opportunities for the children. Also, a big thank you to our team of preppers and everyone who gives to the charity in so many ways. The thank you volunteer tea party we had in November was a testament to the wonderful support we receive. Thank you also to the Trustees for their encouragement and guidance as we seek to look after HTM year by year and safeguard its future.

Elizabeth Smith (Manager Hand to Mouth)

7. Finance Report

2025 has been another year where we have much to be thankful for in God's provision for the work of Hand to Mouth. We produced a budget for the year, which the board approved in late 2024, in which we predicted a deficit. We actually ended the year with a small surplus on all Funds of £1,815.

We have been blessed to receive a number of grants this year as follows.

Grant funder	Amount	Duration
The Willetts Foundation	£5,000 p.a.	3 years
The Crossroads Project Meltham	£ 600	1 year
John James Trust	£2,100	1 year
Deo Gloria Trust	£2,000	1 year
Total	£9,700	

Of these some had been fully spent within the year, but some were received later in the year and the expenditure will be incurred in 2026. At 31 December 2025 we held £3,556 in grants received but not yet spent. These are all held in our Restricted Funds.

Our individual supporters continue to be incredibly generous and faithful in their support of Hand to Mouth, and we are very thankful for their continued support. The fundraising efforts of our friends are also enormously appreciated, both for the financial contributions, and the prayer support which accompanies them.

Our expenditure has been very similar to 2024 with no major operating changes.

We regularly monitor our budget against the actual figures. Monthly accounts are kept and the board of trustees are given up to date information. This is possible due to the excellent work of our Manager and the administrative staff who assist her. Timely information is invaluable in helping the Hand to Mouth team make good decisions. Making judgments on the accounts which encompass being 'good stewards', being mindful of the need to be prudent, and yet looking faithfully to God is part of the challenge and the joy of being involved with a faith-based charity. To see others being blessed by God at work through Hand to Mouth is a joy and a blessing.

Wendy Yates (Treasurer)

Hand To Mouth

Charity Registration Number 1159877

Accounts for Year Ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2025

	2025							2024
	Total	Restricted Funds - see below	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Operating Reserve				Total
	£	£	£					£
BANK AND CASH								
Current Account	9994		9994					9145
Savings Account	47926	3556	18370	26000				47017
Cash	104		104					46
	58023	3556	28468	26000	0	0	0	56208

FUNDS

Opening Balance	56208	3920	29788	22500				55929
Deficit/Surplus for Year	1815	-364	2180					279
Transfer to/from Contingency Reserve	0		-3500	3500				0
Closing Balance	58023	3556	28468	26000	0	0	0	56208

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Total	Willetts Foundation	The Crossroads Project	Anchor Foundation	John James	Donations from Individuals	Deo Gloria	
Opening Balance	3920	0	500	3420	0	0	0	0
Received In 2025	10050	5000	600		2100	350	2000	9529
Payments in 2025	10414	4600	901	3033	1680	200	0	5609
Closing Balance	3556	400	199	387	420	150	2000	3920

Signed:

J Playle
Chairperson

Date 15/3/2026

W Yates
Treasurer

Date 15/3/26

Hand To Mouth					
Charity Registration Number 1159877					
Accounts for Year Ended 31 December 2025					
Receipts and Payments Account for Year Ended 31 December 2025					
	2025				2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total		Total
	£	£	£		£
RECEIPTS					
Schools Work	34845		34845		43750
Travel charge	695		695		1135
Donations from Individuals	16903	350	17253		11064
Fundraising	1228		1228		1353
Donations from Churches	3625		3625		4635
Grants	8000	9700	17700		9529
Tax Refund	1614		1614		1341
Bank Interest	934		934		1161
Events	3269		3269		0
TOTAL INCOME	71114	10050	81164		73968
PAYMENTS					
Staff Costs including Pension	57153	7935	65089		62064
Mileage	1436	129	1565		1975
Parking			0		26
Resources	473	2338	2812		1578
Rent	3180		3180		3180
Insurance	1438		1438		1389
Telephone & Internet	511		511		610
Admininstration & Office:			0		0
Professional Fees HR advice	1095		1095		300
Accountancy			0		391
Bank Fees	60		60		60
Website	180		180		180
Payroll Processing Fees			0		460
Printing Postage and Stationery	169	12	181		678
DBS	277		277		228
Pat Testing			0		96
Software & Computer Repairs	130		130		75
Sundries	167		167		299
Office Equipment	581		581		
25th Celebration Event	2083		2083		100
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	68934	10414	79348		73689
Deficit/Surplus	2180	-364	1815		279

Hand To Mouth
Charity Registration Number 1159877
Accounts for Year Ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Accounts

RESTRICTED FUNDS	Willetts Foundation	The Crossroads Project	Anchor Foundation	John James	Donations from Individuals	Deo Gloria	TOTAL
Opening Balance	0	500	3420	0	0	0	3920
Total Receipts	5000	600	0	2100	350	2000	10050
Payments							0
Staff costs	4600	750	1185	1250	150		7935
Other costs	0	151	1848	430	50		2479
Total Payments	4600	901	3033	1680	200	0	10414
Closing Balance	400	199	387	420	150	2000	3556



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

HAND TO MOUTH

On accounts for the year
ended

31 DECEMBER 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1159877

Set out on pages

1-3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025

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 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

N. Meynell

Date:

11/3/26

Name:

NIGEL MEYNELL

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

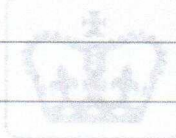
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (RETIRED)

Address:

97 JACKSON LANE,

NEWSON,

HUNTERSFIELD, HD4 6RB



Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

On accounts for the year ended	21 December 2017	Charity no (if any)	
Set out on pages	1-3		
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 21 December 2017. 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 the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(2)(a) of the Act. I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than those disclosed below) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect: - the accounts do not accord with the accounting records - accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or I have no concerns and 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. Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.			
Signed: [Signature]			
Name: MICHEL MAYHEW			
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			