Trustees' Report and Accounts

for the year ending 31st December 2025





Nurturing hope in the Butaleja District of Uganda by enabling people to overcome the hurdles that prevent them reaching their full potential.

Registered charity no. 1162178

Introduction to a little bit of HOPE

a little bit of HOPE's vision is to ***nurture hope in the Butaleja District of Uganda by enabling people to overcome the hurdles that prevent them reaching their full potential.***

The objects of a little bit of HOPE are, for the public benefit:

- To provide grants to charities, other organisations and individuals in the Butaleja district of Uganda in fulfilment of the following charitable purposes:
    - the advancement of education;
    - the advancement of health and/or saving of lives; and
    - the relief and/or prevention of poverty; and
- The advancement of education in the United Kingdom in particular as regard to issues concerning the relief and/or prevention of poverty.

Money raised by a little bit of HOPE in the UK was given to a little bit of HOPE (Uganda), a registered Non-Governmental Organisation in Uganda, registration number 10219, to fund a wide range of grassroots development programmes in line with the objects of a little bit of HOPE. Our key activities are to raise awareness and funds, and to ensure that money raised is spent effectively.

In 2023, it was decided by the staff team and board of a little bit of HOPE (Uganda), in partnership with the UK board, to further streamline our work into two project areas: Education and Livelihoods. The decision was also made to bring more focus to the geographical area we operate, within Butaleja District. Since then we have been working specifically with ten schools and the four sub-counties they are a part of. All of our projects (as listed below) take place within these ten schools and villages, in three sub-counties within Butaleja District. The exceptions to this in 2025 were the projects we delivered in partnership with *Fields of Life*, which were Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) projects that reached some communities outside of our usual ten villages.

- **Education:** including school farms, re-usable menstrual pad programme, and community library.
- **Livelihoods:** including apprenticeships, agricultural training, and group savings.

Our work is guided by a number of 'approach' statements. They are:

- We focus our resources on the poorest of the poor
- We endeavour to promote sustainability, not dependency
- We only fund projects initiated and led by local people
- We take monitoring and evaluation seriously
- We account for every penny we spend
- We support people of all faiths, because our work is founded on Christian principles.

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Highlights from 2025

In the UK, we had some fundraising 'firsts' in 2025 including a charity place in the London Marathon. We were able to fill the place and the participant surpassed the fundraising target, raising over £5,000 in total. We're grateful for the ongoing support of our individual regular donors, who continue to give faithfully every month, as well as a number of new supporters that joined in 2025, including a new supporter church.

Here are some of the highlights and key achievements from our programmes in Uganda in 2025:

Education highlights

- Almost 12,000 pupils were fed through the school feeding programme across our ten partner schools, with enrolment and retention increasing as a result.
- 453 parents across the parent groups attached to our partner schools engaged in land preparation and planting across both the first and second growing seasons.
- Around 3,600 community members and pupils were trained in agriculture, with many group members now doing well growing vegetables.
- 32 farmers from partner groups attended an agricultural exhibition, to enhance and expand their knowledge of sustainable farming techniques. Over half of these farmers applied lessons learnt at the exhibition to their own land within months of attending.
- Three school clubs - Agriculture, Health and Literacy - were formed and strengthened across all 10 partner schools, helping pupils and staff sustain our programmes themselves.
- 1,959 pupils across 8 partner schools took part in literacy sessions, including reading aloud, spelling bees, storytelling and quizzes.
- 182 pupils used the community library for revision, research and games; 12 P7 leavers and school dropouts received career guidance, with two going on to join our tailoring apprenticeship.
- 1,837 pupils and parents engaged in training and learnt how to make reusable menstrual pads (RUMPs) this year, with 2,682 RUMPs distributed in total - 1,100 of them produced at our new RUMPs production centre.
- 'Safe rooms' – safe changing places – were equipped in six partner schools. These provide a private, safe place for girls to change, rest and access menstrual products.
- Pens were distributed to P7 candidates, including 632 reusable pads for the girls, to support them through their Primary Leaving Exams.
- Thanks to funding from Souter Charitable Foundation in the UK and the U-Gift Ugandan Government initiative, we were able to construct a solar-powered irrigation system at Bubuhe Primary School – one of our ten partner schools. This means their school farm can be watered all year round, even through the dry season and is transformative for the farm's productivity – enabling more pupils to have a meal at lunchtime each day.
- We conducted an in-depth child-centred evaluation of our school feeding programme, which was possible thanks to the support of Children's Voices in Action (CVA). The evaluation methods were co-designed with our Ugandan staff and the CVA team and involved dynamic, engaging feedback collection methods, ensuring children's voices were fully encouraged and heard. See further details below.





Listening to children: our first child-led evaluation

In 2025, we partnered with Children's Voices in Action (CVA), a UK charity specialising in participatory research with children, to evaluate our school farms programme directly through the eyes of the children it serves. The highly experienced and knowledgeable CVA team worked alongside our Uganda team to design and deliver the evaluation.

600 children aged 8–20 from all 10 of our partner schools took part, using a mix of surveys and creative, movement-based activities designed to help even our youngest participants express their experiences openly.

What we learned

- The school farms are meeting children's single most urgent need: food. Access to food was, by a wide margin, the reason children gave for the farm improving their learning and their community.
- However, food provision is not yet consistent enough. 70% of children said they hadn't eaten a school meal the day before, and 61% felt their school farm didn't provide enough food overall, largely because harvests (and therefore feeding) are concentrated in the first term of the year.
- When children are hungry, they described real physical effects such as headaches, dizziness, fatigue, as well as anxiety and, in some cases, an increase in negative behaviours like truancy. When they do eat at school, 96% reported better concentration and 89% said they attend school more often.
- Older boys emerged as a group at particular risk of going without food, both at school and at home, which is a pattern we will monitor closely going forward.
- The evaluation was also a meaningful exercise in listening itself: 81% of children felt their opinions on food at school were taken seriously, and the process gave many of them their first opportunity to formally share their experiences.

What this means for 2026

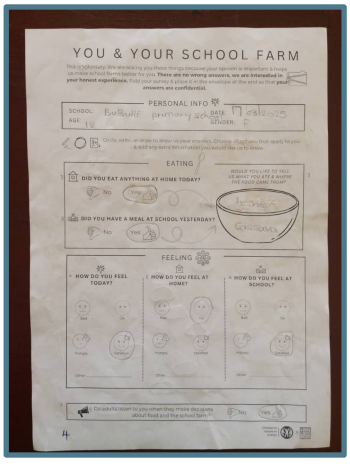
The findings are a strong endorsement of the school farms model and a clear steer on how to strengthen it. We're already working with our Uganda team on recommendations from the report, including increasing the diversity and consistency of crops, improving food storage between harvests, and ensuring food distribution is fair across age and gender. This is exactly where UK support makes the difference: funding for extra land, seed diversity, and storage solutions could directly close the gap between the food children need and what the farms currently provide. We're excited to grow this from a programme with real potential into one that delivers for children all year round, not just at harvest time – ensuring no child has to learn on an empty stomach.

We're grateful to CVA, our Uganda team, and above all to the 600 children who gave their time and spoke so openly. Their voices will directly shape how we run this programme in the years ahead and we're ensuring they know this.

Sharing findings like these, including where there is lots of room for improvement, has always been important to us. Transparency and a genuine commitment to learning and improving are core to how we work, and we'd rather be honest about the gaps than present a polished picture that doesn't reflect what children are actually telling us. This report is a foundation to build on, and we look forward to reporting back on our progress next year.







Livelihoods highlights

- 29 apprentices graduated in December 2025 - 14 in tailoring, 8 in hairdressing, 5 in mechanics and 2 in welding - each receiving a basic start-up tool kit at the end of the year. Most of the apprentices were young people who had to drop out of school for a number of reasons including teenage pregnancy and not being able to afford school fees. Equipping them with these skills enables them to earn a living and support themselves and their families.
- A follow-up visit to 2024's apprentices found the majority still using their skills: 7 hairdressers, 8 tailors, 4 mechanics and 2 welders now working and earning an income.
- 32 community groups (373 members) were reached across four sub-counties, with 10 groups receiving ongoing agricultural and savings training.
- Around 350 households benefited from Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) activity, using savings for school fees, small businesses and livestock. The Mugulu parent group's savings reached 19 million Ugandan shillings, the highest of any group.
- 66,000 tree seedlings (including Terminalia, Jackfruit, Guava, Avocado, Lemon and several other varieties) were supplied by our partner Mount Elgon Tree Growing Enterprise (METGE) and planted by community members across all 10 partner schools and their surrounding groups. The planting forms part of our wider environmental response to the prolonged drought and flooding Butaleja district faces, and the trees are already proving popular with communities for the fruit, timber and firewood they'll provide - helped by a good survival rate thanks to the care communities have put into looking after them. We were also proud to take part in METGE's marathon marking their 25 million trees distributed and planted since 2010. We're grateful to the continued support from METGE and look forward to continuing our partnership with them over the coming years.
- In partnership with *Fields of Life*, we launched a Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) project across 42 villages in Butaleja and Namutumba districts, aimed at ending open defecation through community-led change rather than handouts. Over six months the project reached 6,044 people - including 2,349 students across 10 schools, where new Health Clubs are now championing hygiene themselves - and trained 207 Community Response Agents and 96 Village Health Team members to carry the work forward. As a result, communities have dug over 500 new pit latrines so far, and functional handwashing stations are now in place in 62% of households, up from under 30% at the start.







Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity (England and Wales) No.	1162178
Registered Office:	57 Tuddenham Road Ipswich Suffolk IP4 2SU
Trustees:	Malcolm Bebb (Co-chair) Noah Birumi (resigned 17/03/25) Hannah Green (resigned 12/12/25) Kathryn Lifford Temitope Olusi (Co-chair) Amy Smyth (resigned 12/12/25) Amy Spooner
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank P.O. Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Independent Examiners:	Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

Structure, governance and management

a little bit of HOPE was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 12th June 2015*. Trustees are appointed by existing trustees. The day-to-day activities – for example, communications, fundraising, and administration have historically been shared between the trustees.

Our UK Development Manager (part-time) continued her position as the charity's only UK employee. The role has continued on a part-time basis, at one and a half days per week. The main responsibilities of the Development Manager are to manage the day-to-day activities of the charity, with a focus on fundraising and communications.

One of the trustees' main responsibilities is to monitor how monies we grant to a little bit of HOPE (Uganda) is spent. They receive detailed monthly finance updates, the chair of trustees talks regularly with both the programme manager and chairperson of a little bit of HOPE (Uganda), and the UK Development Manager meets weekly with the Ugandan staff team. Two of our long-serving trustees, Hannah Green and Amy Smyth, both stepped down in December after many years supporting the governance and direction of the charity, for which we are very grateful.

a little bit of HOPE has a Safeguarding Committee to ensure our safeguarding policies and procedures are of a high standard. The Committee regularly reviews the safeguarding policies and procedures of a little bit of HOPE (Uganda). We are members of Thirtyone:eight – an independent safeguarding charity which helps individuals and organisations protect vulnerable people from abuse. Both a little bit of HOPE and a little bit of HOPE (Uganda) use their international safeguarding audit tool to review all procedures relating to safeguarding and develop action plans to ensure continual learning and improvement.

*Previously a little bit of HOPE was a registered trust (1147623) – following the transfer of assets, the trust has been closed and removed from the Charity Commission's register of charities.

Financial Review

Reserves policy
Our current reserves policy is to retain a minimum of £4,000 in unrestricted reserves at all times. The charity ended 2025 with a cash balance of £6,574. Of this, £750 was restricted, leaving £1,824 in unrestricted free reserves and thus £4,000 designated as reserves.

Income
Our total income in 2025 was £46,958. The majority of our income comes from individuals and churches. During 2025 we also received income from trusts and foundations that we had applied to for funding.

Expenditure
Our total expenditure in 2025 was £47,439. 72.6% of this went to fund the work of *a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)*, with the remaining 27.4% allocated to UK support and operations, including professional fees and employment.

End of year balance
Our total end of year cash balance was £6,574. (2024: £7,054)

Independent Examination
As our total charitable income exceeded the threshold of £25,000, our accounts are subject to an independent examination.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures: Temitope Olusi
Temitope Olusi (Oct 19, 2026 20:57:37 GMT+1)

Malcolm Bebb
Malcolm Bebb (Oct 19, 2026 21:01:13 GMT+1)

Full names:	Temitope Olusi	Malcolm Bebb
Position:	Trustee – Co-chair	Trustee – Co-chair

Date: Oct 19, 2026

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of A little bit of Hope ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025 on pages 1 to 7 and 9 to 11 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:
1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Oct 20, 2026 10:20:32 GMT+1)

Sarah Crispin ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Oct 20, 2026

Detailed summary of accounts

Money brought forward from previous years

	2025 £	2024 £
Reserves	4,000	4,000
Restricted funds	-	-
General funds	3,054	9,952
Total	**7,054**	**13,952**

Income

	2025			2024		
	General £	Restricted £	**Total £**	General £	Restricted £	**Total £**
Regular giving	21,153	2,832	**23,985**	18,368	2,346	**20,714**
Single donations	15,887	-	**15,887**	8,123	11,937	**20,060**
Trusts	-	4,550	**4,550**	1,000	-	**1,000**
Gift aid	2,471	66	**2,537**	3,992	291	**4,283**
Total	**39,510**	**7,448**	**46,958**	**31,483**	**14,574**	**46,057**

Expenditure

	2025			2024		
	General £	Restricted £	**Total £**	General £	Restricted £	**Total £**
Grants given to a little bit of HOPE (Uganda)	27,126	6,698	**33,824**	23,594	14,574	**38,168**
Monitoring & evaluation fees	594	-	**594**	-	-	**-**
Professional fees	2,470	-	**2,470**	2,347	-	**2,347**
Fundraiser	265	-	**265**	598	-	**598**
Employment	10,257	-	**10,257**	11,770	-	**11,770**
Sundry	28	-	**28**	73	-	**73**
Total	**40,741**	**6,698**	**47,439**	**38,381**	**14,574**	**52,956**

Summary of restricted funds

	Brought forward £	Income £	Allocated Expenditure £	Carried forward £
Education (general)	-	900	900	-
Education (school farms)	-	5,000	5,000	-
Education (RUMPS)	-	30	30	-
Livelihoods (general)	-	768	768	-
Uganda Office (IT Equipment)	-	750	-	750
Total	**-**	**7,448**	**6,698**	**750**

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash funds		
Reserves	4,000	4,000
Restricted funds	750	-
General funds	1,824	3,054
Total	**6,574**	**7,054**

Other monetary assets		
Gift aid: claimed, not received	-	-
Gift aid: unclaimed	716	574
Recoverable amounts	-	71
Total	**716**	**645**

Liabilities		
Fee due for Independent Examination	690	600
Total	**690**	**600**

Notes to the accounts:

1. Basis of preparation of accounts
The accounts have been prepared under the receipts and payments method as permitted by s.133 Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with guidance from the Charity Commission.

2. Restricted funds
Expenditure incurred by a little bit of HOPE (Uganda) from grants received in the year has been allocated to restricted funds using an average exchange rate of 1 GBP: 4,584 UGX.

3. Guarantees and debts outstanding
The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

Signatures: Temitope Olusi
Temitope Olusi (Oct 19, 2026 20:57:37 GMT+1)

Malcolm Bebb
Malcolm Bebb (Oct 19, 2026 21:01:13 GMT+1)

Full names:	Temitope Olusi	Malcolm Bebb
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Date: Oct 19, 2026