ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

England & Wales · Charity number 222700

Details

Other names	SAMUEL ROBINSON CHARITIES, SAMUEL ROBINSONS CHARITIES
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1964-01-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Bocketts Downs Road Epsom KT18 5HA
Phone	01372 727777
Email	howard.brown9@btinternet.com

Activities

Objects: SEE CONSTITUENTS

Activities: RELIEVING NEED FOR MINISTERS (ACTIVE OR RETIRED) OF CONGREGATIONAL AND BAPTIST CHURCHES AND OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND FOR WIDOWS OF SUCH MINISTERS RESIDENT IN ENGLAND. THE TRUSTEES APPLY THE INCOME OF THE TRUST BY MAKING GRANTS OF MONEY OR PROVIDING ITEMS, SERVICES OR FACILITIES CALCULATED TO REDUCE THE NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS OF BENEFICIARIES

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BRITISH ISLES
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-11-30	£115,375	£113,738	-	-
2024-11-30	£110,654	£121,576	-	-
2023-11-30	£104,321	£126,937	-	-
2022-11-30	£100,367	£118,266	-	-
2021-11-30	£94,907	£98,787	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DAVID PORTER		
ELIZABETH ANN LAWSON QC MA		
HOWARD ROGER BROWN		
LYN DYER HOPKINS		
ROGER FREDERICK HUGHES CA		
TONY ALDERMAN		
TREVITT STEGGLES		2025-05-29

Linked charities

- ROBINSON'S RETREAT TRUST (222700-1)
- ROBINSON'S TRUST FOR INDEPENDENT AND BAPTIST MINISTERS (222700-2)

Accounts

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

(SAMUEL ROBINSON'S CHARITIES)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 November 2025

ROBINSON’S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Charity Commission No. 222700

In addition, Peter Young (Congregational) was appointed on 29/05/2025, but died on 12/12/2025.

The Trustees are (in respect of the Relief Charity only) a corporation by the name of The Incorporated Trustees of Robinson’s Trust for Independent and Baptist Ministers

Secretary for Grants

Miss E. A. Lawson
113 Vesage Court
8A Leather Lane
London
EC1N 7RF

Treasurer

H R Brown, FCA
35 Mospey Crescent
Epsom
KT17 4NA

Investment Managers

Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd
Ropemaker Place
25 Ropemaker Street
London
EC2Y 9LY

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Examiner

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITIES

The Robinson's Trust for Ministers' Widows was created in 1812 by Samuel Robinson for the benefit of widows of Pastors or Ministers of Independent and Baptist Churches resident in the British Isles. The Robinson's Relief Trust was created in 1833 under Samuel Robinson's Will for the benefit of Independent and Baptist Ministers, either married men or widowers, resident in England and Wales. In 1986 a scheme was approved for the two charities to be administered together under the title of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities. The Trust Deed requires the Trustees to apply the income in relieving need either generally or individually by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of beneficiaries.

The body of Trustees consists, when complete, of eight competent persons of whom at the time of their respective appointments four shall be Elders or Deacons of Churches of the United Reformed Church, one shall be an Elder or a Deacon of a non-uniting Congregational Church and three shall be Elders or Deacons of Baptist Churches.

Trustees are required to hold at least one meeting in each year, to be held on or as near as possible to 8th June, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Founder, Samuel Robinson. Clause 25 of the Trust Deed gives permission for the costs of the anniversary dinner to be charged against the income of the Trust.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 30 November 2025.
The Trustees met during the year and considered the level of grants to be paid in the financial year in the light of the economic outlook and taking into account the permission granted by the Charity Commission in July 2021 for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. They decided to maintain individual grants at the same level as the previous year.
The results for the year set out below show that investment income amounted to £115,375 (2023/24-£110,654). Individual grants were made to 28 beneficiaries totalling £112,000 (2023/24 – 30 totalling £119,992) during the year, ranging from £1,500 to £6,000. As a result, there was a surplus of £1,637 (2023/24- deficit £10,922) on Revenue Account for the year. The deficit in the previous year was set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling referred to above. The surplus for the current year is carried forward on Revenue Reserve. We record, with grateful thanks, the work undertaken by Elizabeth Lawson and her fellow trustees, who are appointed in accordance with clause 20 of the Trust Deed, in the assessment and distribution of these grants.
The administration expenses continue to be very low, as all tasks are performed by the Trustees, who receive no remuneration, nor are they reimbursed expenses.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

It is the policy of the Trustees to balance the objectives of the investments between growth in the permanent endowments and the need for revenue income to fund grants. It is the Trustees' intention to distribute the revenue account fully, taking one year with another.

The Trustees of Samuel Robinson's Charities endeavour to avoid investing in companies with more than a minimal proportion of their income derived from alcohol, tobacco, pornography or arms. They recognise, however, that it is not always easy to identify all the activities of multinational companies or their subsidiaries and that from time to time they may inadvertently make an investment which breaches this policy. They believe that it is possible to maintain this policy without breaching their primary obligation to obtain the best return on their investments for the benefit of those whom the Charities were established to serve.

Following the decision to place the assets of both Trusts with one Investment Manager, Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, the Trustees merged the asset accounts. As at 1 June 2010, the value of the assets in the two trusts was split in the proportions Retreat 47.09%, Relief 52.91% and it was decided that these proportions should be regarded as permanent unless there was a significant change in circumstances. Chas. Stanley deal with the portfolio on a discretionary basis on a medium/low risk with balanced objectives between capital growth and income. During the year, the value of the portfolio under management increased by £162,272 to £3,466,820, after allowing for a withdrawal of £15,000 from the portfolio to fund working capital. Global Equity markets enjoyed a buoyant year as inflation concerns began to subside, and corporate earnings proved relatively robust. The US Federal Reserve cut interest rates at its September, October and December 2025 meetings, amid soft jobs market data. In the UK, the Bank of England reduced interest rates by a further quarter percentage point at their December meeting, having reduced interest rates by a quarter percentage point in February, May and August 2025. Equity markets recovered from low levels witnessed in April following US President Trump's announcement of an aggressive overhaul of US trade policy, deploying a "reciprocal tariff" strategy to pressure trading partners into bilateral deals. The trade strategy continues to cause tensions worldwide and appeared to escalate with China until President Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping met in South Korea in October, which led to a series of announcements on closer trade ties. The FTSE 100 had one its best periods since 2009, although the performance of mid-cap stocks was more mixed on domestic growth worries. US Equites extended gains of the previous year as technology stocks continued to dominate, with artificial intelligence optimism driving indices, and Eurozone equities posted mixed but positive returns.

When planning the Charities' activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The beneficiaries are defined by the trust deed, and are those in need, hardship or distress.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those 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 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 Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

H R Brown Trustee Date 23 March 2026

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30 November 2025

Total 2024 £		Revenue	Retreat Charity	Relief Charity	Total 2025 £
	Income				
109,555	Income from Listed Investments	112,042			
1,099	Interest	3,333			
110,654		115,375			115,375
	Expenditure				
	Grants to Ministers and Widows				
70,300	Baptist (18)	69,500			
31,492	Congregational (6)	26,600			
7,700	United Reformed Church (2)	8,400			
10,500	Other (2)	7,500			
119,992		112,000			112,000
	Expenses				
156	Legal and other expenses	176			
300	Founder's Birthday Dinner	380			
1,128	Examiner's Fee	1,182			
1,584		1,738			1,738
121,576		113,738			113,738
(10,922)	**Revenue Surplus for year**	1,637			1,637
247,096	Capital appreciation in year		92,466	103,895	196,361
(18,836)	Investment management fees		(8,989)	(10,099)	(19,088)
217,338	**Net Income**	1,637	83,477	93,796	178,910
-	Transfer between Funds (note)	-	-	-	-
	Reconciliation of funds				
3,129,669	Total funds brought forward	-	1,589,018	1,757,989	3,347,007
3,347,007	Total funds carried forward	1,637	1,672,495	1,851,785	3,525,917

Note: The deficit of £10,922 in the previous year on Revenue Reserve was set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling in July 2021, for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. The current year produced a surplus, thus at 30 November 2025, £42,496 had been so expended.

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 NOVEMBER 2025

ASSETS

2024			Notes	2025
£				£
3,210,737	Listed Investments		4	3,322,990
93,810	Cash at brokers	Capital Account	4	143,830
5,879		Income Account		4,717
36,581	Bank balances			54,380
£3,347,007				£3,525,917

REPRESENTING:

1,589,018	Permanent Endowment of Retreat Charity	1,672,495
1,757,989	Permanent Endowment of Relief Charity	1,851,785
-	Revenue Account	1,637
£3,347,007	Total Funds	£3,525,917

23 March 2026

H R Brown Trustee *D Porter* Trustee

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2025

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the inclusion of listed investments at market value. They have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Income from investments, mainly dividends, is recognised when received by brokers.

Grants payable are charged to income in the year in which the grant is approved.

Listed investments are shown at market value.

2. Charitable activities. The Trustees regard all resources expended to be for the single purpose of the Charities. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3. Related parties. There were no related party transactions during the year.

4. Listed Investments and cash at brokers

Movements for the year are:

	Listed Investments	Cash at brokers	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2024	3,210,737	93,810	3,304,547
Investment management fees	-	(19,088)	(19,088)
Additions in the year	196,188	(196,188)	-
Disposals in the year	(280,296)	280,296	-
Cash withdrawn from portfolio		(15,000)	(15,000)
Appreciation for year -realised	35,521	-	35,521
Appreciation for year -unrealised	160,840	-	160,840
Balance at 30 November 2025	3,322,990	143,830	3,466,820

Included in the balance at 30 November 2025 are unrealised gains of:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Retreat Charity	495,287	463,950
Relief Charity	556,502	521,292
Total	£1,051,789	£985,242

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 November 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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; or

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.

Miriam Hickson

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date: 7 April 2026

Accounts

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

(SAMUEL ROBINSON'S CHARITIES)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 November 2024

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Charity Commission No. 222700

The Trustees are (in respect of the Relief Charity only) a corporation by the name of The Incorporated Trustees of Robinson's Trust for Independent and Baptist Ministers

Secretary for Grants

Miss E. A. Lawson
113 Vesage Court
8A Leather Lane
London
EC1N 7RF

Treasurer

H R Brown, FCA
Bocketts
Downs Road
Epsom
KT18 5HA

Investment Managers

Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd
Ropemaker Place
25 Ropemaker Street
London
EC2Y 9LY

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Examiner

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITIES

The Robinson's Trust for Ministers' Widows was created in 1812 by Samuel Robinson for the benefit of widows of Pastors or Ministers of Independent and Baptist Churches resident in the British Isles. The Robinson's Relief Trust was created in 1833 under Samuel Robinson's Will for the benefit of Independent and Baptist Ministers, either married men or widowers, resident in England and Wales. In 1986 a scheme was approved for the two charities to be administered together under the title of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities. The Trust Deed requires the Trustees to apply the income in relieving need either generally or individually by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of beneficiaries.

The body of Trustees consists, when complete, of eight competent persons of whom at the time of their respective appointments four shall be Elders or Deacons of Churches of the United Reformed Church, one shall be an Elder or a Deacon of a non-uniting Congregational Church and three shall be Elders or Deacons of Baptist Churches.

Trustees are required to hold at least one meeting in each year, to be held on or as near as possible to 8th June, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Founder, Samuel Robinson. Clause 25 of the Trust Deed gives permission for the costs of the anniversary dinner to be charged against the income of the Trust.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 30 November 2024.
The Trustees met during the year and considered the level of grants to be paid in the financial year in the light of the economic outlook and taking into account the permission granted by the Charity Commission in July 2021 for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. They decided to maintain individual grants at the same level as the previous year.
The results for the year set out below show that investment income amounted to £110,654 (2022/23 £104,321). Individual grants were made to 30 beneficiaries totalling £119,992 (2022/23 – 30 totalling £125,527) during the year, ranging from £1,500 to £6,000. As a result, there was a deficit of £10,922 (2022/23- £22,616) on Revenue Account for the year. This deficit has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling referred to above. We record, with grateful thanks, the work undertaken by Elizabeth Lawson and her fellow trustees, who are appointed in accordance with clause 20 of the Trust Deed, in the assessment and distribution of these grants.
The administration expenses continue to be very low, as all tasks are performed by the Trustees, who receive no remuneration, nor are they reimbursed expenses.
It is the policy of the Trustees to balance the objectives of the investments between growth in the permanent endowments and the need for revenue income to fund grants.

It is the Trustees' intention to distribute the revenue account fully, taking one year with another.

The Trustees of Samuel Robinson's Charities endeavour to avoid investing in companies with more than a minimal proportion of their income derived from alcohol, tobacco, pornography or arms. They recognise, however, that it is not always easy to identify all the activities of multinational companies or their subsidiaries and that from time to time they may inadvertently make an investment which breaches this policy. They believe that it is possible to maintain this policy without breaching their primary obligation to obtain the best return on their investments for the benefit of those whom the Charities were established to serve.

Following the decision to place the assets of both Trusts with one Investment Manager, Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, the Trustees merged the asset accounts. As at 1 June 2010, the value of the assets in the two trusts was split in the proportions Retreat 47.09%, Relief 52.91% and it was decided that these proportions should be regarded as permanent unless there was a significant change in circumstances. Chas. Stanley deal with the portfolio on a discretionary basis on a medium/low risk with balanced objectives between capital growth and income. During the year, the value of the portfolio under management increased by £228,260 to £3,304,547. 2024 was the year where equity market returns were largely driven by investor expectations of interest rate movements and the appointment of new global political leaders. The US Equity market has had a strong year with returns driven mostly by the seven largest technology companies. Gains in UK equities have been more subdued and the UK market currently trades at a discount, largely due to its lack of exposure to the technology sector. Markets initially gave a warm response to Donald Trump's decisive win in the US Presidential Election. Whilst conditions will remain challenging, the US is still expected to engineer a soft economic landing as inflation is brought down to the US Federal Reserve's target level, however there could be some disappointment in the pace of the cuts should Donald Trump's tariff threats be implemented. Although evidence of a slowdown has emerged in the UK, there is nothing yet in the data to suggest the slowdown could morph into a recession.

When planning the Charities' activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The beneficiaries are defined by the trust deed, and are those in need, hardship or distress.

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those 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 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 Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

H R Brown Trustee

Date 27 March 2025

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30 November 2024

Total 2023 £		Revenue	Retreat Charity	Relief Charity	Total 2024 £
	Income				
103,711	Income from Listed Investments	109,555			
610	Interest	1,099			
104,321		110,654			110,654
	Expenditure				
	Grants to Ministers and Widows				
75,400	Baptist (18)	70,300			
34,427	Congregational (7)	31,492			
8,200	United Reformed Church (2)	7,700			
7,500	Other (3)	10,500			
125,527		119,992			119,992
	Expenses				
147	Legal and other expenses	156			
195	Founder's Birthday Dinner	300			
1,068	Examiner's Fee	1,128			
8					
1,410		1,584			1,584
126,937		121,576			121,576
(22,616)	**Revenue (Deficit) for year**	(10,922)			(10,922)
(12,193)	Capital appreciation in year		116,358	130,738	247,096
(18,221)	Investment management fees		(8,870)	(9,966)	(18,836)
(53,030)	**Net Income/(Deficit)**	(10,922)	107,488	120,772	217,338
-	Transfer between Funds (note)	10,922	(5,143)	(5,779)	-
	Reconciliation of funds				
3,182,699	Total funds brought forward	-	1,486,673	1,642,996	3,129,669
3,129,669	Total funds carried forward	-	1,589,018	1,757,989	3,347,007

Note: The deficit of £10,922 on Revenue Reserve has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling in July 2021, for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. At 30 November 2024, £42,496 had been so expended.

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 NOVEMBER 2024

ASSETS

2023			Notes	2024
£				£
3,016,758	Listed Investments		4	3,210,737
59,529	Cash at brokers	Capital Account	4	93,810
6,480		Income Account		5,879
46,902	Bank balances			36,581
£3,129,669				£3,347,007

REPRESENTING:

2023		2024
1,486,673	Permanent Endowment of Retreat Charity	1,589,018
1,642,996	Permanent Endowment of Relief Charity	1,757,989
-	Revenue Account	-
£3,129,669	Total Funds	£3,347,007

27 March 2025

H R Brown Trustee *D Porter* Trustee

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2024

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the inclusion of listed investments at market value. They have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Income from investments, mainly dividends, is recognised when received by brokers.

Grants payable are charged to income in the year in which the grant is approved.

Listed investments are shown at market value.

2. Charitable activities. The Trustees regard all resources expended to be for the single purpose of the Charities. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3. Related parties. There were no related party transactions during the year.

4. Listed Investments and cash at brokers.
Movements for the year are:

	Listed Investments	Cash at brokers	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2023	3,016,758	59,529	3,076,287
Investment management fees	-	(18,836)	(18,836)
Additions in the year	308,019	(308,019)	-
Disposals in the year	(361,136)	361,136	-
Appreciation for year -realised	153,322	-	153,322
Appreciation for year -unrealised	93,774	-	93,774
Balance at 30 November 2024	3,210,737	93,810	3,304,547

Included in the balance at 30 November 2024 are unrealised gains of:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Retreat Charity	463,950	403,946
Relief Charity	521,292	453,871
Total	£985,242	£857,817

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 November 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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; or

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.

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date: 14 April 2025

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

England & Wales - Charity number 222700

Accounts

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

(SAMUEL ROBINSON'S CHARITIES)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 November 2023

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Charity Commission No. 222700

TRUSTEES

Name	Denomination	Appointed
Elizabeth Lawson, KC, LLB	U.R.C.	1983
David Porter, BA, MBA	Baptist	1996
John Beha	U.R.C.	2015
Lyn Hopkins	U.R.C.	1999
Roger Hughes, CA	Baptist	1999
Anthony Alderman, ACII	U.R.C.	2004
Howard Brown, FCA	Baptist	2010

The Trustees are (in respect of the Relief Charity only) a corporation by the name of The Incorporated Trustees of Robinson's Trust for Independent and Baptist Ministers

Secretary for Grants

Miss E. A. Lawson
113 Vesage Court
8A Leather Lane
London
EC1N 7RF

Treasurer

H R Brown, FCA
Bocketts
Downs Road
Epsom
KT18 5HA

Investment Managers

Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd
55 Bishopsgate
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Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Examiner

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
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SM1 2SW

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITIES

The Robinson's Trust for Ministers' Widows was created in 1812 by Samuel Robinson for the benefit of widows of Pastors or Ministers of Independent and Baptist Churches resident in the British Isles. The Robinson's Relief Trust was created in 1833 under Samuel Robinson's Will for the benefit of Independent and Baptist Ministers, either married men or widowers, resident in England and Wales. In 1986 a scheme was approved for the two charities to be administered together under the title of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities. The Trust Deed requires the Trustees to apply the income in relieving need either generally or individually by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of beneficiaries.

The body of Trustees consists, when complete, of eight competent persons of whom at the time of their respective appointments four shall be Elders or Deacons of Churches of the United Reformed Church, one shall be an Elder or a Deacon of a non-uniting Congregational Church and three shall be Elders or Deacons of Baptist Churches.

Trustees are required to hold at least one meeting in each year, to be held on or as near as possible to 8th June, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Founder, Samuel Robinson. Clause 25 of the Trust Deed gives permission for the costs of the anniversary dinner to be charged against the income of the Trust.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 30 November 2023.

The Trustees met during the year and considered the level of grants to be paid in the financial year in the light of the economic outlook and taking into account the permission granted by the Charity Commission in July 2021 for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. They decided to maintain individual grants at the same level as the previous year.

The results for the year set out below show that investment income amounted to £104,321 (2021/22 £100,367). Individual grants were made to 30 beneficiaries totalling £125,527 (2021/22 – 30 totalling £116,800) during the year, ranging from £500 to £6,600. As a result, there was a deficit of £22,616 (2021/22- £17,899) on Revenue Account for the year. This deficit has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling referred to above. We record, with grateful thanks, the work undertaken by Elizabeth Lawson and her fellow trustees, who are appointed in accordance with clause 20 of the Trust Deed, in the assessment and distribution of these grants.

The administration expenses continue to be very low, as all tasks are performed by the Trustees, who receive no remuneration, nor are they reimbursed expenses.

It is the policy of the Trustees to balance the objectives of the investments between growth in the permanent endowments and the need for revenue income to fund grants.

It is the Trustees' intention to distribute the revenue account fully, taking one year with another.

The Trustees of Samuel Robinson's Charities endeavour to avoid investing in companies with more than a minimal proportion of their income derived from alcohol, tobacco, pornography or arms. They recognise, however, that it is not always easy to identify all the activities of multinational companies or their subsidiaries and that from time to time they may inadvertently make an investment which breaches this policy. They believe that it is possible to maintain this policy without breaching their primary obligation to obtain the best return on their investments for the benefit of those whom the Charities were established to serve.

Following the decision to place the assets of both Trusts with one Investment Manager, Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, the Trustees merged the asset accounts. As at 1 June 2010, the value of the assets in the two trusts was split in the proportions Retreat 47.09%, Relief 52.91% and it was decided that these proportions should be regarded as permanent unless there was a significant change in circumstances. Chas. Stanley deal with the portfolio on a discretionary basis on a medium/low risk with balanced objectives between capital growth and income. During the year, the value of the portfolio under management decreased by £60,414 to £3,076,287. This decrease includes £30,000 which the Trustees withdrew from the portfolio under management in order to provide funds for the annual grants.

Global equity markets had a strong finish to the year. Euphoria about the prospects for the benefits of artificial intelligence (AI) provided support for shares prices of the mega-cap technology companies. US indices rallied sharply on hopes US interest rates had peaked. Investors also expected that the Bank of England has now finished its cycle of interest rate rises after fourteen consecutive increases. Markets now believe the US could be able to engineer a soft landing and get inflation down without too much additional economic damage. The UK market expects a continuing tight money policy to curb inflation, which could impede growth. However, if a recession on either side of the Atlantic emerges, it is now expected to be shallow. Conditions over the coming year could remain challenging, however the medium-term outlook remains favourable, and markets could react positively to any suggestions that interest rates could begin to decline. The performance of the portfolio during the year to the end of November 2023 remains attractive compared to relevant indices.

When planning the Charities' activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The beneficiaries are defined by the trust deed, and are those in need, hardship or distress.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those 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 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 Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

H R Brown Trustee Date 12 March 2024

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30 November 2023

Total 2022 £		Revenue	Retreat Charity	Relief Charity	Total 2023 £
	Income				
100,365	Income from Listed Investments	103,711			
2	Interest	610			
100,367		104,321			104,321
	Expenditure				
	Grants to Ministers and Widows				
69,600	Baptist (18)	75,400			
33,500	Congregational (8)	34,427			
8,200	United Reformed Church (3)	8,200			
5,500	Other (2)	7,500			
116,800		125,527			125,527
	Expenses				
147	Legal and other expenses	147			
299	Founder's Birthday Dinner	195			
1,020	Examiner's Fee	1,068			
1,466		1,410			1,410
118,266		126,937			126,937
(17,899)	**Revenue (Deficit) for year**	(22,616)			(22,616)
(184,363)	Capital depreciation in year		(5,742)	(6,451)	(12,193)
(18,847)	Investment management fees		(8,580)	(9,641)	(18,221)
(221,109)	**Net Income/(Deficit)**	(22,616)	(14,322)	(16,092)	(53,030)
-	Transfer between Funds (note)	22,616	(10,650)	(11,966)	-
	Reconciliation of funds				
3,403,808	Total funds brought forward	-	1,511,645	1,671,054	3,182,699
3,182,699	Total funds carried forward	-	1,486,673	1,642,996	3,129,669

Note: The deficit of £22,616 on Revenue Reserve has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling in July 2021, for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. At 30 November 2023, £31,584 had been so expended.

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 NOVEMBER 2023

ASSETS

2022			Notes	2023
£				£
3,059,641	Listed Investments		4	3,016,758
77,060	Cash at brokers	Capital Account	4	59,529
5,687		Income Account		6,480
40,311	Bank balances			46,902
£3,182,699				£3,129,669

REPRESENTING:

1,511,645	Permanent Endowment of Retreat Charity	1,486,673
1,671,054	Permanent Endowment of Relief Charity	1,642,996
-	Revenue Account	-
£3,182,699	Total Funds	£3,129,669

Date 12 March 2024

H R Brown Trustee *D Porter* Trustee

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2023

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the inclusion of listed investments at market value. They have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Income from investments, mainly dividends, is recognised when received by brokers.

Grants payable are charged to income in the year in which the grant is approved.

Listed investments are shown at market value.

2. Charitable activities. The Trustees regard all resources expended to be for the single purpose of the Charities. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3. Related parties. There were no significant related party transactions during the year.

4. Listed Investments and cash at brokers.

Movements for the year are:

	Listed Investments	Cash at brokers	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2022	3,059,641	77,060	3,136,701
Cash withdrawn from portfolio	-	(30,000)	(30,000)
Investment management fees	-	(18,221)	(18,221)
Additions in the year	71,882	(71,882)	-
Disposals in the year	(102,572)	102,572	-
Depreciation for year -realised	(8,838)	-	(8,838)
Depreciation for year -unrealised	(3,355)	-	(3,355)
Balance at 30 November 2023	3,016,758	59,529	3,076,287

Included in the balance at 30 November 2023 are unrealised gains of:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Retreat Charity	403,946	414,065
Relief Charity	453,871	465,241
Total	£857,817	£879,306

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 November 2023 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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; or

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.

Miriam Hickson

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date: *22 March 2024*

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

England & Wales - Charity number 222700

Accounts

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

(SAMUEL ROBINSON'S CHARITIES)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 November 2022

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Charity Commission No. 222700

The Trustees are (in respect of the Relief Charity only) a corporation by the name of The Incorporated Trustees of Robinson's Trust for Independent and Baptist Ministers

Secretary for Grants

Miss E. A. Lawson
113 Vesage Court
8A Leather Lane
London
EC1N 7RF

Treasurer

H R Brown, FCA
Bocketts
Downs Road
Epsom
KT18 5HA

Investment Managers

Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd
55 Bishopsgate
London
EC2N 3AS

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Examiner

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

ROBINSON’S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITIES

The Robinson’s Trust for Ministers’ Widows was created in 1812 by Samuel Robinson for the benefit of widows of Pastors or Ministers of Independent and Baptist Churches resident in the British Isles. The Robinson’s Relief Trust was created in 1833 under Samuel Robinson’s Will for the benefit of Independent and Baptist Ministers, either married men or widowers, resident in England and Wales. In 1986 a scheme was approved for the two charities to be administered together under the title of Robinson’s Retreat and Relief Charities. The Trust Deed requires the Trustees to apply the income in relieving need either generally or individually by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of beneficiaries.

The body of Trustees consists, when complete, of eight competent persons of whom at the time of their respective appointments four shall be Elders or Deacons of Churches of the United Reformed Church, one shall be an Elder or a Deacon of a non-uniting Congregational Church and three shall be Elders or Deacons of Baptist Churches.

Trustees are required to hold at least one meeting in each year, to be held on or as near as possible to 8th June, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Founder, Samuel Robinson. Clause 25 of the Trust Deed gives permission for the costs of the anniversary dinner to be charged against the income of the Trust.

TRUSTEES’ REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 30 November 2022.

The Trustees met in March 2022 and considered the level of grants to be paid in the financial year in the light of the economic outlook post-pandemic and taking into account the permission granted by the Charity Commission in July 2021 for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries.

The results for the year set out below show that investment income amounted to £100,367 (2020/21 £94,907). Individual grants were made to 30 beneficiaries totalling £116,800 (2020/21 – 27 totalling £96,359) during the year, ranging from £500 to £6,600. As a result, there was a deficit of £17,899 (2020/21- £3,880) on Revenue Account for the year. After deducting the opening balance on Revenue Reserve of £8,931, there is a deficit of £8,968 on Revenue Reserve which has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission’s ruling referred to above. We record, with grateful thanks, the work undertaken by Elizabeth Lawson and her fellow trustees, who are appointed in accordance with clause 20 of the Trust Deed, in the assessment and distribution of these grants.

The administration expenses continue to be very low, as all tasks are performed by the Trustees, who receive no remuneration, nor are they reimbursed expenses.

It is the policy of the Trustees to balance the objectives of the investments between growth in the permanent endowments and the need for revenue income to fund grants.

It is the Trustees' intention to distribute the revenue account fully, taking one year with another.

The Trustees of Samuel Robinson's Charities endeavour to avoid investing in companies with more than a minimal proportion of their income derived from alcohol, tobacco, pornography or arms. They recognise, however, that it is not always easy to identify all the activities of multinational companies or their subsidiaries and that from time to time they may inadvertently make an investment which breaches this policy. They believe that it is possible to maintain this policy without breaching their primary obligation to obtain the best return on their investments for the benefit of those whom the Charities were established to serve.

Following the decision to place the assets of both Trusts with one Investment Manager, Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, the Trustees merged the asset accounts. As at 1 June 2010, the value of the assets in the two trusts was split in the proportions Retreat 47.09%, Relief 52.91% and it was decided that these proportions should be regarded as permanent unless there was a significant change in circumstances. Chas. Stanley deal with the portfolio on a discretionary basis on a medium/low risk with balanced objectives between capital growth and income. During the year, the value of the portfolio under management decreased by £228,210 to £3,136,701. This decrease includes £25,000 which the Trustees withdrew from the portfolio under management in order to provide funds for the annual grants.

It has been a difficult year for the investment portfolio as equity and bond markets contended with aggressive increases in interest rates as Central Banks attempted to tame inflation, which reached its highest level for four decades in several economies. Russia's invasion of Ukraine resulted in stringent sanctions being imposed on Russia, who are one of the world's largest suppliers of oil and gas and these sanctions caused energy prices to spike. Inflation was already elevated before the conflict in the Ukraine. Central banks, particularly the US Federal Reserve, introduced ultra-loose monetary policies to support their economies through the Covid pandemic, and these policies remained in place for an extended period of time. When the restrictions on movement ended, bottlenecks and uncoordinated openings worldwide led to a shortage of goods and components, as well as workers – with demand outstripping supply. This supply chain imbalance propelled inflation to a level that was many times higher than central banks' target rates. There is now some optimism that inflation should start to fall away as the new year progresses.

When planning the Charities' activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The beneficiaries are defined by the trust deed, and are those in need, hardship or distress.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those 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 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 Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

H R Brown Trustee Date 14 March 2023

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30 November 2022

Total 2021 £		Revenue	Retreat Charity	Relief Charity	Total 2022 £
	Income				
94,907	Income from Listed Investments	100,365			
0	Interest	2			
94,907		100,367			100,367
	Expenditure				
	Grants to Ministers and Widows				
50,500	Baptist (18)	69,600			
30,359	Congregational (8)	33,500			
7,500	United Reformed Church (3)	8,200			
3,000	Welsh Congregational	-			
5,000	Other (1)	5,500			
96,359		116,800			116,800
	Expenses				
1,227	Legal and other expenses	147			
235	Founder's Birthday Dinner	299			
966	Examiner's Fee	1,020			
2,428		1,466			1,466
98,787		118,266			118,266
(3,880)	**Revenue (Deficit) for year**	(17,899)			(17,899)
311,950	Capital depreciation in year		(86,817)	(97,546)	(184,363)
(18,366)	Investment management fees		(8,875)	(9,972)	(18,847)
289,704	**Net Income/(Deficit)**	(17,899)	(95,692)	(107,518)	(221,109)
-	Transfer between Funds (note)	8,968	(4,223)	(4,745)	-
	Reconciliation of funds				
3,114,104	Total funds brought forward	8,931	1,611,560	1,783,317	3,403,808
3,403,808	Total funds carried forward	-	1,511,645	1,671,054	3,182,699

Note: The deficit of £8,968 on Revenue Reserve has been set against the Permanent Endowments, as permitted by the Charity Commission's ruling in July 2021, for the Charity to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries.

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 NOVEMBER 2022

ASSETS

2021 £			Notes	2022 £
3,157,878	Listed Investments		4	3,059,641
207,033	Cash at brokers	Capital Account	4	77,060
5,422		Income Account		5,687
33,475	Bank balances			40,311
£3,403,808				£3,182,699

REPRESENTING:

1,611,560	Permanent Endowment of Retreat Charity	1,511,645
1,783,317	Permanent Endowment of Relief Charity	1,671,054
8,931	Revenue Account	-
£3,403,808	Total Funds	£3,182,699

Date 14 March 2023

H R Brown Trustee *D Porter* Trustee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2022

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the inclusion of listed investments at market value. They have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Income from investments, mainly dividends, is recognised when received by brokers.

Grants payable are charged to income in the year in which the grant is approved.

Listed investments are shown at market value.

2. Charitable activities. The Trustees regard all resources expended to be for the single purpose of the Charities. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3. Related parties. There were no significant related party transactions during the year.

4. Listed Investments and cash at brokers.
Movements for the year are:

	Listed Investments	Cash at brokers	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2021	3,157,878	207,033	3,364,911
Cash withdrawn from portfolio	-	(25,000)	(25,000)
Investment management fees	-	(18,847)	(18,847)
Additions in the year	178,887	(178,887)	-
Disposals in the year	(92,761)	92,761	-
Appreciation for year -realised	28,435	-	28,435
Depreciation for year -unrealised	(212,798)	-	(212,798)
Balance at 30 November 2022	3,059,641	77,060	3,136,701

Included in the balance at 30 November 2022 are unrealised gains of:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Retreat Charity	414,065	578,691
Relief Charity	465,241	650,214
Total	£879,306	£1,228,905

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 November 2022 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Miriam Hickson

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date: 3 April 2023

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

England & Wales - Charity number 222700

Accounts

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

(SAMUEL ROBINSON'S CHARITIES)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 November 2021

ROBINSON’S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Charity Commission No. 222700

Brian Mann, representing the Congregational Federation, was a trustee until his resignation on 10 June 2020. A successor is being sought.

The Trustees are (in respect of the Relief Charity only) a corporation by the name of The Incorporated Trustees of Robinson’s Trust for Independent and Baptist Ministers

Secretary for Grants

Miss E. A. Lawson
113 Vesage Court
8A Leather Lane
London
EC1N 7RF

Treasurer

H R Brown, FCA
Bocketts
Downs Road
Epsom
KT18 5HA

Investment Managers

Charles Stanley & Co. Ltd
55 Bishopsgate
London
EC2N 3AS

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

Examiner

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITIES

The Robinson's Trust for Ministers' Widows was created in 1812 by Samuel Robinson for the benefit of widows of Pastors or Ministers of Independent and Baptist Churches resident in the British Isles. The Robinson's Relief Trust was created in 1833 under Samuel Robinson's Will for the benefit of Independent and Baptist Ministers, either married men or widowers, resident in England and Wales. In 1986 a scheme was approved for the two charities to be administered together under the title of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities. The Trust Deed requires the Trustees to apply the income in relieving need either generally or individually by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of beneficiaries.

The body of Trustees consists, when complete, of eight competent persons of whom at the time of their respective appointments four shall be Elders or Deacons of Churches of the United Reformed Church, one shall be an Elder or a Deacon of a non-uniting Congregational Church and three shall be Elders or Deacons of Baptist Churches.

Trustees are required to hold at least one meeting in each year, to be held on or as near as possible to 8th June, being the anniversary of the birthday of the Founder, Samuel Robinson. Clause 25 of the Trust Deed gives permission for the costs of the anniversary dinner to be charged against the income of the Trust.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 30 November 2021.

The Trustees met early in the financial year to review the affairs of the Charity in the light of the Pandemic and its likely effects on income and on grants. Income from investments had fallen and was forecast to remain low for the remainder of the financial year. The needs of beneficiaries were likely to have increased as they faced the squeeze on income caused by the Pandemic. Accordingly, the Trustees took action to address the problem. They instructed the Investment Managers to take steps to increase the dividend income where practicable. This has been done, and there is therefore an increase in income for the year. They also instructed a firm of solicitors to apply on their behalf to the Charity Commission for permission to expend up to £100,000 of Permanent Endowment in order to maintain the level of grants to beneficiaries. This permission was granted on 14 July 2021. Pending the outcome of the application, the Trustees made interim payments to beneficiaries in June 2021, and then made further payments where appropriate in October 2021 to a level consistent with the previous year.

Following the above, investment income amounted to £94,907 (2019/20 £74,481). Individual grants were made to 27 beneficiaries totalling £96,359 (2019/20 – 30 totalling £101,044) during the year, ranging from £500 to £6,000. As a result, there was a deficit of £3,880 (2019/20-deficit of £27,624) on Revenue Account for the year, which will be met from Revenue Reserve. We record, with grateful thanks, the work undertaken by Elizabeth Lawson and her fellow trustees, who are appointed in accordance with clause 20 of the Trust Deed, in the assessment and distribution of these grants.

The administration expenses continue to be very low, as all tasks are performed by the Trustees, who receive no remuneration, nor are they reimbursed expenses.

It is the policy of the Trustees to balance the objectives of the investments between growth in the permanent endowments and the need for revenue income to fund grants. It is the Trustees' intention to distribute the revenue account fully, taking one year with another. At 30 November 2021, the Revenue Reserve amounted to £8,931.

The Trustees of Samuel Robinson's Charities endeavour to avoid investing in companies with more than a minimal proportion of their income derived from alcohol, tobacco, pornography or arms. They recognise, however, that it is not always easy to identify all the activities of multinational companies or their subsidiaries and that from time to time they may inadvertently make an investment which breaches this policy. They believe that it is possible to maintain this policy without breaching their primary obligation to obtain the best return on their investments for the benefit of those whom the Charities were established to serve.

Following the decision to place the assets of both Trusts with one Investment Manager, Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, the Trustees merged the asset accounts. As at 1 June 2010, the value of the assets in the two trusts was split in the proportions Retreat 47.09%, Relief 52.91% and it was decided that these proportions should be regarded as permanent unless there was a significant change in circumstances. Chas. Stanley deal with the portfolio on a discretionary basis on a medium/low risk with balanced objectives between capital growth and income. During the year, the value of the portfolio under management increased by £293,584 to £3,364,911.

Having recovered from the coronavirus led declines of the previous March, most developed country equity markets recorded new highs during 2021. Equities were supported by relatively strong economic growth as global economic activity surpassed its pre-pandemic level. At the end of the year investor sentiment was adversely affected by the emergence of a new variant of coronavirus, Omicron, which increased uncertainty and raised concerns that additional lockdowns and travel restrictions may be required. Investors also became increasingly concerned about threat of inflationary pressures with price increases rising faster than central bank forecasts. Nevertheless, policymakers still believe current inflationary forces to be temporary and expect inflationary pressures to ease through 2022.

When planning the Charities' activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The beneficiaries are defined by the trust deed, and are those in need, hardship or distress.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those 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 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 Trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

H *R Brown* Trustee Date 2 March 2022

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30 November 2021

Total 2020		Revenue	Retreat Charity	Relief Charity	Total 2021
£	Income				£
74,188	Income from Listed Investments	94,907			
293	Interest	0			
74,481		94,907			94,907
	Expenditure				
	Grants to Ministers and Widows				
49,500	Baptist (14)	50,500			
31,244	Congregational (8)	30,359			
12,300	United Reformed Church (3)	7,500			
3,000	Welsh Congregational (1)	3,000			
5,000	Other (1)	5,000			
101,044		96,359			96,359
	Expenses				
107	Legal and other expenses	1,227			
0	Founder's Birthday Dinner	235			
954	Examiner's Fee	966			
1,061		2,428			2,428
102,105		98,787			98,787
(27,624)	**Revenue (Deficit) for year**	(3,880)			(3,880)
(49,675)	Capital appreciation in year		146,897	165,053	311,950
(16,588)	Investment management fees		(8,649)	(9,717)	(18,366)
(93,887)	**Net Income/(Deficit)**	(3,880)	138,248	155,336	289,704
	Reconciliation of funds				
3,207,991	Total funds brought forward	12,811	1,473,312	1,627,981	3,114,104
3,114,104	Total funds carried forward	8,931	1,611,560	1,783,317	3,403,808

ROBINSON’S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 NOVEMBER 2021

ASSETS

2020			Notes	2021
£				£
2,861,296	Listed Investments		4	3,157,878
210,032	Cash at brokers	Capital Account	4	207,033
4,222		Income Account		5,422
38,554	Bank balances			33,475
£3,114,104				£3,403,808

REPRESENTING:

2020		2021
1,473,312	Permanent Endowment of Retreat Charity	1,611,560
1,627,981	Permanent Endowment of Relief Charity	1,783,317
12,811	Revenue Account	8,931
£3,114,104	Total Funds	£3,403,808

Date 2 March 2022

H R Brown Trustee *D Porter* Trustee

ROBINSON'S RETREAT AND RELIEF CHARITIES

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2021

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the inclusion of listed investments at market value. They have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Income from investments, mainly dividends, is recognised when received by brokers.

Grants payable are charged to income in the year in which the grant is approved.

Listed investments are shown at market value.

2. Charitable activities. The Trustees regard all resources expended to be for the single purpose of the Charities. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3. Related parties. There were no significant related party transactions during the year.

4. Listed Investments and cash at brokers.

Movements for the year are:

	Listed Investments	Cash at brokers	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2020	2,861,296	210,032	3,071,328
Investment management fees	-	(18,366)	(18,366)
Additions in the year	338,000	(338,000)	-
Disposals in the year	(353,367)	353,367	-
Appreciation for year -realised	221,867	-	221,867
Appreciation for year -unrealised	90,082	-	90,082
Balance at 30 November 2021	3,157,878	207,033	3,364,911

Included in the balance at 30 November 2021 are unrealised gains of:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Retreat Charity	578,691	538,492
Relief Charity	650,214	605,046
Total	£1,228,905	£1,143,538

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Robinson's Retreat and Relief Charities

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 November 2021 which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Miriam Hickson

Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date: 21 March 2022