

## R2R UPDATES, August 2021

### Genesis Centre - The Final Push



Our pro bono architect Ken Morgan has outlined the final work needed to allow us to move into our new building. Over the last year we have become accustomed to the unexpected and having to adapt to meet both the challenges of the project and the pandemic, so move-in date is still very much a fingers crossed situation, but we are pleased to say that we are working towards this December.

This month The Clothworkers' Foundation has confirmed that they have awarded us a grant of £35,000 towards the completion of

the phase 1 work, which will allow our move-in. The Foundation was set up in 1977 to be the primary vehicle of charitable giving for The Clothworkers' Company. Since then, they have awarded capital grants of more than £152 million. Today, their primary aim is to improve the lives of people and communities, particularly those facing disadvantage, deprivation and/or discrimination.

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### Planning for the Move

We are now planning for the activities that we will offer once we have moved to the new building and in talks with various groups who have used our Drop-ins for outreach services. St Mungo's, BCP Council rough sleeper outreach team, have confirmed they will be with us as will EDAS (Essential Drugs and Alcohol Services). Our chiropodist and hairdresser will also return. We hope that further health and welfare teams will take up the opportunity of town centre outreach so we can offer a comprehensive service to our clients.

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### At the Drop-ins

Our Drop-in part-timer Andy has moved on and we are pleased to welcome back Helen, who has stepped up to run the sessions until our move. The Drop-ins are currently open 5 lunch times a week for 12-20 homeless and vulnerably housed. Hot meals are served every day if possible but occasionally shortage of volunteers means we can only provide take-aways. Be assured no one goes hungry. We remain grateful to Skinner Street URC for allowing us to use their Parlour room. This has enabled us to bring back the EDAS outreach team who now meet with their clients at our Tuesdays Drop-ins.

Do you have any spare time for us? Right now we need kitchen staff in Skinner Street and would also love off-site support on various aspects of publicity and fundraising, such as the website, social media, design and grant applications. In the future we will also need many more volunteers for different types of on-site support when we open Genesis Centre. Please contact us now: [office@routestoroots.org](mailto:office@routestoroots.org)

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## Rotarians Inspect the Site



At the beginning of August we welcomed a group from the Rotary Club of Poole Bay to Genesis Centre. This Club has made several donations to the project to pay for crockery and utensils, a wall-mounted hot water boiler and laundry equipment. The group was taken around by Kate Mellor, R2R Trustee and one of those leading the project, and Eddie Newcomb wrote to thank us: "We were all immensely impressed by the scale of the project you are undertaking. It will be a huge asset to those in Poole who need the services of Routes to Roots and will offer new opportunities for those in need. The Rotary Club of Poole Bay is proud to be

associated with the project and to have been able to give support over the last few years. Thank you for showing us round. We congratulate all concerned for the vision, determination and courage that have been shown in carrying this exciting project through. We look forward to its completion and to visiting again."

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## 2020-21 Trustees Report and Accounts

As work is ongoing at our new building, Genesis Centre, in Hill Street we have not yet been able to schedule an AGM for 2020-21. We are, therefore, making available the documents that would have been presented at the meeting and ask that you contact the office with any questions or comments that you may have. For the foreseeable future, Pat Southgate remains chair of R2R and the Board of Trustees remains unchanged. You can download copies through the R2R website: <https://www.routestoroots.org/charity/governance/2020-21-agm.html>

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Donate online or download an R2R donation form at: <https://www.routestoroots.org/charity/donations>

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## Please Share Our Newsletter

We want to get the word out about all the good things we do here at Routes to Roots, so we would be grateful if you could share this sign-up link to our newsletter with anyone that might be interested: <http://bitly.ws/9xCb>

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*Routes to Roots is founded on Christian principles and seeks to help all homeless, newly homed and vulnerably housed adults in Poole regardless of their faith. At drop-ins, we provide basic necessities, such as hot food, clothing and sleeping bags; we assist clients to engage with agencies such as the addictions team, health workers and Job Centre; we organise motivational activities; and we assist those who are placed in accommodation to remain in their tenancy. Since acquiring our three-bed 'Amos House' in 2015, we provide supported housing for former rough sleepers. We aim to achieve long-term outcomes for our clients through participation in motivational and well-being projects which boost self-confidence and self-worth, expand and develop skills, promote a sense of belonging and encourage integration into the local community. We are currently developing a one-stop centre for all help available to our clients in Poole.*

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