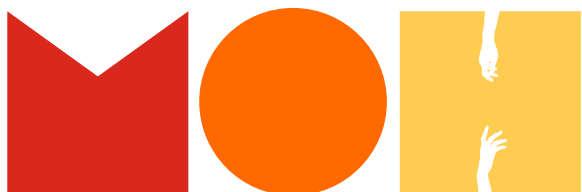




A Year in Review

July 2016 – June 2017



**Museum of
Homelessness**

Making the invisible visible

The Museum of Homelessness brings people together to counter prejudice, promote understanding and transform lives.

We are an independent charity that responds to the day-to-day realities of homelessness. The MoH was created by people with direct experience of homelessness to collect and share the art, history and culture of homelessness and housing to make a difference to society today.

Cover and below:
State of the Nation at Tate Exchange;
Photo: Neil Raja, 2017



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Statement from Chair of Trustees

Over the past year, as I have travelled through the four nations of the UK in my job as director of the Museums Association, I have been struck by the increase in visible homelessness on the streets of our towns and cities.

Changes to the benefit system, the impact of government policies and the lack of affordable housing have contributed to a gathering crisis that is impossible to ignore. The appalling statistics in the news headlines, from the increase in the number of people living in temporary accommodation to the very small number of highrise tower blocks that have sprinkler systems installed all serve to illustrate that pressing issue that housing has become for society.

And the awful tragedy of Grenfell Tower has served as a reminder of how precious a home is and how vulnerable it can be in the face of cuts and mismanagement.

It's all too easy to forget that behind all of those headlines and statistics are real people whose stories are all too often untold and unheard. And that is where the Museum of Homelessness comes in.

It has set out an ambitious vision and mission for its work that includes capturing and exploring

the stories, lives and histories of people who have been or are homeless. And this new museum is so much more than a static repository.

Its ambition to create change for individuals, institutions and society sets it apart. I am a firm believer that museums can make a difference working with their communities. The Museums Association's flagship campaign, Museums Change Lives, is all about enhancing the positive social impact that museum can have.

The Museum of Homelessness exemplifies this approach, working in partnership with its communities to explore hidden histories and make the invisible visible. Over the coming year it will collect stories and objects and work with artists and people with experience of homelessness to bring those stories alive. It will create a forum for debate and discussion to challenge current policy and thinking and it will change our understanding of what it is to be homeless in the 21st century.

It is the museum of the future.

Sharon Heal
Chair of Trustees, Museum of Homelessness

Co-founder Statement

Going through the notes we made when the idea for a Museum of Homelessness was born in March 2014 reminds us of how far we've come and how quickly.

The idea was (and still is) to create a museum with people with experience of homelessness at its heart, deciding how we best to shine a light on history that's usually ignored. There is a long tradition of excluded groups rising up to make change and we wanted to build a museum that would inspire people to do the same today.

Today that vision is a reality. MoH now has an office, charitable status, a community of volunteers and a programme that takes place in day centres, theatres and major art galleries.

Since we first thought of the museum, Britain has decided to leave the EU, general elections have divided the country and homelessness has risen sharply. The need for tolerance and understanding has never been greater.

In response we have launched a public programme to examine the State of the Nation, with events that build an audience and community with common purpose and promote change in individuals, institutions and society.

We are extremely grateful for the hard work of the founding MoH community, in particular our core group who meet monthly to decide on the strategy and direction of MoH. It is the work of the core group and wider volunteers who have made this year's achievements possible.

Over the long term, we believe we'll have the greatest impact if we have a permanent public building and a programme that reaches across the UK. This year's program is a step towards those goals.

We'll be in more places around the country and will launch MoH Creatives – a programme to help more of our community build careers in arts and heritage.

Matt and Jess Turtle
MoH co-founders



Remembering Jimmy Carlson OBE

Jimmy Carlson OBE was one of our earliest supporters.

An activist, member of the core group and MoH trustee, he sadly passed away in January 2017.

Jimmy had been homeless himself and was a passionate advocate for the rights of homeless people. He was awarded an OBE in 2012 and was instrumental in many of our early successes.

It was Jimmy who argued for MoH to use its platform at Tate Exchange to shine a light on the present day realities of homelessness — an idea that became our State of the Nation campaign.

What we've done

MoH became a charity in October 2015 following an eighteen-month period of research and development supported by the Kings Cultural Institute and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

In our first full year as a charity (July 2016 to June 2017) we have:

- Welcomed over 2,000 people to a variety of events
- Held 15 workshops in homelessness settings covering heritage and present-day issues that reached over 250 people
- Worked with 80 volunteers many of whom have experienced homelessness
- Developed a network of over 60 partner organisations
- Collected and shared stories about homelessness past and present from four cities around the UK
- Begun to develop our national archive and collection for homelessness, safeguarding historical material offered in trust to MoH as well as collecting stories from today
- Established ourselves as a museum innovator and presented at conferences and events throughout the UK
- Contributed to our locality in Westminster, joining the SW1 forum and building partnerships within our social enterprise hub
- Supported talented people with experience of homelessness to deliver creative work.



Above:
State of the Nation at Tate Exchange;
Photo: Neil Raja, 2017

Programmes & Events

State of the Nation

MoH launched State of the Nation in late 2016 to respond to the dramatic increase in homelessness in the UK. This creative investigation into homelessness has included events, performances and discussions created with people with experience of homelessness and socially engaged artists.

State of the Nation has so far included:

Cathy Come Home 50 Years On – November 2016

The Museum of Homelessness came to life exactly half a century after the release of a film that redefined how Britain thought about homelessness.

For our launch event, MoH partnered with the Museum of Immigration and Diversity for a screening and evening of debate.

State of the Nation London – April 2017

Over 1,600 people attended our weekend at Tate Exchange, which brought together homeless people, charities and the public for two days of art, performance and debate. The diversity of our audience and the feedback we gathered, was powerful evidence of how our work can benefit people have experienced homelessness and change social attitudes.

'I've never cried in an art gallery before'
(Audience Member)

'Thank you for giving me this amazing opportunity. You gave me a platform that helped show my family that I have rebuilt my life and that I am helping others with my artwork. My relationship with my dad has always been extremely difficult. Yesterday you guys helped bring our relationship back. I was finally as good as my brothers.'
(Artist)

Raw Truths – April & May 2017

Over two months we put on a series of events in partnership with the renowned homelessness theatre company Cardboard Citizens. Inspired by the themes of their Home Truths play cycle we explored some Raw Truths about housing and homelessness today and opened up some of the big questions about how society responds to homelessness.

Our events took place in theatres, chapels and day centres and shared stories of resistance, cruelty and compassion drawn from the museum's State of the Nation research.

'The format of your performance was wonderful because it is so different to a regular museum exhibit. The fact that it revolved around the experiences of those who have been homeless helps to show our clients that these lived helps to show our clients that these lived experiences are important, valid and worth discussing. It increases people's self-esteem.'
999 Club Day Centre

The Naloxone Kit; Donor: Worker at Simon Community Scotland; Photo: Sean Moss and Daniel Richardson, 2017



Learning and education

Archive and collection

In January 2017, we secured £9,900 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to start building the first national collection and archive for homelessness in the UK and strengthen our operations. Thanks to National Lottery players, this project will help MoH safeguard its collection, collect more objects and develop new ways of sharing the stories of homelessness past and present. As part of this project, volunteers who have experienced homelessness will learn new heritage skills.

Schools

In the summer of 2017, MoH worked with four students from WPI (Worcester Polytechnic Institute) to develop the museum's educational offer in formal and informal learning contexts. The team developed educational materials and resources for the MoH website's learning pages, a database of schools contacts and a good practice guide for the teaching of homelessness. Seven teachers and over twenty people from the homelessness sector contributed to the project.

The change we make



Based upon our work over the past year, we have begun to define how the Museum of Homelessness will make a difference.

Individual change

Social exclusion and stigma makes life hard for people with experience of homelessness. Our programmes address this by promoting inclusion and opportunities for connection.

We are successful when people:

- Have an opportunity to learn more about themselves and the wider systemic issues of homelessness.
- Feel socially acknowledged and gain ownership of spaces from which they feel excluded
- Feel part of a community working to create something with a common purpose
- Are empowered to access artistic, training and employment opportunities and other prospects

10% of our income during the year went directly to talented people with experience of homelessness to deliver creative activities for MoH. This is an area of work we want to increase as the organisation grows.



Object Storytelling at Glass Door Homeless Charity;
Photo: M. Turtle, 2017

“I’d also like to say thanks for the paid work. Getting back into paid employment - ideally work of interest to the individual - is one of the milestones for many people on the journey from homelessness to ‘normality’ (for want of a better word/sentence), and it can be a very tricky milestone to travel through.”

Participating artist

Institutional change

Change is needed within organisations to combat marginalisation. We work with other institutions to create better access for homeless people who feel excluded from public life.

MoH is successful when:

- Socially excluded artists and creative practitioners gain access to mainstream platforms supporting their careers.
- High street businesses & frontline public sector staff are equipped to better welcome people experiencing street homelessness
- Established museums and galleries make better relationships with people experiencing homelessness.
- Decision makers and policy makers learn from what has gone before and make better decisions today.

“A model initiative — opening up new territory for museums, and reminding us that radical museology can only be effective if grounded in research and the expertise of strong partners on the ground”

David Anderson, Director General, National Museum Wales.

Social change

Stereotypes and myths about homelessness contribute to social exclusion on a systemic level. We educate the public about the complexities of homelessness and inspire people to take action.

We are successful when members of the public:

- Learn more about homelessness and move beyond the stereotypes
- Meet people and have conversations they would never normally have
- Connect emotionally with the work and want to take action

“The Museum of Homelessness has given me wide insights into the struggles homeless people are faced with. Makes me want to go out and do something!”

Audience Member

Heritage Workshop at the Simon Community;
Photo: M. Turtle, 2017



Finance & Funding

Financial Statements 2016/17

The Charity is a registered charity, registration number 1164091. The Museum of Homelessness was constituted as a charity in October 2015 and opened its charity bank account in April 2016 with CAF Bank. The first financial year end was 30th June 2016.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover under £1m. As such they have been examined by an Independent Examiner. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. Having considered the charities reserves position, future plans and forecasts and operating costs for the next 12 months, the Trustees consider that on this basis the charity is a going concern.



Income

Income is credited to the statement of financial activities on a cash basis. Restricted income from grants is accounted for separately.

£11,100 of income was carried forward to the financial year 2016/17.

Total income for this year was **£40,224**, broken down as

- **Corporate Donors: £16,243**
- **Individual Donations: £11,914**
- **Trusts and Foundations: £9,900**
- **Earned Income: £2,167**



Expenditure

Expenditure is also currently accounted for on a cash basis. There was no expenditure prior to the 30th of June 2016. **89%** of the **£24,375** expenditure was on direct charitable activities and the balance was on essential running costs such as rent, insurance and bank charges.

- **Direct charitable activities**
- **Essential running costs**

The Pot; Donor:
Resident at Simon
Community;
Photo: Sean
Moss and Daniel
Richardson,
2017



Funding

The organisation is run largely on a voluntary basis and has no paid employees. We do not receive any public funding so we are grateful for the enlightened support of generous individuals and our corporate partner Rede Partners.

Their willingness to support MoH's operations and creative programme has represented 70% of our income. This has enabled us to carry out our major State of the Nation launch weekend at Tate Modern on the 08-09 April and a series of events in day centres and hostels. This work has provided paid opportunities for talented people affected by homelessness to deliver creative activities for MoH.

A major outlay during the year was the creation of a new website.

All our income has been used to create events, activities and opportunities to raise awareness, promote inclusion and practically benefit the lives of people affected by homelessness.

We have also benefited from a £9,990 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The grant will go towards strengthening our capacity to hold collections and archives in trust for the public. The money will be spent on an archives consultant, volunteering costs and project management fees.

Our aim is to diversify our fundraising through cultivating relationships with more corporate sponsors, building on our success in bidding for funds from Trusts and Foundations and generating more earned income by delivering creative and educational work for partners.

Our next steps

Following our successful launch, we're looking forward to an exciting 2017-18. We are delighted that Sharon Heal has joined MoH board as Chair of Trustees. Sharon is Director of the Museums Association and has a background in journalism, publishing, event creation and policy.

The Museums Association is the leading body for museums in the UK. Under Sharon's leadership it has become internationally renowned for its vision of inclusive, participatory and socially engaged museums at the heart of their communities. Sharon's leadership and strategic skills will be crucial to the development of MoH in the coming years.

We are very grateful to our outgoing chair, Jane Rothery MBE (services to homelessness). Jane's wisdom, insights and nurturing approach enabled MoH to grow from an idea to a fully fledged charity, ready for the next stage in its development. Jane's experience of founding and running the Wallich-Clifford Community in Cardiff, where she lived and worked with thousands of homeless people from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, has been invaluable to these critical early days of the Museum of Homelessness.

In our next financial year July 2017 – June 2018, State of the Nation will continue with State of the Nation North, a programme that will expand activities in London across Manchester, Leeds and Liverpool. MoH will host a week-long residency at Tate Liverpool and the Museum of Liverpool in January 2018.

We also have ambitious plans to launch MoH Creatives, a programme that will enable talented people with experience of homelessness to deliver artistic and heritage content for the museum. MoH Creatives will develop the way we work, bring more people with direct experience of homelessness into our community and offer paid opportunities to make change happen through creative activities.

We are also exploring new ways to change society's perceptions of homelessness, looking to fields such as neuroscience to improve our work with objects and storytelling.

All of this will take place while we continue to strengthen our archive and collection. In late 2017, we will assemble a new group of formerly homeless people, activists, archivists and heritage professionals to advise us on the next steps for the archive and collection. In the meantime, our work in day centres and with our local community will continue.

Early 2018 will see MoH launch an ambitious new business plan for the next three years outlining a bold new strategy to take us from our current phase to a permanent home for the future.

Watch this space.



David Tovey's Man on Bench at Tate Exchange;
Photo: Neil Raja, 2017

Trustees

Sharon Heal
Fr Philip Bevan
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Richard Matthews
Helen Stonelake

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The Right Reverend Nicholas Holtam

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Phoebe Barnicoat
Lainie Hussain
Zoë Louizos
Andy Palfreyman
Damien Quigg
David Tovey

Co-founders

Jessica Turtle
Matthew Turtle

Organisational Consultant (therapeutic)

Dr Christopher Scanlon

Artistic Associates

Dorothy Allen-Pickard
Will Brady
Sherrie Cameron-Akoto
Anthony Luvera & Gerald McClaverty
Tony McBride
Kerry Norridge
Ellé Payne
Ben Smithies
David Tovey

The Trustees would like to thank all the people who have volunteered to make this organisation a reality.

We would also like to thank all those who have offered advice and supported us over the last three years including:

Phil Bartlett, Chantal Butchinsky, Jane Cook, Miriam Craik-Horan, Nicholas Crowson, Hannah Fox, Dan Glass, MT Gibson-Watt, Boudicca Lee Maloney-Woodland, Tom Gillespie, Gavin Grindon, Marike van Harskamp, Adrian Jackson, Athol Halle, Kate Hardy, Hilary Jennings, Michelle Johansen, Beth Knowles, Anthony Luvera, Chloe Osborne, Tony McBride, Kris McKie, Alastair Murray, Matt Peacock, Christopher Scanlon, Chardine Taylor-Stone, Dr Anwar Tlili, Dan Tsu & Lorraine McGrath.

And donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

We would also like to thank all our collaborators and funding partners:



Cardboard Citizens
Choir with No Name
Coventry University
Defend Council Housing
Greater London Authority
Feminist Review Trust
Focus E15
Groundswell
Grow Heathrow
Homeless Link
Housing Justice
Hopeful Traders
Manchester City Council
Museums Association
New Horizon Youth Centre
Photofusion
Simon Community Scotland
Simon Community
Smallworks
Streetwise Opera
St George's Crypt, Leeds
The Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields
The Passage
The Pavement
The Wallich

And heartfelt thanks to our State of the Nation object donors, who have kick-started a national collection for homelessness and who will remain anonymous.

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