MONTY'S COMMUNITY HUB

59 Montague Avenue, Southampton, SO19 0QB // www.montys.org.uk

— Registered Charity No. 1155649 —

ANNUAL REPORT
— 2025 —

MONTY'S // WHO WE ARE

Monty's Community Hub is a grassroots 'community development' charity, based at the heart of our neighbourhood on the edge of Southampton. Our vision is to enable the personal, social and spiritual growth of local residents; in partnership with the local community; so we can all enjoy abundant life within a flourishing neighbourhood. With the support of our wonderful trustees and staff, our volunteers organise numerous groups and activities that are developed in response to needs and opportunities in our local community.

Based in a shop unit within a parade at the heart of our estate, Monty's started life when statutory funding for the local youth centre was withdrawn in 2013. This loss hit particularly hard locally, as our neighbourhood is an area of significant deprivation; according to the Office for National Statistics we are within the 15% most deprived areas in the UK (including an area in the lowest 7% for health and employment, the lowest 3% for education and income, and the lowest 1% for crime). Located on the edge of the city, our neighbourhood is isolated from adjoining areas, yet has little community provision of its own; there are few play facilities or community spaces, the local church closed down at the turn of the century, and in 2013 our youth centre faced imminent closure following cuts to statutory services. In response to this closure, a group of volunteers from the local church and community felt so strongly about this loss that—with the support of local churches, schools and the city council—they took on responsibility for the centre. We reimagined the old Montague Avenue youth centre as a 'community hub' open to people of all ages, and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2014 under the name 'Monty's Community Hub'.

These days Monty's is a thriving hub at the heart of our community – drawing together people of all different social, religious and ethnic backgrounds, and many with complex social and additional educational needs, to seek transformation in our community. Supported by our committed trustees, the day-to-day running of Monty's is overseen by our small team of staff and our growing team of volunteers from the local community. Monty's is an inclusive hub open to the whole community; regularly welcoming hundreds of different people into our groups, activities and events. Through it all, we aim to help local residents come together to recognise and respond to their own needs and aspirations, and to take positive action to bring about transformation in our community.

Our Board of Trustees are committed to the effective management of the charity, including the ongoing maintenance and implementation of Safeguarding, Equality, Health & Safety, Financial and other appropriate policies. Meeting at least quarterly, our board of trustees includes:

- Billy Kennedy - Chair
- Mark Allen – Treasurer
- Libby Crandon – Safeguarding
- Pete Nailer – Fundraising
- Aubree Slavik
- Claire Whyte - Minutes Secretary
- Gillian Gregory
- Jim Macfarlan
- Natalie Martin
- Georgina Harrison
- Polly Allen

Our values are an expression of what we believe, and underpin everything we do. Inspired by Jesus, we are committed to being: COMMUNITY-ROOTED (based in our community, encouraging positive involvement within the community, and contributing to good relationships in all we do); OPEN & INCLUSIVE (actively promoting equality of opportunity, challenging discrimination, and celebrating diversity); COMPASSIONATE & OPEN TO GOD (being open and honest in all our relationships, caring and loving as Jesus did and still does today); GENEROUS & LIFE-AFFIRMING (equipping and enabling people to live fulfilling lives, recognising and developing their own potential).

MONTY'S COMMUNITY HUB // WHAT WE DID IN 2025

For many in our local community, 2025 has been a year of uncertainty, worry and unrest. Further cuts to welfare and public services, localized violent protests around immigration and the renters' crisis all contributed to this underlying feeling of anxiety across many households, and whilst raised minimum wages in April provided some financial relief, we are still seeing many people struggling with debt and money worries. One of our key strengths at Monty's has always been our ability to adapt and respond to local need, and 2025 was no different, with an increased focus on Adult & Youth Wellbeing, Access to Nature and Community Cohesion, bringing together people from different backgrounds with a focus on what we have in common. Organisationally, 2025 reflected increased focus on our environmental sustainability, and strengthening our volunteer team. We are immensely proud of the work we have done in 2025, and perhaps more importantly, the culture of Monty's in which we work: bold, creative, curious, open and inclusive.



2025 Headlines





Adult & Youth Wellbeing

2025 saw the creation of a new session: our Youth Wellbeing Cafe. Born out of conversations and ideas from young people, this session is all about building up resilience and introducing young people to a 'toolbox' of wellbeing resources which they can to support their own wellbeing. After a few pilot sessions, we now run Youth Wellbeing Cafe fortnightly, and young

people have said how much they enjoy the calm space and the opportunity to talk about wellbeing.



Partnering with researchers from the University of Southampton, we have hosted a series of 'Listening Cafes', all with a focus on understanding adult's experiences of mental health. At Monty's, we want to explore ways of ensuring that the voices within our community are heard on a wider scale to inform policy, and this partnership with the University of Southampton enabled people from a demographic often overlooked in research to share their experiences. Our Create Your Calm Session has also grown in numbers, now welcoming around 15 people each month, across a broad range of ages, and we have started a new Midday Meditation session to further compliment our wellbeing sessions.

Our Pantry Drop In and Community Pantry continue to distribute would-be-waste food to local households, with around 667 meals being distributed per week. We have developed new partnerships with the SCC Employability Team, Society of St James (benefits and housing) and Social Prescribers, who are available at our weekly Drop In. For some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people, being able to access these services within the safe space of Monty's makes a significant impact to their access opportunities and reduces many barriers.

Access to Nature



Alongside this focus on Wellbeing, we have been exploring different ways of supporting people to access nature. We are based in the city, and although we are lucky to be reasonably close to some amazing nature spots, these are often not very accessible to non-drivers. Through conversations with our community, we know that people of all ages would like to spend more time in nature, and recognise its positive impact on wellbeing, but often face barriers.

2025 was the summer of kayaking for Monty's: our annual Solstice Kayak had its largest ever fleet, with 16 kayakers, and for the first time we ran an Adult Beginner Kayak. This was attended by many adults with mobility and health issues, but who were able to enjoy being on the river for a very relaxed kayak.

One of our absolute highlights of the year was our adventure trip to hike Pen Y Fan. What an achievement for these young people! 10 of our older youth and young adults hiked up Pen Y Fan, the highest mountain in Southern Britain, at 886m.

Most had never travelled out of England before, and had never climbed a mountain.

Earlier in the Spring, we also took a group of young people on a day hike along the Itchen Navigation from Southampton - Winchester. The joy of this

"That was the best day of my life. I thought I couldn't do it… but if I can climb that mountain, what else can I achieve?! Everything!"

route is that it is incredibly accessible for young people to do on their own - and indeed, several young people repeated a part of the walk independently, telling us how good for their mental health they had found doing a long walk.

Alongside outdoor pursuits, we have invested in gardening, growing and foraging as a tool for Nature Connection. Our Community garden absolutely thrived this year, with a significant amount of produce harvested for use in our Community Lunches and made available to the community. Our Community Garden Plant Out Sessions were highly successful community events, gathering families and people of all ages in a multi-generational day of community, planting and building connections. We also ran an adults' foraging walk, teaching people some simple plants they can forage and use in spring. Following on from this, we ran two jam and chutney making workshops, teaching ways of using seasonal gluts of blackberries and tomatoes, and again providing a much needed social space.

Community Cohesion

Amongst the divisiveness of riots and protests around refugees and immigrants, we're working hard to promote community cohesion and find ways of bringing different groups together. Our Brazilian Cooking Evening was a fabulous event, showcasing the joy of multiculturalism over some excellent dishes, taught by a Brazilian volunteer. Our youth Mixed Martial Arts sessions were enjoyed immensely by young people, with great benefits to physical and mental wellbeing, and provided rich opportunities to talk about what we gain from other cultures.
For the first time, 2025 saw us running sewing workshops, bringing women of different nationalities together to learn how to sew and create garments, whilst also hearing a bit about each other's stories and what life is like for one another. Similarly ,a partnership with the local art gallery has enabled us to draw people from different parts of the community around art and creativity. As we look to 2026, we are keen to experiment and innovate ways of running more events that intentionally mix people from different groups and nationalities, with the aim of understanding each other and gathering around our shared humanity.



Staff & Volunteers

Our staff team continues to grow, and in 2025 we have worked hard to ensure that our amazing staff team is focused on supporting, upskilling and training volunteers. We are passionate about creating volunteer opportunities and see our volunteer programme as part of our social impact. Our paid staff are clear that their remit is to support our volunteers - who represent a huge range of people and many who are extremely vulnerable and disadvantaged - to be able to contribute in a way which is positive to them to our community. We now have over 70 volunteers in a huge

variety of roles and it is amazing to see these volunteers grow in confidence, ability and reliability, as they are coached and given responsibility by our staff team.

MONTY'S BIKE HUB // WHAT WE DID IN 2025

Regular Activities & Community Engagement





Our regular free activities for local people continue to develop and thrive across the community:

- **Toddler Bikes:** Dedicated sessions tailored for preschoolers to learn to ride during our stay and play sessions.
- **Adult Social Rides:** Easy-paced social rides designed for new and returning cyclists, led by friendly volunteers and trained staff and frequently attracting up to 25 attendees.
- **Workshops & Youth Sessions:** Weekly programming features our Wednesday evening adult bike workshop,
- **Thursday youth bikes (with thanks to funding from the HIWCF Ford Grant)**, and dedicated detached youth work.
- **Expanded Funding & Outreach:** We secured new funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to support our weekly pump track sessions, alongside ongoing detached youth work in Thornhill and drop-in mechanics sessions at the Youth Justice Service.

Bike Recycling, Sales & Employment Support



During our adult bike workshops, youth bike workshops, and alternative provision sessions, we continue to recycle and sell donated bikes, enabling us to provide bikes for free or at affordable prices to the local community. In 2025 alone, we successfully found new homes for **200 bikes** in 2025.

Additionally, we ran an excellent project with the council's employment support team, providing **25 bikes** to job seekers who were referred to us.

Holiday Provision & Seasonal Activities

During the school holidays, we delivered **13 HAF cycle skills days** across the summer. Our youth rides also continued throughout the school holidays, with **16 youth rides** led weekly to enable local children to access the countryside and experience new places, such as the city centre and scenic spots like Lee-on-Solent.

We also ran **family rides**, supporting local families to explore local country parks by bike. Riding together, we provided bikes and child-carrying options, with grateful thanks to funding from Cycling UK's Big Bike Revival for this initiative.

Additionally, we held **Ditch the Stabilisers** sessions most weeks, generating a fair bit of income whilst helping approximately **130 children** learn to ride.





Alternative Provision & Educational Partnerships

Our alternative provision sessions continue to be a vital part of our income streams whilst working really positively with young people, many of whom are local. We maintained our partnerships with local schools including **Valentines**, **Oasis Mayfield**, **Oasis Sholing**, and **Hightown Primary**, as well as expanding our reach with schools further afield such as **Swaythling Primary**, **Upper Shirley High**, **Regents Park Community College**, and **Oasis Lord's Hill**.

Additionally, we continued hosting specialised sessions tailored for more special educational needs and behavior schools, including **Vermont School**, **The Compass School**, and **Polygon School**.

Bikeability, School Networking & Bike Doctor Impact

We delivered **80 days of Bikeability** in partnership with Pedal Power. This was often hosted in local schools and created valuable work for two local people, while continuing our positive networking with schools.



The Bike Doctor sessions complement these alternative provision and Bikeability sessions perfectly. Because they frequently take place in the same physical locations, they help strengthen our networking and relationships with schools, which often leads to increased alternative provision work and broader community engagement.

Strategic Expansion & Key Contracts

Building on our core community foundation, the scope of our bike mechanics work and active travel partnerships saw significant growth in 2025, marked by major contracts:



- **School Bike Doctor Contract (May 2025):** Launched in partnership with the council in May 2025, this initiative brought essential maintenance and safety checks directly to local schools, servicing over 200 children's bikes and ensuring young riders have safe, roadworthy transport for school commutes and recreation.
- **Community Bike Doctor Programme:** We successfully won and therefore continue to deliver the community Bike Doctor programme, running once a month at Bitterne Precinct.
- **RIDES E-Cargo Bike Contract (November 2025):** November 2025 saw the introduction of the RIDES e-cargo bike initiative. Operating in collaboration with the council, this program coordinates short- and long-term loans alongside comprehensive mechanical support for a fleet of 10 cargo bikes, empowering local businesses to transition toward sustainable, zero-emission logistics.

Cargo Bike Related Work



Our cargo bike initiatives continue to offer unique community engagement and practical local solutions:

- **Trishaw Trips & Older People Engagement:** Trishaw trips continued on an ad-hoc basis during the summer months and were used as an engagement tool at events. We linked up with a few drop-ins for older people to take them out on a 'Cycling Without Age' experience to help them experience the wind in their hair again.
- **Food Waste Collection:** We trained more cargo bike collectors to collect food waste for Monty's Community Hub pantry. This happens once a week, and we now have **4 local young adults / teenagers** trained up for this important role.



Staffing & Volunteers

Staffing remained fairly stable throughout the year, with our Bike Hub Manager, Workshop Coordinator, and Rides Supervisor continuing to be in place with regular hours. To support our growth, we successfully recruited extra resources to support our alternative provision sessions one day per week, which is working very well. Additionally, we continue to rely on an extra two ad-hoc cycle trainer staff who can deliver Bikeability, private cycle training lessons, and support led rides.

Our volunteers continue to be part of nearly everything we do at Monty's Bike Hub. They support led rides as Ride Leaders, our adult & Youth bike workshop sessions as mechanics plus support ah hoc Bike Drs, Ditch the stabilisers and take the lead on Trishaw Trips and Cargo Bike food collections. We have around 30 active volunteers throughout our various sessions.

Adding to our team's highlights, we were invited to the Houses of Parliament to meet the Cabinet Member for Transport at a Cycling UK hosted event marking 10 years of the Big Bike Revival, and one of our staff members won the 'Real Yellow Jersey' award, which was a fantastic achievement.

MONTY'S // LOOKING AHEAD



As we look ahead to the coming year, we're confident it will include all sorts of exciting opportunities, along with a variety of unexpected challenges. Year on year we are both connecting with more people in our local community, and also connecting in deeper ways, and we're excited about what next year will bring. We continue to be committed to authentic, impactful and grassroots co-design and community development, and we look forward to gathering people together to design

and deliver new groups and sessions, sustain and develop existing groups and discover new ways of meaningfully involving everyone in our local community.

We hope the coming year will enable us to develop creative community responses to issues around division and racism, and we are wanting to explore how we can enable our local community to have a more far reaching voice, speaking into the city wide and national policies that impact them. In addition, we are exploring how we can further support our NEET young people, and provide more multi-generational and whole family spaces.



All of this work is only possible thanks to our brilliant volunteers, who are in turn enabled, encouraged, mentored and supported by our amazing staff team. As we have grown, the demand on our staff time has increased, particularly in relation to vital roles such as safeguarding oversight and safer recruiting processes. In addition, our staff team have been able to support adults and young people with their own complex needs and vulnerabilities to meaningfully engage in volunteering - this is often transformative for those individuals, and involving everyone safely and responsibly relies on significant investment from our experienced and skilled staff.



One of Monty's greatest strengths remains our ability to respond to future challenges flexibly and collaboratively. Whatever the next year brings, we are well placed - as a locally-rooted community development charity, to work alongside local neighbours to identify local needs and opportunities, and work towards flourishing in our local community.

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This report dated: 29th Aug 2026

Anna Jacklin
co-CEO and Community Hub Manager

Josh Allen
co-CEO and Bike Hub Manager

on behalf of the Trustees

William Kennedy
Chair of Trustees, Monty's Community Hub

Monty's Community Hub

Balance Sheet detailed

			As at 31/12/2025	As at 31/12/2024
Fixed assets				
	FA05: Vehicles		1,549	2,435
		Total Fixed assets	**1,549**	**2,435**
Current assets				
	CAFCURRENT: Cash at Bank		25,643	27,357
	CAFDEPOSIT: Deposit account		98,069	91,212
	Z05: Accounts Receivable		5,622	2,752
		Total Current assets	**129,334**	**121,321**
Liabilities				
	Z04: Accounts Payable		703	856
	Z15: Payroll Creditors - HMRC		2,142	2,162
	Z16: Payroll Creditors - Pension		803	848
		Total Liabilities	**3,649**	**3,866**
		Net Asset surplus (deficit)	**127,234**	**119,890**
Reserves				
	Excess/(deficit) to date		7,344	(25,358)
	Starting balance		119,890	145,247
		Total Reserves	**127,234**	**119,890**

Represented by Funds

General (Unrestricted)	44,866	38,435
Designated	18,514	23,955
Restricted	63,855	57,500
Total	**127,234**	**119,890**

Monty's Community Hub

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total This year	Total Last year
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
INTEREST - Bank Interest	1,911	-	-	1,911	2,500
CHURCH - Church	-	-	-	-	5,000
GRANTS - Grants	73,009	14,314	8,000	95,323	70,205
NSDONATION - Non Specific donations & collections	7,472	210	-	7,682	5,117
Grant Funded Cycling - Grant Funded Cycling Activities	-	29,948	-	29,948	20,821
Incoming resources from generated funds Totals	**82,392**	**44,472**	**8,000**	**134,864**	**103,643**
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Bike sales	-	24,305	-	24,305	16,714
Bike contracts	-	69,104	-	69,104	41,450
Clubs	469	-	-	469	175
OI - Other Income	204			204	116
VENUE - Venue Hire	30			30	384
Incoming resources from charitable activities Totals	**703**	**93,409**	**-**	**94,112**	**58,839**
Incoming resources Grand totals	**83,095**	**137,881**	**8,000**	**228,976**	**162,482**
Resources used					
Charitable activities					
Community Hub Projects	6,043	304	-	6,347	5,930
Staff & Volunteers	-	77,262	-	77,262	64,426
Building & Facilities	13,258	9,168	-	22,426	22,178
Office Costs	3,518	357	-	3,875	3,150
Bike Sales	-	29,831	-	29,831	21,961
Grant funded cycliing acativities	-	21,453	-	21,453	18,959
Bike contracts	-	59,809	-	59,809	49,840
Charitable activities Totals	**22,819**	**198,184**	**-**	**221,003**	**186,444**
Other resources used					
Church	573	57	-	630	1,397
Other resources used Totals	**573**	**57**	**-**	**630**	**1,397**
Resources used Grand totals	**23,392**	**198,241**	**-**	**221,633**	**187,841**

Monty's Community Hub
Sofa Separate Designated
For the period from 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	**83,096**	**137,881**	**8,000**	**228,977**	**162,482**
Total expenditure	**23,738**	**197,895**	**-**	**221,633**	**187,840**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**59,358**	**(60,013)**	**8,000**	**7,344**	**(25,358)**
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	21,714	168,163	-	189,877	105,522
Gross transfers between funds - out	(74,679)	(113,552)	(1,646)	(189,877)	(105,522)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	**6,392**	**(5,402)**	**6,355**	**7,344**	**(25,358)**
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	**38,435**	**23,955**	**57,500**	**119,890**	**145,247**
Total funds carried forward	**44,827**	**18,552**	**63,855**	**127,234**	**119,890**
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	44,827	-	-	44,827	38,435
Designated					
BBC Children In Need	-	2,451	-	2,451	-
Church	-	6,675	-	6,675	6,477
General Fund - Bike Hub	-	7,990	-	7,990	3,534
HIWCF Including Communities (youth)	-	-	-	-	9,976
Seedbed	-	1,436	-	1,436	1,436
Staff Fund, Cummunity Hub	-	-	-	-	2,531
Restricted					
Hubbub	-	-	8,855	8,855	2,500
Reserves	-	-	55,000	55,000	55,000

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Monty's Community Hub

Treasurer's report as at 31st December 2025.

Both Community Hub and Bike Hub saw satisfactory growth in income and activity during 2025, resources manged well to produce a modest surplus of £7k. Staff costs remained our highest area of expenditure as expected, and rose, to support the growing activities, by £25k.

The balance sheet saw little change; the majority of assets held on deposit.

Reserves have been reviewed in line with our policy and no change was required, remaining at £55k out of total funds of a satisfactory £127k.

Accounting policies:

The charity moved to the accrual's method of accounting in 2022 so these accounts continue to be drawn up on that basis.

Individual Policies:

- Fixed Assets: Items with a purchase cost greater than £1,000 may be capitalised if, in the view of the treasurer and manager responsible, the item has a useful life of three years or more.
- Depreciation:
  Land and buildings – not depreciated.
  Vehicles – 5 years
  Computer equipment – 3 years
  Other furniture and equipment – 5 years
- Reserves - Monty's aims to hold a minimum of 3 months' (and maximum of 6 months) running costs in reserves.

Conclusion:

It is the opinion of the Treasurer that the financial position of the charity will support its current activities.

Report dated: 9th June, 2026

Mark Allen

Treasurer

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: Monty's Community Hub

On accounts for the year ended: 31st December 2025

Charity no (if any): 1155649

Set out on pages: This Page & Page 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 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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 in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report 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: Andrew Black **Date:** 15/7/26

Name: Andrew Black

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Chartered Accountant (ICAS Member 14601)

Address: Glen Eyre, Brickyard Road
Swanmore

SO32 2PJ

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.	