



MONTY'S COMMUNITY HUB

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

— Registered Charity No. 1155649 —

ANNUAL REPORT — 2023 —

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within a parade at the heart of our estate, Monty's started life when statutory funding for the local youth centre was withdrawn in 2013.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
- Leanne Curry – Deputy Finance
- Libby Crandon – Safeguarding
- Tammy Oliver – Staff/Volunteer Liaison
- Pete Nailer – Fundraising
- Cathy Nailer – Fundraising
- Tom Tarling – Governance
- Amy Hyde – Data Protection
- Andy Frampton – H&S
- Claire Whyte - Minutes Secretary
- Jon Oliver
- Zoe Hart – HR
- Jim Macfarlane
- Kelly Elsey

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 2023

We're pleased to report that over the past year - a year characterised nationally by the cost of living crisis, rising concerns about climate change, and further cuts to statutory services, Monty's has continued to grow, develop and strengthen. For Monty's, 2023 was also a year of new opportunities, an ever increasing volunteer team, and the maturation of several long standing projects and groups.



Since 2020, we have recognised a greater and greater need for mental wellbeing support within

our community, and have worked hard to respond to this need in a variety of ways. Our new session, 'Create Your Calm', provides a space for people to explore mindfulness through creativity. Our 'Wander and Wonder' sessions

centre around being out in nature - a gentle walk and occasional cycle, interwoven with poetry, reflections and moments of quiet. We have also covered various mental health and wellbeing topics through our youth groups, including stress, anxiety, being supportive friends and emotions. Our Friday Evening Adult sessions have expanded in frequency and broadened their range of activities, even hosting a darts evening and a Mexican themed cooking evening! In addition, we have been able to increase our amount of 'open door' time during the week - times outside of groups or sessions when Monty's is open for people to come in, enjoy a cuppa, a listening ear, or some company.



Alongside this increased recognition of mental wellbeing, we are also continuing to explore new ways of supporting people's physical health. In September we launched a new Zumba class, as well as our well established beginner's Pilates and regular bike rides. As we find with so many of our groups, simply nurturing spaces for community and connection can be instrumental in helping people build physical activity into their weekly rhythms, and are an enormous help to those struggling with their mental health.



Another priority has been supporting people in the midst of the rising cost of living crisis. The main way we have addressed this is through a new 'Pantry Drop In Session'. Running alongside our community pantry, people can drop in for a hot drink, pastries,

and 1:1 support from a team member around bills, finances and benefits. From its launch in September, this session has flourished into a small group of core attendees with a strong sense of community, and we have been able to support around 30 people with applying for benefits, referring and signposting to other services, and managing bill payments.

Our children's groups have continued to develop, adapt, and face both successes and challenges. Due to the afterschool nature of these groups, it can be hard to find volunteers and the groups are all slightly smaller than their pre-covid levels. One of our real priorities for youth work is providing young people with confidence-building, out-of-comfort-zone experiences - often linking in with our aims around physical activity - and we've managed to deliver an absolutely bumper year of trips and activities for all our children's and youth groups, including bouldering, mini-golf, a driving range, swimming, climbing, and more. Our yearly youth camping trip even included an opportunity to pilot motor boats on the River Arun, and a small group took on the challenge of cycling to our campsite in Chichester, an impressive 80km and for many the longest cycle they had ever attempted.



We've been running youth groups at Monty's for a decade now, and whilst it seems obvious to state - the young people have grown up! We now have a core of young adults at Monty's, many of whom we have known, supported and been deepening relationships with throughout the entirety of their teenage years. It's been an immense joy to see some of these young people giving back to the community by getting involved as adult volunteers, and others have transitioned easily into engaging with our adult sessions and activities.

However, several of these young people felt a little bit lost - too old for our youth programme, but not feeling an easy affinity with our adult sessions. In addition, many of these young people are living with significant disadvantages, special educational needs, and are not accessing training or employment. As an exciting marriage between our desire to continue ongoing engagement with these young adults, support their journey towards employment, and further our 'out of comfort zone' opportunities, we have signed up to become a Duke of Edinburgh Award provider - the first open access provider in Southampton - and we currently have our first cohort of young people working towards their Bronze Award.

2023 saw a marked increase in our delivery of family activities, and over the school holidays we ran weekly family cooking sessions, culminating in producing a Family Cooking



Sessions Cookbook. These had a focus on cooking together as a family, teaching cooking skills, introducing healthy and affordable recipes and building social connections. The sessions were hugely popular, and families reported enjoying spending quality time together, kids trying new vegetables and gaining in confidence with cooking (both adults and children!). Alongside our community events and regular school holiday family bike rides, it has been particularly beneficial to support these families as a family unit and foster social connections amongst both parents and children.



We're running more large scale community events than ever before! Inspired by the success of last year's Queen's Jubilee Street Party, we ran a Coronation Street party this summer, as well as our annual Santa Train Christmas event. We also ran a new event dreamt up by our volunteers - PumpkinFest was an autumnal celebration with a focus on pumpkins as food, not waste. Another significant highlight for us was the opening of the Pump Track in Feb 2023, and we have seen a diverse range of people accessing the Pump Track, including girls, parents, young and older kids.

We are pleased to report that Monty's continues to find itself in a healthy financial position, thanks to generated income, local giving, and grant funding. We want to say an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who has supported us financially this year. This includes the Valentine Charitable Trust, Cycling UK, Southampton City Council, Bikeability, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation, Ford Southampton, Southampton Voluntary Services, The Greggs Foundation, Hubbub, Southern Water and various other donors, individuals and customers. *Full details of our finances are available in our Annual Accounts.*



We have also created a [short video](#) to give you another window into our work - do take a look by clicking on the link!

MONTY'S BIKE HUB // WHAT WE DID IN 2023

Monty' Bike Hub has continued to grow and become more sustainable in terms of the team delivering sessions and financially as well. At the start of the year, in February, we were excited to finally open the Pump Track the team had been working on for so many years, this was part funded by Veolia Environmental Trust (via our charity) and Southampton City council, who also built the track with their contractors. We had a great event, with the Lord Mayor, Local Councillors and of course local young people at an event to 'cut the ribbon' and open the Track. See video which outlines the highlights of the building and usage of the Pump Track <https://fb.watch/uF7QXjKyfB/>. We were pleased to receive multiple grants to purchase BMX bikes which we can loan out to families who maybe don't have a bike. We have been running weekly drop in sessions since the track opened, and throughout the week 100s people have been using the track. It has been great as an organisation to play a part in helping so many people get physically active and learn new skills, reducing anti-social behaviour and boredom on the estate and creating a wildflower meadow that is fantastic for wildlife, particularly bees and pollinators.



Our other weekly activities continued into 2023 including a very busy Adult Social ride, adult bike workshop and youth bike workshop. We were grateful for grant funding from Sustrans and Hampshire Isle of Wight Community Foundation for supporting these projects. Our adult ride regularly has 15 participants, and we hosted a ride leader course and trained up 3 new local people as volunteer ride leaders to enable this ride to happen sustainably. At the adult bike workshop we have around 5-10 volunteers each week churning through recycled bikes or supporting guests from the local community on their bikes. We sold around 120 bikes at affordable prices to local people in 2023, as well as generating income through second hand / new part sales at the workshop sessions.



Our Youth Bike Hub session which was the start of everything we do still thrives on a Thursday afternoon, we have around 20 young people and NEETS pop in and out each week. Our team of volunteers, junior mechanics and trained staff support them with minor repairs, or with help from a new paid mechanic with more complex issues. All these regular sessions have participants and volunteers which overlap, which fosters a sense of community and support amongst the team. The mental health and social benefits are huge in this and we have seen friendships flourish and participants develop into volunteers and even become ride leaders / mechanics in less than a year.

We also continued to recruit and train volunteers to ride our Trishaw, and therefore take older people out on rides to experience 'the wind in their hair' once again. We are the local branch of 'Cycling without Age' and take out people across the spring / summer months.

Our staff team has quite a big change in 2023 with our main mechanic and workshop supervisor leaving the organisation, whilst this was a sad loss it was also a time to reevaluate our roles and redistribute responsibilities amongst more people. We therefore had two roles replace him, a Rides Supervisor and a Workshop Coordinator. Both of these roles were filled with people who were volunteering for the charity already. It has been great to see them flourish in their new roles and generate new energy amongst the activities they are leading.

Term time our Alternative Provision offer to schools continued to grow, with new staff taken on to deliver these. This is a great way of engaging with young people from more challenging backgrounds but also generates a fair bit of income to enable our staff to work more flexibly with local people as well. In 2023 we worked with 4 schools across most term time weeks.

Unfortunately we lost funding for adult cycle confidence sessions this year, however we were able to mitigate this funding through partnering with Bikeability Provider Pedal Power, to secure the Bikeability Contract from SCC. Pedal Power were also able to train 3 of our team to become Bikeability Instructors, and we began delivering Bikeability in Schools from September 2023. As well as generating an income, this has broadened our reach in supporting cycling and advertising our bike sales etc and also given jobs to local people.



The school holidays continue to be busy for us with grant funded led rides as well as ditch the stabilisers sessions and SCC funded 'Holiday Activities and Food' (HAF) sessions. We delivered multiple riders a week in the holiday catering for different abilities and ages. We continued running family rides to encourage and equip parents to ride with their kids, learn routes and socialise with other families. We did shorter rides for primary school aged children as well as longer rides for the

older teenagers including riding back from Portsmouth, and riding to our camping Trip in Chichester as mentioned above. Our HAF sessions utilised local volunteers and young people and took them to different parts of the city to fix bikes and teach cycle skills.



As the social enterprise arm of the community development charity the Bike Hub continues to generate good income to support the whole of the charity. We generated a similar amount of income to last year through this enterprise. Our contracts to deliver Alternative Provision Sessions, Cycle Training (both Adult Cycle Confidence sessions and Bikeability), HAF sessions and Bike Drs contribute to around 60% of our generated income whereas the 'Bike Shop' (including bike sales and part sales) and private cycle lessons make up the rest. We still had a number of large grants to support our regular sessions with local people, and we are grateful to HIWCF (including Moneybarn, Ford & Hampshire Playing Fields Fund), Sustrans Together Fund, Cycling UK for supporting this work,



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 a deeper way with those who are part of our community, 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.

Over the coming year, we will focus on developing community responses to issues around financial resilience, physical health, and mental wellbeing. Family physical activity sessions, gardening, and more food and cooking sessions all feel like exciting possibilities in our community. We are also really excited about having a deeper focus on NEETS and young adults, including further DofE groups, more opportunities for young leaders, and mentorship opportunities.



We're hoping to raise sufficient funding to increase staff hours further – both in the Bike Hub, and to help coordinate our growing range of Adult Wellbeing activities as well as to support our huge and ever growing team of volunteers.

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.



This report dated: 29th Sept 2023

Anna Jacklin
Director and Community Hub Manager
on behalf of the Trustees

Josh Allen
Director and Bike Hub Manager

William Kennedy
Chair of Trustees, Monty's Community Hub



Monty's Community Hub

Treasurer's Report, 2023

The year ended well, showing a surplus just short of £10k, an improvement on the previous year's underlying deficit of £8.5k (after allowing for the exceptional £30k expenditure on the bike hub's pump track funded by a grant received in the previous year). In 2023 the pump track was completed with a further £30k grant covering the second £30k instalment of cost to complete this project which has been greatly used by the community since its completion.

Away from that, grants have been received to cover the increased expenses of our growing staff team, in both community and cycling activities, with both new and "repeat" donors supporting our work. The bike hub continues to contribute to the charity's resources with retail sales of refurbished bikes, though a little lower than in previous years, and through contracts, a little higher than in previous years.

In line with increasing on-going costs the trustees reviewed and increased reserves which now stand at £45k out of total funds of a healthy £155k.

Accounting policies:

The charity moved to the accruals method of accounting in 2022 so these accounts are 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:

Mark Allen

Treasurer

Monty's Community Hub

Balance Sheet (Summary)

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	3,099	3,984
	3,099	3,984
Current assets		
Debtors	4,473	2,599
Investments	113,770	111,587
Cash At Bank And In Hand	26,695	21,550
	144,938	135,736
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	2,790	4,169
	2,790	4,169
Net current assets less current liabilities	142,149	131,567
Total assets less current liabilities	145,247	135,551
Liabilities		
	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	145,247	135,551
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General Funds	37,184	18,912
Designated		
Designated - Church	4,032	2,570
Designated - General Fund - Bike Hub	26,956	46,245
Designated - Seedbed	1,436	1,436
Designated - Staff Fund, CummunityHub	25,181	22,930
Designated - Youth Development lottery	5,458	8,458
Restricted		
Restricted - Reserves	45,000	35,000
Fund Totals	145,247	135,551

Monty's Community Hub

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	
				This year	Last year
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
INTEREST - Bank Interest	2,244	-	-	2,244	472
GRANTS - Grants	42,828	48,116	30,000	120,944	39,677
Grant Funded Cycling - Grant Funded Cycling Activities	-	44,719	-	44,719	33,903
NSDONATION - Non Specific donations & collections	4,661	396	-	5,057	5,139
Incoming resources from generated funds Totals	49,733	93,231	30,000	172,964	79,191
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Bike Sales - Bike Retail Sales	-	17,131	-	17,131	19,923
BIKE HUB CONTRACTS	-	32,907	-	32,907	30,629
CLUBS - Clubs & Events	68	-	-	68	-
OI - Other Income	40	-	-	40	-
VENUE - Venue Hire	44	-	-	44	413
Incoming resources from charitable activities Totals	152	50,038	-	50,190	50,965
Incoming resources Grand totals	49,885	143,269	30,000	223,154	130,156

Monty's Community Hub

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	
				This year	Last year
Resources used					
Cost of generating funds					
0105 - Fundraising/Fund generation	-	-	-	-	5
Cost of generating funds Totals	-	-	-	-	5
Charitable activities					
0101 - Project & Programmes	9,352	572	-	9,924	3,878
0111 - Staff & Volunteers	-	42,267	-	42,267	46,509
0120 - Building & Facilities	11,472	10,284	-	21,756	16,063
0125 - Office Costs	1,928	587	-	2,515	2,580
Bike Sales - Bike Retail Sales	-	30,295	-	30,295	22,656
Grant Funded Cycling activities	-	23,667	30,054	53,720	47,809
Bike Hub contracts	-	32,535	-	32,535	18,135
Other Bike hub costs	-	19,119	-	19,119	10,303
Charitable activities Totals	22,752	159,326	30,054	212,131	167,933
Governance costs					
0110 - TRG and Governance	324	-	-	324	62
Governance costs Totals	324	-	-	324	62
Other resources used					
0140 - Church	965	37	-	1,003	646
Other resources used Totals	965	37	-	1,003	646
Resources used Grand totals	24,041	159,363	30,054	213,458	168,641

Monty's Community Hub
Sofa Separate Designated
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	49,883.78	143,269.02	30,000.00	223,152.80	130,155.07
Total expenditure	24,040.97	159,361.87	30,053.90	213,456.74	168,648.54
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	25,842.81	(16,092.85)	(53.90)	9,696.06	(38,493.47)
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	3,000.00	55,163.88	10,053.90	68,217.78	43,176.77
Gross transfers between funds - out	(10,571.57)	(57,646.21)	-	(68,217.78)	(43,176.77)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	18,271.24	(18,575.18)	10,000.00	9,696.06	(38,493.47)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	18,912.49	81,638.88	35,000.00	135,551.37	174,044.84
Total funds carried forward	37,183.73	63,063.70	45,000.00	145,247.43	135,551.37
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	37,183.73	-	-	37,183.73	18,912.49
Designated					
Church	-	4,032.34	-	4,032.34	2,569.58
General Fund - Bike Hub	-	26,956.48	-	26,956.48	46,244.77
Seedbed	-	1,436.25	-	1,436.25	1,436.25
Staff Fund, Community Hub	-	25,180.68	-	25,180.68	22,930.33
Youth Development lottery	-	5,457.95	-	5,457.95	8,457.95
Restricted					
Reserves	-	-	45,000.00	45,000.00	35,000.00



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 2023

Charity no
(if any) 1155649

Set out on pages

This Page

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

Signed:

Andrew Black

Date:

30/10/24

Name:

Andrew Black

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Chartered Accountant

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.

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