

Barton Hill Asian Women's Group
Barton Hill Settlement
43 Ducie Rd.
Barton Hill
Bristol, BS5 0AX
Tel: (0117) 955 - 6971



Barton Hill Asian Women's Group



Annual Report 1996

STATEMENT OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Barton Hill Asian Women's Group was set up in the summer of 1986. It was set up to promote the health and well being of Asian women in Bristol through services, self help and advocacy activities which build on the strength of our cultural identity. Our current programme includes:

- i) respite services for carer's of Asian elders (disabled and able bodied) through a sitting service.
- ii) a day care service for frail disabled elderly women.
- iii) a young mums group with provision for toddlers.
- iv) a youth project for young Asian women and girls.
- v) a holiday play scheme for young Asian children (mixed gender) aged 5-11 years.

THE BARTON HILL ASIAN WOMEN'S GROUP STAFF TEAM

Group Co-ordinator

Zehra Haq

Sitting Service Co-ordinator

Faiza Malik (until 30.4.96)
Parveen Akhtar (from 14.5.96)

Youth Worker

Farhana Yasmin

Day Centre Workers

Sajida Hussain
Tabassam Aziz
Gulnar Rafiq

Administrative Worker

Marilyn Mathieson

Sitters

Mamoona Janjua
Bharti Mehta
Khrishna Kaur
Rifat Nisa
Rezina Rehman
Shahina Hamid
Zia Rehman
Bhavna Adalja
Phuspa Kaur
Kulwent Kaur
Sajda Hussain
Arshad Ali
Farzana Sahi
Nilufer Begum
Asghari Rasul
Tabassam Aziz

ESOL Tutor

Parivarsh Mir Aftab

In addition, unpaid volunteers who work with the regular employees to provide the necessary staffing to run our many activities. Their contributions are much appreciated.

Volunteers

Ravinder Kaur
Waheeda Begum
Kuldip Kaur
Nazmin Rana
Louise Way
Sadia Hussain
Azmeena Haq
Shamim Akhtar
Ishrat Parveen
Nirmal Kaur

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair

Mussarat Cheema

Vice Chair

Zeenat Rehman

Treasurer

Massarat Zulfiqar
Nahid Kauser
Zahida Anwar
Samina Yunus
Shakira Parveen
Asma Majid
Raftaz Begum
Faiza Malik
Munira Begum
Nirmal Kaur
Parveen Cheema
Gafoora Begum
Asiya Iqbal

Banker

National Westminster Bank,
Redfield Branch

Auditor

Fred Davies FCA
14 Ralph Road
Horfield
Bristol
BS7 9QP

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Last year, when I took up the post of Chairperson I knew that it would be an enormous personal challenge. However, I did not anticipate the extent of this challenge and the turn of events in a year that saw the new unitary authorities in place.

In the last year, the Committee has had to make very painful decisions about the deployment of frugal funding to individual projects. This caused me much agonizing, given that all the projects in the organisation are of equal standing and worth. Decision making was made easier through the support of the management team. Their commitment and hard work saw me through. They have ensured that this busy year has been a successful one in many ways for the Barton Hill Asian Women's Group. When I took office in December 1995, I was unaware of the extent and ranges of our services. I was astonished at the size and levels of support on offer to our users within our five projects. I was privileged to realise the standing our organisation has acquired over the years. The realisation came directly through my position as Chair. It has been a hard year of lobbying, attending meetings, representing the organisation, and so on.

I feel that my greatest achievement this year has been my work with Committee members, staff, volunteers and users. I, therefore, take this opportunity to thank them all for making me so welcome. I particularly appreciated the role of our Co-ordinator, Zehra Haq, whose tireless commitment behind the scenes has kept the project focused and in track for the past year.

The group has moved forward to the point at which it is currently applying for charitable status and to become a company limited by guarantee. On the subject of group status, we will be changing our name from Barton Hill Asian Women's Group to 'Dhek Bhal'. This is in acknowledgement of the fact that we are no longer a locally based service provider. Our Sitting and Day Care services are now open to all areas in Bristol, with the possibility of expansion into South Gloucestershire, funding permitting. These developments will remain, for me, the most significant of my year as Chair.

Because of family commitments I will be unable to continue as Chair after this year. Therefore it is with considerable regret that I step down. However, I will still like to retain my involvement as a Management Committee member if elected.

I am also certain that my successor will be accorded the same support and respect that I have been given throughout my term as Chair.

Finally, I have really enjoyed this year and I hope that my fellow Committee members and everyone else in our organisation found me easy to work with.



l-r: Parveen Cheema, Zeenat Rehman, Mussarat Cheema (Chairperson)

CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

It is with a mixture of nostalgia and optimism that I sit down to write this report. Nostalgia, because I can recall the times ten years ago when the Group was in its infancy. At that time, it was made up of twelve or so local Asian women, including myself, who met together in a room in the Barton Hill Settlement. These were women who had experienced isolation, loneliness and alienation in a culture that seemed to offer them few, if any, possibilities for self development. But these were also women with vision, or with dreams, as Martin Luther King stated, yet who had little idea of how to realise them in a culture that seemed completely alien.

OPTIMISM

Optimism, because I was one of those twelve women and know that we have come a long way from that room in the Settlement to partially realising our dreams, and that we have arrived in this last year at a status quo which shows the project, despite areas of instability and vulnerability caused through lack of funding and adverse national and local changes, to be an expanding organisation of over 200 users, volunteers, staff and so on. An organisation that has attracted for a number of years university researchers as observers of its development.

MORE OPTIMISM

Optimism too because our historical transformation augurs well for the ten years ahead when someone else, perhaps a present or a future member of the Young Girls Project, or even the Play Scheme Project, will be sitting down and looking back over their last ten years in the group.

TRANSFORMATION

Although the group has developed and prospered out of all recognition, its philosophy and policies of care and support remain steadfastly unchanged and remain the legacy of the twelve women who met in that room. They are still the fundamental guiding principles of the group and continue to inform our last year's provisions and activities. Through these, we have worked to maintain acceptable levels of support to our users, often in the face of intractable opposition. This manifested itself as swingeing cuts in funding, skeleton staffing, limited resources, lack of understanding among funders and the adverse impacts of local reorganisational policies and changes.

CHARTING THE WAY

Yet we have managed to chart our way. Last year's progress evidenced our gigantic struggles to maintain our philosophies of care and support and to match the quality of services we continue to offer. This was demonstrated in the successful way all the projects achieved their set targets and the way they have managed their own agendas.

DEGREES OF ACHIEVEMENT

However, let us not be carried away by our successes but endeavour to place them in context in order to give the full picture of the organisation as it responded, last year, to limited funding and cuts. For, clearly, some projects were blessed with more success than others and this was purely down to luck and level of funding. They were more successful because they had acquired a level of funding that enabled them to continue in their work to users without having to concern themselves with where the next penny came from. Others, evidenced by the Young Girls and Young Mums Projects, have not been so fortunate this year. These projects found that their funding had been all but wiped out and the users had to fall back on their inner strength, dedication and commitment, to keep their agendas intact and the projects going. This attitude, in the face of adversity, reflected the pioneer spirit of the original twelve founder members. But as a consequence of this, minimal work of any realistic developmental value was achieved within these projects compared to previous years, since most of the energy and commitment were deployed in the maintenance of an adequate level of support.

I now return to my overview of each project within the group, starting with the Play Scheme.

The scheme attracted a record number of children this year. This was achieved through the varied range of activities provided. Moreover, volunteers were on hand to support the children. It was pleasing to note that many of these volunteers came from our other projects and others were individual women who had expressed an interest in the group. The volunteers were using this particular scheme as a stepping stone to career moves, mainly in the caring professions and other play schemes. One volunteer secured a permanent post as a General Assistant in one of our local schools. Another volunteer now works as a part of a team of sitters in our Sitting Service project.

I have already mentioned the funding difficulties encountered by the Young Girls project and the effect that this has caused. Nevertheless, the success was that the girls continued to demonstrate their commitment to the project and much by way of arts and crafts, outings and discussions was achieved. It was notable that individual girls undertook leadership roles in times of difficulty, indicating their personal and social development as a result of their attendance. This development can serve only to help them in their life outside the group, particularly within the community, in schools, colleges and their work place.

Through their involvement with the Bristol Black Youth Conference, they have secured a place for the voice of young Asian women to be heard in a public arena in which such voices have seldom been heard. I, therefore, commend their staying power and commitment which saw their project through its most difficult year to date.

The Young Mums/Toddler Project also has had its difficulties and its positive achievements in the past year. Limited funding prevented any further outreach developmental work, therefore, it proved difficult to deal with new referrals in a satisfactory way. However, current users were ensured the same quality of provision as in previous years, particularly in the area of training and employment. Some of the secured funding covered specific courses and training that the users

requested. This enabled them to access further and higher education provision and the employment market. Through these courses and skills training, the women were able to build up their confidence, self esteem and became empowered to take on further career training opportunities available beyond the group. Although the focus of the project was on education, career development and training in general, it was also observed that the women mainly joined the project for companionship, respite from being carers and for recreation. Some also wanted to improve their English and literacy by attending E.S.O.L. classes in order to communicate with friends and neighbours in the community. The E.S.O.L. classes held each Tuesday afternoon particularly attracted newcomers from the sub-continent. They were eager to learn English and overcome isolation in order to adapt to their new environment. They were mainly referred to the project by social workers and health visitors.

The Elderly Project is a unique day care provision for elderly women continued to serve its users through its provision of quality care and recreational facilities. Despite the limited funding received every year, the elderly women were still offered one to one support, counselling, friendship and personal care. Through this project we continued to foster good relationships with the Settlement Day Centre and worked in partnership to ensure that women of different cultures met together, shared ideas and developed mutual respect and understanding of each others' cultures and religions. This was achieved through joint activities such as the women's health sessions, the celebration of different festivals, exercise groups, aromatherapy classes and so on.

Last year saw an increase in the members from this project going forward for election onto the Barton Hill Asian Women's Group Management Committee and the Settlement Day Centre Committee. This is extremely good news and augurs well for the future, both of the project and the Group. It demonstrated that the elderly women believed that they now had much to offer and had been empowered through the project and the Group to gain the confidence to participate in decision making. This to me is a key indication of the success of the Barton Hill Asian Women's Group. These women had at last found their voice in the Group.

For the housebound elderly and terminally ill users, support continued to be offered through the goodwill of the volunteers.

The Sitting Service Project is now in its third year and is the only project of the five that can boast adequate funding. This year it continued to offer and increase respite support to Asian carers of elderly dependents through its sitting and information services.

The cultural problems that in the first two years hampered delivery of the service were largely overcome through the success of the project. Consequently, there has been a significant take up of the service by Asian families who needed it. In the last year we have recruited more Asian sitters from different cultural and religious backgrounds to meet the growing demands of our users.

At the Black Carer's Conference in 1996, one of our carers, Ishrat Parveen, gave a keynote speech acknowledging the insights she had gained and the support she was given in her role as carer by this project and the day care services. Her

speech highlighted the difficulties that carers like herself and others in their particular circumstances encountered without any adequate and appropriate support from mainstream service providers.

Another carer, Nirmal Kaur, spoke at the Bristol National Carers Week about her own experiences as carer. She highlighted her plight as a single mother caring for elderly parents. Her own circumstances required intensive support in terms of respite. Without this support provided by this project and other day centres she would have been unable to manage and her parents would have been placed in care.

This year saw the enactment of the Carer Services and Recognition Bill. The Act specified that local authorities had a duty to carry out assessments of carer's needs. Its implication for the project is that in future the local authority may be duty bound to commission projects like ours to audit and fulfil carers needs. Given our proven success in this field, within the community, we are confident that this Act will strengthen the partnership between ourselves and the mainstream service providers.

GUARDED OPTIMISM

The overall picture presented is one of guarded optimism in the face of adversity. In the past we have achieved our objectives in the area of the involvement of users in the delivery of our services. This was done through a number of consultation meetings with service providers. Users were also involved in planning meetings and decision making processes in order to enlist their views about their own specific needs. This encouraged and empowered users to advocate on their own behalf and to speak out on behalf of those who were less confident. Through this we have encouraged and will continue to foster vibrant and positive involvement of users. Throughout the year we have networked closely with statutory and voluntary agencies in order to ensure that users needs are addressed in the best possible way. We were represented on committees, for instance The Black Carers Project, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, The Asian Women's Network, The Asian Elderly Housing Scheme, Equalities and Community Development Women Sub-Committee, to name but a few.

It is only through the commitment and dedication of the project workers, volunteers, sessional staff, funders and, most crucially, our users that we have been able to come this far in ten years. Yet there are challenges still to be met. Some will be in the form of our responses to demands for our services from other areas and authorities, for instance South Gloucestershire. Other challenges are those that concern the countless anti-social hours put in by the Management Committee in order to keep the organisation focused on its mission. My personal thanks to the Chair, Mussarat, who has shown commitment and given her wholehearted support to myself and all the projects.

Finally, and I believe most importantly, I extend my thanks to all users and to those who are supportive of us in one way or another. Our vision is to move forward together in the spirit of the twelve women into the millennium.

THE MUM'S/TODDLER'S PROJECT

Despite the patter of cutbacks in funding for the projects, this project remained vibrant. We welcomed new arrivals from outside Bristol including newcomers from the sub-continent. It is pleasing to note that the project still proved to be the first focal point for settling these new arrivals into the community. They were introduced by other users, referred by statutory bodies and other voluntary agencies.

It is also noteworthy that many members of the projects are themselves carers and see the project as a haven for respite from the abiding and very taxing burdens of care. The project itself saw the introduction and trial of many new activities this year. These included photography and framing, relax 'n' exercise, sewing and massage. These proved to be very popular and well supported. Vocational training proved to be the keynote of the project this year. Through this, together with a social and life skills training programme project, members were able to access job and further education opportunities and to further their own social, personal and community education awareness. Three women attended an introductory course on community work skills for Asian women. Courses on Information Technology (computers) training were particularly well-subscribed. Therefore, linked with a programme of life skills training, these developmental programmes enabled the users to draw out and enhance their learning potential in a culturally appropriate atmosphere which fostered trust, friendship and security.



The E.S.O.L classes particularly attracted many women who spoke very little or no English. Through these classes they developed the confidence to communicate with their doctors, health visitors, schools and so on, without the use of an interpreter. The women felt that being able to so communicate enhanced the quality of their lives in the community because it made them less dependent.

OUTCOMES

This year saw nine women from the project going on to a variety of accreditation courses in photography, child care, caring skills, health and safety and community work training. These led to the acquisition of City and Guilds and RSA qualifications. Furthermore, five women of the nine secured permanent employment outside the project

and the remaining four willingly contributed their expertise as volunteers in other projects within the Barton Hill Asian Women's Group.

The social and fun side of the project was also very upbeat and proved integral to its atmosphere. It served to build up confidence and self-esteem and to combat loneliness as well as providing respite from caring for young children and elderly dependents. The buoyancy of the project was demonstrated by the number of trips, excursions, family outings and fund raising activities that took place last year. The women, moreover, planned and organised many social events themselves. These were well-attended and often over-subscribed. For instance, the International Women's Day, Eid and Deepavali celebrations were outstanding examples of their organisational skills. Less flamboyant, but equally important, were the birthday and other private parties users organised. These enabled the women to forge closer relations which succeeded in the consolidation of a family atmosphere of warmth, friendship and trust within the project.



This year, the project at long last secured funding to employ a sessional creche worker to work in the play centre on the days it meets. This offered the mums much needed respite and the opportunity to concentrate fully on all the programmes and activities on offer. The presence of a creche worker helped the children of pre-school age to learn skills that would help them to relate fully to children of their own age and to adults beyond the family.

Finally, discussion sessions proved lively, stimulating and interesting. People shared their experiences and learned from others. These sessions established the dynamics of the project, bringing women together in a climate of support, mutual understanding and respect.

THE WAY FORWARD

We hope to introduce further courses such as Family Learning, where parents and carers for young children will be able to build their confidence through the acquisition of parenting skills to help children enjoy learning. Courses in creative writing, mother tongue, aromatherapy, assertiveness, food and hygiene and beauty care are also on our future agenda.

THE SITTING SERVICE FOR THE CARERS OF ASIAN ELDERS

The Sitting Service for carers of Asian elders remains the only black project of the kind which provides direct respite services to carers in their own homes in Bristol. Partly as a result of local authority re-organisation into unitary authorities, referrals built up faster than we were able to deal with them within the project. We were, for example, requested to provide services for clients from areas as far away as South Gloucestershire. To meet the growing demand for this service, applications have been made to the appropriate funding bodies. Moreover, to deal with this expansion in a controlled way, we recruited more sitters from diverse Asian backgrounds and areas in Bristol.

In the last year, we have 29 registered families Bristol wide that use our services. However, there are another 10 families that have been referred to us from within and outside Bristol. We are awaiting funding in order to extend our services to them in any meaningful way. Through this service, carers and dependents found out about, and accessed, entitlements and benefits in terms of physiotherapy and occupational therapy, social work assistance, health visitors, home care services, day care services, district nurses and other statutory and voluntary support networks. Sitters were trained in bereavement counselling, first aid and cultural awareness. They were also trained to be aware of the nature of chronic and acute illnesses of mind and body. Therefore, they had some knowledge of the symptoms of dementia and cancer.

"We value your service very much and would have difficulties in coping without it."



The project continued to maintain close links with the BBVDSU Care's Project and this year saw the launch of a Black Carer's Report which highlighted the gaps in service provision to black carers and their dependents by mainstream deliverers.

"I don't feel isolated and unsupported any more - I am able to have a break and visit my friends."

This year also evidenced an important development for this project through its partnership with the Princess Royal Trust Carer's Centre. The outcome of this would be the further identification of carers needs and a reaching out to them with the offer of practical support. This would be implemented through the establishment of a telephone help line exclusively for Asian carers. The project continued to liaise closely with other service providers including Housing and Health. Links were consolidated with Crossroads, SEMI and other Asian day centres, such as the Sikh Resource Centre

"I feel good that the clients confide and trust me. It's very good when someone opens up and has confidence in our service"
- Sitter.

and Easton and Social Day Care Centre. The project provided access to information for carers and also made available an advocacy service to ensure that the carers needs were properly heard.

The Sitting Service, therefore, played a fundamentally uplifting role in the lives of all the carers because it offered the longed-for and essential respite from burdens of domiciliary care.

This year the project experienced an increase in the demand for its service. This was particularly noteworthy because of the requests and referrals from private nursing and residential care homes and hospitals on behalf of clients with community care needs.

From April 1995, The Carer's Act requires the assessment of all carers needs and, therefore, local authorities must legally comply with this. As a consequence, we have been, in the past year, inundated with requests for the project's services. This project works closely with the Bristol City Council and Avon Health Authority Community Care Plan for 1996/97 in relation to carers and the provision of services for them.

The project participated in the Bristol Carer's Week and the National Carer's Week. In the Bristol Carer's Week conference one of the keynote speakers was Nirmal Kaur. She shared her experiences of the difficulties and rewards of caring. She also expressed her appreciation of the support that the Sitting Service and the day care services provided for her and the many others in her situation. During the National Carer's Week, the project participated with other carers organisations such as Crossroads, the Princess Royal Carer's Centre, sharing and caring in an awareness and profile raising exercise in Boots, Broadmead. Leaflets were distributed to shoppers and people who seemed to be potential carers. Through this successful outreaching exercise another 3 carers were added to our referral list.



THE DAY CENTRE PROJECT

This year witnessed a much increased demand for this service due to the rise in the elderly population. Therefore, it experienced a steady increase in membership, reflecting national and local age-related demographic trends.

There was a good take-up of the activities on offer. In fact, this showed an increase over the previous years. These activities included crafts, gentle exercise, talks and discussions on health and religious and cultural issues. There was a high take-up rate for day trips, local outings, educational and cultural visits. Lulsgate Airport, Broadmead Shopping Centre, The Downs, Chew Valley Lake and the Bath Museum were some of the places visited this year. Monthly shopping trips and picnics were organised in summer and groups of women enjoyed relaxing in the warm sunshine beneath the splendour of the mansion at Ashton Park. They also enjoyed the beaches of Burnham and Brean.

"I look forward to coming to the group because we go on shopping trips and visits to garden centres and the seaside. I really enjoy the food and the company too" - Zeenat.

The women were also the guests of another similar project in Birmingham. Sixteen of our members were entertained by the Birmingham Asian Pensioners Group and successful links were forged. Our members took the opportunity to catch up with some shopping in the Asian Shopping Malls of Birmingham during their visit.

During the year, the project hosted consultation meetings with service providers including consultants from Avon Health and Social Services. The women spoke and shared their own experiences in this consultation process. University researchers also interviewed some of the members on issues of health and their experiences of living and growing old in England and how these were being influenced by their membership of the project.

The quality of meals provided continued to be excellent. There were choice selections of vegetarian and 'halal' meat dishes to accommodate the dietary requirements of the users. These meals were prepared in the kitchen on the premises.



"I've been coming here for seven years - I love it, it's my life! I love the company and activity" - Balbir.



The women continued to relax, socialise informally, watch television and read Asian newspapers and magazines. There were a number of guest speakers at the group this year. Notable presentations were made to the members by the Avon and Somerset Constabulary on crimes and burglary and by the Well Woman Clinic on breast cancer.

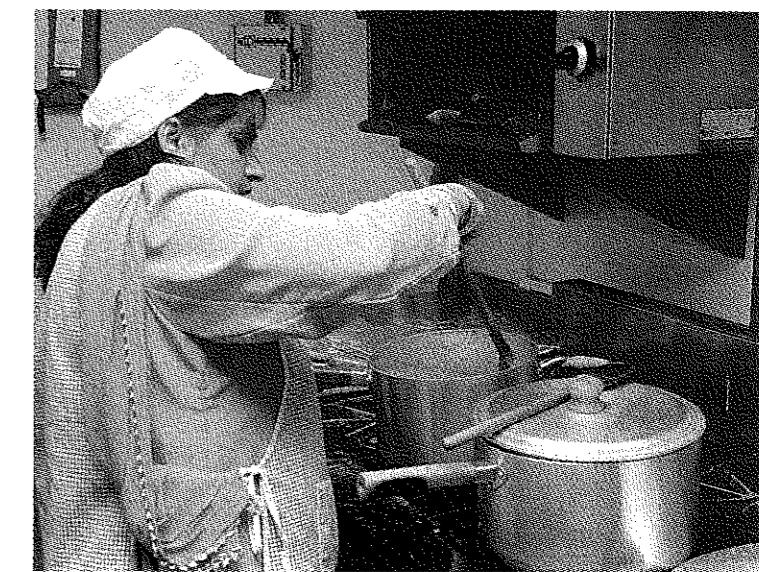
"The group atmosphere is lovely. It is like a family - everyone cares and supports each other within the group and outside" - Gafoora.

The women celebrated the International Women's Day. Their contribution was planned and organised by the elderly women themselves with minimal support from staff and volunteers. The outcome of this day was an increase in membership of the project since many women sought closer association through full involvement with it. There was also a dramatic increase in the number of members of this project who were willing to put themselves forward to represent it on the main Management Committee and to represent the group as a whole on external bodies. This demonstrated a quantum leap in confidence, self-esteem and empowerment for these members of the project. It also evidenced the fact that the project continued to enable the women to become self-reliant, secure in themselves and confident enough to help, support and represent the causes of these women who had not yet overcome isolation and alienation.



The project continued to work closely with other Asian day centres such as The Sikh Resource Centre and the Easton Health and Social Care Group. Referrals were on the increase this year from social and health professionals. However, due to limited funding these could not be processed.

The Elderly Women's Project continued to be unique in that it shared the same location with women of all cultures who affirmed their mutual respect and communalities whilst respecting and celebrating difference. Volunteers continued to play a crucial role in the life of the project, especially in their offer of one-to-one intensive support to the users. Religious festivals such as Deepavali, Eid, Christmas and The Harvest Festival were celebrated in their uniquely traditional manner by members. This enabled many of the users to learn from and share the cultures and values of others.



FUTURE

- 1) The aim is to secure further funding to meet the growing human demands of this project. More emphasis will be placed on the need to provide quality care for an increased and ageing user membership.
- 2) To put in place a pool of volunteers who will provide an outreach service to clients who are housebound and most vulnerable.



THE YOUTH PROJECT

This year saw this project in crisis due largely to minimal funding. Nevertheless, it was still a lively and popular forum for Asian girls aged between 11-25.

This was due in part to the wide range of activities. Despite the dearth of funding, the project succeeded in meeting the needs of the girls through the provision of a reduced level of activities from the previous year. These included jewellery making, batik, self-defence, photography, cookery, needlework and sport. There were notable cases of optimism. One such case was the willingness and ability of the girls to meet and discuss issues that directly affected their day-to-day lives, thereby consolidating the climate of trust, friendship and togetherness fostered within the project. Issues debated included sexism and racism at school, drugs, bullying, stereotyping, careers information, higher education, further education and so on.

The highlight of the year for the project was a spectacular fashion display and tableau which was one of the main events of the International Women's Day Celebration. Without support, the girls planned, organised and modelled the stunning outfits in a superb presentation. This was an electrifying fusion of music, dance, fashion, style and tableau.

The project has become a well-established forum for the girls since it began in 1989. This year, in particular, demonstrates the fact that the girls continue to benefit from the support they draw from the project. For instance, the increase in their self-confidence and self-esteem has enabled them to speak publicly at conferences and in the media about the issues pertinent to Asian girls growing up



in a Western society. Last year saw new members joining the group, encouraged by older members and their own families. We bade farewell to five girls who either went on to higher education outside Bristol or got married.

WAY FORWARD

- 1) The project will aim to secure further funding in order to introduce a wider range of activities.
- 2) It will seek to establish liaison with schools, colleges and clubs.
- 3) To produce a comprehensive leaflet on the project.



THE HOLIDAY PLAY SCHEME PROJECT

The programme of events and activities planned by the Play Scheme was even better supported this year. The increase in take up for places on the scheme reflected the fact that it offered Asian children aged between 5-11 years, living in the inner city, the unique opportunity to meet, play and learn with other children of their own age. The activities were based at Barton Hill Settlement, which proved to be a central and accessible focal point for all involved.

"I helped in organising the play schemes which were quite exhausting but most rewarding - greatly enjoyed by young children" - volunteer.

The Play Scheme this year has attracted and recruited new volunteers. These were mainly mothers who wanted to be fully committed in their children's learning, as well as Youth Project members who wanted to develop their own experiences of dealing with younger children.

The continued support of the Bristol Holiday Play Scheme has enabled this project to achieve this high level of service to the community.

"I hope the play scheme is funded during the school holidays as it's excellent. What would we do if we weren't at the club - watch T.V. only" - Waqaas.

FUTURE

The Play Scheme has secured funding from the BBC Children In Need for the summer of 1997. We are working to mount a fuller programme of activities for next summer. Volunteers and staff will be undergoing training to develop their skills as playworkers and looking forward to meeting the challenges of increasing demand of the service.

Throughout the year, the emphasis has been on development and learning through play and activities in a range of new and intriguing settings. This was designed to enable the children to cope effectively with the business of mainstream school education by complementing and supplementing it. Supported by funding from the Avon and Somerset Police, the scheme organised two large excursions by coach to the countryside and to a Theme Park. 105 children and adults took part and enjoyed the trips at a subsidised fare.



STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996 (AUDITED)

INCOME

	1995/96	1994/95
	£	£
YOUNG MUM'S PROJECT	13,931	14,333
ELDERLY WOMEN'S PROJECT	6,219	5,113
YOUNG WOMEN'S PROJECT	4,533	5,572
SITTING SERVICE PROJECT	24,312	21,627
TOTAL INCOME	<u>48,995</u>	<u>46,645</u>

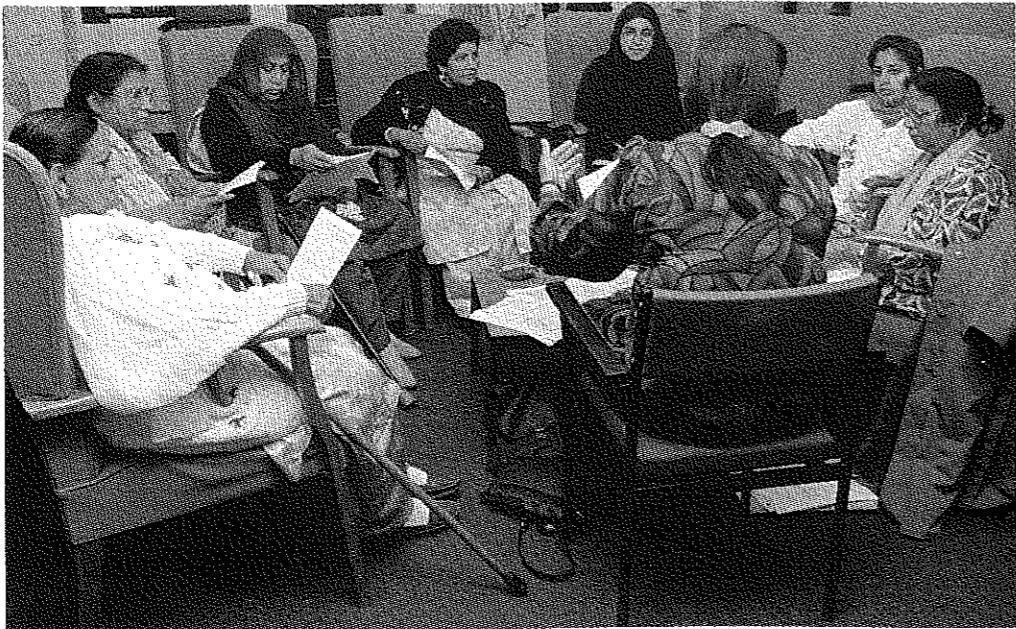
EXPENDITURE

YOUNG MUM'S PROJECT	14,804	14,450
ELDERLY WOMEN'S PROJECT	6,219	5,288
YOUNG WOMEN'S PROJECT	5,048	6,106
SITTING SERVICE PROJECT	24,312	21,627
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>50,383</u>	<u>47,471</u>

NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

YOUNG MUM'S PROJECT	(873)	(117)
ELDERLY WOMEN'S PROJECT	-	(175)
YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP	(515)	(534)
SITTING SERVICE PROJECT	-	-
TOTAL NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>(1,388)</u>	<u>(826)</u>
SURPLUS BROUGHT FORWARD	<u>1,461</u>	<u>2,287</u>
	<u>73</u>	<u>1,461</u>
 REPRESENTED BY:		
CASH AND BANK BALANCE	3,171	12,518
DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS	693	142
 LESS CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	<u>3,864</u>	<u>12,660</u>
	<u>3,791</u>	<u>11,199</u>
	<u>73</u>	<u>1,461</u>

"To be on the Management Committee is good. I enjoy the way people are involved and supported. It is a great way of working" - Asiya (Carer - Project Rep).



We are deeply grateful to all the people who have helped and supported the work of Barton Hill Asian Women's Group and its projects.

We would like to extend our special thanks to the following for their funding:

Bristol City Council Social Services Committee
Bristol City Council Equalities and Community Development Committee
The Greater Bristol Foundation
Community Education Central and East
Bristol City Council Leisure Services Committee
BBC Children in Need
Bristol Holiday Play Scheme
Avon and Somerset Police
The Royal Mail
Photos - Clare Reynolds
Annual Report Layout - Carrie Hitchcock



"I'd like to thank you for all you have done for my mum this past year and I want to say that it has been a great help to the both of us" - Mrs P Kinelan.

"I come to class to meet new people and socialise as well as being able to get out of the house for a while. I enjoy the different trips and the occasional talks we have. I have learnt sewing skills so can now make many of my own clothes, so I think the class is beneficial."