

***BRITISH  
SHALOM.  
SALAAM  
TRUST***

***ANNUAL REPORT 2008-9***

***for the year ending 28 February 2009***

While this year saw *BSST* continue in our wide ranging grant giving activity to education, health, social care, inter-communal and peace building projects in Palestine and Israel, inevitably our work was overshadowed by the immense humanitarian crisis in Gaza caused by the Israeli bombardment which began at the end of December 2008

Our response was immediate - to offer as much financial help as possible. With Gaza cut off and direct assistance to its people impossible, we focused on fundraising for Israeli human rights/health organisation, *Physicians for Human Rights - Israel*, which has longstanding and close relationships with Gaza health providers. *PHR-I* pulled out all the stops to get basic medical supplies through Israel's checkpoints and delivered to Gaza hospitals and health care staff. *BSST* supporters old and new were immensely generous - we received well over £50k to pass on to *PHR-I*.

In the rest of our work we have continued to support many projects speaking to our core values of justice, equality of respect and mutual assistance. We have again been humbled by those remarkable groups, both in Palestine and in Israel, which have reacted to conflict, destruction and repression with small but powerful restatements of how it is possible, indeed essential, to live differently and peacefully, in full recognition of our shared humanity. In the report that follows, we aim to give as vivid a picture as we can of the brave and imaginative work they undertake.

No matter how much income we raise, calls on our funds continue to grow. This we attribute to the worsening situation on the ground in Israel/Palestine, our growing reputation as a charity prepared to support projects committed to promoting positive relationships between Jews and Palestinians, and finally because some alternative funding sources have been very hard hit by the credit crunch and the Madoff fraud. In short, we have an endless and desperate need for funds to continue and expand our work.

Finally, on behalf of all trustees past and present, I must pay a heartfelt tribute to Irene Bruegel, *BSST's* first chair, who tragically died in October 2008. Practically up to the last minute, Irene was writing, organising and lobbying. She inspired us all with her unrivalled and passionate commitment to justice and human dignity for all. Irene left a substantial and generous bequest to *BSST* which we are drawing upon to support a wide range of projects in her memory.

Dr Simon Sandberg  
**Chair BSST**

## WHO WE ARE

The *British Shalom-Salaam Trust* is a Jewish initiative established in 2004 to respond to the humanitarian crisis in the Middle East. We have supporters from all faiths and of none.

The *Trust* aims to foster positive relations between Jews, Palestinians and other communities living within Israel's 1967 borders, in the West Bank, Gaza and Golan, and as refugees in other parts of the Middle East. We work closely with Palestinians and Israeli Jews committed to a just resolution of the conflict in Israel/Palestine based on equality and mutual respect.

## OUR GRANTS POLICY

*BSST* is keen to include beneficiaries both within and beyond Israel's 1967 borders. It will also help British-based projects that aim to provide information and build understanding about the situation in Israel/Palestine. It supports projects that promote inter-communal contact, cooperation and understanding and/or help to overcome severe disadvantage. Included are human rights activities, cross-community collaboration, education, health and anti-poverty programmes.

The *Trust* prioritises relatively small-scale and grassroots projects, particularly activities that may be overlooked by major donors. We offer non-monetary as well as financial aid. We actively seek out groups to work with, and maintain on-going contact with them. Where possible, we visit, to gather information and offer further advice and support

Many groups assisted by *BSST* have Israeli or Palestinian legal status similar to a British registered charity. However, the *Trust* is equally accessible to informal associations of volunteers, whose work is enormously important, but whose organisational arrangements mean it can be difficult or impossible to secure support from more mainstream funders. Thus, the *Fabric of Life-Action Group*, Jewish residents of a small Negev town who are working with their Bedouin neighbours to establish a kindergarten told us they are 'a grassroots organization without an annual budget or bank account'

Where *BSST* cannot provide grant support, we may still assist fundraising efforts in other ways, by publicising approved projects on our website, and via our 'Post Box' service, managing donations (including Gift Aid) made to us on their behalf.

## THE PEOPLE WE HAVE HELPED

The year was dominated by the Israeli bombardment of Gaza. Responding to the resulting appalling human tragedy, *BSST* issued an emergency appeal for funds to channel for health care support via *Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR(I))*.

*'Hospitals in Gaza are already filled to capacity with wounded and dying. Doctors are performing surgery without surgical gloves, anaesthetics, gauze, sterilised equipment – or electricity.....The charity Physicians for Human Rights-Israel is appealing for funds to secure basic items – needles, dressings, catheters, monitors, essential medications. British Shalom Salaam Trust is accepting donations and will pass them on as soon as possible'*

***BSST Letter to Guardian, Wednesday 31 December 2008***

( *PHR(I)* ) is an internationally respected organisation which campaigns for health rights for neglected Bedouin populations, prisoners and migrant workers, as well as running mobile clinics and providing advocacy services. It works closely with health organisations in Gaza and provides a crucial link to the outside world for its people.

At the same time that BSST wrote to the Guardian, *PHR (I)* itself appealed for funds via newspaper advertisements. Together we raised over £56k which it used to buy medicines and equipment to take into Gaza. *PHR(I)* also lobbied the Israeli Government for permits to enable severely injured Gaza residents to access health care in Israel. [www.phr.org.il](http://www.phr.org.il) )

**OTHER PROJECTS** assisted by BSST, mostly from its own funds, but sometimes by passing on monies collected independently, included

- **Action Group - Regional Fabric of Life** The Israeli Government is seeking to force the Negev Bedouin from their traditional homes into grim and poverty stricken towns. If they resist, the Bedouin's own 'unrecognised' villages are denied water, electricity, sanitation, health care and education. When the residents of one such village opened their own tent-kindergarten, Jewish neighbours from a nearby small town helped with equipment, professional advice and lobbying support for state funding. **£2.1k sent**

*'We believe it is a shared interest of Jews and Bedouin that the Bedouin children have access to proper education, with pre-school education laying the essential foundation for future academic achievement. Additionally we see this as an opportunity to educate the public in our own community of Yerucham regarding our Bedouin neighbors and to promote good neighboring relationships between the two communities.'* **From the Action Group's application to BSST**

- **Friendship Village-Women Educators for Human Rights** is two year project training 120 Israeli Jewish and Palestinian women teachers to promote ideas of peace, human rights and democracy in Israeli schools. Based at Kibbutz Ma'abarot, it focuses on

*'growing racism, anti-democratic attitudes and violence in Israeli society, on a feminine way for peaceful conflict resolution, on a search for common ground to cooperate on basis of mutual respect and real equality and on methods to educate young people toward them'.*

**£4.5k sent** [www.friendshipvillage.org.il](http://www.friendshipvillage.org.il)

- **Hope Flowers School:** In spite of huge difficulties arising from the 'Separation Wall's' proximity, routine threats from the Israeli Defence Forces and no state funding , this multi-faith Bethlehem school provides first class primary education as well as trauma support and peace and community democracy programmes. Along with its own donation for children's winter clothing, the *Trust* passed on funds raised directly by the School. **£4.5k sent** [www.hopeflowersschool.org](http://www.hopeflowersschool.org)

- **Israel/Palestine Centre for Research and Information:** This unique joint Israeli/Palestinian think tank researches social, environmental, security and other key issues. The *Trust* supported its imaginative pilot project to provide West Bank villages lacking sanitation with a low-cost and 'green' alternative to conventional sewage treatment, and passed on monies collected for IPCRI's education workshops. **£3k sent** [www.ipcri.org](http://www.ipcri.org)

- **Itach-Maaki – Women Lawyers for Social Justice:** Staffed by a Bedouin woman lawyer and Bedouin women volunteers, this legal rights centre provides a unique mix of legal aid, advocacy and policy support to 60,000 Bedouin women facing extreme poverty, social isolation and minimal social, health and educational facilities. *BSST* renewed support was made in memory of trustee, Irene Bruegel **£2.5k sent** [www.itach.org.il](http://www.itach.org.il)
- **Jenin Creative Cultural Centre** In a city where many have been killed in ‘internal’ disputes, *BSST* supported conflict resolution workshops for 120 young men and women. Via communication, time management and decision making skills training, the project will create a cohort of young leaders to promote non violent communication and campaigns for change. **£1.5k sent** <http://jenincreativeculturalcenter.wordpress.com>
- **Theatre Scholarships** Two Palestinian students have been enabled to enrol on a brand new Israeli theatre studies course created by Israel's pre-eminent actors and directors, after a *BSST* Trustee spotted an email appeal from Professor Avi Oz, peace campaigner, theatre director and Israel's leading Shakespearean scholar.
 

*‘...one of our agendae ... was ... using theatre and performance as a means of multi-cultural investigation and negotiation, and in particular of building bridges between peace seeking people on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict ..... Owing to the location of the College .... far away from any massive centre of Arab residency in Israel, we hardly managed so far to get minimal number of Palestinian students to be able to join our program, in spite of the great demand.’*

The *Trust* raised funds from several of Britain's best known actors, directors and writers. **£7.2k sent**

- **Sindyanna** This Palestinian/Jewish Galilee fair trade organization has a strong track record in advancing the economic situation of Arab women within Israel. The *Trust's* donation enabled a Palestinian and a Jewish Israeli undertake a British tour, to make links with fair trade organisations and promote Sindyanna's products - olive oil, olive oil soap, carob syrup, herb mix, baskets and art work). **£1.4k sent** [www.sindyanna.com](http://www.sindyanna.com)
- **Villages Group:** *BSST* helped several projects run by this long running informal group of Israeli Jewish volunteers [www.villagesgroup.wordpress.com](http://www.villagesgroup.wordpress.com)
  - **Tuwani Transport** The *Trust* renewed its annual funding of car and driver costs to enable children from five Palestinian villages south of Hebron, to get to their school. As well as protecting the children from settler attacks and encouraging them to stay at school, this project provides a job for one of the villagers who would otherwise be unemployed. **£4k sent**

***'ADOPT A PROJECT'***

This is a fantastic project - education, employment and joy for all the participants. It urgently needs long term support. *BSST* is appealing for a local group - for example, a peace organisation, school, college, synagogue, mosque or church - to adopt Tuwani Transport, keep the kids at school, get to know the villagers. If you would like to know more, please contact us at [bsst@bsst.org.uk](mailto:bsst@bsst.org.uk)

- **Umm Al Kheir Tutoring Programme** This eighty strong south Hebron Bedouin extended family, which is subject to endless harassment from local settlers, has preserved a deep commitment to education. BSST contributed to the costs of employing a young woman family member and university graduate who has been unable to find work, so she can provide English and maths tuition to the family's children. **£1.3k sent**
- **Salem Village Youth Project:** This village east of Nablus has many unemployed and sometimes disruptive young men aged 16 to 25. The project harnessed their energy to repair damage to farmland and access roads as well as renovate ancient cisterns and public gardens. Alongside the supervised work, they had educational and cultural activities. It is hoped to extend this idea to nearby villages. **£2.8k sent**

## FURTHER PROJECTS SUPPORTED

- **Camden Abu Dis Friendship Association** Children's video training project **£2k sent** [www.camdenabudis.net](http://www.camdenabudis.net)
- **Freedom Theatre for Children in Jenin.** Funding from Unity Theatre Trust to pay for visiting companies from Palestine, Israel and overseas **£7.1k sent** [www.thefreedomtheatre.org](http://www.thefreedomtheatre.org)
- **Future Vision Society for a kindergarten in Wadi Foukin, West Bank** Funds raised by supporters **£1k sent** [www.futurevisionsociety.org](http://www.futurevisionsociety.org) (any photos?)
- **Gaza Community Mental Health Programme** Funding collected by supporters for this remarkable community-based mental health service **£2.1k sent** [www.gcmhp.net](http://www.gcmhp.net)
- **HILA-Israel Committee for Equality in Education** Seminar at Neve Shalom for 100 Arab and Jewish Parent Groups **£1.5k sent** [www.hila-equal-edu.org.il](http://www.hila-equal-edu.org.il)
- **Iceandfire** Marketing support to London-based theatre company for *Palestine Monologues*, to inform the British public about the Occupation. **£750 sent** [www.iceandfire.co.uk](http://www.iceandfire.co.uk)
- **Khayma Cultural Centre** near Bethlehem. Helping the poorest families send their daughters to an annual two week summer programme **£3.0k sent**
- **Middle East Non Violence and Democracy** Summer camp training 15-18 year young people from the West Bank and East Jerusalem to become part of MEND's Active Non Violence Network. **£1.5k sent** [www.mendonline.org](http://www.mendonline.org)
- **Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality** An Arab/Jewish civil rights initiative running a photography workshop for Bedouin children in an unrecognised village. **£3k sent** [www.dukium.org](http://www.dukium.org)
- **A New Way** A two-year project pairing Jewish and Arab children from primary schools across Israel, offer insights into each other's culture. **£2.5k sent**
- **Social Development Committee of Haifa** An oral history project documenting Palestinian history in the area around Haifa. **£1.5k sent** [www.sdc-haifa.org/eng](http://www.sdc-haifa.org/eng)
- **Ta'ayush (Arab Jewish Partnership)** Repeat funding assisting Palestinian, Jewish and international volunteers running summer camps for children of Silwan in East Jerusalem. **£2k sent** [www.taayush.org](http://www.taayush.org)

BSST often receives Gift Aided funds from individuals which they ask to be sent to favourite projects. This year we passed on:

- **£1k** to **Hebron Area Appeals** for various projects to support Bedouin communities to the south of Hebron
- **£2.1k** to **Tent of Nations** for intercommunal and community projects for local children in the Bethlehem area [www.tentofnations.org](http://www.tentofnations.org)
- Small sums to **Al Haq** (legal rights group), **Bustan** (Negev environmental group), **Leicester/Bethlehem** Twinning visit
- **£2.5k** from well wishers to a **Palestinian student** studying in Britain who had no money to pay university fees.
- £2k for **Tent of Nations, Mount of Olives Guest House, Nahalin Clinic, Mosaic Project Jerusalem, Jerusalem Youth Group, Medical Supplies for Gaza**
- £250 for the **Umm Al Kheir** boys football team kit £250

## TRUSTEES & PATRONS

BSST's trustees have extensive voluntary sector experience and in-depth expertise on the situation in Israel and Palestine. Its Patrons include eminent human rights specialists, rabbis, actors, directors, authors, academics, philanthropists and leaders in the voluntary sector.

## FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION & VOLUNTEERING

In its fifth year, Trust income totalled £136k, nearly all from individual donations and Gift Aid, and including a substantial sum donated in memory of Irene Bruegel by her friends. By combining this year's income with funds brought forward, the Trust was able to make grants of £114.6k during 2008/9.

Administration costs continued to be low. At the same time, volunteer labour and waived expenses is estimated to have equated to around £15k. Thanks in particular to

- *Unity Theatre Trust* which has been consistently supportive of Jenin's Freedom Theatre
- Patron *Miriam Karlin* for writing to theatre artists to seek scholarship funding for Palestinian drama students, and those many artists who responded so generously
- *John Sharp* for volunteering his professional expertise in carrying out our audit
- *Lee Robinson* whose design services and commitment are irreplaceable
- *Annabel Lebel* who set up and maintained our beautiful website

**British Shalom-Salaam Trust**  
**Accounts for the year ending 28 February 2009**

<b>Income and Expenditure</b>	<b>2008-9</b>	<b>2007-8</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Donations for unrestricted funds	43,567	47,626
Gift Aid on donations for unrestricted funds	3,675	1,084
Donations for restricted funds	79,972	46,086
Gift Aid on donations for restricted funds	6,989	4,280
Social events	1,530	0
Sale of DVDs	0	72
Sale of New Year Cards	0	71
Bank interest	191	677
<b>Total income</b>	<b><u>135,924</u></b>	<b><u>99,896</u></b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Charitable Activities		
Grants given	39,893	51,648
Donations from restricted funds	74,689	53,887
Project consultancy	0	250
Bank charges	900	608
Publicity/fundraising	1,197	1,699
Social events	1,548	0
Governance	97	72
Administration	224	220
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b><u>118,548</u></b>	<b><u>108,384</u></b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b><u>17,376</u></b>	<b><u>-8,488</u></b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>28.2.09</b>	<b>29.2.08</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Bank	16,189	9,953
Debtors	12,845	1,704
	<b><u>29,033</u></b>	<b><u>11,657</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Reserves b/fwd	11,657	20,145
Current year surplus / (deficit)	17,376	-8,488
Reserves c/fwd	<b><u>29,033</u></b>	<b><u>11,657</u></b>

BSSST's full accounts are posted on the Charity Commission website



## **BSST PATRONS**

<i>Sir Geoffrey Bindman</i>	Human Rights lawyer
<i>Moris Farhi MBE</i>	Writer, former Vice President PEN
<i>Baroness Sally Greengross</i>	Cross-Bench Peer, former Director-General Age Concern England
<i>Dr Evan Harris MP</i>	Member of Parliament
<i>Nicholas Hytner</i>	Director, National Theatre
<i>Lord Joel Joffe CBE</i>	Businessman, philanthropist, former South African Human Rights lawyer
<i>Miriam Karlin OBE</i>	Actor
<i>Professor Francesca Klug OBE</i>	Human Rights academic (LSE)
<i>Lord Anthony Lester QC</i>	Human Rights lawyer, Lib Democrat peer
<i>Miriam Margolyes OBE</i>	Actor
<i>Rabbi Jeffrey Newman</i>	Rabbi
<i>Professor Susie Orbach</i>	Psychotherapist, academic (LSE)
<i>Rabbi Danny Rich</i>	Rabbi
<i>Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah</i>	Rabbi
<i>Alexei Sayle</i>	Actor, novelist
<i>Professor Avi Shlaim FBA</i>	Historian (Oxford University)
<i>Sir Antony Sher KBE</i>	Actor
<i>Janet Suzman</i>	Actor
<i>Rabbi Jackie Tabick</i>	Rabbi
<i>Zoë Wanamaker CBE</i>	Actor
<i>Micheline Wandor</i>	Novelist

## **BSST TRUSTEES**

**Dr Simon Sandberg** (Chair) is a health care management consultant

**Naomi Wayne** (Secretary) is the chief officer of a British health charity

**Vivien Lichtenstein** (Treasurer - retired May 2009) is an accountant with experience of project management

**Professor Rebecca Boden** (appointed December 2008, Treasurer from May 2009), University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, is a former tax inspector and now a specialist in critical management

**Professor Irene Bruegel**, London South Bank University, an expert in Local Economic and Community Development (died October 2008)

**Sylvia Cohen** is a psychotherapist (appointed July 2008)

**Professor Miriam David**, Institute of Education, London University, is a sociologist of education and policy

**Jenny Manson** is a civil servant (appointed July 2008)

**Dr Gill Yudkin** is a retired GP (appointed January 2008)

## APPLYING FOR A GRANT

BSST has very clear GUIDELINES explaining the kind of projects it supports, information needed from applicants and how to apply. There is also a simple APPLICATION FORM.

BSST tries to work with groups which have such limited resources that they will make a very little sum will go a very long way. Our priority is on the small and the grass roots and large organisations or those needing from £5k upwards will find their applications unlikely to succeed.

Nearly always BSST donates between £1000 and £3000 and, where we feel it will help, we may even give as little as £100. Except where there is an emergency (as with Gaza this year), even a grant of £5k will be a rarity.

As well as direct financial support, BSST also offers a 'Post Box' service for organisations that do their own fundraising, or have UK supporters without charitable status. The Trust can receive donations and collect Gift Aid (which increases donations' value by 28%) on behalf of such organisations and supporters. This is a free service – all funds are passed on in full as BSST also covers any transfer costs.

### To obtain an APPLICATION FORM and GUIDELINES

Email [bsst@bsst.org.uk](mailto:bsst@bsst.org.uk) or download from [www.bsst.org.uk](http://www.bsst.org.uk). As the Application Form is in Word, you can adjust each section to suit your needs and complete and return it by email.

## HOW TO HELP BSST

- Make a **Single Donation**. You can specify that it go to a named project or make a general donation for the Trust to allocate.
- Take out a **Standing Order** so we can build up our funds and increase what we give.
- Sign a **Gift Aid Declaration** so we can reclaim tax on your donation, and substantially increase its value. On one Gift Aid declaration, we can reclaim tax on any later gift too.
- **Spread the message** - tell your friends and colleagues about the Trust and encourage them to support us. To help, we can supply you with leaflets about our work.
- Include the Trust as a beneficiary in your **Will**
- Help us organise **fundraising** – all ideas and active support are very welcome
- Tell us about **projects** we might assist. We need:
  - the project name, postal address, email and website if it has these
  - its phone and fax numbers
  - the name of a contact person
  - some information about the work the project undertakes

### **'ADOPT A PROJECT'**

BSST wants to help as many projects as possible. However, often those we work with find it so hard to raise money they come back to us every year. As we know they are doing great work, we find it hard to refuse them, which means we have less funds for new applicants. As much as we need funds, we also need local groups - peace organisations, schools, colleges, synagogues, mosques, churches - to adopt some of 'our' projects and give them long term support. This is fantastically rewarding, bringing new friends, new understanding and sheer joy to those being helped. If you would like to **adopt a project**, please contact us urgently at

[bsst@bsst.org.uk](mailto:bsst@bsst.org.uk)

**British Shalom-Salaam Trust**  
**Donation / Standing Order form & Gift Aid declaration**

**ALL DONATIONS** – Please fill in your details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**SINGLE DONATION**

Please find enclosed my personal/trust/charity cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SPECIFY PROJECT** (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**STANDING ORDER FORM** – Please fill in your details

Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Account Name \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Sort Code \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay £ \_\_\_\_ per month/quarter/year (delete as needed) starting on \_\_\_\_\_  
to the British Shalom-Salaam Trust - Account 11576585 - Sort Code 40-04-15

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Aid Declaration** (for donations paid by personal cheques and standing orders)

I wish that this and future donations to this charity (**No 1103211**) be treated as Gift Aid donations

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*(The donor may only make this declaration if s/he pays UK income or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount of tax recoverable by the British Shalom-Salaam Trust.)*

**Please send to: British Shalom-Salaam Trust, P O Box 39378, London SE13 5WH**