



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1ST FEBRUARY 2024 – 31ST JANUARY 2025

BRIDGE OF
HOPE

www.bridge-hope.org

Bridge of Hope Foundation is a registered charity in the UK number 1152252 and is a Limited Company in the UK number 7900474



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Bridge of Hope Foundation is a registered charity in the UK number 1152252 and is a Limited Company in the UK number 7900474

Bridge of Hope is governed under its Articles of Association.

The day to day running of the charitable company is by the trustees who are also the directors. The trustees are responsible to the Charity Commission.

The Directors:

Mr Robert Newell CVO (Chair)
Ms Lisa Yacoub (Company Secretary)
Mr Martin Fletcher

Patrons:

Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub OM
Nadia, Lady Plumbly

Advisory Board:

Ms Katie Campbell (London)
Ms Sharon Hendry (London)
Mr M A Khalid, FCCA (Nairobi)
Ms Selam Bekele (Addis Ababa)
Ms Ruth Isooba (Kampala)

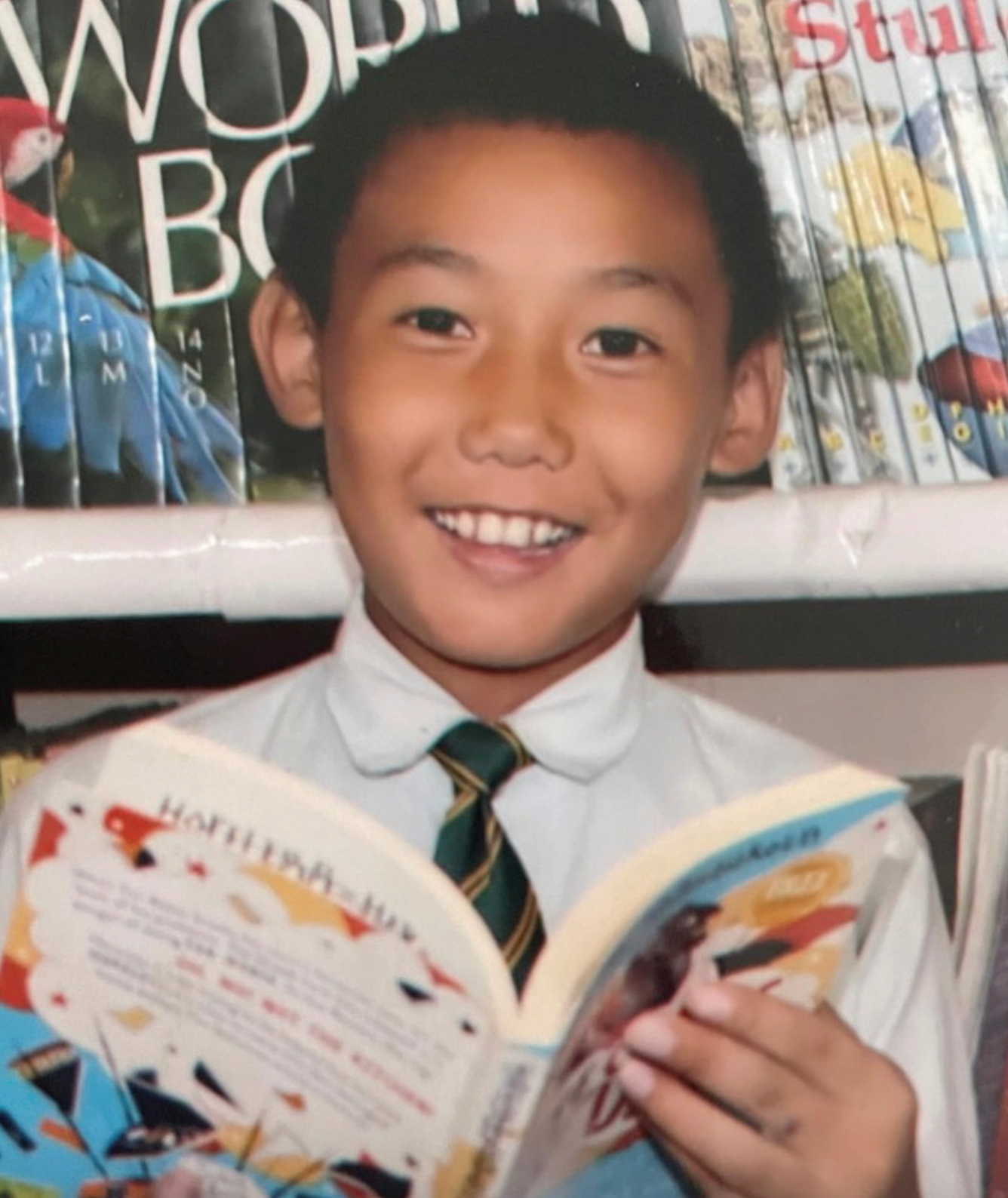
There are no permanent paid members of staff.

Registered Office:

4 Brunner Road, Ealing, London W5 1BA

Bankers:

The Co-operative Bank Plc
1 Balloon St
Manchester M60 4EP



Introduction

Education is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone for personal and social development. However, in many developing countries, millions of young people are deprived of this essential right due to financial constraints and systemic challenges. According to UNESCO, over 250 million children and adolescents worldwide are out of school, with the situation being particularly critical in low-income countries. In sub-Saharan Africa, over one-fifth of children aged 6 to 11 are not enrolled in school, and in regions such as Haiti, India, and Egypt, economic hardships continue to hinder access to quality education.

Bridge of Hope exists to address these challenges by providing sponsorship for children in the developing world, enabling them to attend school. By offering financial support for primary and secondary education and, in exceptional cases, tertiary education, Bridge of Hope ensures that students from disadvantaged backgrounds have the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty through education. Additionally, the charity supports vocational training and partners with schools in Africa and Haiti to enhance educational opportunities for marginalised communities.

We believe that education is the best form of aid.



Objectives and Activities

Playing a crucial role in bridging the gap in educational access, Bridge of Hope directly supports students who would otherwise be unable to afford schooling. By working closely with local partners, the charity ensures that financial aid reaches those most in need, empowering children and young adults with the education necessary to build better futures for themselves and their communities. This targeted approach not only provides individual students with opportunities but also strengthens educational infrastructure where it is needed. Through the sponsorship of teachers and the building of classrooms, our aim is to foster long-term positive change.

Achievements and Performance

Bridge of Hope maintained its sponsorship programmes in Kenya, Uganda, Northern India, Nepal, Haiti, and Egypt. In the past year, the charity expanded its reach by supporting a school in the Chegutu region of Zimbabwe and is now sponsoring 23 children in Zimbabwe.

The charity also established a new partnership with the Australian charity – “A Future 4 Kids” to assist a rural school in Zambia.

Bridge of Hope continued its reach through a strong network of local partnerships and trusted advisors in each country where it works, ensuring the effective sponsorship of children and schools.



Safeguarding

Child Protection and Safeguarding Training was conducted in collaboration with “Jane Bee Safeguarding” for both the charity’s trusted advisors and its overseas representatives to ensure that Child Protection and Safeguarding are at the heart of all Bridge of Hope activities here in the UK and through its overseas operations.

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was reviewed and updated.

Please see the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy [here](#).



New Internship

A new intern began volunteering with the charity as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award, Aminta from Woking has been assisting with managing various social media posts on Instagram and Facebook. Her contribution has helped increase engagement and support for Bridge of Hope’s mission.





AVEVA ACTION FOR GOOD

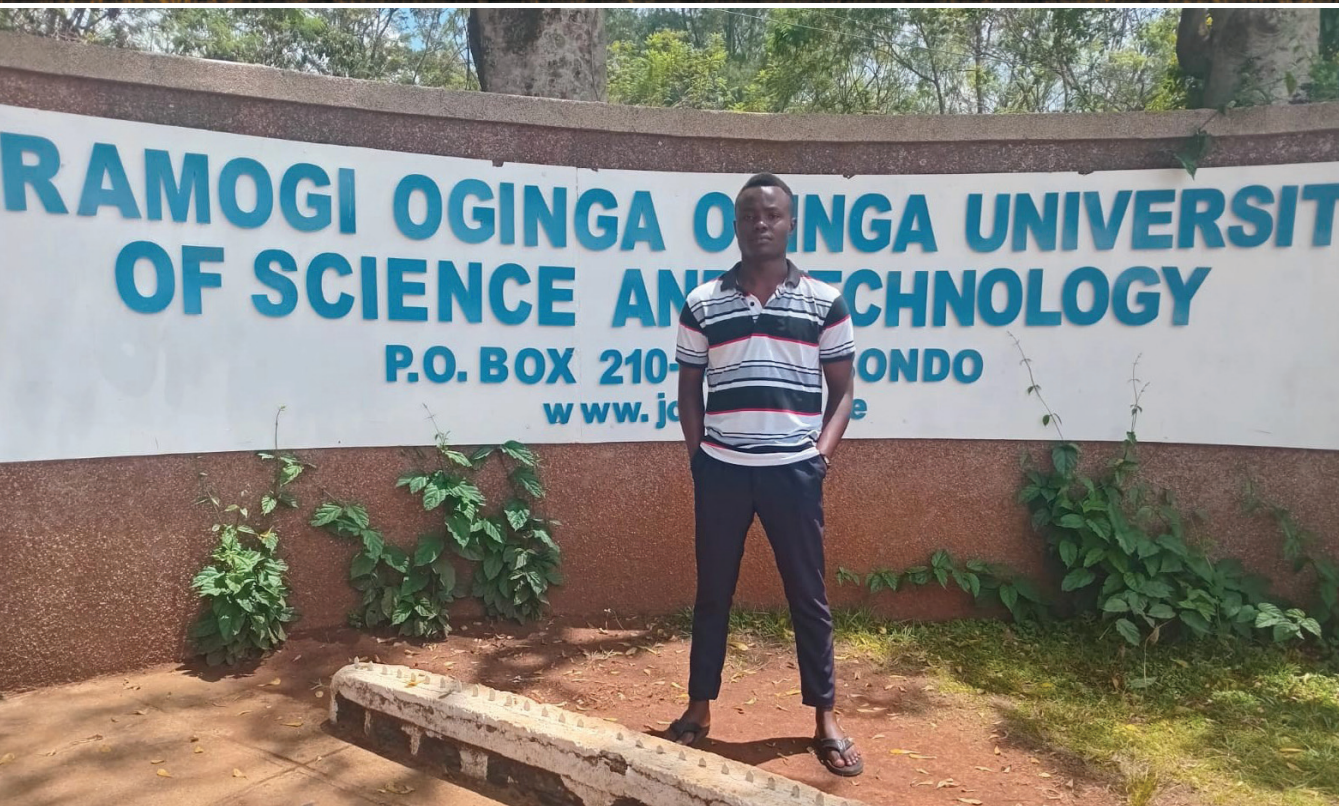


Fundraising Activities

Bridge of Hope Foundation sustained its fundraising efforts through various channels, including:

- Online giving via the charity's website: www.bridge-hope.org
- Regular monthly donations
- Corporate sponsorship, including a renewed grant from the Aveva Foundation
- Annual sponsorships and matched giving
- Coffee mornings
- Sponsored walk
- Summer Garden party with raffle and auction
- Christmas Fair
- Sales of Christmas cards
- Musical reception





Programme Activities

Kenya

Secondary School Sponsorship

Bridge of Hope collaborates with the Ummah Foundation and the Rotary Club of Milimani to administer funding, monitor student progress, and provide annual reports. Currently, the charity sponsors:

- 10 secondary school students (3 through the Ummah Foundation and 7 with the Rotary Club of Milimani).
- Additional support is provided for uniforms and books as needed.

University Sponsorship

- Bridge of Hope continues to sponsor a medical student at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. The sponsorship includes tuition fees, accommodation, and living expenses in Thika.
- Bridge of Hope is sponsoring a mathematics student at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology in Nairobi.

C/O KIBULI SECONDARY SCHOOL
09/NOV/2024

To: The Board and Management of Bridge of Hope

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude to you for sponsoring my education since primary school. I have successfully completed my Ordinary level and I hope to join my Advanced level as I continue to pursue my goal of becoming an aeronautical engineer.

Your support has been a true blessing in my life, allowing me to pursue my dreams and build a strong foundation for my future. Without your generosity and commitment, none of this would have been made possible.

Since the beginning of my educational journey, you have not only lifted the financial burden from my family but also encouraged me to work harder, knowing that there are people who believe in me. Because of your sponsorship I have been given access to quality education, school supplies and other resources that have been instrumental to my academic growth. Currently, together with my three classmates, we were assigned to support our school to develop an online admission portal. This will go a long way in facilitating new students who would wish to join the school.

With your support, I have excelled in various subjects, built meaningful relationships with my teachers and peers and developed important life skills, all this made possible because of your support. I intend to use my 3 months of vacation to improve myself through taking online vocational ICT studies.

Thank you once again for your incredible generosity. Your sponsorship has given me the chance to dream big, learn deeply and grow in ways I never thought possible. I am grateful to be a part of the Bridge of Hope family and I look forward to using the education and values you've instilled in me to support the underprivileged in my community and to make a positive difference in the world.

Uganda

In Kampala, local representative Ruth Isooba oversees the distribution of funds to schools and provides yearly progress reports.

- A young student whom Bridge of Hope sponsored through primary school receives an annual contribution of £600 toward his secondary school education. The Finlay family provides additional support.
- Bridge of Hope continues to sponsor a young girl with special needs who is granted full sponsorship.
- Three secondary school students are sponsored at the Ekitangaala Transformational School in Nakasongola
- A young girl in Jinja was rescued from an early arranged marriage and is now continuing her education with Bridge of Hope's sponsorship.



The Gambia

Bridge of Hope was approached for help regarding the support of a young boy who had developed a brain injury after a road accident. The child was no longer able to attend mainstream education and was in need of a special needs school which his family could not afford. Bridge of Hope stepped in to sponsor the child and are following up his progress through a known social worker in Banjul.

Ethiopia

Bridge of Hope, in collaboration with Snap Trading in Addis Ababa, has donated a laptop at a discounted rate to a special needs student studying IT in college. Having grown up in the Kidane Mehret orphanage in Addis Ababa without family support, this student now has the necessary resources to pursue his tertiary education. Through efforts like this, Bridge of Hope continues its mission of bridging the digital divide in Africa, ensuring that students in need have the technology required to succeed.





Sponsored School in Chegututu

Zimbabwe

Bridge of Hope joined forces with the Mike Campbell Foundation to sponsor a school in the Chegutu region of Zimbabwe. Bridge of Hope is sponsoring 27 children in the school and helping with the salaries of the teachers in this rural school.

Zambia

Bridge of Hope is supporting A Future 4 Kids School in Ndola, Zambia. Located 200 miles north of Lusaka, Ndola is a community where access to education, healthcare, and basic resources are limited. Through our partnership, we aim to bring lasting change to the lives of the school's 215 students, many of whom are orphans or come from extremely impoverished backgrounds.



Haiti

- Two students in Jacmel, have been sponsored since 2015, with a commitment to support them through secondary school. They are due to graduate next academic year.
- St Marc's Vocational School, Trouin receives an annual grant of £3000. The funds have contributed to constructing a new classroom and supporting vocational courses in computing, decorating, and motorcycle maintenance.
- The school also runs catering, flower arranging and solar power classes.



Tibetan Refugee Sponsorship Programme

Secondary School Sponsorship:

- Bridge of Hope supports 20 students in Mussoorie, Northern India, and 3 students in Nepal via an annual grant to the Tibet Relief Fund.
- Children send greeting cards and letters to their sponsors during the Christmas season.
- The Aveva Foundation renewed its grant for the continued education of the 23 Tibetan refugee students.

University Sponsorship

- Bridge of Hope supports a student in Kathmandu, Nepal who receives sponsorship to study Tibetan medicine, with the charity's commitment to support her through to graduation.





Egypt

A further grant of £5,000 was provided to the Banati Foundation in Cairo to support girls in need of educational support who lack family resources.

Abnaa El Ghad (Banati) Foundation was established in 2010 to promote and protect the lives of children at risk, children in street situations and children deprived of parental care. These children are vulnerable and live with dangers that expose them to different forms of exploitation as well as mental, physical and sexual abuse.

Through its mobile unit reception center and shelters, Banati provides all encompassing services with quality (psychosocial, legal, educational, medical and rehabilitative workshops) through continuous capacity building.

This Bridge of Hope grant contributes to teachers' salaries and supports the formal education of these students.





Bridge of Hope Foundation's Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Bridge of Hope Foundation actively supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by promoting education, reducing inequality, and empowering marginalised communities.

Key Contributions:

- **SDG 4: Quality Education** – The foundation sponsors 70 students across seven countries, providing them with access to primary, secondary and tertiary education. It also supports vocational training in Haiti and funds infrastructure development, including classroom construction and teacher support.
- **SDG 5: Gender Equality** – The foundation provides support for girls rescued from early marriages, ensuring they can continue their education. It also funds educational initiatives for disadvantaged girls and sponsors female students pursuing higher education.
- **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** – The foundation works in underserved regions, ensuring that children from marginalised and impoverished communities have access to quality education. Through partnerships with local organisations, it provides targeted support to disadvantaged students.
- **SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth** – By funding vocational training and university sponsorships, the foundation helps young people gain employable skills. These initiatives create opportunities for higher-paying jobs and contribute to breaking the cycle of poverty.
- **SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals** – The foundation collaborates with organisations such as the Rotary Club of Milimani, Ummah Foundation, and Aveva Foundation to sustain and expand its educational initiatives.



Financial Review

The income and net expenditures for the financial year are detailed in full in the accounts.

Total funds raised for the year ended 31/01/2025 were £45,253. Funds allocated to overseas projects: £39,748. Administrative and fundraising expenses: £3,875, representing only 8.6 % of income spent on administration and fund raising. The charity works hard to keep down the percentage spent on administration as a result of having no remunerated staff and keeping fund raising costs low.

Future Planning

Bridge of Hope remains committed to supporting children through secondary education and, for outstanding students, providing access to tertiary education. The priority is to continue sponsorship for current students, ensuring their successful completion of secondary school and higher education where applicable.

For those wishing to donate, please go to www.bridge-hope.org/donate or email lisa@bridge-hope.org

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of the Bridge of Hope Foundation.

(Registered charity in the UK 1152252)

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended January 31st 2025

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of AAT (Association of Accounting Technicians)

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and Section 44(1) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act.)
To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given
- by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters.

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 next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records and in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, section 44 (1) (b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - Which are consistent with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities
 - Have not been met or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Name: Dagmawit Shitaye _____ Date: 11/04/2025

Relevant professional qualification or body: AATS
Address: 5 Chamberlain Close, Hayes, UB3 2GB

Bridge of Hope Annual Accounts

	£	£
Income	Year ended 31/01/25	Year ended 31/01/24
UK Donations	13,715	23,767
Overseas Donations	15,000	
Christmas Card Sales	568	240
Charity Event Garden Party	7,330	8,248
Musical Reception	2,860	
Coffee Mornings	1,424	1,605
Just Giving Platform	1,289	1,291
Online Giving (Stripe)	2,022	4,166
Bank Interest	498	1,199
Gift Aid Claims		9,826
Total Income	44,756	50,342
Distribution of Donations		
Ethiopia	1,605	
Kenya	11,476	12,874
Tibetan Refugee Project	6,900	6,900
Haiti	3,698	3,720
Uganda	2,779	3,855
Egypt	5,000	3,013
Zimbabwe	3,000	
The Gambia	290	
Zambia	5,000	
Total	39,748	30,362
Expenses		
Honorarium	500	500
Christmas Cards	603	
Web Content Management	251	80
Web Hosting	216	216
Audit Fee	100	100
Anti-Virus Software	55	55
Charity Events	408	251
Promotion	97	210
Printing, Stationary & Post	827	230
NSPCC Training		75
Safeguarding Training	720	300
Bank Charges	98	19
Total	3,875	2,036
Under/<over> distribution	1,133	17,944

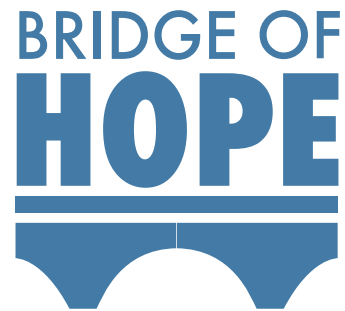
Balance Sheet

	£ Year ended 31/01/25	£ Year ended 31/01/24
Assets		
Cash at bank	81,254	80,619
Savings Account	61,983	61,484
Fixed asset (Banners)	244	244
Stock (Christmas Cards)	94	
Total Assets	143,575	142,347
Liabilities		
Donations retained	143,237	142,103
Charity's Equity	338	244
Total Liabilities	143,575	142,347
Bank Reconciliation		
Balance at 31/01/2024	£80,618.76	
+ Income	44,756.24	
Total	£125,375.00	
-Outgoings	£43,623.00	
-Bank interest	£498.20	
Balance at 31/01/2025	£81,253.80	

For the year ended 31/1/2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies' regime.

Signed Lia Yacoub Director

Date: 11/04/2025



ARTICLE 28 (The Right to Education)

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

"One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world"

Malala Yousafzai

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