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the **RCSheriff** Trust  
advancing the arts in Elmbridge  
1993-2018



**ANNUAL REVIEW**  
**2020**

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## **COVID 19 STATEMENT**

In March 2020 the Government announced the first Lockdown to counter the impact of the Coronavirus Outbreak.

At this stage all directly managed projects were suspended and The Trust Director and Project Manager began to work remotely. This remained the case throughout 2020 with a few exceptions detailed in this Report.

The remaining three Trustees Meetings, plus an emergency meeting called at the beginning of the first Lockdown were held remotely via Zoom.

In order to counter the financial impact of the Coronavirus Outbreak the decision was made by The Trustees to suspend the quarterly grant awards for organisations and individual projects and underwriting applications. Capital grant application were still considered. Grant applications were opened up for the October quarter.

As a consequence to the Coronavirus Crisis, the proposed plans for 2020 were radically curtailed but throughout 2020 The Trust continued to support organisations and individuals impacted by the situation wherever possible, and to continue to operate a remote programme of arts projects to engage the community during this unprecedented period.

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## **THE AIMS & OBJECTIVES OF THE R C SHERRIFF TRUST**

**To develop, promote and support community and professional arts in the Borough of Elmbridge, through:**

- Awarding grant aid to local artists, arts organisations, venues and projects.
- Organising and directly managing remote arts initiatives.
- **Publishing and distributing a free listings magazine, "Arts Focus", three times a year. Suspended Due to The Coronavirus Crisis.**
- Offering advice and information to the arts community and to members of the public.

**The R C Sherriff Trust supports the arts in Elmbridge, through its grant-giving and its self-initiated projects, for the following purposes:**

- To support and stimulate excellence, new ideas and innovation in the arts in the Borough, whether amateur, community or professional.
- To invest in the creative talent of individual artists in Elmbridge and to provide opportunities for them to further develop their skills and knowledge.
- To increase opportunities for all Elmbridge residents to take part in or experience high-quality remotely delivered arts activities, regardless of economic or social circumstances.
- To increase, develop and improve resources and facilities for the arts in the Borough
- To support and encourage initiatives aimed at the development of new remotely distanced audiences and venues for the arts in the Borough.
- To promote good practice in management, marketing, fundraising and educational work amongst arts organisations in Elmbridge, and to encourage collaboration.

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## **PROGRAMME FOR 2020: OUTCOMES**

### Governance, Networking, Planning and Strategy:

- Convened 4 meetings of the full Board (quarterly). The April, July & October meetings were held remotely via Zoom.
- Met remotely and regularly with the Elmbridge Arts Development Officer and The Riverhouse Arts Centre Manager to co-ordinate plans and services and to agree on areas of co-operation regarding arts projects and initiatives that worked within the Government's socially distanced framework, such as the Elmbridge Literary Competition and The Light Up Elmbridge Festival.
- Maintained, developed and supported working relationships with other partners in the Borough impacted by the Coronavirus Crisis, including The International Youth Arts Festival; Brooklands Museum; Carer Support Elmbridge; Elmbridge Arts Forum; Elmbridge Arts Council; Elmbridge Borough Council; Elmbridge Community Link; Elmbridge Museum; Elmbridge Youth Theatre; The Playhouse Users Committee; Hinchley Wood Education Trust; individual schools; JTI; Love of Learning; Music in Hospitals and the Princess Alice Hospice; Paragon Community Housing Group; Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre; Walton Business Group; Walton Charity.

### General Management and Marketing:

- Administered and supervised 4 (quarterly) grant application/assessment rounds. The April & July rounds were only open to capital grant applications because of the Coronavirus Crisis.
- Continued to improve the services and information available via the website and online social media outlets.
- Continued to promote and manage the hire of our two sets of Radio Microphones (Trantec and Sennheiser systems) and Exhibition Stands.
- Continued to review and improve the office administrative systems, and to keep the Trust's administration costs under scrutiny.

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## **ARTS PROJECTS**

### **Directly Managed Projects**

#### **The Rosebriars Initiative (formerly The Elders Project)**

The Rosebriars Initiative is an arts project addressing issues of isolation, health and well-being for Elmbridge residents over the age of 60.

Due to the Coronavirus Crisis the Initiative was suspended in March 2020 with only the art workshops continuing remotely.

During the year the two artists, Imogen Andrews and Sophie Boyce, with support from the Trust's Project Manager, Sam Thompson, ran a regular programme of remotely delivered arts projects that reached a large number of older Elmbridge residents. New projects were distributed every two weeks with the results of the work showcased on The Trust's website.

Despite the ongoing crisis, new members and participants were engaged with that number rising when, following a successful application for support from the National Lottery, the project reached further into the community engaging more older people with the 'Best Advice' project.

Alongside the projects, the artists and Project Manager operated a regular programme of remote contact with participants to ensure that health and well-being, during exceptional circumstances, were monitored.

#### **15th & 16th Annual Literary Competitions**

In a change to the usual competition timetable and to engage more schools the timeline of the competition was changed. It was launched in September with a closing date of February. This meant that the Competition was run within an academic year making it easier for schools to participate.

To commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower, the 2019 Elmbridge Literary Competition looked for short stories and poems that explored new worlds. It was the most successful competition in its 15 year history with a slightly prophetic theme of 'New World'. The Competition was promoted via international writing forums and websites and reached a truly international number of entrants. As part of this new approach, adult submissions came with an entry fee, but the prizes for the adult category were substantially increased.

The 2019 Elmbridge Literary Competition closing date had passed and the judging had taken place prior to the Lockdown so winners were informed and prizes sent by post. Given the nature of the project the 2020 Competition was launched remotely in September 2020. Unfortunately, the proposed prize-giving and readings had to be cancelled.

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Because of the remote nature of the Elmbridge Literary Competition, it was felt that it would be safe to launch the 2020 Competition in September. To coincide with the Royal Albert Hall's 150 Anniversary the Competition's theme was 'Music'.

Once again the Competitions were run in partnership with Sampson Low who published the winning entries in all the short story and poetry categories as Chapbooks. These are small and affordable forms of literature, Chapbooks historically were sold on the streets, and covered a range of subjects from fairy tales and ghost stories to news of politics, crime or disaster. ([www.bl.uk/romantics-and-Victorians/articles/chapbooks](http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-Victorians/articles/chapbooks))

**R C Sherriff Young Musician of the Year  
The Elmbridge School Choir Festival  
Arts Focus**

Cancelled due to the Coronavirus Crisis.

**2020 Projects**

**A Remembrance of Things Past**  
*A V E Day Anniversary project*

To commemorate the 75 Anniversary of VE Day, poems written by Rosebriars Initiative members Pam Francis and Pam Smyth were highlighted via a new page on the R C Sherriff Trust website, using artwork designed by artist Imogen Andrews and photographs provided by Elmbridge Museum.

The page included links to performances by Walton Voices of choral pieces composed by Jack Hurst, using poems written by members of the Rosebriars Initiative.

More poems, written by Rosebriars Initiative members Pam Francis, Pam Smyth, Nia Jones, Jan Travers and Gillian Bone, and The Trust Director, Pete Allen and Project Manager, Sam Thompson, were recorded by Jacqui Armitage, Rebecca De Lacey, Jo Humphries, Jackie Noyes, Jess Noyes, Janet Shell and Stephen Willis.

<https://www.rcsherrifftrust.org.uk/ve-day-a-remembrance-of-things-past>

**The River Festival  
Summer Artsfest  
Watch This Space Theatre Festival**  
Cancelled due to the Coronavirus Crisis.

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## **Grants:**

**Due to the Coronavirus Crisis quarterly grant awards were suspended for April and July with the exception of one capital grant application.**

20 Grants, totalling £40,046 were awarded during the year, through a combination of quarterly grant applications - £10,046; and Arts Initiative Projects delivered by partner organisations, Regularly Funded Organisations, Three Year Funding, and the quarterly grant award process - £30,000.

A list of grants awarded is attached (Appendix I). Grants are further summarised by type (Appendix II), by art form (Appendix III), and by the 'geographic spread' throughout the borough (Appendix IV).

### Directly Managed Arts Projects:

The Trust continued to award grant funding and support to arts organisations, individuals and community groups enabling them to provide a programme of arts activities targeted at particular 'client' groups across the Borough. In total £31,600 was awarded to organisations in receipt of regular funding in 2019. These organisations were:

- Elmbridge Community Link
- Elmbridge Youth Theatre
- Esher & Dittons Youth Orchestra
- Love of Learning
- Music in Hospitals
- Promenade Choir
- Quick Fix Theatre
- Riverhouse Arts Centre
- The Vera Fletcher Hall

All Regularly Funded Organisations were due to have grants reviewed in 2020 for renewal. Nonetheless, due to the Coronavirus Crisis the Trustees agreed that the RFOs would receive funding in 2021 to combat the negative effects of the pandemic and enable them to plan for 2021. However, there would be an adjustment to the amount of funding offered.



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## TRUSTEES

The following served as Board Members and Trustees during the year:

- Cllr Barry Cheyne (Chair)
- Cllr Mrs Tannia Shipley (Vice-Chair)
- Cllr Mrs Shweta Kapadia
- Cllr Tricia Bland
- Cllr Karen Randolph
- Cllr Janet Turner
- Mr Brian Nathan
- Ms Wendy Smithers
- Mrs Maggs Latter

Co-opted members:

- Mrs Elizabeth Cooper
- Mr James Vickers

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## **STAFFING**

### **Permanent:**

Pete Allen: Director (full-time)

Sandra (Sam) Thompson: Administrator/Project Manager (part-time)

Dean Blanchard: Treasurer (part-time).

### **Freelance:**

Sophie Boyce

Imogen Andrews

Simon Cherry

Susannah Cherry

Adrienne Dines

Sylvia Green

Loretta Howells

Agnes Meadows

Tim Kerr, a sound engineer, continued to maintain, and advise on, the Trust's radio microphones, as a volunteer.

David Thompson acted as webmaster and Editor of Arts Focus.

Investec Charity Fund Management continued as the Trust's Investment Managers. Barclays Bank PLC was retained as the Trust's Bank.

Pete Allen  
Director  
June 2021

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1: GRANTS AWARDED 2020

GRANT NO.	NAME	PURPOSE	AWARDED
<b>ARTS INITIATIVE PROJECTS (AIP)</b>			
08/20	Esher & Dittons Youth Orchestra	Funding contribution to music workshops, leading to performances	£1,500.00
07/20	Love of Learning	Funding contribution to a variety of workshops in schools	£2,500.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2 Grants</b>
			<b>£4,000.00</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS</b>			
20/20	NESSSS (North East Surrey Secondary Short Stay School)	Funding for Arts Software	£1,500.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1 Grant</b>
			<b>£1,500.00</b>
<b>PROJECT GRANTS (Individuals)</b>			
34/35/19	SRA Agency & Productions	A contribution towards the cost of participation in a week-long theatre course with The Susan Roberts Academy	£500.00
018/20	John Patterson	Funding of a retrospective exhibition in memory of Francis Truesdale	£500.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2 Grants</b>
			<b>£1,000.00</b>
<b>PROJECT GRANTS (Organisations)</b>			
-	Vera Fletcher Hall	Contribution to the costs of replacing and upgrading the VFH website	£750.00
010/20	Painting our World Silver	Funding the cost of three craft workshops	£400.00
011/20	Creative Youth	Funding supporting Elmbridge Youth Dance	£1,410.00
012/20	Monkey Theatre	Funding supporting performances of the play 'Talking Angels'	£1,000.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4 Grants</b>
			<b>£3,560.00</b>

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1: GRANTS AWARDED 2020

GRANT NO.	NAME	PURPOSE	AWARDED
<b>REGULARLY FUNDED ORGANISATIONS (RFO)</b>			
01/20	Elmbridge Community Link	Funding for music workshops	£2,500.00
-	Riverhouse (via WOTCAT)	Contribution to the general running costs of the Riverhouse Arts Centre, via Walton on Thames Community Arts Trust (WOTCAT). Third year of the current 3-year funding arrangement.	£12,000.00
02/20	Princess Alice Hospice	Funding for music workshop[s at The Princess Alice Hospital in Esher	£1,200.00
03/20	Music In Hospitals	Funding for music workshops in local hospitals	£1,800.00
05/20	Promenade Choirs	Funding to assist with maintenance and development of the Choirs' programmes	£1,000.00
02/20	Elmbridge Youth Theatre	Contribution towards the cost of running performances of shows throughout the year.	£2,500.00
04/20	Vera Fletcher Hall	General grant supporting the ongoing work of The Theatre in Thames Ditton	£5,000.00
06/20	Quick Fix Theatre	Funding to assist with the continuance and developmenet of community theatre within the borough	£1,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>8 Grants    £27,000.00</b>

#### SCHOOLS FUNDING

040/19	St Philips - Chessington	A contribution to the costs of staging a performance by students of songs from the First World War.	£500.00
014/20	Bell Farm School- Hersham	Funding the cost of replacing and upgrading stage lighting.	£1,500.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>2 Grants    £2,000.00</b>

#### UNDERWRITING GRANTS

013/20	Claygate Arts Festival	A contribution towards funding of Claygate Arts Festival	£986.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>1 Grant    £986.00</b>

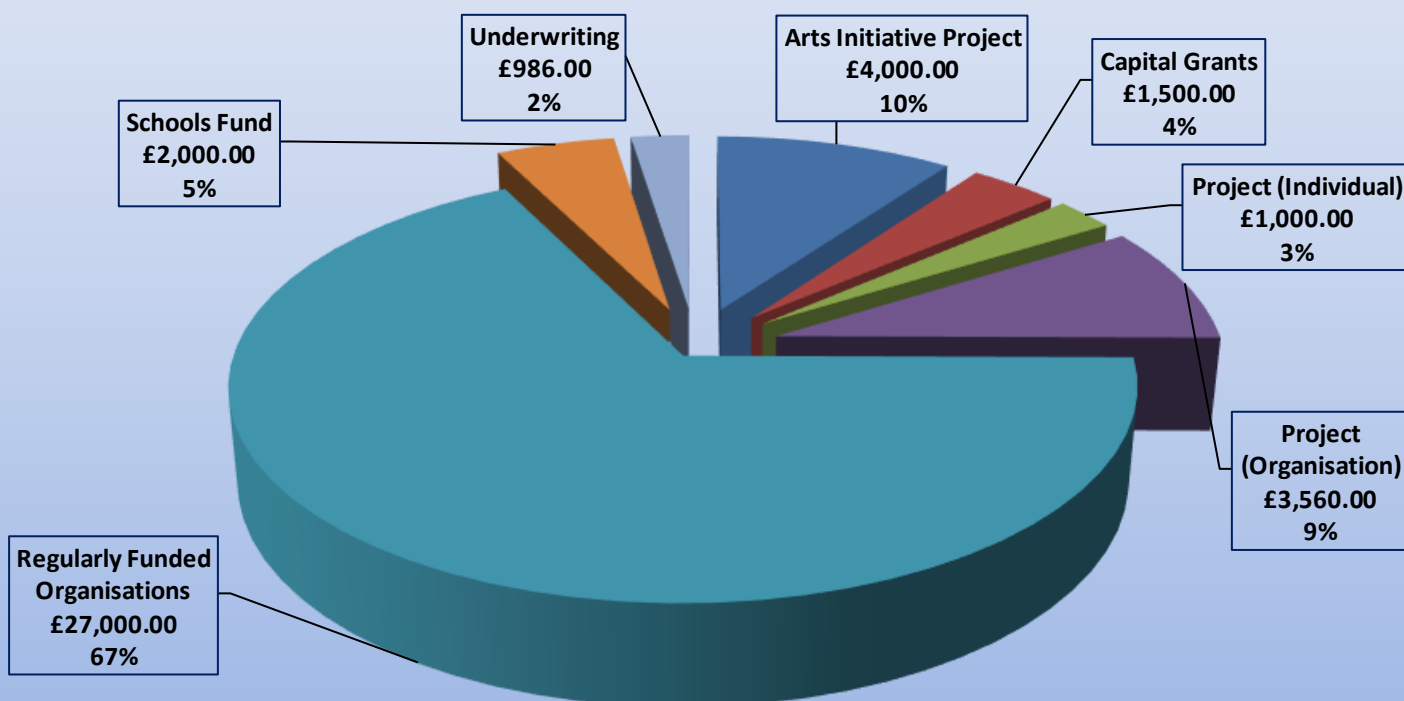
**TOTAL AWARDED            20 Grants    £40,046.00**



## APPENDIX 2: Summary of Grants by Type 2020

	% of Total Grants Awarded	Number of Grants	Average Grant	Total Amount Allocated
Arts Initiative Project	9.99%	2	£2,000.00	£4,000.00
Capital Grants	3.75%	1	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Project (Individual)	2.50%	2	£500.00	£1,000.00
Project (Organisation)	8.89%	4	£890.00	£3,560.00
Regularly Funded Organisations	67.42%	8	£3,375.00	£27,000.00
Schools Fund	4.99%	2	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
Underwriting	2.46%	1	£986.00	£986.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>£2002.30</b>	<b>£40,046.00</b>

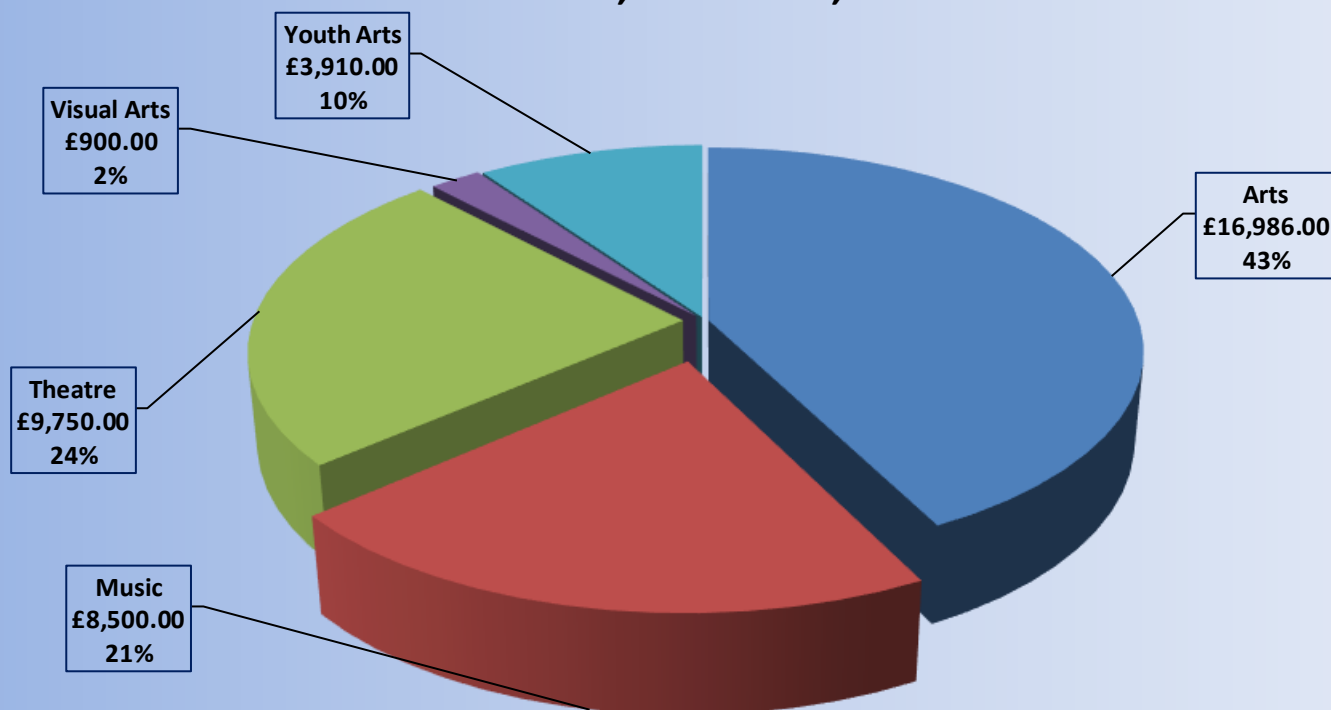
### Grants by Type 2020 20 Grants, value £40,046



## APPENDIX 3 Summary of Grants by Art Form 2020

	% of Total Grants Awarded	Number of Grants	Average Grant	Total Amount Allocated
Arts	42.42%	4	£4,246.50	£16,986.00
Music	21.23%	6	£1,416.67	£8,500.00
Theatre	24.35%	5	£1,950.00	£9,750.00
Visual Arts	2.25%	2	£450.00	£900.00
Youth Arts	9.76%	3	£1,303.33	£3,910.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>£2,002.50</b>	<b>£40,046.00</b>

### Grants by Art Form 2020 20 Grants, value £46,046



## APPENDIX 4 Summary of Grants by Area / Location 2020

Area / Location	% of Total Grants Awarded	No. of Grants	Average Grant	Total Amount Allocated
Borough wide	9.76%	2	£1,955.00	£3,910.00
Chessington	1.25%	1	£500.00	£500.00
Claygate	2.46%	1	£986.00	£986.00
Cobham	1.25%	1	£500.00	£500.00
Dittons	3.75%	1	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Esher	3.00%	1	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
Hersham	15.48%	5	£1,240.00	£6,200.00
Thames Ditton	14.36%	2	£2,875.00	£5,750.00
Walton	48.69%	6	£3,250.00	£19,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>£2,002.30</b>	<b>£40,046.00</b>

### Grants by Area / Location 20 Grants, value £40,046

