

# Dewsbury Arts Group

Charity registration number : 1161083

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

## Trustees' Annual Report

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## Financial Statements

For the year

1 June 2019 – 31 May 2020

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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The Trustees present their report with the financial statements and independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 May 2020.

**Reference & administrative details**

Charity name : Dewsbury Arts Group

Charity registration number : 1161083

Principal office & address : Artspace, Lower Peel Street, Dewsbury  
West Yorkshire, WF13 2EDTrustees : The trustees who have held office during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 the date of this report are as follows :

Mr C M Bailey	Chairperson
Ms S Saville	Vice-Chair
Mrs E Thompson	Honorary Treasurer
Mrs J M Fletcher	Honorary Secretary
Mrs L Stainthorpe	Publicity Officer
Mr D Fletcher	Premises Supervisor
Mr J Trewren	
Mrs M Bailey	Youth Theatre Administrator
Mr M Parkinson	
Mr R Brook	
Mrs A Telford	
Mr A Lindley	
Mrs H Fox	
Mr B Gibson	Honorary President

Independent Examiner : Mr A Harvey

Solicitor : Disken & Co  
20 Bond Street, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire WF13 1ATBankers : CAF Bank Limited  
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQYorkshire Bank  
46 Market Place, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, WF13 1DN

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

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**Objectives & activities**

The charity's objectives and activities are expressed in section 2 of the constitution, as follows:

The objects of the group shall be to foster and promote the maintenance, improvement and development of artistic taste and knowledge, understanding and the appreciation of the arts among the inhabitants of Dewsbury.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise

- (a) To present or assist in presenting public concerts, dramatic performances, recitals, art exhibitions, lectures, arts festivals and other arts events,
- (b) To maintain an amenity in which arts can be pursued by the community,
- (c) To provide a means for bringing to the attention of the public the work of creative artists in the field of the arts.
- (d) To do all such things as are necessary to the attainment of the forgoing.

**Public benefit**

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty to provide a public benefit under Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 as the charity provides an amenity for art activities for the community in general and young people in particular. The charity also provides a much needed venue for creative artists in all fields.

**Chairman's Comments**

This has been a strange year with the suspension of all our activities due to Covid 19 and fortunately we have made strong strides forward financially as had a very successful first half of the season.

We've made some tough decisions over the last 12 months, including shifting our printing supplier from a long term incumbent but ultimately it was the only decision we could make given we've saved a huge amount on our annual costs for printing. We reinstated our short run of one act plays in February and this gave a welcome boost to the coffers, which was doubly welcome given we had to suspend activity completely on the evening of 16 March. That's the hardest thing I think our committee has ever had to do, but the advice to avoid public places (this was before formal lockdown) meant we effectively had no choice and we halted the run of our March play.

Fortunately our season ticket holders have been hugely supportive despite most of them losing out on three productions and we hope to be able to reward their loyalty and support in some way once we are back in business. The £10k grant for small businesses we received from Kirklees has been a huge boon in keeping the running costs going with the additional income we would get from our productions. Our Treasurer, Emma, has done a terrific job in focusing on our costs and maximising the income where we can and we are in as strong a position as we can be given the circumstances, already looking at plans for how we restart at some point in 20/21.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

**Achievement & performance : (2019-20)****Drama , Membership and Art****Secretaries Report AGM Dewsbury Arts Group 2020**

New season tickets	12	
Lapsed season tickets	31	
Total last season		276
Total		257
		19 fewer than last season
New members	18	
Lapsed members	35	
Total last season		155
Total		138
		17 fewer than last season.

**The David and Judith Wood Theatre naming afternoon** – And what a great event it was! So lovely to see the meeting of the old and new coming together to celebrate the fitting tribute to the heart of the group. The Owl Pop Up Coffee Shop made another appearance and the bar was once again open. Some wonderful memories were shared and I quote from our DAG Digest –“ As fizz flowed, friends queued up to share cherished reminiscences as the new name of the theatre was unveiled. How Brian Gibson was left stranded by a fellow actor who had jumped three scenes and in the context of the play, 20 years only for Judy to enter, unphased and leap back in time; how many of you have had David beckon you and say “Have you thought about....?” Always there, always supportive even if it was only to rule on the requisite number of tea bags needed for the interval drinks. All hail The David and Judith Wood Theatre.” Thank you Malcolm Parkinson!

**Pal Joey** Our director, David Fletcher said, “Reaction to the show was mixed although all feedback was positive. It was a bit like Marmite, you either like it or loath it, although most punters said that they had enjoyed the show but some had the reservation that it was not exactly their kind of musical. Good to present something different eh??” Take up of tickets was 92% with 435 season ticket holders using their seats and 165 general admission.

**BBQ** – after a year’s absence the BBQ was back with a vengeance – if you missed it you missed out! It was brilliant to see a range of side shows (soggy sponges and hooky ducks amongst them) all run by our youth members. The Ragtime rascals entertained and the treasure Hunt infuriated, the beer flowed and people chatted, danced and took part in a wonderful end to a wonderful season. Thanks to Helen and Tony Fox who led on the BBQ.

A little word about our bar. Emma Thompson keeps it well stocked and does her stint behind the bar. She also undertook the training to become our licenced premises supervisor. Kathryn Buxton has the task of staffing the bar for all events. It really is fun working on the bar and you don’t have to agree to do all events or more than one night. Please sign up with Kathryn or Emma if you would be prepared to help out. This bar is a valuable asset creating a lovely atmosphere for our audiences and making money into the bargain. Please support it!

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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**Dyliss 20<sup>th</sup> July** – Even though we had to cancel the Friday night performance, this proved to be a huge success. A very enjoyable and different evening which raised funds for the group.

**The John Danbury Show 7<sup>th</sup> September** – A fantastic afternoon and evening, engaging the youngsters in the afternoon and wowing the adults in the evening. Another enjoyable fund raiser.

**Strangers on a Train by Craig Warner directed by Sue Saville** – Auditions were well attended resulting in a fantastic cast. A great deal of work and imagination was needed to realise a set that looked good and worked well, they said it couldn't be done but David Fletcher came up with the goods! Our director said, 'I felt it was a great opener to the season, comments and reactions from the audience following every single performance were amazing'

**The Rock and Roll Years compiled by David Fletcher** – taking us back to the 60s with a live band and projected news reel, adverts and much, much more from the time. This was an evening enjoyed by all and a very good fund raiser into the bargain.

**Dick Whittington by Ben Crocker Directed by Helen Fox** - The second outing for the DAG Pantomime and we were not disappointed. Another sell out and another happy set of audiences. There were a number of youth members in the cast who worked really well and gave stunning performances. It was directed by Helen Fox, her first Pantomime, and she said, 'I am so proud of how hard the whole cast worked, to ensure the show would be the success it was.' This production is an incredibly important fund raiser for the group and so all our thanks are due to those who worked so hard to make it work.

**Old Time Music Hall** – A joint effort of compilation and direction by Malcolm Parkinson and David Fletcher. The evening and the supper was enjoyed by all. Special mention went to Sophie O'Leary and Anya Firth in their first Music Hall who gave outstanding performances. Another crucial fundraiser, our thanks again.

**The Hound of the Baskervilles** by Arthur Conan Doyle adapted by Steven Canny and John Nicholson directed by Mark Bailey. Firstly, the group needs to thank Mark Bailey for taking over directing this production after the original director had to move away from the district. It's a production full of laughs, and smoke and was much enjoyed by the audiences who left laughing. Our director said, 'This whole thing largely depends on a cast who can keep the pace, flip back and forth and essentially be prepared to try a good number of different things. For that I am very grateful to Chris Ward, Malcolm Parkinson and Matt Bailey who were great sports, keen to try stuff and very hardworking – both through the run and in those first full runs which were long rehearsals indeed'

**Double Bill** – Party by Tim Basden and Interior Designs by Jimmie Chinn directed by Steve Goddard and Maria Bailey. Both plays were very well received and the contrast between them, while both being funny, added to the appreciation of the evening. Steve Goddard directing Party said, 'I was really glad to get such a talented young cast of current and former youth group members to put this play on.... I loved directing this play and I have to say they did a better job of it than the version I saw at the Fringe in 2017. We've some fantastic young actors (past and present).'

Interior Designs was portrayed by more experienced actors but no less impressive. Maria Bailey said, 'I really enjoyed working with my cast and thank them for their commitment and was really pleased with the characters they created.' This is another fundraiser for the group.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

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**Spring Exhibition** – The exhibition was presented at Batley Art Gallery and the opening preview was very much enjoyed and well attended. When the lockdown looked imminent most artists managed to reclaim their work. The Gallery stored any not collected in a safe place.

We then managed to put **Ask Me Tomorrow** by Stan Barstow on for one night before the Corona Virus shut us down. That night was enjoyed by our audiences, there were many complimentary comments made about performances, costumes and set. Such a shame that it couldn't have run for the full week. I know the cast and director, The Other Richard Brook, were heart broken.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes, myself and David Fletcher ensured that everyone who had bought tickets for the Monday performance were contacted and messages sent out to everyone to let them know what was happening with the group. David and Emma Thompson and I made the trip to the theatre on Monday night in case anyone turned up. One couple turned up thinking they had tickets when they didn't and someone on the chance of getting a ticket on the door. So our communications had obviously worked well.

**Murder, Margaret and Me** by Philip Meeks was due on next. The cast and director had already set the play and a great deal of work had gone into the production. The set had been designed, costumes were being sorted and all technical aspects were in hand. I say this only because it helps to show how much work goes into productions even before the previous play has finished.

**The Youth Theatre Showcase** also had to be cancelled and our young people had been rehearsing hard. There were lines of costumes hanging up in the wardrobe ready for the production. What a disappointment for them all. But they'll be back next year, please make sure you support them.

**The Producers** by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan had been cast and David Fletcher had painstakingly created the musical backings. There had been discussions about the set and Paul Lightowler had done some excellent drawings. Again, a rail of costumes had been put out ready for trying on and some hired ones had to be cancelled, impacting on yet another small business.

As a team, we work all through the season to put on high quality productions.

Chris Ward had been using his one exercise a day to work in the garden at DAG. This means that, as well as a lovely garden, we also have someone there on a regular basis which ensures that our insurance is valid.

Steve Goddard has also been making regular trips to walk in and out of the building ensuring everything is secure. David and I have been down finishing a few jobs and creating an archive of the boxes and boards of photographs and programmes. Helen Fox has been working in the wardrobe tidying and putting away donations of costumes. Emma Thompson has called in to pick up correspondence for the treasurer. I'm sure others have been down too. Some of us just can't stay away.

The set, costumes and props stand ready to restart **Ask Me Tomorrow** if it is at all possible.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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**Structure, governance & management**

Dewsbury Arts Group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which was formed on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015. The charity is governed by a constitution adopted in 2015.

Membership of the charity is open to persons with an interest in all aspects of dramatic arts and to practising artists, on payment of an annual subscription then in force.

The charity is governed by a committee consisting of 8 officers and 6 other members, known as trustees. New trustees are proposed by a current member in good standing and are voted in at the Annual General Meeting. New Trustees are coached in their duties and responsibilities by existing experienced Trustees.

The charity is administered on a day to day basis by the committee, which meets at least monthly. All trustees are actively involved in the management of the charity. All members continue to give their services freely and without payment of any kind, except for the reimbursement of direct expenses incurred on behalf of the Group. The Group uses volunteers for all of the many duties around the theatre. These volunteers are often trustees, but other members also provide their services without payment.

**Financial review**

The charity's financial year ends on 31 May. Responsibility for the organisation's finances rests ultimately and collectively with the Trustees. Day to day responsibility for managing the organisation's finances is delegated to the Treasurer, who reports to each meeting of the trustees.

At the end of each financial year, the charity's accounts are subject to external scrutiny in accordance with statutory requirements. Annual accounts are presented at the AGM for the examination and approval of members.

Well my first year as treasurer has been interesting and very trying at times, I must thank our previous treasurer Chris Ward for all his help and support over the year.

We have seen a significant rise in membership and season ticket holder figures with a rise of £2969 on last year, this is due mainly to the raise in the season ticket price.

The first 4 months of our programme calendar are the most profitable for the group Rock and Roll Years, Dick Whittington and The Old Time Music Hall together generated a nice healthy profit.

Unfortunately, as you are all aware we had to cease all activity in early March after the first performance of Ask Me Tomorrow, such a shame for all involved who worked so hard both on and off stage. This production obviously ran at a large loss, rights, scripts, set, costumes, lights etc. all had been or had to be paid for.

We were fortunate to receive a COVID-19 grant from Kirklees for £10,000.00 so along with this and careful spending over the year we find ourselves in a good position to survive our current situation. The normal utility bills still need to be paid along with insurance and rates, we have seen a huge reduction in our electricity bill and with this in mind looking at our current outgoings we are in a very comfortable position to see us through to when we can reopen.

I hope to see you all soon.



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At the end of May 2020, the free funds held by the charity amounted to £23,519.00

**Reserves policy**

The group retains sufficient bank and deposit reserves to cover forthcoming activities which are largely self financing thanks to the successful Membership and Season Ticket schemes. There are no significant risks and funds are adequate to cover outgoings including the building improvement schemes currently under consideration.

**Future plans**

The charity intends to continue with its activities in support of its objectives for the foreseeable future.

**Acknowledgements**

The Group has mutually beneficial working arrangements with Dewsbury Collegians Amateur Operatic Society and Batley Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Some Group members also belong to either or both these groups. On occasion props and costumes are exchanged between the groups.

Dewsbury Arts Group acknowledges with thanks the sponsorship of £175 for each of this season's six main productions by the following :

- Disken & Co, Solicitors
- Mrs J Greenwood
- RK Brook Ltd
- Healds Hall Hotel
- Dewsbury Dance Centre

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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This report was approved by the Trustees on  
their behalf by:

(date) and signed on

Signed .....

Mark Bailey

Chairperson

Signed .....

Emma Thompson

Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Dewsbury Arts Group.**

DEWSBURY ARTS GROUP Charity No. 1161083 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT For the Year From 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Dewsbury Arts Group.**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dewsbury Arts Group (the Group) for the year ended 31 May 2020.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Group 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 Group's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 material 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 Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:

Andrew K Harvey  
AAT plus Finance Director  
26 Stoney Cross Street,  
Huddersfield,  
West Yorkshire,  
UK Date: 03/08/2020

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	Unrestricted	Restricted	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
Drama & Visual Arts activities	18144	-	<b>18144</b>	21456
Trading	12820	-	<b>12820</b>	11333
Patronage & membership fees	18765	-	<b>18765</b>	15796
Donations & grants	13413	-	<b>13413</b>	2403
Interest	53	-	<b>53</b>	60
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>63195</b>		<b>63195</b>	51048
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Drama & Visual Arts activities	27566	-	<b>27566</b>	23217
Building & support costs	16912		<b>16912</b>	24301
Trading costs	4019	-	<b>4019</b>	6588
Governance	200	-	<b>200</b>	200
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>48697</b>		<b>48697</b>	54306
<b>Net receipts before transfers</b>	<b>14498</b>		<b>14498</b>	-3258
<b>Transfer between funds</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>14498</b>		<b>14498</b>	<b>-3258</b>
<b>CASH FUNDS :</b> at start of year	<b>9021</b>		<b>9021</b>	<b>12279</b>
<b>Total funds at 31.5.2020</b>	<b>23519</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23519</b>	<b>9021</b>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES  
As at 31 May 2020

Annual Accounts 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 - 31 May 2020  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES CASH FUNDS

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
<b>Cash Funds</b>			
In-hand	565 <del>47</del>	-	565 <del>47</del>
Current account	1958	-	1958
Deposit account	<del>97</del> 20996	-	20996
	<u>23519</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23519</u>
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<u>23519</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23519</u>
	Unrestrict ed Funds		
<b>Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
Building	308083		

**Liabilities**

This report was approved by the Trustees on 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed .....

Mark Bailey

Chairperson

Signed .....

Emma Thompson

Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year from 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020

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**NOTES**

**1 Basis of Preparation**

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the requirements of The Charities Act 2011

**2 Taxation**

The charity is not liable to income or capital gains tax on its charitable activities. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the asset cost or expense to which it relates.

**3 Trustee and Related Party Transactions**

3.1 No expenses were paid to the Trustees during the year (2019-20 £nil).

3.2 No remuneration was paid to the Trustees or any connected persons during the year (2019-20 £nil)

3.3 No related party transactions were undertaken during the year (2019-20 £nil)