



Supporting local people out of homelessness'



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1. Introduction To Our Year



Volunteer helping out at Christ Church Southwark.

Welcome



Robes is so blessed to have volunteers who have been with the programme for the past 13 years.”

Robes is a small local charity that works with over 750 volunteers and 30 Churches and Community Centres. It helps homeless people in the area to find their way to a better quality of life.

Our Winter Night Shelters are mostly Church buildings and our amazing volunteers are from the local communities and Churches. We can only do what we do because of these invaluable networks, and the other local homeless charities that work tirelessly to help the homeless.

This year has been both very challenging and rewarding, with a terrorist attack the night of the Robes main fundraising event leading to the cancellation of the event, then the COVID-19 virus and lockdown. We live in uncertain times and the homeless we serve live in even more uncertainty, but thanks to the staff, volunteers, Churches and other charities, we can offer more certainty to those who need it most, in timely and practical ways.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick".

Nick Faraday
Charity Manager

Impact this year

Bed spaces filled
4,294

Breakfasts and dinners provided
8,588

Homeless men and women given shelter
98

Assisted into accommodation
58

Assisted into emergency accommodation
25

About Robes

Robes has been working across Southwark and Lambeth for the past 13 years providing shelter to local homeless people.

Services we provide:

- Winter Night Shelters from late October to early April
- Hot evening meal and breakfast at shelters
- Showers and laundry (some shelters)
- Advice service every weekday morning during shelter season
- Signpost to other useful local charities
- Wednesday Club drop in: hot meal, showers, advice service

Partnership is the key which enables Robes to help the homeless effectively. These partnerships range from local communities, Churches, other local charities, and businesses. This past shelter season we have offered 111 places within the shelters, with 98 guests taking up this offer. We are pleased to say that of those 98, 58 guests have moved into accommodation and a further 25 guests are currently in emergency accommodation.



Christ Church Southwark volunteers.



Volunteering for Robes has changed the way I see the homeless, they are just normal people who have fallen on hard times for whatever reason and this can happen to any of us. I play a small part in the grand scheme of things but like to think I might make a very small difference."

Linda Vickers
Team Leader

Chairman's Statement

It has been a challenging year. The 2019 SleepOut was cancelled due to a terrorist attack at London Bridge. However, we still raised £85,997 with some people sleeping in their gardens.

Thank you to all who supported this event. Over 9 years, the SleepOut has raised £878,000 and this has been important for our charity.

Our 2020 SleepOut will be different this year, please see page 21 about the SleepIN. It will be our 10th and will be held on Friday November 27th. It would be great if we could raise £122,000 for that event which would mean over 10 years ONE MILLION POUNDS would have been raised.

COVID-19 Pandemic created a major problem when all shelter venues were suddenly closed. Special thanks to St John's Church East Dulwich which stayed open around the clock until we could move guests into secure accommodation. Our staff kept in close touch with the guests as some needed food, toiletries, and reconditioned mobile phones.

Last winter we looked after 98 guests and we have put 58 into accommodation. I would like to thank most warmly our staff



Our Chairman: George Martin.

for their hard work, our 750 volunteers who make Robes possible, our funders for their generous financial support.

Robes partners with 29 Churches from different denominations this has been an outstanding ecumenical project in the Diocese.

I have decided to step down as Chair and Trustee in November and it has been a privilege to be involved since the inception in January 2007. I have done my utmost during that time to help develop Robes over the years to what it is today, a well-respected Charity in Lambeth and Southwark.

I am confident that Robes will continue flourishing over the coming years in meeting the challenges of Homelessness and doing their utmost to rebuild their lives.

George Martin
Chairman of Robes

A handwritten signature of George Martin in black ink.

Farewell Crispin Green

Crispin joined Robes in 2011 and came with a wealth of experience which Robes needed.

His quiet, unassuming manner and empathy for the Homeless sector has been a great asset to our charity. Crispin is widely respected by our guests: he has helped enormously with wise advice and been responsible for changing many homeless people's lives.

Crispin decided to retire at the end of June to focus on his artistic skills and we will greatly miss him. We would like to thank him most warmly for his huge impact over the past 9 years and wish him well for the future.

George Martin
Chair of Robes Trustees



Crispin and guest



2. What we do

Volunteer at Christ Church Southwark preparing dinner for Robes guests.

Robes Winter Night Shelter

Robes has been running a Church-based Winter Night Shelter for the homeless for 13 years.

The Robes Winter Night Shelter is at the heart of what we do at Robes Project. Our Shelter operates during the cold winter months to support rough sleepers in and around Southwark and Lambeth. Through our referral process, we welcome guests regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, or religion. We also strive to create a family atmosphere within our shelters, offering our guests a sense of love and belonging. While we aim to ensure guests' physical survival needs are being met, we look beyond, for tailored solutions as a pathway out of homelessness.

We are open 7 nights a week for 35 guests. Our shelters are warmly hosted by 30 Churches and community centres and assisted by over 750 volunteers. Our devoted volunteers run the shelter with emergency on-call support available from staff.

During the Winter of 2019/2020, we provided for 98 guests. Despite COVID-19, we were able to move 35 guests into permanent accommodation, and 23 into temporary accommodation.

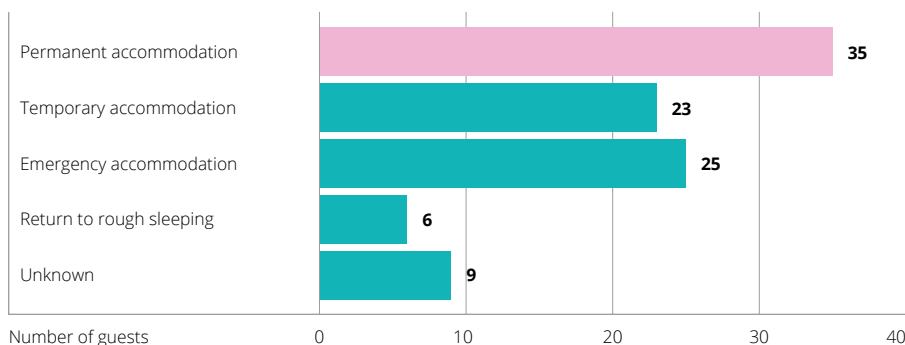
Referral agencies

1. Ace of Clubs
2. Crisis
3. Crisis at Croydon
4. Manna Day Centre
5. Shelter
6. Spires
7. St. Mungo's
8. The Big Issue
9. The Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
10. Webber Street

Churches we worked with in 2019/2020

1. Ace of Clubs
2. All Saints Clapham Park
3. Bermondsey Central Methodist Church
4. Chatsworth Baptist
5. Christ Church Clapham
6. Christ Church Southwark
7. Copleston Church
8. Finnish Church
9. Holy Spirit
10. Holy Trinity Clapham
11. Montgomery Hall
12. Mostyn Road Methodist Church
13. New Park Road Baptist
14. Norwegian Church
15. Salvation Army, Elephant and Castle
16. St. Anne and All Saints
17. St. George the Martyr
18. St. John the Divine
19. St. John's East Dulwich
20. St. John's Waterloo
21. St. Luke's Peckham
22. St. Luke's West Norwood
23. St. Mary Magdalen
24. St. Mary's Herne Hill
25. St. Matthew's at the Elephant
26. St. Michael's Stockwell
27. St. Paul's Clapham
28. St. Paul's and St. Saviour's – Herne Hill
29. St. Peter's Vauxhall
30. St. Peter's Walworth

End of shelter outcomes



Robes Winter Night Shelter – How it works

- 

1. Guests register at a referral agency

- 

2. The referral agents refer the guests to our advice workers

- 

3. Advice workers carry out risk assessment with guests

- 

4. Robes staff check if we have a bed space empty in our circuits

- 

5. If space is available Advice workers provide guests with venue maps and guest handbooks. If not, we put them on our waiting list

- 

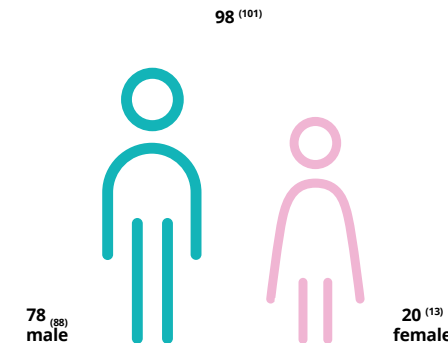
6. Once the space has been found guests arrive at the shelter venue at 7pm

- 

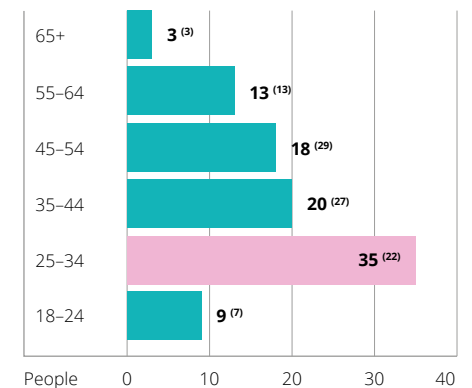
7. Guests receive a hot meal, company and shelter

Robes Winter Night Shelter – Our guests

Total guests between 2019–2020:

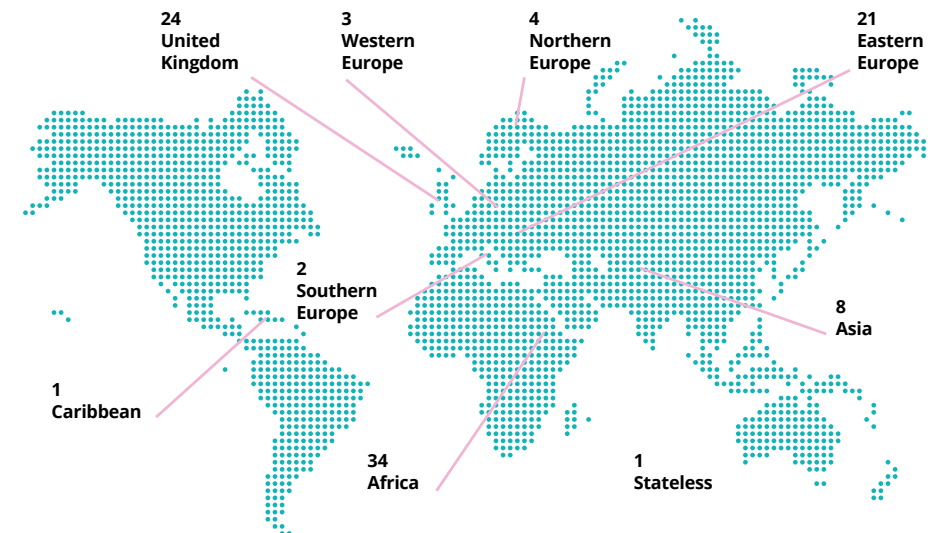


Age



*The number in brackets show last year's statistics, which have been included for comparison. Please note, the Winter Shelter 2019–2020 closed 2 weeks early due to COVID-19.

Nationality of shelter guests



Wednesday Club

The Wednesday Club represents a space of stability and security for both our current and ex-guests.

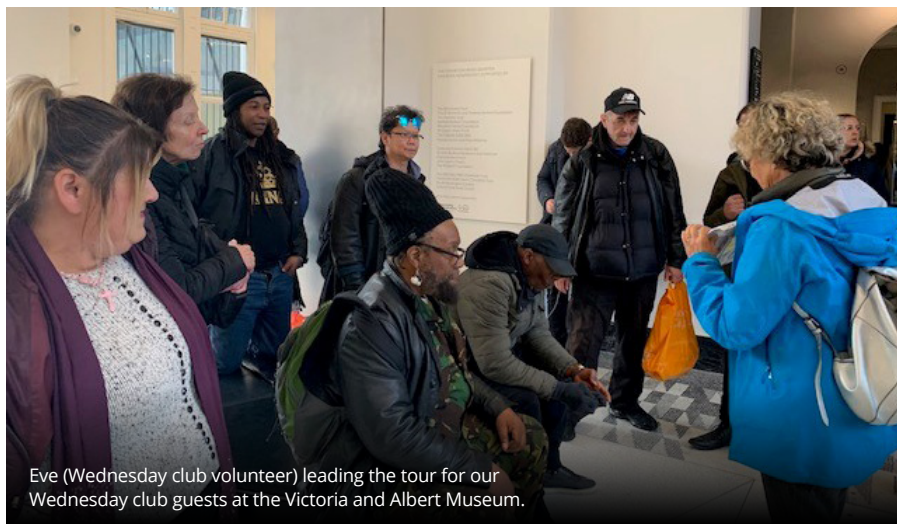
It is a place where they can socialise and relax with other guests and volunteers while enjoying breakfast, a nutritious lunch, and games. They are also able to access advice, on-going support, and a hot shower.

We have had 55 new guests join our Wednesday Club since the beginning of the 2019/20 Winter Night Shelter season, along with 32 ex-guests. All 87 of our guests have attended at least once, with 62% returning more than once.

Currently we have 5 core volunteers who devote their time helping with cooking, serving, washing up, cleaning, and socialising with guests. Leading on from the summer of 2019, we have also continued to build partnerships with corporate companies. Their support has taken many forms, such as volunteering at the Wednesday Club, and donating clothing items, toiletries, and food.

In the future

We are hoping to incorporate more enrichment activities, with focus on programs that build guests' skills and confidence.



Eve (Wednesday club volunteer) leading the tour for our Wednesday club guests at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Wednesday Club – Key achievements



The Wednesday Club is where Robes provides a place where we can go to sit down, get some food and eat a very nice cooked lunch. I personally enjoy taking a shower and if one requires an advice worker's assistance, they are there to help. The volunteers are also very friendly and helpful."

Myah, 2019
Guest

Total number of Robes Guests that visited

87

Attendee average since summer 2019

15

Highest number of guest attendees

22

Total number of hot lunches and breakfasts served

602

Number of core volunteers

5

Corporate companies that have volunteered including Ardmore Group, Cognizant, The Hoxton Southwark, Shopper Media Ground, ChapmanBlack, Callum Group and HFG.

8

Wednesday Club – Volunteer comment

I have loved my experience volunteering in the kitchen for Robes Wednesday Club. I have met some incredible people through the Project.



I think it's a really valuable Project that allows creativity, initiative and a great space to bond."

Over the last 6 months, I have been able to gain confidence in cooking for large numbers, with the help of the excellent team of volunteers. I have been able to gain confidence in working with the guests through conversation: building trust and friendship. I have been able to connect with the guests one-to-one, as well as having some great in-depth and often very funny group conversations whilst eating together. I have also built some great friendships with the co-workers and volunteers. I think it's a really valuable Project that allows creativity, initiative and a great space to bond."

Berry Patten
Chef



Berry (Wednesday club chef) cooking at the Wednesday Club.

For a long time I've wanted to get involved in a charity project. Luckily, I am working with a team at my hotel, The Hoxton Southwark, which wanted to be part of a volunteering program.

One of my colleagues got in touch with Robes and organised a first session at the Wednesday Club. Finally, I took the opportunity to get involved in supporting my local community, so was happy to join my first Wednesday Club. I love helping people, feeling useful and using my free time for a good and important cause. I am now delighted to be the first contact between Robes and The Hoxton Southwark, and bring people to volunteer for Robes. I've been to the Wednesday Club twice already. It has been such a rewarding experience! I've been warmly welcomed by the members of the team and immediately felt comfortable. I enjoyed cooking and spending time with our guests. The time passed very quickly, and I met great people. I don't regret spending my time there and will do it again with pleasure!"

Volunteer
Hoxton Southwark

The Wednesday Club with Robes provides an excellent opportunity for companies to give back to the community in a hands-on way, and see first-hand the battles some people face for things we take for granted.

Not only is it an extremely humbling and rewarding experience, but it's fantastic to lend a hand to the dedicated team who are committed to helping those in need."

Volunteer
HFG



Corporate volunteers preparing lunch at the Wednesday club.



Robes Project guest.

Advice work – Achievements & Performance

The Advice Workers cover a multitude of areas.

They assess incoming referrals from partner organisations, register them for shelters, then provide person-specific support to find guests' solutions while they are with us.

Advisors oversee the following:

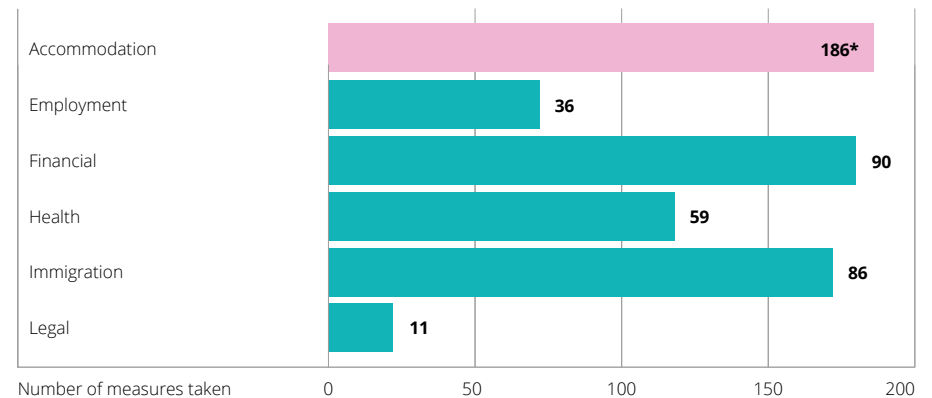
- How the Shelter benefits guests and helps them to recover their identity.
- Guests' current motivation to move on and improve their situation.
- Opportunities available for employment and accommodation.



Robes Shelter performs the miracle of providing us with time. The Shelter allows guests to stop worrying about tomorrow, or even today. They can start planning for the future, as they know their basic needs will be covered, while at the same time recovering social skills, and self-confidence.”

Robes Advisors

Advice support provided



*Figures shown correspond to the number of measures completed by the Advice Team. This season, three measures were completed to secure sustainable accommodation for each guest.

Advice work – Case Study

Artur was referred to Robes in November. He was homeless due to several factors which had made his life increasingly precarious. Lack of settlement status, trouble contacting the Polish Embassy and the loss of his passport, alongside a relationship breakdown, resulted in Artur losing his job and home.

While homeless, Artur volunteered at the Salvation Army and visited day centres but needed personal and sustained support. Crispin applied for a grant which covered Artur's replacement passport fee. Robes then kept Artur's documents safe, alleviating his concerns about their security.

Artur struggled to gather enough habitual residency evidence to pass his HTC test, and his application was rejected in January. The rejection was painful for Artur. He had lived and worked in the UK since 2010 and was anxious about his future. With the advice team's encouragement – writing supporting letters, taking calls with Artur, and advising him on his rights – Artur requested from the DWP a reconsideration of the decision.

The outcome of the appeal was successful. Artur was granted full EU settlement status. With this proof, he could focus on a culinary training course Robes had referred him to. The course encouraged Artur's passion for cooking and ambition to work as a team leader. It also illustrated to Artur's Job Coach his commitment to return to full-time employment.

Robes linked Artur with Praxis, an organisation who offer expert advice to migrants. In the same fortnight he was granted settlement status, Praxis successfully located affordable housing for Artur in East London. Robes applied for a grant so he could purchase essential domestic items while his initial Universal Credit payment was being processed. Artur continues to enjoy his training and got in touch with Crispin to say he has now applied for a one-year culinary apprenticeship.

Artur's three aspirations before coming to Robes were: to apply for ID, access employment or training, and find accommodation to get off the streets. Artur achieved all three.

3. How to get involved



Events and Future plans for 2020-2021

Robes Project are always looking for new fundraising opportunities and partners to ensure we can continue to provide support to our guests.

September 2020

AGM and Shelter Launch Event
Online, September 24th 2020

1 November 2020

Start of Shelter Season

27 November 2020

SleepIn 2020 @yourbalconyorgarden

Online Registration NOW OPEN
(see details on page 21)

31 March 2021

End of Shelter Season

26 November 2021

Robes SleepOut @ Southwark Cathedral

If you are interested and would like to participate, please contact:
rob.es.admin@rob.es.org

Robes Run

We launched Robes Run to ensure current and ex-Robes guests' wellbeing and essential needs are being met and to give support during COVID-19. Robes Run is a combination of both an essential item delivery service and a check-in and chat service, to help Robes current and ex-guests currently in emergency shelter and temporary accommodation. We will continue to provide this support during the Winter Night Shelter months.

Static Shelter

Due to COVID-19, we will be adapting our Winter Night Shelter into a Static Shelter. We are looking to house 10-35 guests within accommodation that meets COVID-19 guidelines as set out by the government. Each individual guest will be placed in a room with an en-suite shower.

Hosting Scheme

We will also be introducing a hosting scheme, which will allow families within Southwark and Lambeth to host Robes Guests. This is a pilot scheme and we will be running the scheme with 11 hosts. The hosting scheme will offer our guest a family environment and a way to be integrated into the community around them.

SleepOut

Ten years ago, the first Robes SleepOut was held. It is our major annual fundraising event. Hosted by Southwark Cathedral, the SleepOut is a lifeline to Robes and generates the bulk of our annual income. The SleepOut is an opportunity for our donors and supporters to experience what it feels like to sleep rough for one night of the year. Many people from the local communities come together to make a difference, by doing something to address and alleviate local homelessness.

Unfortunately, due to the terrorist attack near London Bridge on the day of the 2019 SleepOut, we had to cancel our fundraising event. Nevertheless, our supporters and donors still demonstrated solidarity towards the event and cause by sleeping out in their back gardens. We were even able to raise £85,997 because of their support, and the strong link we have managed to foster with our local community.



Volunteers sleeping in their back garden

Be part of the SleepIn

**Robes SleepIn Friday
November 27th
6.30pm to Saturday
Morning 6am**

Help us to help local homeless people by giving up your bed for a night, by staying home but not sleeping in your bed. Register now:
www.rob.es.org.uk/sleepout-rob.es

SleepIn to help those who SleepOut

There will be an evening of online live entertainment:

- Competitions
- Famous star to read a book or do Q&A
- View of Southwark Cathedral
- Pub Quiz and much more

4. Financial Information



Marc (Robes Advice worker) with Lydia (Administrator at Crossway church URC).

Operational Information

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2020.

Structure, Governance And Management

Governing document

The Robes Project was initially set up as an unincorporated charity by a Constitution adopted 1 October 2008, amended by Special Resolution on 20 July 2009. It was registered as a Charity on 10 November 2009 and is governed by a Committee of Trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting. The area of benefit are the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

On 1 August 2017 the Charity set up a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) called 'Robes Project'. The Charity and the CIO were merged on 18 January 2020. An asset transfer order was signed on 18 January 2020. The assets have now been transferred to the CIO and the old un-incorporated charity closed.

The number of Trustees shall not be less than 5, and until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, no more than 9.

Operational Information

Objectives

The objects of the CIO are the relief of poverty among people who are homeless in the London boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter night shelters, food and advice, support and re-settlement services so as to help them re-build their lives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees consider that the work of the Robes Project is to provide relief to poor and disadvantaged people in the London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth by the provision of winter shelter, food and support helping to make these boroughs a safer, more humane place for everyone. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and no Trustee receives any private benefit from the Charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Governance and management

The Charity is run by its Trustees who meet bi-monthly to determine the strategy of the Charity, to discuss operational matters and to formulate policy. The Charity Manager attends all Trustee meetings. Sub-committees dealing with specific functions support the Board of Trustees and certain items of executive responsibility are delegated to individual Trustees to facilitate decision-making and to support staff efforts. All delegated matters are closely reported upon to the Trustee Board.

The Trustees delegate responsibility for delivering day to day services to our guests primarily to the Charity Manager, staff and volunteer teams.

The Charity Manager is responsible for individual supervision of the staff team and also ensuring that the team continue to develop their skills and working practices in line with good practice.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Committee seek to recruit Trustees from among the churches participating in the Project who have relevant skills and experience to assist in running the Project. New Trustees are given an induction pack

Risk Management

The Trustees recognise that there are risks to which the Charity is exposed. Systems have been established to mitigate known risks, including financial controls, employment procedures, agreements with participating churches and volunteer training. The Trustees keep proper accounting records and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Health and safety, equal opportunities and quality standards are prioritised. Records and archives are securely stored and electronic data carefully protected.

A significant risk the Charity faces is its over reliance on the SleepOut as a fundraising event. It looks to mitigate against this risk by diversifying its funding sources. Another significant risk is a serious safeguarding issue causing the Charity to lose confidence of guests and referring partners. The Charity mitigates against this by thorough training for staff and volunteers.

Financial review

Our strategy for 2019/2020 was to provide a winter night shelter for our homeless guests from November 2019 through to April 2020 using a network of churches in the London boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

Total expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2020 was £215,306. This reflects a year of consolidation after recent years of growth in the project. During the year, income increased by £66,920, an increase of 31% on the previous year, due to a number of significant successes on grant applications.

The annual SleepOut in the grounds of Southwark Cathedral raised £85,997, in line with the prior year – a significant success considering the cancellation of the event due to the terrorist incident in the lead up to it.

As our shelters and volunteers are provided at no cost to the Charity, our main costs (61%) were in relation to our small team of salaried staff who provide the backbone of our Charity.

At 30 April 2020, the total reserves stand at £364,745. Of these reserves, £31,155 is restricted for our HMO (previously named 'Inn from the Cold') and our ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other projects. Another £80,000 of unrestricted reserves is designated to support 'Inn from the Cold' moving forward, leaving £253,590 as general funds.

Operational Information

Reserves Policy

As part of the annual review of the reserves policy, the Trustees of the Robes Project assess the financial risks surrounding the Charity's ability to provide the services we offer to the homeless in Lambeth and Southwark. In so doing the Trustees aim to hold a minimum free reserves level of £80,000 - £150,000. The current free reserves of £253,591 are safely above this limit.

Statement of Board of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a 'true and fair' view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that the content of the annual review in pages 2 to 27 of this document as well as the legal and administrative information on page 44, meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 27 August and signed on its behalf by:

George Martin



Chairman of Robes

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the Board of Trustees of Robes Project Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Robes Project (charity number 1174060) for the year ended 30 April 2020 set out on pages 30 to 43.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The CIO's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The CIO's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the CIO's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the CIO's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the CIO and the CIO's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the CIO and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do 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.



Shaun Brownsmith FCA

For and on behalf of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

Dated: 9 September 2020

4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 2AF

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 30 April 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
Income from:					
Donations	3	253,764	25,343	279,107	212,242
Investments	4	1,328	-	1,328	1,273
Total income		255,092	25,343	280,435	213,515
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	12,905	-	12,905	10,064
Charitable activity	5 & 6	179,288	23,113	202,401	211,448
Total expenditure		192,193	23,113	215,306	221,512
Net movement in funds		62,899	2,230	65,129	(7,997)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	270,691	28,925	299,616	307,613
Total funds carried forward	12 & 13	333,590	31,155	364,745	299,616

The notes on pages 32 to 43 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 April 2020

	Notes	£	Total funds 2020 £	£	Total funds 2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		9,409		-
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	10	4,973		472	
Cash at bank and in hand		359,257		305,839	
		364,230		306,311	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(8,894)		(6,695)	
Net current assets			355,336		299,616
Net assets			364,745		299,616
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	12 & 13		31,155		28,925
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds	12 & 13	80,000		80,000	
General funds	12 & 13	253,590		190,691	
			333,590		270,691
			364,745		299,616

The notes on pages 32 to 43 form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 27 August and signed on their behalf by:

Luke Whiteman
Trustee



Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 April 2020, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 April 2020 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has no impact on this assessment due to the high reserves held by the Charity.

Legal status

The Robes Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £1 per member of the Charity. The registered office is 11 B Park Street, London, SE1 9AB.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and income from fundraising events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated proportionate to direct staff costs allocated to each project area, as outlined in note 5 of the financial statements.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on a straight-line basis. The useful life used is:

Leasehold improvements – 5 years (life of the lease)

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Robes Project operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities when due and payable. These contributions are invested separately from the charity's assets.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors and prepayments

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

2. Change in legal status

During the financial year ended 30 April 2018 the Trustees decided to convert the existing charitable trust to a charitable incorporated organisation and set up a new charitable incorporated organisation (registered number 1174060) on 1st August 2018, with the intention to link the old charity to the new charitable incorporated organisation, which happened during the financial year ended 30 April 2019, with the old charitable trust changing its number to 1174060-1 (previously 1132622).

During the intervening year the two charities effectively operated as one, with a common board and had the same registered office address as outlined in the legal and administrative information.

Following professional advice during the financial year ended 30 April 2019 the Trustees chose to fully close and merge the old charitable trust into the new charitable incorporated organisation, with this process finishing on 18 January 2019.

The split of income and expenditure for the two entities over the previous reporting period is as follows (all income and expenditure in the current reporting period occurred within the CIO):

	Charitable trust year ended 30 April 2019 £	CIO year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	16,110	196,132	212,242
Investments	-	1,273	1,273
Total income	16,110	197,405	213,515
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	617	9,447	10,064
Charitable activities	30,978	180,470	211,448
Total expenditure	31,595	189,917	221,512
Transfer between entities	(331,521)	331,521	-
Net movement in funds	(347,006)	339,009	(7,997)

By 30 April 2019 the old charitable trust had fully closed and so all assets were held within the CIO at the end of both the current and previous financial periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
General donations – churches	5,830	5,000	10,830
General donations – individuals and other	94,238	1,250	95,488
SleepOut	85,997	-	85,997
Other fundraising events	2,699	-	2,699
Trusts and foundations	65,000	19,093	84,093
	253,764	25,343	279,107

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
General donations – churches	9,533	-	9,533
General donations – individuals and other	87,650	2,495	90,145
SleepOut	88,734	-	88,734
Other fundraising events	3,830	-	3,830
Trusts and foundations	-	20,000	20,000
	189,747	22,495	212,242

Notes to the Financial Statements

4. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Bank interest	1,328	-	1,328
	1,328	-	1,328

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
Bank interest	1,273	-	1,273
	1,273	-	1,273

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Total expenditure

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £
Raising funds	-	11,094	1,811	12,905
Charitable activities	131,567	42,432	28,402	202,401
	131,567	53,526	30,213	215,306

	Staff costs year ended 30 April 2019 £	Other direct costs year ended 30 April 2019 £	Indirect costs year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2019 £
Raising funds	-	8,709	1,355	10,064
Charitable activities	133,604	49,384	28,460	211,448
	133,604	58,093	29,815	221,512

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct costs allocated to those activities. The prior year figures have been reallocated to show the support costs attributed to each activity.

All expenditure on raising funds was unrestricted in nature in both the current and previous financial years.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6. An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Indirect costs include the following costs:

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2019 £
Indirect costs include the following costs:		
Office rent	7,302	14,604
IT and communications	7,517	5,720
Administrative costs	5,815	2,830
Insurance	1,243	1,210
Independent examination fees	1,340	1,350
Other professional fees	6,996	4,101
	30,213	29,815

Notes to the Financial Statements

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Staff costs	115,769	15,798	131,567
Other direct costs	36,050	6,382	42,432
Indirect costs	27,469	933	28,402
	179,288	23,113	202,401

	Unrestricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
Staff costs	120,618	12,986	133,604
Other direct costs	44,612	4,772	49,384
Indirect costs	28,312	148	28,460
	193,542	17,906	211,448

7. Staff numbers and costs

	Total costs year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total costs year ended 30 April 2019 £
Gross salaries	121,395	122,870
Employer's national insurance	7,956	8,082
Employer's pension	2,216	2,652
	131,567	133,604

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2019: 5 persons).

The average full-time equivalent (FTE) during the period was 3.5 (2019: 3.5).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2019: NIL).

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £35,999 (2019: £36,662).

Notes to the Financial Statements

8. Pension costs

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. Contributions payable by the charity amounted to £2,216 (2019: £2,652).

£200 of employer contributions were outstanding at year end (2019: £227).

Pension costs are allocated between activities and funds on the same basis as relevant salary costs.

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total assets year ended 30 April 2020 £
Cost		
As at 1 May 2019	-	-
Additions in year	10,652	10,652
As at 30 April 2020	10,652	10,652
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 May 2019	-	-
Charge in year	1,243	1,243
As at 30 April 2020	1,243	1,243
Net book value		
As at 1 May 2019	-	-
As at 30 April 2020	9,409	9,409

10. Debtors and prepayments

	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total year ended 30 April 2019 £
Prepayments	1,348	-
Rent deposit	3,625	-
Other debtors	-	472
	4,973	472

Notes to the Financial Statements

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total year ended 30 April 2019 £
Trade creditors	1,919	–
Accruals	2,420	3,922
HMRC control account	4,088	2,319
Pension control account	467	454
	8,894	6,695

12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2020 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2020 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2020 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	–	–	–	80,000
	80,000	–	–	–	80,000
General funds	190,691	255,092	(192,193)	–	253,590
	270,691	255,092	(192,193)	–	333,590
Restricted funds					
COVID-19 funding	–	10,000	(5,372)	–	4,628
Shelter support	–	14,093	(14,093)	–	–
Inn from the Cold	28,381	–	(2,430)	–	25,951
ACTS 4:35	204	400	(445)	–	159
Glasspool	340	850	(773)	–	417
	28,925	25,343	(23,113)	–	31,155
	299,616	280,435	(215,306)	–	364,745

Notes to the Financial Statements

12. Analysis of charity funds continued

The **Inn from the Cold** designated fund has been earmarked for growing this project over the next few years.

The **COVID-19** funds were funds received to support the organisation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on beneficiaries from March 2020 to August 2020.

The **Shelter support** funds were two grants received from Housing Justice to support specific costs related to the shelters in the 2019-2020 season.

The **Inn from the Cold** restricted fund consists of donations and grants to support guests access the private rented sector by providing help with the up-front costs of housing, direct access to landlords and ongoing support once in accommodation.

The **ACTS 4:35** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

The **Glasspool** funds consists of funds given to directly support guests with specific needs/requirements.

	Balance brought forward year ended 30 April 2019 £	Income for the year ended 30 April 2019 £	Expenditure in the year ended 30 April 2019 £	Transfers between funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Balance carried forward year ended 30 April 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Inn from the Cold	80,000	–	–	–	80,000
	80,000	–	–	–	80,000
General funds	203,277	191,020	(203,606)	–	190,691
	283,277	191,020	(203,606)	–	270,691
Restricted funds					
Inn from the Cold	23,958	20,000	(15,577)	–	28,381
ACTS 4:35	208	1,175	(1,179)	–	204
Glasspool	170	1,320	(1,150)	–	340
	24,336	22,495	(17,906)	–	28,925
	307,613	213,515	(221,512)	–	299,616

Notes to the Financial Statements

13. Analysis of net assets

	General funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2020 £
Current assets	253,076	80,000	31,154	364,230
Current liabilities	(8,894)	-	-	(8,894)
	244,182	80,000	31,154	355,336

	General funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Designated funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Restricted funds year ended 30 April 2019 £	Total funds year ended 30 April 2019 £
Current assets	197,386	80,000	28,925	306,311
Current liabilities	(6,695)	-	-	(6,695)
	190,691	80,000	28,925	299,616

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2019: £NIL). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses (2019: £NIL).

Notes to the Financial Statements

15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no transactions carried out with related parties (2019: £NIL).

16. Other financial commitments

At 30 April 2020, the Charity had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (all relating to land and buildings) as set out below:

	Total year ended 30 April 2020 £	Total year ended 30 April 2019 £
Operating leases due:		
Within one year	8,458	10,953
Within two to five years	49,542	-
	58,000	10,953

17. Guarantees and secured charges

As at 30 April 2019, the Charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured against assets of the Charity (2018: £NIL).

Legal & Admin

Legal and Administrative Information
for the year ended 30 April 2020.

Trustees

George Martin
Wendy Thompson
Luke Whiteman
Jeremy Metson
Theophilia Shaw
Timothy Howse
Neil Tryner

Treasurer

Luke Whiteman

Principal Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Haines Watts
4 Claridge Court
Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
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Accountants

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy
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Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
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Photography by Robes volunteer, Eve Milner

Charity Registration Number

1174060

Registered Address

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The
co-operative
bank

an Andy Nash
Accounting &
Consultancy



A Word From Our Patron

Friends,

What an extraordinary year Southwark Cathedral SleepOut cancelled at almost no notice because of the killing of two people at the other end of London Bridge. Fundraising for this event still doing very well.

Then COVID-19 sweeping across the world, with over half a million deaths. The vulnerable again at greatest risk. The UK government directing that homeless people should all immediately be taken off the streets and housed in newly empty hotels or similar. A policy continuing for another three months from June.

And the indefatigable George Martin stepping down as Chair of Robes.

Robes has been and is, brilliant at responding locally to one of the greatest failings of our city. We still have work to do. And the biggest job is to make sure that in London, street homelessness is not allowed, condoned, supported or necessary. Now is the best chance for years to win this battle.

All strength, and a very big thank you to you all.

Rt Hon Sir Simon Hughes

Chancellor London South Bank University
Patron of Robes





Robes SleepOut 2021 @ Southwark Cathedral

**Friday November 26th 6pm
to Saturday morning 6am**

Further details can be found at www.robes.org.uk
or @RobesProject. Experience sleeping out for
a night and fundraise for local homeless people.