



# Annual Report 2006

## Iraqi Association

[www.iraqiassociation.org](http://www.iraqiassociation.org)

Registered Charity Number 1101109

Registered Company Number 4684099

# Contents

<b>Abdul Ilah Tawfik Chair</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Jabbar Hasan Director</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Providing Unique Information</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Providing Specialist Services</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Providing Long-Term Direction</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Providing Volunteerism</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Thank You</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>How You Can Help</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Auditors' Report</b>	<b>12</b>

## **Iraqi Association**

### **Registered Address**

Palingswick House  
241 King Street  
London W6 9LP

### **Telephone**

020 8741 5491

### **Fax**

020 8748 9010

### **Email**

[info@iraqiassociation.org](mailto:info@iraqiassociation.org)

### **Website**

[www.iraqiassociation.org](http://www.iraqiassociation.org)

Registered as the Iraqi Community Association  
under Charities Act 1993 No. 1101109 and  
Companies Act 1985 & 1989 No. 4684099

Photographs by Iraqi Association ©



## **Mission Statement:**

**“Iraqi Association is a nonprofit independent organisation which exists to help Iraqis settle meaningfully in this country, through the provision of services that enable our people integrate at the social, the civic, and the economic levels.”**



## Abdul Ilah Tawfik Chair



It has been a challenging year for the Iraqi Association, a year dominated by development and delivery of services. The Iraqi Association is playing a unique role in supporting Iraqis in the UK against all the odds. Without this organisation, thousands of people would face insurmountable challenges to settle and integrate here. The charity has now been working for Iraqis in this country for over eighteen years. Last year we begun a process of change within the organisation to meet the evolving needs of our beneficiaries. I am pleased to say that we have now completed these changes, that builds the foundations for our future work, with confidence and security. Our grateful thanks are due to all those who contributed so much to this task, especially volunteers, staff and my fellow trustees, all of whom played a pivotal and inspirational role. The Iraqi Association operates in a uniquely turbulent environment. Geo-politics and economics are not just things we hear and read about. They directly affect our daily work. Last year's government decision to send back failed Iraqi asylum applicants led to fear and uncertainty among our community. We have made it clear that a transparent, fair and humane system should be considered, and to ensure that the affected individuals are treated with respect. Again, last year we saw less Iraqi asylum applications, and that reduction led us to provide fewer emergencies work with new arrivals. In the years to come, the organisation will be called upon to demonstrate great resolve and resourcefulness in pursuing both its mission and the charity's long-term strategy. Yet, despite the difficult times we will undoubtedly face, I have every confidence that the Iraqi Association will stand firm to help survivors survive whatever the future holds.



## Jabbar Hasan Director

While providing a broad range of services, the Iraqi Association underwent a major change during the year. This was necessary because the pattern of our clients' needs have changed. We have developed a long-term strategy that reflects our (Needs Assessment) which was conducted following the post-war Iraq. We have taken necessary steps to prepare the organisation for the future, and ensure that we are speaking on behalf of our members and users. I am pleased to say that last year the charity assisted over 6300 people, most of them were socially excluded and vulnerable. We carry out our day-to-day work against enormous odds: a chronic lack of funds and often media misrepresentation about Iraq. Our staff and volunteers have done a miraculous work in these circumstances, proving that we lack in resources we make it up in total commitment and dedication. During the year, we produced regular client-led information, including our community newsletter (Al-Muntada), which won the Mayor of London's award 'London Local Press Award 2005'. As one of the leading experts on Iraqi affairs in this country, the Iraqi Association focuses on issues concerning Iraqis here and informing British public and media on relevant events in Iraq. The organisation's website is now bilingual and attracting large numbers of users and visitors, including those who cannot travel to see us. We convene a network of organisations which work with Iraqis, and participate and initiate a regular dialogue with national and local government that is based on talking and listening, rather than shouting from the sidelines. Our ability to respond to the increased demand on our resources led to the development of an appropriate and essential services. For example, the elderly project is becoming a haven for over 100 users every week. The charity's focus elsewhere is on youth and isolated young people, with our extensive children and family networking experience, the numbers of users have increased significantly. We constantly want to listen and deliver the appropriate services. During the year, we have organised different target groups community activities, and explored new areas, as well as that consolidated and progressed our work further.



## Providing Unique Information

During the year, the Iraqi Association

- Received an average of 5 media enquiries every month, which resulted in the Iraqi Association being mentioned 50 times during the year
- Appeared on 10 different television and radio programmes, as well as 20 newspapers and magazines around the world
- Succeeded in delaying sending back failed Iraqi asylum seekers
- Sent regular information mailings to our members, users and other names on our list of database 7 times during the year
- Kept, maintained and updated the largest database of Iraqis in this country
- Issued 10 press releases that targeted 75 media outlets and individuals
- Attended 25 organisational network meetings and participated in 8 meetings with local authorities and the Home Office
- Published 5 community led information materials on the Iraqi abroad election here
- Launched the Iraqi Exhibition with Evelyn Oldfield Institute
- Awarded the Mayor of London Award of the (Local Press Award 2005)



The Mayor of London Award 2005

### BBC News

#### **Don't deport us' say UK Iraqis**

"Director of the Iraqi Community Association (ICA) Jabbar Hasan said there was serious concern about recent measures taken by Home Office against asylum seekers."

### The Guardian newspaper

"The Iraqi Community Association in west London is the traditional first port of call for Iraqis arriving in Britain."

"For those who are interested to know all bout Iraqis in this country the Iraqi Association is the first place to call. We directly talk to media about issues concerns Iraqis. Last year we had excellent media coverage. It is our reliable knowledge that attracts media attention. We also participated in BBC Radio debate about the latest development in Iraq. As a grass root organisation, we briefed journalists about issues concerning the community and presented specific case studies."

**Manar Sabri** Publicity & Youth Volunteer



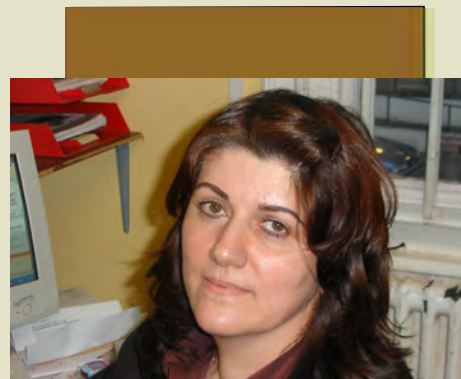
<http://www.politics.co.uk>

"The Iraqi Community Association (ICA) estimated that around 150,000 Iraqis in Britain are eligible to vote. But, voter registration figures have been disappointing with only around 30,000 set to vote. The ICA points out that the number of UK Iraqis able to participate has been limited by the need to travel to one of only three centres to register, and then again to vote."

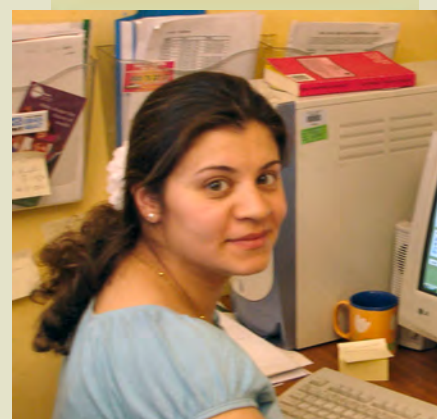
## Providing Specialist Services

During the year, the Iraqi Association

- Gave advice to over 6000 people in the UK
- Prepared 10 work-shops targeting vulnerable people
- Published 5 issues of AL Muntada community newsletter that read by 30000 people
- Raised awareness on 'Iraqi election abroad' to over 25000 Iraqis in the UK
- Delivered 20 public meetings and seminars for users and public that attracted over 1200 people
- Re-housed 125 people with accommodation related cases
- Cared for 213 families and single parents
- Recruited 38 volunteers
- Organised 5 community-led social and cultural events
- Saw 320 young users
- Maintained health outreach work covering 200 cases
- Reached 400 isolated and socially excluded people
- Held 5 youth related activities
- Disseminated 50 user-led health fact-sheet information that reached 3000 people



**Tavga Rashid**  
Outreach Health Officer



**Khilood Jamal**  
Health Officer



**Hashim Ali**  
Youth Support Officer

**Question**

*What do you do?*



"I remember a young single mother that found about us through her local school. She showed me a notice of eviction from her accommodation; apparently her housing benefit claim has taken 5 months to be dealt with by her local council. She had to deal with unpleasant harassments by her landlord. This young mother had no one to turn to, and she was exposed to all sort of unpredictable events. I see many people like her, but I am pleased to say that in most cases I manage to assist and make a difference. In relation to this particular young mother, I immediately contacted her local housing benefit which followed by a letter explaining the situation. In the meantime, I contacted the landlord to ensure that her rent arrears would be resolved. Equally, we provided this young woman with community support. So I put her in touch with our Family Support Network to receive necessary assistance and outreach visits."



**Thekra Omran**  
Welfare Officer

**Hana - One of our former clients**

"I came to the Iraqi Association for help, as no one else seemed to care about what would happen to me."

"You might never feel at home, ever. Elderly exiles never stop dreaming of returning home and returning to their former lives. The reality for some is that their dream can never come true. They have to make their homes here as best they can. I help my project users to settle here with confidence building, advice, ease of isolation, volunteerism, network support and employment opportunities. Every week I welcome hundreds of elderly Iraqis, we talk to them in their own languages, we inform them about their rights and choices. We ensure that they are treated with dignity and respect."



**Ouided Cashen**  
Elderly Project Officer

**Salma - One of the elderly project users**

"I learnt a great deal about my local area services and how to access it, I am in a position now to use it, thank you for your support."

**Answer**

Our charity gives help and support to Iraqis here to settle and integrate successfully, and to ensure that their needs and desires are met.



## Providing Long-Term Direction

During the year, the Iraqi Association

- Conducted 2 feedback system using client-led questionnaires
- Implemented individual users opinion feedback information
- Improved complaints system
- Updated 6 organisational policies
- Researched, consulted and developed a five years organisation's strategy
- Consulted and developed 6 staff cyclical annual plan based on agreed targets
- Delivered 2 away days for staff, volunteers and trustees
- Launched the organisation's bilingual website
- Organised an appeal on BBC Radio 4 which was presented by Peter Snow



"The next five years will be an enormously challenging period for the Iraqi Association."

### Away Day Meeting - April 2005



## Providing Volunteerism

At the Iraqi Association volunteering has become a meaningful activity for all ages. Last year the charity recruited 38 active volunteers, on average, we have 3 volunteers every week. Many of our activities depends on the valuable contribution of volunteers, which is deeply rooted in our charity's history. Last year's 'Needs Assessment Report' of the Iraqi Association indicated that our volunteers gains:

- Confidence building
- Self satisfaction
- Status
- Specific benefits to users
- Learning skills and experience
- Career opportunities
- Community involvement
- Less isolation

### Answer

Around 80% of our income comes from grant making bodies and trusts, almost all of which is earmarked for specific activities. The remainder comes from voluntary sources.

### Question

Where do you get your funds from?



Peter Snow presented our appeal on BBC Radio 4

# Thank You...

**Our grateful thanks to the following organisations and trusts who supported our work:**

Association of London Government  
Big Lottery Fund  
Lloyds TSB Fund  
BBC Radio 4 Appeal  
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham  
Awards for All  
The Perry Bilton Charity  
Brent PCT  
London Borough of Ealing  
Dr Edwards & Bishop Kings  
Age Concern  
Help The Aged  
Quit  
Hilden Charitable Fund  
BBC Children in Need  
Help A London Child  
CSV Millennium Grant & Expenses  
Comic Relief  
Corporation of London  
The Balance Charitable Foundation  
Department of Health

To all those other trusts and individuals who have helped us to continue our work.

## How You Can Help

**If you are a charitable trust you can:**

- ☐ Make a donation towards one of our projects.

**If you are a company you can:**

- ☐ Make a tax-effective donation towards our work through the Gift Aid scheme;
- ☐ Sponsor one of our publications or events;
- ☐ Offer a work placement to one of our volunteers.

**If you are an individual, you can:**

- ☐ Leave a legacy to Iraqi Community Association, enabling us to carry our vital work in the future;
- ☐ Make a donation towards our work, or use online donation via our secure website [www.iraqiassociation.org](http://www.iraqiassociation.org);
- ☐ Organise a local fundraising event.

**For more information on tax effective donations please contact Jabbar Hasan on 020 8741 5491.**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

### Summary Income and Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31 March 2005

This information is extracted from the latest audited account. The summarised financial information is not the full account of the charity. Full accounts, with auditors' report are available on request.

	Restricted Funds 2005	Unrestricted Funds 2005	Total Funds 2005	Total Funds 2004
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	£	£	£	£
Grants	154,718	-	154,718	160,795
Donations, Memberships, Fundraising	-	30,851	30,851	31,324
Bank interest	-	7,598	7,598	6,558
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>154,718</b>	<b>38,449</b>	<b>193,167</b>	<b>198,677</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Activities	112,119	-	112,119	136,481
Support costs	23,510	-	23,510	22,728
Communications	24,674	6,467	31,141	33,807
Management and Administration	2,215	6,697	8,912	9,447
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>162,518</b>	<b>13,164</b>	<b>175,682</b>	<b>202,463</b>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(7,800)</b>	<b>25,285</b>	<b>17,485</b>	<b>(3,786)</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>(7,800)</b>	<b>25,285</b>	<b>17,485</b>	<b>(3,786)</b>
<b>Funds Brought Forward</b>	<b>214,789</b>	<b>36,518</b>	<b>251,307</b>	<b>255,093</b>
<b>Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>206,989</b>	<b>61,803</b>	<b>268,792</b>	<b>251,307</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2005

	2005 £	2004 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>6,448</b>	<b>8,597</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	8,290	14,445
Cash at bank and in hand	279,035	232,402
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>287,325</b>	<b>246,847</b>
<b>CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	(24,981)	(4,137)
Net current assets	262,344	242,710
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>268,792</b>	<b>251,307</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Restricted funds	206,989	214,789
Unrestricted funds - General funds	61,803	36,518
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>268,792</b>	<b>251,307</b>



# Trustees' Report

The executive committee presents its report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2005. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's trustees and applicable law.

## Status

The governing instrument for the charity is its constitution. The charity is governed by people elected to a management committee which refers to itself as the executive committee or trustees.

## Directors

The following names were directors during the year:

- ☐ Ansam Al-Jarah
- ☐ Amani Al-Sitrawi
- ☐ Kais Al-Suhaily
- ☐ Najim Al Den Jassim Ghulam
- ☐ Dr Fouad Hassan Hussain
- ☐ Ahmed Khudayir
- ☐ Noaman Muna

## Mission Statement

"Iraqi Association is a non-profit organisation that exists to enable Iraqis to settle and integrate in this country, and with rights to express their cultural identity. Our work aimed at settled and vulnerable people, by providing volunteerism, advice, public health support, outreach work, training, employment guidance, information services, and organising cultural events. It is also our mission to raise awareness about relevant events in Iraq and the community's integration process in this country."

## Activities and Review

During the year the Association fulfilled its mission by:

- ☐ Providing practical support and assistance in fields of welfare, training, education, family-reunion, immigration and health.
- ☐ Offering advice and guidance through the charity's outreach project.
- ☐ Disseminating clients-led information and conducting health awareness programme through the health promotion project.
- ☐ Delivering and promoting volunteerism.
- ☐ Organising regular social and artistic events.
- ☐ Preparing and implementing community-led workshops.
- ☐ Supporting vulnerable and socially excluded members of the community.
- ☐ Publishing the charity's community-led bimonthly "Al-Muntada" newsletter.
- ☐ Managing two Iraqi elderly and vulnerable day centres.
- ☐ Assisting single parents and managing women's working group.
- ☐ Providing IT training and employment courses.
- ☐ Improving policies and services based on the charity's user-feedback system.

## Responsibilities of the Management Committee

Charity law requires the management committee or trustees to prepare financial statements for the financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association, and of its incoming resources and expenditure activities of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the management committee is required to:

- ☐ Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ☐ Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ☐ State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ☐ Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis.

The management committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with accuracy, at any time of the year, the financial position of the Association to comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Association's constitution. The committee is equally responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Members of the Executive Committee

Members who served on the executive committee during the year and up to the date of the auditors' report were as follows:

Mr Ahmed Khydayir

Mr Noaman Muna

Dr Foad Hussain

Mrs Ansam Al Jarah

Ms Amani Al Sitrawi

Dr Najmul-Deen Ghulam

Mr Abdul Monem Al-Aassam

Mrs Fayha Abdul Wahab

Mr Osama Al-Wakil

Mrs Sajida Ateei

Mr Kais Al-Suhaily

### Appointed

Chair - July 2001

Vice Chair - September 2004

Secretary/Treasurer - September 2004

September 2004

September 2004

September 2004

September 2003 (resigned September 2004)

September 2002 (resigned September 2004)

July 2001 (resigned September 2004)

July 2001 (resigned September 2004)

July 2001

## Funds

The Association has a number of funds whose purposes are detailed in note 9 of the financial report.

## Fixed Assets

The movements in tangible fixed assets during the year are shown in note 7 of the financial report.

## **Reserves**

The management committee has established a policy whereby funds held by the charity should be between 3 and 6 months of resources to be expended. This target has been met.

## **Risk Review**

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining reserve at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity, and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

## **Investment Policy**

The constitution authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, using the general funds of the charity.

## **Auditors**

Chapmans have expressed their willingness to continue as the Association's Auditors.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 25 June 2005 and signed on its behalf by

*Foad Hussain*

## **Dr. Foad Hussain Secretary**

### **Registered Office and Operational Address**

Pallingswick House  
241 King Street  
Hammersmith  
London W6 9LP

### **Honorary Officers**

Abdul Ilah Tawfik (appointed September 2005)  
Ahlam Kadoom (appointed September 2005)  
Taleb Hassan (appointed September 2005)

### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank PLC  
Piccadilly Corporate Banking Centre  
Pall Mall Corporate Group  
P.O. Box 15165  
London SW1A 1QF

### **Auditors**

Chapmans  
Chartered Accountants  
Registered Auditors  
3 Coombe Road  
London NW10 0BE



## **REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF IRAQI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 12 of the full account.

### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS**

As described earlier on pages 9 to 11, members of the executive committee are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act.

### **BASIS OF OPINION**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit, so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

### **OPINION**

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's state of affairs as at 31 March 2005 and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

CHAPMANS  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors  
3 Coombe Road  
London  
NW10 0EB



Palingswick House  
241 King Street  
London W6 9LP

Telephone: 020 8741 5491  
Fax: 020 8748 9010  
Email: [info@iraqiassociation.org](mailto:info@iraqiassociation.org)  
[www.iraqiassociation.org](http://www.iraqiassociation.org)

Registered as the Iraqi Community Association under  
Charities Act 1993 No. 1101109 and Companies Act  
1985 & 1989 No. 4684099

المُسَدِّدُ الْعِرَاقِي