

REGISTERED NUMBER: 03439299 (England & Wales)
CHARITY NUMBER: 1065006

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2018
for
The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
Limited by Guarantee

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

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for the year ended 31st March 2018

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The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Charity Information
for the year ended 31st March 2018

TRUSTEES:

R Bowers
J Ehlers
P Balkwill
T A Knott (Chair of Trustees)
D C Norkett
J R Woodward
G Izzard - appointed 16th March 2018

NB: Trustees are also Directors of the Company

COMPANY SECRETARY:

G Knott

REGISTERED OFFICE:

The Rainbow Centre
2 Wych Elm
Harlow
Essex
CM20 1QP

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 3439299 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS:

Pigram & Co
2 Burgess Cottages
Pound Hill
Little Dunmow
Essex
CM6 3HW

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1065006

BANK:

Barclays Bank Plc
14 The Water Gardens Centre
Harlow
Essex
CM20 1AN

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31st March 2018

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the Charity for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their report together with the financial statements of the Company for the year ending 31st March 2018.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the Company in the year under review was that of a Christian Charity, working in the community with a wide range of people, including people with a learning / physical disability, people vulnerable and / or isolated through homelessness or being vulnerably housed and people in crisis with emergency food. The Company also worked with local fresh food companies assisting them to reduce their surplus food by picking it up and redistributing it into the local community to front-line professional care agencies.

The governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

All Trustees offer themselves for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



..... G Knott – COMPANY SECRETARY

Dated: Friday 13th July 2018

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the Year Ended 31 March 2018

	Notes	Unrestricted General Fund	Restricted Funds						2018 Total £	2017 Total £
		£	Maybury Open Door £	Harlow Foodbank £	Foodbank Transport £	Foodbank Storehouse £	Bounty Club £	Recycle Project £	Redundancy Reserve £	
INCOME and ENDOWMENTS FROM:										
Donations & Legacies		27,365	18,818	53,787	3,600	19,675	15,366	9,831		88,882
Income from Charitable Activities Maybury Open Door			8,296							8,902
Investment Income		376								695
Other Income Sales			677							1,319
TOTAL INCOME and ENDOWMENTS		27,741	27,791	53,787	3,600	19,675	15,366	9,831		99,798
EXPENDITURE ON:										
Raising Funds			267	801						1,068
Expenditure on Charitable Activities			25,752	53,203			7,098	9,831		91,307
Salaries			120	522						645
Training		158		727						1,441
Travel & Subsistence Expenses		2,756		720		18,000				23,247
Rent		461	109	860						22,952
Telephone & Internet		88	23	1,623						1,430
Printing, Postage & Stationery										2,051
Motoring Costs										1,734
Purchases - Craft, Cleaning, Food, Day-to-Day										2,910
Insurance & Professional			1,139	7,811						8,950
New Equipment & Renewals			442	1,604						5,092
				1,592						1,592
Charitable Donations		2,000								2,000
OTHER EXPENDITURE							4,500			4,528
Depreciation	4	21								600
Independent Examiner & Accountancy Fees	2	600								
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON:		6,084	29,328	69,463	3,502	18,000	14,052	9,831		150,260
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		21,657	(1,537)	(15,676)	98	1,675	1,314	-	-	(51,079)
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2017		64,599	-	21,425	7,083	-	9,491	-	-	102,598
Transfer between Funds		(26,400)	1,537	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 MARCH 2018		59,856	-	5,749	7,181	1,675	10,805	-	24,863	110,129
										102,598

This page forms part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Balance Sheet
As at 31st March 2018

	Notes	31 st March 2018	31 st March 2017
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS	4		
Fixtures & Fittings			
Cost		6,242	6,242
Less: Depreciation		<u>6,181</u>	<u>6,160</u>
		61	82
Computer Equipment			
Cost		615	615
Less: Depreciation		<u>615</u>	<u>615</u>
		-	-
Motor vehicles			
Cost		26,931	26,931
Additions		-	-
Less: Depreciation		<u>22,431</u>	<u>17,931</u>
		4,500	9,000
		4,561	9,082
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	5	5,813	5,778
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>105,430</u>	<u>91,191</u>
		111,243	96,969
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>5,675</u>	<u>3,453</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>105,568</u>	<u>93,516</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>110,129</u>	<u>102,598</u>
FUNDS			
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General		59,856	64,599
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
Foodbank		5,749	21,425
Foodbank Transport		7,181	7,083
Storehouse Rent		1,675	-
Redundancy Reserve		24,863	-
Bounty Club		<u>10,805</u>	<u>9,491</u>
		<u>110,129</u>	<u>102,598</u>

This page forms part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees Statement
For the year ended 31st March 2018

The charity is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2018.

The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the Company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the Company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on Friday the 13th July 2018 and were signed on their behalf by:



David Norkett



Pat Balkwill

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2018

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Turnover represents donations and gifts, as analysed in the Statement of Financial Activities, measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 33.3% on cost

Taxation

The Company is a registered charity as defined by the Charities Act 1960 and as such no taxation has been provided for in these accounts.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

3. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

The average number of employees during the year was 5.

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Fixtures & Fittings</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>	<u>Computer Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
COST:	£	£	£	£
At 1 st April 2017	6,242	26,931	615	33,788
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 st March 2018	<u>6,242</u>	<u>26,931</u>	<u>615</u>	<u>33,788</u>
DEPRECIATION:				
At 1 st April 2017	6,160	17,931	615	24,706
Charge for Year	21	4,500	-	4,521
At 31 st March 2018	<u>6,181</u>	<u>22,431</u>	<u>615</u>	<u>29,227</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 st March 2018	<u>61</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,561</u>
At 31 st March 2017	<u>82</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,082</u>

These notes form part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2018

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31 st March 18	31 st March 17
	£	£
Tax recoverable	1,313	1,278
Rent deposit	4,500	4,500
	<u>5,813</u>	<u>5,778</u>

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31 st March 18	31 st March 17
	£	£
PAYE and NIC	3,124	2,949
Other creditors and accruals	1,951	504
	<u>5,075</u>	<u>3,453</u>

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

A full description of the restricted funds is contained in the Report of the Trustees. Financial details are contained in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 3.

8. HARLOW FOODBANK

Harlow Foodbank received non-perishable food donations totalling 67,463.40 Kgs. During the year 64,347.90 Kgs of non-perishable food was redistributed and at the Balance Sheet date 20,176.75 Kgs of non-perishable food was held for redistribution.

9. BOUNTY CLUB

The Bounty Club received and distributed 146,137.03 Kgs of fresh/chilled food to front-line professional agencies, organisations and charities during the financial year. At the Balance Sheet date none was held for redistribution.

10. RECYCLING PROJECT

MRCT has been developing a community recycling project in 2017/18 working in partnership with Stansted Airport (London), Poundland Distribution Centre (Harlow) and other local companies. Items being recycled include non-perishable food, toiletries, household products, soft drinks and perfumes which are distributed to front-line professional agencies, charities and other local organisations for their clients.

11. MOTOR VEHICLE DONATION

A new Peugeot Bipper van valued at £9,600 has been donated to MRCT by Lawsons (Whetstone) Ltd and will be used for the general work of the charity and based at our Store House in Matching Tye, Harlow.

These notes form part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st March 2018

	31 st March 2018		31 st March 2017	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
VOLUNTARY SOURCES				
General Donations	27,365		25,481	
Maybury Open Door	27,114		17,631	
Harlow Foodbank	53,787		46,918	
Harlow Foodbank Transport	3,600		-	
Bounty Club	15,366		6,829	
Harlow Foodbank Storehouse	19,675		925	
Recycle Project	9,831		-	
Sales	<u>677</u>		<u>1,319</u>	
GROSS PROFIT		<u>157,415</u>		<u>99,103</u>
Other income				
Bank interest	<u>376</u>		<u>695</u>	
		<u>376</u>		<u>695</u>
		157,791		99,798
Expenses				
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE				
Salary	94,636		90,329	
Employers NIC	1,248		978	
COMMUNITY SERVICES PROJECTS				
Maybury Open Door	1,139		1,545	
Harlow Foodbank	7,811		5,597	
New Equipment & Renewals	<u>1,592</u>		<u>2,745</u>	
		106,426		101,194
PROFIT/(LOSS) CARRIED FORWARD		51,365		(1,396)

This page does not form part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st March 2018

	31 st March 2018	31 st March 2017
	£	£
Brought forward	51,365	(1,396)
OTHER EXPENDITURE		
Rent	22,952	23,247
Telephone	1,430	1,041
Printing, postage and stationery	1,734	2,051
Motoring costs	2,910	8,030
Training	642	645
Accountancy	600	504
Donations	2,000	1,150
Publicity & fund raising	1,068	1,068
Insurance	5,092	5,978
Travelling	885	1,441
	39,313	45,155
	12,052	(46,551)
Depreciation		
Fixtures and fittings	21	28
Motor vehicles	4,500	4,500
	4,521	4,528
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	<u>7,531</u>	<u>(51,079)</u>

This page does not form part of these financial statements

The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

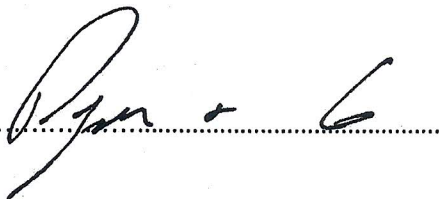
Annual Review Statement

The attached Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 have been prepared from information, records and explanations supplied and in accordance with current guidelines.

No issues worthy of being reported to the Treasurer have arisen during the year.

I am satisfied that the surplus of Income over Expenditure of £7,531 represents the charity's activities for the period and that the carried forward monetary balances agree with the bank and building society accounts of the charity.

Signed:



Date:

23rd July 2018

Pigram & Co
2 Burgess Cottages
Pound Hill
Little Dunmow
Essex
CM6 3HW



The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust
developing lives...enriching community

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18



**MRCT is a work driven by faith,
guided by love and sustained
by hope in our Lord Jesus**



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Mission Statement

**MRCT promotes the value and significance of every person,
empowering them to develop their potential and
self-confidence. By giving support and encouragement
we provide opportunities for community integration,
enabling each individual to help meet local social needs
in a positive and practical way.**





DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This financial year has brought some of the biggest challenges across all of our services since the Michael Roberts Charitable Trust (MRCT) was established in 1997. The introduction of Universal Credits has resulted in substantial increases in foodbank referrals, the significant rise in the number of people who are street homeless and vulnerably housed and the number of children now being supported by low income families in crisis. These increases have certainly been challenging and have put our staff and volunteer teams at full capacity; for this they must be commended, as they continue to maintain and support local people in need.

We have been very blessed and encouraged this year with our funding streams as we seek to ensure that the charity can maintain its valuable services. After a disappointing year last year, this year has been a more positive one, and at the end of 2017/18 we were showing a surplus of £7,531. This has been achieved by us developing a revised business plan and fundraising strategy, through our partnership with MG Consultancy, and by adopting a more proactive approach to existing and potential new funders, through project visits and increased communication. We have also developed a Consultation Survey with our volunteers, service users, community partners and suppliers which again has helped us to shape and develop our services for the future. All of this will be continued in the coming year as we build on these successful outcomes for the benefit of the people we serve.

Our Store House in Matching Tye, Harlow, is now well established as the main hub for the charity's work and, after much prayer and deliberation, is now operating at nearly full capacity. This work includes Harlow Foodbank, Bounty Club, and community partnerships with Stansted Airport (London), Poundland Distribution Centre (Harlow) and From a Mother to Another (children's clothing). As a charity we are mindful of the importance of recycling and will build on the success of existing work so far with new and exciting initiatives in the coming year.

A very exciting development this year has been our new partnership with Lawson's (Whetstone) Ltd who

visited us to review our work during the year and then agreed to help us. This support has been greatly encouraging and has included the following donations: a new Peugeot van with sponsorship, sponsorship of the Bounty Club van, a digital pallet truck, a computer and printer and internet access for the Store House. Special thanks to Paul Sexton, Managing Director of Lawson's, for this amazing help and support.

We have also been encouraged by the continued support of Places for People, who have maintained their sponsorship of the foodbank van again this year as, without this help, we would not be able to operate our services effectively and feed so many people in crisis.

Communication is vital for us as a charity to ensure the general public are made aware and updated on our valuable work in the community. To this end we have organised MRCT Church Presentations during the year and up to the end of March 2018 we have visited fourteen churches in Harlow and the surrounding area, all with positive results and increased support. Special thanks to David Evans (Community Services Manager), Teresa Knott and Jeanette Ehlers (Trustees) for their support. We have also continued with this communication strategy with our attendance at the Heart4Harlow Festival and prayer evenings, Heart2Serve meetings, Tesco national food collections, Harlow Voluntary Sector Forum and other fundraising initiatives.

Volunteers have played a vital role for us this year in supporting the increased needs in our community and I would like to thank each one of them for stepping up to the challenge during times when our services were fully stretched and it was difficult to maintain a sense of normality; this strain was felt across all areas of our work during this financial year. I would also like to congratulate our foodbank volunteers, who received a Civic Award from Harlow Council for their valuable work in the local community, in May 2017. One of our new volunteer teams this year has been the 'Allsorts' who have done an amazing job each week sorting, cleaning and categorizing donations from Stansted Airport and Poundland, which are distributed to local





DIRECTOR'S REPORT

professional agencies and people in crisis. We were able to celebrate these achievements at our charity volunteer Christmas social at Harlow Cricket Club in December, which over 50 staff and volunteers attended.

Maybury Open Door continues to provide a valuable service both at St Paul's and Harefield churches in Harlow supporting a wide range of people with complex needs. This includes people who are homeless and/or vulnerably housed, people with addiction(s), people with a disability, elderly people, people who are isolated and live alone, and others who have been camping out at St Paul's Church in Harlow Town Centre. This year we have seen an increase in the number of people exhibiting antisocial behaviour using our services, mainly due to the low police presence in main shopping and public areas, which has put extra pressure on our staff and volunteer teams.

Harlow Foodbank's work continues to increase year on year, and this year has been no exception. We have seen a 36% increase in client referrals compared to the same period last year, mainly due to the instruction of Universal Credits in Harlow. Our foodbank satellite centre at St Paul's church has been very busy at times exceeding the stated maximum number of clients we can see on any one day. Special thanks to Duncan Craig and his volunteer team for managing this pressure and ensuring all people attending the centre go home with some food. Our partnership with Bishop's Stortford Foodbank continues to develop and we have been delighted to be able to support them with food storage and delivery agreements again this year. Also, during the year, I have been working with Feeding Britain and the Trussell Trust developing a blog promoting our work with Stansted Airport and encouraging other airports to get involved with their local foodbanks across the UK. Special thanks must go to Salvation Army in Harlow for working with us by operating a foodbank satellite centre on Wednesdays.

Bounty Club surplus (short-dated fresh food work) is now well established in Harlow and special thanks must go to our coordinator, Trevor Stanesby, for his outstanding work in further developing this service to front-line professional agencies. Our continued partnerships with local companies Brakes, Bidfood and Swithenbank has been maintained, whilst also now working with the Tesco Metro store in Harlow Town

Centre. We are currently picking up and distributing over 10 tonnes of surplus fresh food every month. From April 2018 we will be introducing an annual membership fee for the Bounty Club of £96.00 which will go towards the on-going expenditure for operating this service.

Special thanks should also go to our wonderful supporters who have provided us with food, finances and prayerful support this year as, without you, we would not be able to undertake this work and support so many people. Whether you're a regular or a one-off donor I would like to thank you sincerely for your loyalty and support. I would also like to thank our community partners for helping us again this year, as without their professional help and support we would not be able to provide the service we do to the local community. All of this is greatly appreciated.

Thanks must also go to our staff team who have been exceptional in dealing with the challenges they have had to face in all of our services and have approached them with such a positive spirit of determination and commitment; it has been a joy and blessing working with you all. I would also like to thank our team of Trustees and Robert Carrington, our Honorary Treasurer, for their support, encouragement and hard work during the year; you are a great team to work with for the benefit of our community.

Lastly, but most importantly, I would like to thank God for His faithful provision this year and for giving us the patience and strength to see us through both the good and the difficult times. In all these things we know that God is in control and as a charity He will always be with us as we put our complete trust in Him from year to year. Thank you, Jesus.



Gary Knott – Co-Founder, Company Secretary
Director of Community Services





MRCT STAFF



Gary



Margaret

Head Office

Gary Knott - Co-Founder & Director of Community Services

Margaret O'Donovan - Office Manager

Harlow Foodbank

David Evans - Community Services Manager

Duncan Craig - Satellite Centre Manager



David



Trevor

Bounty Club

Trevor Stanesby - Bounty Club Coordinator

Maybury Open Door

Clair Forway - Community Worker

Suzie Raraty - Community Worker

Karolina Sadowska - Community Worker

Jennifer Gibbs - Bank Worker

Moirira Howard - Bank Worker

Moirira Luff - Bank Worker

Michael Raven - Bank Worker

Jean Steele - Bank Worker



Clair



Suzie



Karolina



Jennifer



Moirira



Moirira

MRCT Trustees

Teresa Knott - Co-Founder & Chair of Trustees

Patricia Balkwill

Richard Bowers

Jeanette Ehlers

David Norkett

Jean Woodward

Gillian Izzard (appointed 16/03/2018)



Michael



Jean

Company Secretary

Gary Knott

Honorary

Robert Carrington - Honorary Treasurer





MAYBURY OPEN DOOR

Established in Harlow in 1998, Maybury Open Door is based at St Paul's Church on Tuesdays and Fridays, and Harefield Church on Thursdays. The centre is managed by a team of community workers and volunteers. It is an inclusive and unique adult drop-in centre in Harlow which offers support to a wide range of people each week.

The structure is informal with various activities undertaken to enhance people's skills and personal development, thereby enabling them to integrate better with others, both at the centre and in the community. The centre is also supported by the Citizens' Advice Bureau and Family Mosaic, who provide advice sessions in housing, debt, money management and general welfare matters.

Those attending include people with disabilities; the elderly; homeless and vulnerably housed people; addiction sufferers; people who feel isolated and lonely; foodbank referrals and others who just call in when shopping to enjoy some light refreshments and meet new friends.

Maybury Open Door promotes community spirit and integration. It is a place where anyone can come and feel welcome in a safe and warm environment. The centre seeks to promote the ability of all those attending by encouraging them to get involved and take an active role in their local community.



A Poem

*The Maybury Centre is the place to be
For a friendly chat and cup of tea
If you are lonely or if you are shy
Please pop in as you pass by
There are many different things to do
The choice is entirely up to you
Art, computing maybe a game
Or perhaps learning a skill is your aim.
Or if you are in need of a friend
Then on the Maybury Centre you can depend.
By Jane, a visitor to Maybury Open Door*



Maybury Drop-in provides a much-valued place of friendship, empowerment, community and support for those with disability, those without hope, and any who are in challenging circumstances – it helps ease their way into the community. It is also open to any who wish to come, and this helps provides integration into the community. The drop-in is also attended by professional agencies, e.g. Citizens Advice, and this provides additional accessibility for their services.

**Martin Harris, Team Rector,
St Paul's and St Mary's Harlow, Area Dean,
Church of England, Chair, Heart4Harlow**

Feedback





MAYBURY OPEN DOOR



Did you know that Maybury Open Door...

- supports an average of 136 people each week?
- gave out 288 free food vouchers to people who are homeless and vulnerably housed?
- has volunteers who worked a total of 5,280 unpaid hours in 2017/18?
- works in partnership with Streets2Homes (covering times of closure) and for staff and volunteer training?
- provides meeting point for MIND and Open Road staff and clients?
- provides a waiting area and free food service to people using the foodbank satellite centre at St Paul's Church?
- organises a range of internal and external activities for visitors?
- supports work experience placements with All Nations Christian College in Ware?



I enjoy talking to Maybury staff and volunteers about my life as they are all good listeners.

Without Maybury I would be isolated and wandering around the town.

I like coming to meet people and socializing.

I found Maybury through the foodbank, which has helped me with my mental health.

Prayer group has been a source of comfort and encouragement from feeling low and lonely.

I used Maybury for a reference for a job.

Client Feedback





HARLOW FOODBANK

The aim of the foodbank is to help individuals and families in crisis until the appropriate agencies are able to help break their cycle of poverty, putting them in touch with relevant agencies who can offer further support and guidance.

Tinned and dried food is collected from the public at supermarkets, churches, schools, banks and other local businesses and organisations and then banked in our Store House in Matching Tye, Harlow, before being given out to people in crisis who have been referred to the foodbank by registered front-line professional agencies.

The foodbank also provides 24-hour emergency food boxes to front-line agencies and St Margaret's Hospital in Epping, and works in partnership with local school breakfast clubs.

Local Statistics/Deprivation

5,793 (24.4%) of children in Harlow are living below the poverty line.

Harlow is the second most deprived authority in the East of England.

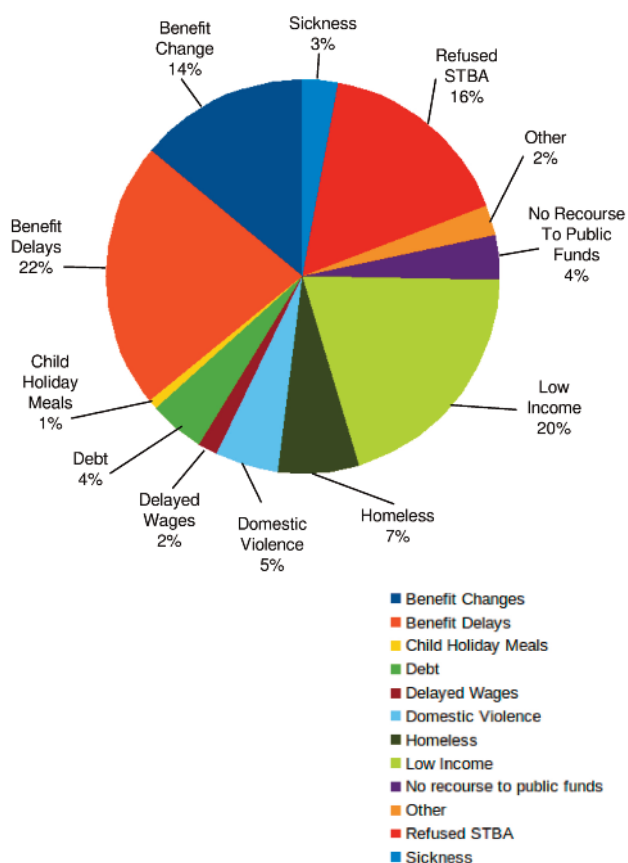
Harlow had 24 homeless people in November 2017 compared to 7 in 2010.

Rough sleepers have increased by 44% in Essex in the last year.

Over 1.5 million people were destitute in the UK in 2017 of which 365,000 were children (Joseph Rowntree Foundation).

Growing up in poverty can affect every aspect of a child's life, their home, health, education, family relationships and even friendships.

Reasons for HFB referrals 2017-18



Agency feedback

"Harlow Foodbank is a wonderful provision meeting, sadly, what seems to be an ever-growing need in our town. The numbers speak for themselves! It is well-managed and a good welcome is given to all. At the heart of this is the provision of food but there is also the care for those concerned, conversation, and signposting to other services."

Martin Harris, Team Rector St Paul's and St Mary's Harlow, Area Dean, Church of England, Chair, Heart4Harlow





HARLOW FOODBANK

Stansted & Poundland

Our partnership work with Stansted Airport has continued to grow and develop in 2017/18 alongside a new partnership with the Poundland Distribution Centre based at the Pinnacles in Harlow. This work helps us to recycle passengers surrendered/restricted non-perishable food, drinks and toiletries. We also receive a range of food, drink and household donations from Poundland as part of their community action programme. These donations were distributed back into the community via the work of Harlow Foodbank and the Bounty Club. In 2017/18 we were able to receive the following donations:

Stansted Airport = 4.6 tonnes

Poundland = 1.2 tonnes



Did you know that Harlow Foodbank...

- fed 4,105 (2,449 adults & 1,656 children) people in crisis in 2017/18?
- fed 24,523 people in crisis since the foodbank opened in April 2009 (15,921 adults & 8,602 children)?
- distributed 60.4 tonnes of non-perishable food and 22.4 tonnes of fresh food to local people in crisis and other disadvantaged people?
- works with 'From a Mother to Another' distributing children's clothing to low income families?
- provides work experience / community placements for local schools, companies, colleges and Duke of Edinburgh Award students?



Agency feedback

"I would like to say thank you on behalf of my clients who have accessed your service. I work with offenders and those with substance-misuse problems, who are often in dire need of your help. The non-judgemental treatment they receive enables them to ask for the help when they so desperately need it. The fact that you also offer someone to talk to gives them a sense of 'normality' which they often don't encounter elsewhere. More often than not, they receive items from you which they have not previously thought about needing (a prime example is toilet roll)! I would also like to say a personal thank you for making my job easier!"

**Anne Hunnabell, Recovery Co-ordinator,
Phoenix Futures, Harlow**

Client Feedback

Staff were very friendly and helpful. These volunteers make a difference to lots of people's lives. If they didn't do this who knows what people would do? Lovely people with kind hearts.

Very helpful and kind people. Nothing is too much trouble. Most importantly, the lovely people don't judge me.

It was good to have someone to turn to in a time of financial difficulty.

I felt a bit overwhelmed when first came in for food but the ladies have been fantastic. Once I am back on my feet I will be making a donation.

I've been given information and leaflets of services that can help me, as well as lots of food. Staff are really helpful and nice.





BOUNTY CLUB

The Bounty Club has a dual aim: first, to reduce companies' surplus, low-dated/end-of-line fresh food, which would normally be deemed wastage and then to distribute it into the local community through front-line professional agencies.

These agencies include school breakfast clubs (children from low-income families), projects for the homeless, children's centres, community drop-in centres, women's refuges, youth hostel services, foodbank clients, refugee services, children's holiday clubs, services for the elderly, drug rehabilitation projects, the Salvation Army and many others.

Once delivered, this food is distributed to local people, many of whom are from low-income families, on benefits, homeless or vulnerably housed, as well as those with addictions or others just finding it difficult to make ends meet each week.

In 2017/18 we had 31 front-line partners working with the Bounty Club. The Bounty Club operates 'for the benefit of the community', and this includes people in crisis.

From April 2017 to March 2018 the Bounty Club collected and distributed the following quantities of fresh food from our main suppliers, namely:

Brakes, Harlow = 72.9 tonnes

Bidfood, Harlow = 31.6 tonnes

Swithenbank, Hoddesdon = 12.8 tonnes

Total collected and distributed = 117.3 tonnes

We would like to thank Brakes, Bidfood and Swithenbank for their continued valuable partnership with the Bounty Club in Harlow which helps the charity support local people in crisis/need and others who are finding it difficult to make ends meet each week, often through no fault of their own.





BOUNTY CLUB

Tesco Metro

In 2017/18 we have been working in partnership with Tesco Metro in the Harvey Centre in Harlow Town Centre picking up and distributing their short dated fresh food to front-line professional agencies. This year we picked up and delivered 1.56 tonnes of fresh food from Tesco Metro. We are planning to further develop our work with local supermarkets in the coming year.

Stansted Airport & Poundland

The Bounty Club and Harlow Foodbank is currently working in partnership with Stansted Airport and our new community partner Poundland distributing a wide range of non-perishable food, toiletries, household items, soft drinks, biscuits and sweets to local people in crisis and front-line professional agencies, all for the benefit of the community. This year we have distributed 5.9 tonnes of these donations back into the local community.

Membership Fee in 2018/19

In 2017/18 we will be introducing an annual membership fee of £96.00 for the Bounty Club service which will help us towards the ongoing funding needed to support this service. Generally, the value of the fresh food we deliver far outweighs the cost of membership and has been well received by the majority of our customers.



Working in partnership with MRCT has proved invaluable for my Senior Safe & Social Project. As well as weekly social activities for Harlow Seniors to reduce loneliness and social isolation, we run monthly events and outings. We are supported by MRCT's Bounty Club which provides us with as much food as possible, enabling us to keep costs to a minimum when catering for our events, therefore making the events accessible to all.

Kelly Tarling, Community Builder, Rainbow Services

Some of our service users are able to get food and toiletries through the Bounty Project at Woodlands Family Centre, where three days a week we have specialist counsellors working with survivors of sexual violence. We know that the bags they take away really make a difference at a difficult time, so we really appreciate the facility. Thank you,

Andrea Williams, Young People's Sexual Violence Counsellor and Training Coordinator, South Essex Rape & Incest Crisis Centre (SERICC)

Partner feedback





SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

We have been working to further develop our school partnership work in Harlow this year primarily aimed at breakfast clubs supporting pupils from deprived and low-income families. Many of these children arrive at school having not had a nutritious breakfast which affects their educational attainment and ability to concentrate. A range of non-perishable and fresh food is provided for these children supplied by Harlow Foodbank and the Bounty Club.

During 2017/18 Harlow Foodbank and the Bounty Club has been working in partnership with the following 18 schools:

- Abbotsweld Primary School
- Akter Early Learning Centre (Nursery)
- Buzzee Beez Pre School (Nursery)
- Cooks Spinney Primary School
- Downs Primary School & Nursery
- Holy Cross Academy & Pre-School
- Katherines Academy
- Kingsmoor Academy
- Little Parndon Primary School
- Longwood Primary Academy
- Mark Hall Academy
- Milwards Primary School & Nursery
- Pear Tree Mead Academy
- Potter Street Academy
- St James Primary School
- St Mark's West Essex Catholic School
- Water Lane Primary School
- William Martin Junior School

From April 2017 to March 2018 Harlow Foodbank / Bounty Club provided the following quantities fresh and non-perishable food to local schools:

Harlow Foodbank = 2.5 tonnes (non-perishable)

Bounty Club = 20.8 tonnes (fresh food)

This year schools have also been working in partnership with the charity by; collecting food for harvest, providing pupils for supermarket food collections and by visiting our Store House and Foodbank Satellite Centre for work experience and community placements. Special thanks to Passmore's Academy and Burnt Mill Academy for their on-going support with supermarket collections and work experience days.

Partner Feedback

We have been receiving food from the foodbank and Bounty Club for several years now and we cannot thank you enough for this service. Our breakfast club supports several vulnerable children who come into school without having a meal, so the food provided by yourselves forms the bulk of actual breakfasts given out, and provides 'tuck' within school at break time. We have a good range of cereals and healthy fruit breakfasts, with toast and toppings along with fruit and cereals for 'tuck'.

Anna (Bailey) Harvey, Inclusion Support Manager, William Martin Junior School, Harlow





MRCT VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play a vital role in the work of the charity and many come with a wide range of skills and life experiences which help to enhance our work for the benefit of the people using our services. Others, with less experience, volunteer to help them build up their confidence and self esteem as part of our in-house training and development programme. All volunteers are encouraged to reach their full potential, working as part of an inclusive team and knowing they are making a tangible and significant difference in the lives of local people.

Harlow Council Civic Award

Congratulations to our team of foodbank volunteers at the Store House and satellite centre, who received a Civic Award from Harlow Council in May 2017, in acknowledgement of their work and support for local people in crisis.

Volunteer Christmas Social

Volunteers attended our Christmas social event at Harlow Cricket Club in December 2017 where we were able to thank them for their amazing work for the charity. Quizzes, entertainment and fellowship were the order of the day, as volunteers from different areas of our work got to know each other better in a great atmosphere.

Statistics

During this financial year the charity had 113 volunteers undertaking work with Maybury Open Door, Harlow Foodbank and the Bounty Club, alongside other duties. This represented 17,283 unpaid hours contributed by our volunteers.

15 volunteers (13%) working with the charity have a learning, physical or mental disability, and they each make a valuable contribution to our work.



I have gained general relationship skills working with disadvantaged people.

I have a sense of satisfaction that I can touch people's lives and put a smile on their faces.

I feel I can help, even without qualifications or special skills.

I love coming to Maybury and feel that people are pleased to see me, and value me.

It helps with my confidence-building and communicating with others.

It helped with my insight into and involvement with community issues.

Volunteer feedback



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Community partnerships are a valuable resource to any charity, as without them charities would not be as effective in supporting the people they serve. MRCT has again been developing these partnerships during this financial year and we would like to thank the companies, churches, local authorities, and organisations below for working with us in 2017/18 all for the benefit of our local community. Partners are listed in alphabetical order:



Bidfood (Harlow):

Has continued to provide a wide variety of surplus, low dated fresh food which has been distributed back into the community to front-line professional agencies working with disadvantaged people and people on low income.



Bishop's Stortford Foodbank:

As a charity we really do value our on-going partnership with Bishop's Stortford Foodbank, providing them with food storage and distribution facilities during the year. They also help us by providing a volunteer team for our local foodbank neighbourhood food collections from Tesco.

Brakes (Harlow):

Provided a range of surplus, low dated fresh food for our Bounty Club and Harlow Foodbank which has been distributed back into the community to front-line professional agencies working with disadvantaged people and people on low income.



Bristol Street Motors (Harlow):

Continues to support the work of the charity with FREE servicing, advice, and repairs to our foodbank and Bounty Club vans. Special thanks to Richard Geary, General Manager, for his on-going help and support of our work.



East End Farm (Roydon):

This has been the seventh year that the foodbank has been working with East End Farm, supplying fresh turkey portions at Christmas to local people in crisis. We supported 136 people (61 adults and 75 children) with turkey portions. Special thanks to Charles and Lindsay Abbey, the proprietors.



Free Cakes for Kids (Harlow):

Harlow Foodbank has referred 12 families in crisis to Free Cakes for Kids ensuring that each child received a celebration birthday cake on their special day.

Harefield Church (Harlow) & St Paul's Church (Harlow Town Centre):

These churches partner with MRCT by providing the building for our Maybury Open Door drop in centres in Harlow. St Paul's Church also makes available the 'Upper Room' for our foodbank satellite centre. Special thanks to the leaders of these churches for their valuable support.



Harlow Council:

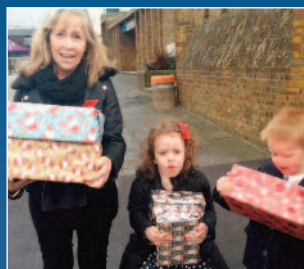
Supported the work of Harlow Foodbank by making a third annual donation of £3,000 towards the rent at our Store House in Matching Tye, Harlow. We would like to thank Harlow Council for maintaining this financial donation at a time of funding cutbacks for many local authorities.



HTS Group (Harlow):

Provided a waste disposal location/facility for the charities work.





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Lawsons (Whetstone) Ltd:

Have provided a range of support to the charity in 2017/18 which has included; donation of Peugeot Bipper van, digital pallet truck, internet access, computer and printer and sponsorship of the Bounty Club and MRCT van. Special thanks to Paul Sexton, Managing Director of Lawsons for arranging this support.



LoknStore (Harlow):

This company have been supporting the work of Harlow Foodbank since it opened in April 2009, with free/subsidised storage space up until it moved to Matching Tye in February 2016. It now provides a drop off point for food donations and is a van keyholder. We would like to thank them for their continued support over many years.



Places for People:

Places for people have sponsored our foodbank van since 2014, helping us to pick up and distribute emergency food to local people in crisis. This sponsorship covers all the van's expenditure and we would like to thank Mary Parsons, Group Director, Placemaking and Regeneration, for her continued support and sponsorship.



Poundland Distribution Centre (Harlow):

Poundland is a new community partner in 2017/18, providing a wide range on non-perishable food, toiletries, household items, sweets and drinks for Harlow Foodbank. These donations are given out to local people in crisis. Special thanks to Geoff Morgan, Distribution Centre Controller, for organising these donations and deliveries.



Salvation Army (Harlow):

For providing a foodbank satellite centre for Harlow Foodbank on Wednesdays at their location in Harlow. Special thanks to Majors Chris and Karen Sandford and Lorraine Evans and her volunteer team.



Stansted Airport (London):

This partnership is now well established since its initial trial in September 2016 and we continue to receive a wide range of recycled/surrendered/restricted non-perishable food, toiletry and perfumes from airline passengers' hand baggage checks. These items are distributed to local people in crisis and front-line professional agencies via the work of Harlow Foodbank and the Bounty Club.



Swithenbank (Hoddesdon):

Provided an assortment of surplus, low dated fresh food which has been distributed back into the community to front-line professional agencies working with disadvantaged people and people on low income with our work with the Bounty Club and Harlow Foodbank.



Trussell Trust Foodbank Network:

Harlow Foodbank is a member of the Trussell Trust Foodbank Network and we are indebted to them for their help and support in setting up and giving on-going support with Harlow Foodbank since it opened in April 2009.

UK Salads / Greenways Eggs / High Trees Packers Ltd:

These local companies have maintained their valuable support this year and supplied Harlow Foodbank with fresh food free of charge, which is given out to local people in crisis with their emergency non-perishable food. We continue to be indebted to these companies for their on-going help and support.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



ASDA (food collection point)
 Bag it Plastics (use of their fork lift at Store House)
 Bidfood, Harlow (surplus fresh food supplies)
 Bishop's Stortford Foodbank (foodbank partner)
 Brakes, Harlow (surplus fresh food supplies)
 Bristol Street Motors (free van servicing and repair)
 Charles Abbey, East End Farm (fresh turkey portion supplier)
 Church and School partners (general and harvest food donations)
 Church Langley Church (funding partner)
 Church of Holy innocents, High Beach (funding partner)
 Citizens Advice Bureau (community support and advice sessions)
 Create Identitee (MRCT clothing)
 Essex Community Foundation (funding support)
 Essex Freemasons (funding partner)
 Free Cakes for Kids (celebration cakes for foodbank client's children)
 Freshwaters Church (funding partner)
 Front-Line Professional Agencies (community partners)
 Gateway Freedom Church (funding partner)
 Greenways Eggs (egg donations)
 Halifax (foodbank delivery point and cash collection boxes)
 Harefield Church, Harlow (free use of building)
 Harlow Council (Store House funding support)
 Heart4Harlow (community partner)
 High Trees Packers (potato donations)
 HTS Group, Harlow (waste disposal)
 Lawsons (Whetstone) Ltd (vehicle and equipment donations)
 LoknStore (foodbank delivery point)
 Poundland Distribution Centre Harlow (food, toiletry and household donations)
 Rainbow Services (community partner)
 Robert Halfon MP
 Rodect Pest Control (pest control partner)
 Rotary Club of Harlow Tye (foodbank supermarket collections)
 Sainsbury's, Harlow and Bishop's Stortford (foodbank collection point)
 Salvation Army, Harlow (foodbank satellite centre on Wednesdays)
 Santander (foodbank delivery point)
 Sobell Charitable Trust (funding partner)
 St Paul's Church, Harlow (discounted use of building)
 Stansted Airport (London) (food, toiletry and gift donations)
 Stuart & Kathryn Tinney, Housham Hall Farm (landlords)
 Swithenbank, Hoddesdon (surplus fresh food supplies)
 Tesco, Harlow and Bishop's Stortford (foodbank collection point and cash top-up)
 Trussell Trust Foodbank Network (foodbank partner)
 UK Salads (salad donations)
 Waitrose, Bishop's Stortford (foodbank collection point)



The Michael Roberts Charitable Trust

The Rainbow Centre, 2 Wych Elm, Harlow, Essex CM20 1QP
 Tel: 01279 724515 Email: enquiries@mrct.org.uk
www.mrct.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1065006
 Registered Company No: 3439299





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

THE MICHAEL ROBERTS CHARITABLE TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST MARCH 2018

Charity no
(if any)

1065006

Set out on pages

3-9

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. ~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]].~~ ACCA
Delete [] if not applicable.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

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 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 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**

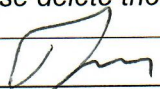
In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:



Date:

23rd July 2018

Name:

Justin Pigram

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

FCCA - Fellow of the ACCA

Address:

2 Burgess Cottages, Pond Hill
Little Dymen, Essex, CM6 3HW

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.