Annual Report and Accounts of Women with Hope for the Year 2025

As Chair of Women with Hope, I am pleased to present our Annual Report and Accounts for 2025. This year has shown once again how important our work is for women in Birmingham who are seeking sanctuary and rebuilding their lives while waiting for decisions in the asylum system. Many of the women we support continue to face uncertainty, isolation, anxiety and the effects of trauma, and some have been waiting many years for their claims to be resolved. In that difficult context, Women with Hope remains a place of welcome, friendship, practical support and hope.

Some of the women in our group have been waiting over 5 years for their asylum claim to process. The wait means that individuals struggle with their mental wellbeing and suffers from depression and anxiety.

During 2025, our weekly meetings at Selly Oak Quaker Meeting House continued to provide a safe, welcoming space where women could meet, relax, learn and support one another. Attendance has grown, with an average of 25 women joining our sessions each week. The group offers opportunities to practise English, take part in arts and crafts, join relaxation and wellbeing activities, share experiences, and build confidence in a supportive community.

Let us continue to remember that there are people seeking asylum here and now in and near to our communities to whom we can extend a hand of practical friendship and welcome.

Our work depends on the generosity of funders, donors, volunteers and partner organisations. Their support enables us to provide the practical things that make attendance possible and meaningful, including a safe meeting space, refreshments, activities, wellbeing sessions, travel support, and occasional trips for women and their children. Continued funding will allow us to sustain this trusted weekly provision and respond to the growing needs of the women who come to us for friendship, stability and hope.

I would like to thank our trustees, volunteers, members, supporters and partner organisations for their commitment throughout the year. Most of all, I thank the women who attend Women with Hope for the strength, kindness and courage they bring to the group. Their presence reminds us why this work matters and why we must continue to offer welcome, practical friendship and hope.

Eunice Barnes Chair

Women with Hope entered 2025 in excellent financial position. The trustee continues to work to support woman to meet in a safe environment at Selly Oak Quaker Meeting house, on a weekly basis. Many of the women who join our weekly sessions comes to the sessions to gain new skills such as practising speaking English, arts and crafts as well as relaxation sessions to support their mental wellbeing. Some of the women have been worried about the riots, protesting and government announcement regarding removals and reopening of detention centres. The meeting is an opportunity for sharing and moral support.

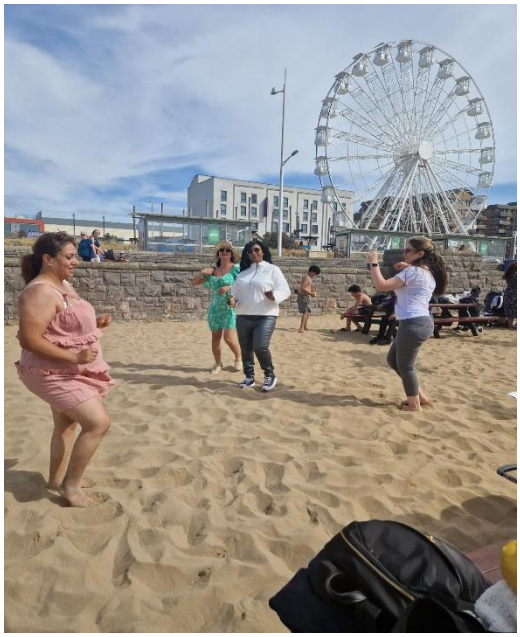




We had the opportunity Fifty of our women and their children travelled by coach for a day trip to the seaside town of Weston Super Mare. Where they enjoyed strolling on the beach and the attractions on offer. For some this was their first experience of English seaside.

Some quotes from the women

"The group support me when I am sad, and missing my family"
"Happy to attend to see my friends"
"I wake up sad, but coming to the group makes me happy"
"I am thankful for everything that the volunteers are doing to help me practice speaking English"





We shared learning about other cultures where we have experience learning about folk dancing; card making; involvement with garden project; drama projects



Fun and enjoyment with the local Morris dancing group





Our meetings provide workshops on money advice, housing, health, mental and physical. We spent time sharing stories, celebrating successes and learning about each other's culture. We have had workshops on shared experience of the riots; changes in immigration and help whilst in the asylum system.



Some of the women took part in a drama production
at the Repertory Theatre depicting the difficulties faced in the asylum system

Thanks, and Acknowledgements:

The trustees and members would like to thank our volunteers for their dedication in coordinating weekly activities. Special appreciation goes to Bridget, Barakat, Faith, Patricia, Bonnie and Sharon
Our thanks also go to:

- Brian Homer for ongoing website support
- Claire Peat, Selly Oak Quakers & Friends for their donations

- Lichfield Hope Support Group for ongoing support
- Women for Refugee Women for their practical and financial help
- The children of St. Joseph Catholic School for Christmas bags and gifts
- Sarah Taal, Baobab Women Project, for ongoing support
- Barbara Forbes for continued support
- The Roughley Trust and AW60 for generous funding
- Rhoda Wharton for serving as independent examiner of our accounts
- Lichfield Quakers & Friends generous donations
- Selly Oak Quakers & Friends generous donations and support
- Tai Chi Group for generous donation of Christmas gifts
- Langley & Bristol Road Ladies Supper Club donation Christmas gifts

Charity Information

Our trustees include women with direct experience of the UK asylum system:

- Eunice Barnes (Chair)
- Senait Jones (Treasurer)
- Bridget Obi
- Clare Peat
- Salem Hagos
- Dorrell Townsend (Secretary)
- Anthony Wilson (Advisor)

Registered Office: C/o 4 Autumn Drive, Lichfield, Staffordshire
Charity Number: 1186078
Website: https://womenwithhope.org.uk

Financial Account

1 January – 31 December 2025

Income and expenditure statement 2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Current Assets	£	£	£	£	£
Cash	0	0	0	0	0
Bank	12,424	15,959	16,317	16,799.15	13,704.93
Total Assets	12,424	15,959	16,317	16,799.15	13,704.93
Creditors	0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets	12,424	15,959	16,317	16,799.15	13,704.93
Fund 1.1.25 brt	15,959	16,317	16,799	13,704.93	14,219.69

fwd					
Cashbook totals					
Total Income	7,574	10,563	9,523	7,267.60	11,560.33
Total Expenditure	11,109	10,921	10,005	4,173.38	12,075.09
Total income over expenditure	-3,535	-358	-482	3,094.22	-514.76
Fund c/fwd 31/12/25	12,424	15,959	16,317	16,799.15	13,704.93
Held in current account	6,005	9,643	10,244	13,779.05	10,696.28
Held in deposit account	6,419	6,317	6,074	3,020.10	3,008.65
Cash	0	0	0	0	0
Details of Income					
Grants	5,500	7,500	8,000	6,000	9,800.00
Donations	1,958	2,664	1,470	1,027.88	1,481.81
Interest	102	135	54	11.45	8.52
Other	13	264		228.27	270.00
Total	7,574	10,563	9,523	7,267.60	11,560.33
Details of Expenditure					
Travel/Top up				1,512.75	7,286.10
Refreshments	8,127	7,954	7,089	497.95	403.56
Volunteers expenditure	775	885	1,215	470	1,015.00
Rent & Admin	1,463	1,418	1,277	919.70	2,002.55
Entertainment				0	365.00
Insurance	212	186			
Bank charges	117	125	94	87.55	58.48
Miscellaneous*	58			233.54	944.40
Web & Zoom	358	353	331		
Total	11,109	10,921	10,005	4,173.38	12,075.09

Breakdown of Miscellaneous Expenditure for WwH – 2025 & 2022

	2025	2022
Additional support cost	£58	£5.27
Christmas expenses		£228.27
Total	£58	£233.54

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 Women with Hope		
On accounts for the year ended	31/12/25	**Charity no (if any)**	1186078
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 31/12/2025DD / MM / YYYY.

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:		**Date:**	26/2/26
Name:	Rhoda Wharton		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			
Address:	22 Footherley Road Shenstone WS14 0NJ		

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.	