Annual Report 2025

Chair's Overview

I am pleased to present the Aurora Annual Report for 2025 and to reflect on another year of growth, connection and support for young women living with breast cancer. Unfortunately, the demand for our services continues to grow across both Aurora and our Gems community. Whilst this highlights the increasing number of young women facing the challenges of a breast cancer diagnosis, treatment and recovery, we are proud that Aurora remains in a position to provide support, friendship and a safe community where women can connect with others who truly understand their experience.

Throughout 2025 we increased both the breadth and frequency of our activities, enabling us to reach and support more women than ever before. We continued to provide opportunities for women to come together through wellbeing activities, peer support, educational sessions and social events. These activities remain at the heart of Aurora, creating lasting friendships and reducing the isolation that many women experience during and after treatment.

I was also delighted to see a significant increase in our fundraising activity throughout the year. The generosity of our supporters, fundraisers and partners continues to allow us to provide meaningful support and develop new programmes that respond to the needs of our members.

As Chair, I would like to thank our volunteers, trustees, fundraisers and supporters whose commitment makes Aurora possible. Most importantly, I would like to thank our Aurora and Gems ladies for allowing us to be part of their journeys and for creating such a remarkable and supportive community.

Together, we continue to ensure that no young woman faces breast cancer alone.

About Aurora

Aurora is a breast cancer wellbeing charity dedicated to supporting young women diagnosed with breast cancer across Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and the surrounding areas.

We create safe, welcoming and supportive communities that bring women together through every stage of diagnosis, treatment, recovery and life beyond cancer. Our focus is on emotional wellbeing, peer support, education and

connection, helping women navigate the unique challenges that a breast cancer diagnosis can bring.

More recently, Aurora expanded its support by continuing to develop the Gems Community, providing dedicated support for young women living with secondary breast cancer. Whilst the needs of these women may differ, our commitment remains the same: ensuring that every woman has access to friendship, support, understanding and opportunities to improve her wellbeing.

Through Aurora and Gems, women are able to connect with others who share similar experiences, creating a powerful network of support that extends far beyond treatment.

Aurora Aims

Aurora aims to provide:

- Safe and supportive spaces for young women affected by breast cancer to connect and share experiences.
- Information, guidance and education that helps women make informed decisions throughout their cancer journey.
- Emotional wellbeing support outside of clinical treatment pathways.
- Opportunities to build friendships and supportive networks with women who understand the challenges of breast cancer firsthand.
- Wellbeing activities, retreats and events that provide respite from the emotional and physical demands of treatment and recovery.
- Dedicated support for women living with secondary (Stage 4) breast cancer through our Gems programme.
- Access to professional wellbeing and psychological support where appropriate.

Our Impact in 2025

Throughout 2025, Aurora delivered an expanded programme of activities designed to support women at every stage of their breast cancer journey. Highlights included:

- Aurora residential retreats, providing dedicated wellbeing experiences for our members.
- The continued growth of the Gems community, including a dedicated retreat for women living with secondary breast cancer.
- Regular Walk and Talk sessions, enabling women to connect, exercise and support one another in an informal setting.
- Educational and wellbeing sessions delivered throughout the year.
- Increased community engagement and fundraising activities.

- Continued development of peer support networks, enabling women to build lasting friendships and support systems.

The continued growth of participation across our activities demonstrates the importance of creating spaces where women can connect with others who truly understand the challenges they face.

Case Study

"Aurora came into my life at a time when I felt completely overwhelmed by my diagnosis and the uncertainty that followed. Through Aurora, I found women who understood exactly what I was going through, without having to explain myself. The friendships, support and kindness I received helped me feel less alone and gave me confidence to move forward.

The walks, events and retreat provided moments of positivity during a very difficult period. Most importantly, Aurora gave me a community that continues to support me long after my treatment ended. It has been an invaluable part of my recovery and wellbeing journey."
Aurora Member

Supporters

Aurora remains entirely dependent upon the generosity of our supporters, fundraisers, volunteers and partners. Throughout 2025 we reignited our Gala Dinner that was a massive success, and we were also fortunate to receive support from individuals, businesses and community groups who share our commitment to improving the lives of young women affected by breast cancer. Their fundraising efforts have enabled us to expand our activities, increase the support available through Aurora and Gems, and continue delivering high-quality wellbeing programmes. We remain incredibly grateful to every person who has donated, volunteered, organised an event or championed Aurora throughout the year. Every contribution, regardless of size, helps us continue our work and reach more women who need support.

Financial Overview

Aurora Breast Cancer Care FY2025 Income and Expenditure Summary						
		FY2025	FY2025 Totals		FY2024	FY2024 Totals
	Opening bank balance		41,941.71			38,431.01
	Opening petty cash		79.70			331.70
Income:						
	Donations	20,832.62			19,643.43	
	Events	25,711.33			507.50	
	Raffles				505.30	
	Other	340.00	46,883.95		18.77	20,675.00
Expenditure:						
	Events	-11,617.87			-9,591.83	
	Coffee mornings	-1,025.80			-762.80	
	Admin and meetings	-2,738.70			-5,005.12	
	Bank charges	-35.80			-63.20	
	Insurance	-141.12			-105.84	
	Other	-740.38			-1,887.51	
	Psychological Support	-3,500.00				
	Prepayment - April 2026 Event	-540.00				
	Prepayment - Sahara Challenge Event	-2,490.00	-22,829.67			-17,416.30
Net Movement			24,054.28			3,258.70
	Closing bank balance		65,995.99			41,941.71
	Closing petty cash		79.70			79.70
Movement in cash and bank balances			24,054.28			3,258.70
Note: 2025 bank balance is at 2 January 2026 to allow for late Xmas party payment.						

Future Intentions

Looking ahead to 2026, Aurora will continue to strengthen and expand the support available across both the Aurora and Gems communities. As demand for our services continues to grow, we remain committed to ensuring that every young woman affected by breast cancer has access to a supportive network, meaningful connections and opportunities to improve her wellbeing.

A key priority for the coming year will be the continued development of our programme of retreats for both Aurora and Gems members. These retreats provide valuable opportunities for women to take time away from the challenges of treatment and recovery, build friendships and focus on their physical and emotional wellbeing within a supportive environment.

We will also continue to deliver our regular Walk and Talk sessions, which have become an important part of our community. These informal gatherings provide opportunities for women to connect, share experiences and support one another while benefiting from the positive impact of being active outdoors.

As our community grows, we recognise the importance of creating additional opportunities for connection and friendship. During 2026, we hope to introduce regular supper clubs and social gatherings, providing relaxed environments where women can come together, share experiences and strengthen the supportive relationships that are central to Aurora's ethos.

The power of personal stories remains at the heart of everything we do. We will continue to encourage our members to share their experiences and testimonials, helping newly diagnosed women feel less alone while raising awareness of the challenges faced by young women living with breast cancer.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of Aurora and Gems, we will continue to develop our fundraising activity and build relationships with supporters, community groups and corporate partners. The generosity of our supporters enables us to expand our services and reach more women who need our help.

Whilst our activities may continue to evolve, our purpose remains unchanged. We are committed to creating a compassionate, supportive and empowering community where no young woman faces breast cancer alone, and where every woman has access to the friendship, understanding and support she deserves throughout her journey.

Dr Anushka Chaudhry
Chair
Aurora Breast Cancer Wellbeing Charity
2025