

The Hope Chest Community Project



Annual Accounts to December 2025

SC051693

Hope Chest Community Project
Based at Wellesley Parish Church Old Hall
Wellesley Road, Methil, Fife, KY8 3PE

Annual Report 2025

The Hope Chest Community Project operates in the old Church Hall at Wellesley Parish Church. Our aims are:

- The relief of poverty of those in need because of unemployment, low income, or other reasons, by the provision of free or low cost goods, such as furniture, household goods, clothing and bric a brac.
- The relief of poverty of those in need by the provision of Starter Packs for cleaning, setting up a home, and adjusting to life in a tenancy by provision of basic essentials including food.
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement that promotes the reduction of pollution or wastage by reusing donated furniture, household goods and clothing.

The Hope Chest Community Project achieves this through:

- Being open to the public five days per week – Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm
- Operating a referral system with partner agencies in the area which provides furniture and household goods free of charge to people in need
- Accepting donations from the area to ensure our shelves are fully stocked and we are able to meet referral requests
- Operating a van which collects donations and delivers referral items and purchases
- Recruiting volunteers to staff the showroom, referral system and operate the van
- Maintaining a social media presence for advertising the work we do

2025 has seen our project grow again, particularly in terms of the amount of referrals received, and also in terms of how busy the showroom is. The donations we receive have also increased substantially as we have become better known in the local area and requests to collect donations happen almost daily.

The team has grown too, with over 40 volunteers for the van and the showroom being involved regularly, and Manager Gary Nurse, and Trustees Laura Walker and Sheena McCallum lead the day to day operation, with others dealing with the referrals as Pat Reid has had to step back because of her health. Well over 150 families have been helped by referrals this year, and many more through the low prices offered in our showroom. Deputy Manager Freda McIntoch resigned in the autumn, and the role has not been replaced at present.

The Trustees have met regularly throughout the year, and have reviewed all our policies, and insurance liabilities. We have public liability insurance, employee liability insurance and comprehensive van insurance to safeguard the operation of our service. We closed for a month in the autumn to upgrade the internal shopfittings and displays and this was a very successful project.

Due to the income we are generating, we have been able to purchase white goods required for referrals, delivering washing machines and tumble dryers where required, as well as purchasing new beds. The van purchased last year has proved

to be an excellent resource for us to use in the operation of the project. Sadly the van was vandalised on two occasions in August and in September, and we were without a van for many weeks until repairs were done.

The AGM was held in May and all the officebearers stood down as per our Constitution. The Trustees remained Gary Nurse, Lynn McMahon, Sheena McCallum, Amy Mathewson, Joan Graham, Laura Walker, Fiona Scobie, the Rev Dr David Coulter and Rev Gillian Paterson throughout the year. We will continue to offer necessary training for all volunteers and to review all aspects of the project on a regular basis.

Laura Walker

Chair of the Trustees 2025-2026

30.03.2026

Hope Chest Community Project - SCO51693

Accounts for year ending 31 December 2025

		2024
Receipts	£	£
Gross trading receipts	43,151	49,070
Fashion Show	620	0
Donations	400	930
Bank Interest	159	10
Total Receipts	44,330	50,010
Payments	£	£
Donations	16,494	6,038
Property & Equipment	14,223	12,068
Transport Costs	5,056	3,975
Utility Costs	4,628	7,616
Gifts & Lunches Volunteers	1,115	807
IT Costs	328	422
Fashion Show	298	0
Other Costs	635	1,496
Total Payments	42,777	32,422
Surplus for the year	1,553	17,588
Funds Brought forward	44,988	
Funds as at 31 December 2025	46,541	

Statement of Balance as at 31 December 2025		2024
Cash Funds	£	£
Cash in bank - Current Account	26,372	24,978
Cash in Bank - Deposit Account	20,169	20,010
Cash Funds as at 31 December 2025	46,541	44,988

Other Assets	At Cost	Current Value
	£	£
Vehicle - Ford Transit 350L3 Van	23,674	15,920

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Analysis of Payments 2025

		2024
Donations	£	£
Wellesely Church	15,000	5,000
Levenmouth Foodbank	500	500
CHAS	500	0
Aberhill PS Xmas Appeal	300	300
Toys for Xmas Appeal	194	170
Poppy Scotland	0	68
Total Donations	16,494	6,038

Property & Equipment Costs	£	£
Rent	5,500	4,700
Purchase of Goods & Equipment	4,467	2,878
Fife Council Bins/Cleaning	1,726	1,221
Alarm & CCTV System	1,209	1,891
Property Insurance	686	669
Fixtures, Fittings & Repairs	499	602
PAT Electrical Testing	136	107
Total Property & Equipment Costs	14,223	12,068

Transport Costs	£	£
Van Insurance	2,093	1,459
Skip Hire & Container Clearance	1,369	1,160
Van repairs, MOT & servicing	806	367
Road Tax	345	335
Fuel	230	580
Van Hire	203	0
Mileage & Bus Fares for Volunteers	10	74
Total Transport Costs	5,056	3,975

Utility Costs	£	£
Gas Costs	3,131	1,322
Electricity Costs	1,364	1,294
Telecomms	133	0
Contribution to Wellesley Church	0	5,000
Total Utility Costs	4,628	7,616

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Analysis of Payments 2025 - Continued

Gifts & Lunches	£	£
Catering	567	349
Flowers	367	160
Gifts	181	298
Total Gifts & Lunches	1,115	807

IT Costs	£	£
Internet Charges	268	69
Mobile Data	60	57
Laptop & Dongle	0	296
Total IT Costs	328	422

Total Fashion Show Costs	298	0
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Other Costs	£	£
CCLILicence	268	259
Stationery	182	0
Consumables	85	472
Customer Refunds	58	285
Meeting costs	42	30
Protective Clothing	0	237
Auditor Gift	0	100
David Baum Helping Hand	0	57
Products for resale	0	55
Total Other Costs	635	1,495

TOTAL COSTS	42,777	32,422
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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Hope Chest Community Project Trust

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out above.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached:

In concluding I am satisfied that the accounting records presented to me are complete and that the accounts for year ending 31 December 2025 agree to these.

Name: G D A Thomson

Professional Qualification: Chartered Management Accountant CGMA ACMA

Address: 38 Rosemount Grove, Leven, Fife. KY8 4FY

Date: 11 June 2026

Signed:

Paul J.