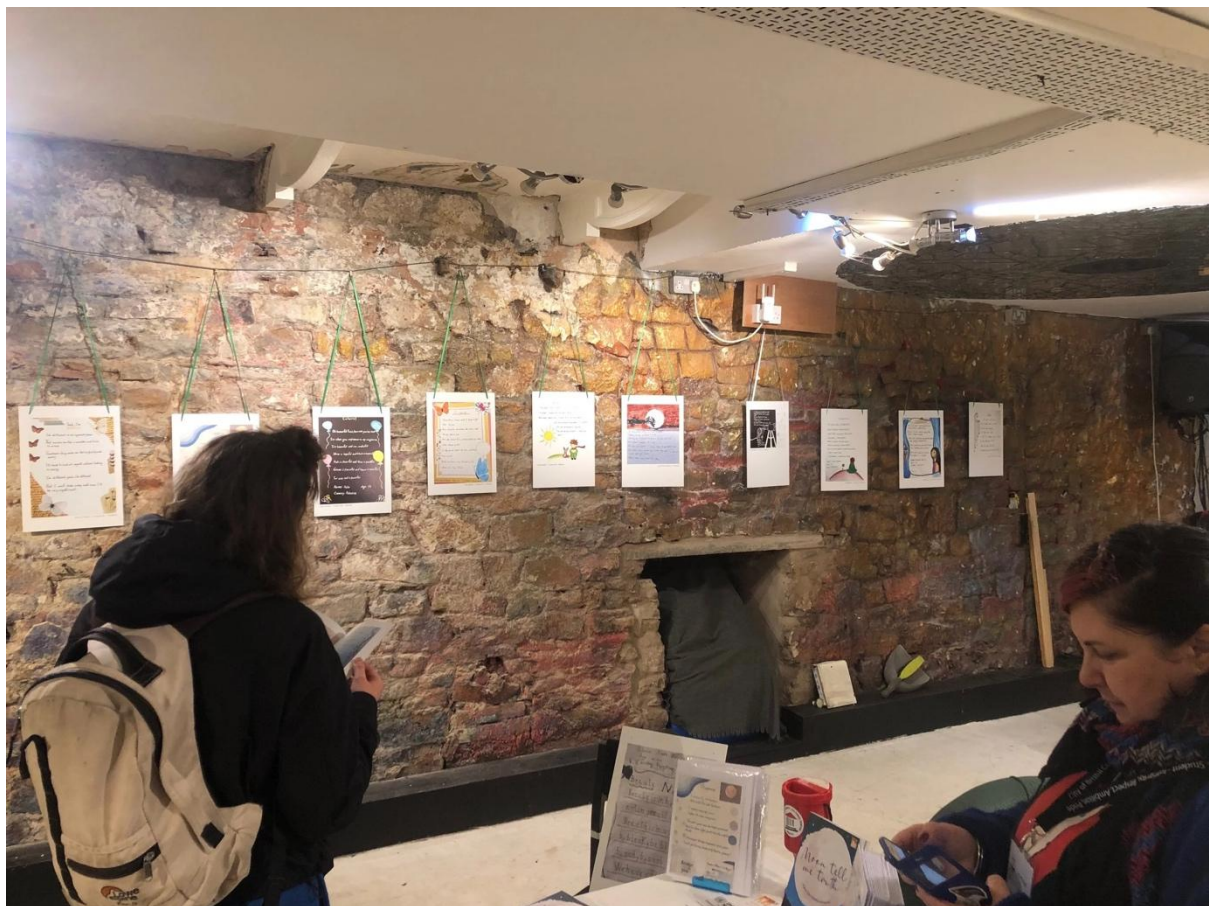


## The Hands up Project

### Charity Commission Report April 2024 to April 2025

In our last [Hands Up Project](#) report, we spoke of the devastating effect of the happenings of 7 October 23 and the effect on our operations in Gaza and the West Bank. We adapted quickly and in 24/25 achieved a huge range of projects to enable the continuation of our activities with the most vulnerable children and their parents.

We determined that raising awareness had to be our priority and we did this through exhibitions, such as an extension of the [Moon](#) Tell Me Truth – the book that we talked about in our last report. This is a book of poetry and art written by the children in Gaza, many of whom were falling daily.



There were live link ups with the children. Each launch would involve Nick Bilbrough, our Innovations Director, coming to a venue such as Norwich, Edinburgh, Ireland, London, and Bristol. He would link children in the vicinity – often through a school – to the poets in Gaza and they would talk, recite poetry and exchange a ‘show and tell’ activity.

[Stories Alive](#) is a book written by Nick Bilbrough. It is story telling material for children.



From this, Ashraf Kuhail, our lead teacher, wrote Stories Reborn. He set up five schools in peoples homes in Gaza where teachers would use the materials and methods from the book to bring to life the stories. In Nick’s words;

“They do it because education, and particularly English language education, has always been hugely valued by the people of Gaza. Don’t let the many detractors around the world convince you otherwise!

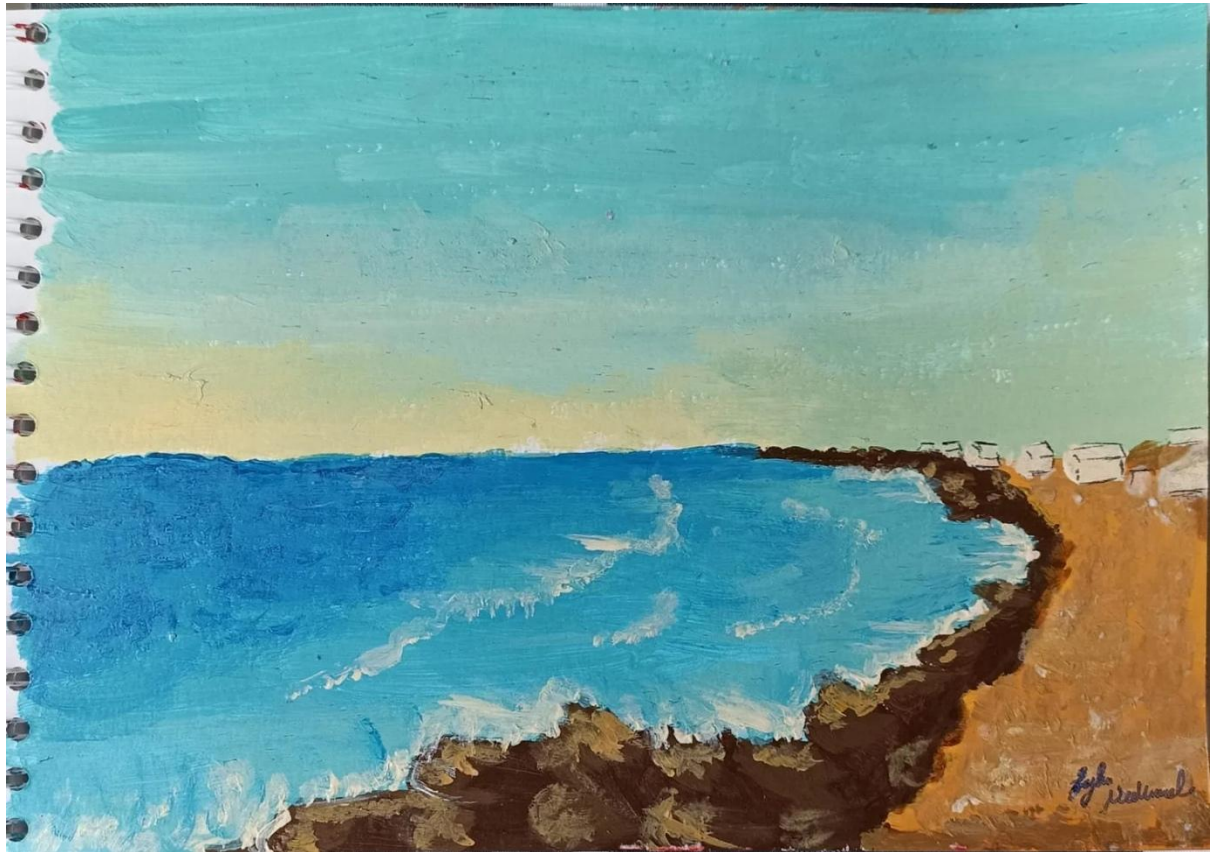
I wrote the British Council Palestine publication - Stories Alive because I wanted to create something that could draw on the motivating and memorable value of stories, whilst at the same time activating areas of grammar and vocabulary from the Palestinian English curriculum.

I’m proud of the fact that it’s probably been used more than anything else I’ve ever written, and I’m especially proud of the great work that Ashraf is doing with it now by providing a makeshift school for local children in his own home.”

The [Hands Up Plays](#) took place in Marylebone Theatre. [Peter Oswald](#), the Playwright, says of this play that he wrote;

“I have written before ...that in my view these are exemplary modern plays, with a clarity and urgency contemporary writers everywhere should look to. Working with these plays is like handling some strange substance that’s fallen to earth in a meteorite. What exactly is it? Will it explode? If you breathe it, what will happen to you? Can the human heart cope with it? I am very happy to say the experiment is underway..”

We launched a new poetry competition in October 2024. We asked children in Gaza, West Bank, and Taiwan to write poems inspired by two paintings – one by Leila el Hej Abed (of Moon Tell the Truth fame).



The process of talking around a painting, produced a great number of poems from the children who were living a new normal in genocidal conditions, displaced and starving. These moving poems and paintings resulted in a book *Oh Big Blue*.

Liz Clowes, Trustee for Hands Up Project says; “There was a noticeable difference in tone between *Moon tell me Truth* and *Oh Big Blue* – the former contained hope and aspiration – the latter brought sadness and despair into play. Both books were so moving.”

Many people were fleeing Gaza at this point and with so many Palestinian children in Cairo, who had no access to education or healthcare, the Chairman of Trustees, Donna Campbell, rented a flat in Cairo for a new school for these children. The [Cairo School](#) started with just five children and one teacher, and by April 2025 there were five Palestinian teachers, one coordinator and thirty nine children. All of this is funded and led by the Hands Up Project.





## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations - general	29,705		-	29,705	19,923
Donations - CAF website	13,962			13,962	9,176
Donations - MJ Volkovitsch	-	-	-	-	5,000
Donations - International House	-	-	-	-	500
Donations - Songs Of Peace Byrne	840	-	-	840	
Donations - Greenall Florent	12,000	-	-	12,000	12,000
Donations - National Education Union	5,900	-	-	5,900	
Donations - Pauline Goldsmith	1,505	-	-	1,505	
Donations - Stella Von Koskull	5,500	-	-	5,500	
Donations - Bumblebee Auctions	770	-	-	770	
Donations - Raffle E Hobbs	1,753	-	-	1,753	
Donations - J&P Raeburn	1,000	-	-	1,000	
Donations - Charity Checkout & Crowdfunding	9,635	-	-	9,635	3,048
Donations - JP Balfour - Paul	6,000	-	-	6,000	-
Donations - Just Giving	9,317			9,317	
Donations - S Cutting	2,421			2,421	
Donations - Michael Goodwin	1,334			1,334	
Donations - S Fuller	2,000			2,000	
Donations - M Taha	2,000			2,000	
Donations - anonymous	11,000			11,000	
Heal Palestine	24,280			24,280	
NEU Devon	500	-	-	500	500
NEU Staffordshire		-	-	-	1,000
Book, T shirt and CD Sales	8,679	-	-	8,679	7,227
The Totnes Pulse		-	-	-	500
Interest	38	-	-	38	26
EU grant	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>150,139</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,139</b>	<b>58,900</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>150,139</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,139</b>	<b>58,900</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Bank charges		-	-	-	68
Zoom fees		-	-	-	
Sub contract labour	99,447	-	-	99,447	38,312
Wages and PAYE		-	-	-	
IATEFL expenses		-	-	-	1,962
Printing books	6,703			6,703	7,055
Printing T shirts	1,130			1,130	
Food for kids and teachers				-	400
Talks / training expenses		-	-	-	
Stories Alive - event costs	5,000	-	-	5,000	
Office expenses	1,588	-	-	1,588	
Web and IT expenses	1,641	-	-	1,641	861
Subscriptions		-	-	-	
Travel and trip expenses	4,439	-	-	4,439	3,183
Project T shirts		-	-	-	1,046
Travel expenses		-	-	-	
IATFL and events	4,720		-	4,720	
Cairo School expenses	11,125	-	-	11,125	
Hotels		-	-	-	
Professional fees	360	-	-	360	360
General expenses		-	-	-	166
Food and transport teachers		-	-	-	
Exchange rate variance	3,818	-	-	3,818	- 572
Printing and postage - other	576	-	-	576	332
Advertising		-	-	-	

	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>140,547</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>140,547</b>	<b>53,173</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
Mac PC		-	-	-	-
Phones	3,779	-	-	3,779	-
Projectors	-	-	-	-	2,791
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3,779</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,779</b>	<b>2,791</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>144,326</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>144,326</b>	<b>55,964</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>5,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,813</b>	<b>2,936</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>22,303</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,303</b>	<b>19,367</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>28,116</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,116</b>	<b>22,303</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	<div>CAF Bank</div> <div>Wise Euro account</div> <div>Wise US\$ account</div> <div>Wise GB£ account</div> <div>Santander account</div> <div><b>Total cash funds</b></div> <div>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</div>	<div>178</div> <div>8,736</div> <div>11,854</div> <div>7,344</div> <div>4</div> <div><b>28,116</b></div> <div>OK</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div><b>-</b></div> <div>OK</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div><b>-</b></div> <div>OK</div>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Fund to which asset belongs</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Cost (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>Current value (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	<div>Details</div> <div>Mac PC</div> <div>Tablets</div> <div>Phones</div> <div>Projectors</div>	<div>Fund to which asset belongs</div> <div>General</div> <div>General</div> <div>General</div> <div>General</div>	<div>Cost (optional)</div> <div>984</div> <div>3,919</div> <div>4,235</div> <div>3,403</div>	<div>Current value (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Fund to which liability relates</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Amount due (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>When due (optional)</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	<i>Donna Campbell</i>	Donna Campbell	5.2.2026	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
The Hands Up Project

On accounts for the year  
ended

05/04/2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1170272

Set out on pages

1-2

(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 05/04/2025.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:

*M R Russell*

Date:

5-2-26

Name:

Martin Russell

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

ACCA

Address:

Acland House

21 Victoria Park Road
Exeter

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.**

None