

Annual Report and Accounts

December 2018 - November 2019



Message from the Chair

Thank you to everyone who has supported and participated in Hasting Thrives projects this year. We had a successful year with pilot projects, as we looked to adapt and deliver projects devised following the impact of two major external factors: independence from East Sussex County Council funding and the government's Hastings Opportunity Area Funding, which provided financial support for raising achievement in local schools. This meant we had to offer other provision to support schools and the wider community. The main identified areas of work were pre-school, community and parenting, as well as continuing to build on successful song writing projects and arts-based initiatives.

Our objectives, laid out in our Constitution are:

The advancement of education in Hastings and surrounding areas for the public benefit by (but not limited to)

- 1. Work with schools, parents and the wider community to encourage academic and personal achievement through providing inclusive enrichment activities.
- 2. Provision of training to professionals working in our schools and other settings.
- 3. Overcoming barriers to learning.



I'm very pleased that the Charity is on a firm footing with

- Clarity of future direction providing inclusive enrichment activities for schools.
- Appointment of new trustees with skills in finance, education and the arts.
- A new website to reflect our change in direction.
- Identification of new sources of funding with the end of local Authority support for the charity.

Laura Carter, Chair

Songwriting Competition

The fourth annual song contest, held on Wednesday 3rd July 2019, was bigger and better than ever, with nearly 300 young people from 10 schools performing at The White Rock Theatre. Each year the quality of songs and performance improves as we provide funding to develop the quality of music provision in the schools. Collaborative song writing is a rich source of learning and fully inclusive. Our monitoring and evaluation provide consistent themes of pride and a sense of belonging. Funding from Hastings Lions, Hastings Direct and The Roy Hudson Trust and enabled us to provide professional support into schools who needed it. The Blue Spark Foundation and Fun With Music enabled us to professionally record songs and for the first time we ran a teacher training programme with funding from The Lucy Tate Trust. Funding from Hastings Round Table enabled us to provide free tickets to some of our families who could not even afford the £5 ticket. One school reported a young boy had broken down in tears saying: "Now my mum can go."

Our pupils LOVED it, were so pleased to win something and are still buzzing this morning. Alex Reed, Robsack Wood Primary Academy

Our children were delighted and excited to perform The whole school gets involved. Thank you for my enthusiasm award – I'm delighted and even more lovely is the children are so happy for me. Roz Aide, SENCO, The Baird Primary Academy



Collaborative Songwriting -Every Child's A Winner

School Songwriting Competition



Song Competition continued ...



Winners

Primary Guestling Bradshaw
Secondary Cold Hearted,
The Hastings Academy
Best Lyrics St Thomas
Best Lyric Line Ore Village
Best Arrangement Guestling Bradshaw
Best Performance Christ Church
Catchiest Chorus Robsack Wood
Bravery Award All Saints
Special Achievement Award
Roz Adie, The Baird



Thank you

Schools - who made the Competition brilliant and inclusive:

All Saints Primary Academy,
The Baird Primary Academy,
Christchurch CE Primary School,
Guestling Bradshaw CE Primary School,
The Hastings Academy,
Ore Village Primary Academy,
RobsackWood Primary Academy,
Silverdale Primary Academy,
St Thomas CE Primary School,
Westfield Primary School.

Writer and Performers 353 young people made songs, with 286 performing on the night.



Photographer Dan Sherwood

Parents A big thank you to all you wonderful parents who attended and made the children

Compere Jonny Morris, whose skills were tested this year, as we introduced winner categories, which meant the Judges took longer than normal to decide!

Judges Frank Moon, Marie White, Emma Anderson and Helen Sharpe.



Anna Page and Jamie Harris professional songwriting support.

BIMM for the Secondary Winner Prize of a teaching session in Brighton.

Replay Music Stores in Bexhill for the Primary Winner prize of a Ukulele.

YiaYia Recording Studios who went to several primary schools after the event and professionally recorded their songs. The children loved it!

Raffle providers Brewers, Trinity Wholefoods and Wow & Flutter. Brewers provide a large tin of paint each year to help decorate a child's bedroom.

Songwriting Club

We are very grateful for funding from the **Hastings Opportunity Area** which enabled us to extend our song writing provision. We ran an afterschool song writing club at The Hastings Academy, which included taster sessions with neurodiverse young people to encourage inclusion.

Twenty seven young people were involved and supported by our songwriter Anna Page. The club produced songs about Women in Science for a soundart installation in Hastings town centre for the Hastings Storytelling FestivaL. We also worked with Robsack Wood Primary Academy to produce a song for the installation. The songs were professionally recorded at YiaYia's Recording Studio ready for the Installation, It was an amazing experience for everyone involved.

The students really enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in the creation and recording of a track. They were incredibly proud of what they made and they loved the experience of real-life industry practice. Anna was excellent at inspiring them to write their own lyrics. She gave them the confidence to put music to their lyrics and the finished compositions were incredibly unique to each group involved. They were keen to attend the club and looked forward to it, for some I knew it was the highlight of their week. Their time at the recording studio was very special as for most of them they have never stepped foot in a place like that. Due to the amazing work of the studio manager and sound engineer, the students felt like real musicians and relished the opportunity to be recorded professionally. They had such a great time. The students were very proud of their work and enjoyed visiting the audio installation in town, they looked forward to sharing their work with their family and friends. These recordings and memories will be treasured by the students forever. Thank you so much for the opportunity. Kym East, Head of Music, The Hastings Academy







Musical Theatre

Funding from the Hastings Opportunity Area (HOA) enabled us to run a summer holiday musical theatre course at The Bridge in Ore, with priority given to children from the most deprived areas of the town.

This event was designed to support young people transitioning from Primary to Secondary school, into their GCSE syllabus and leaving school. It aimed to promote confidence and teamwork in the most vulnerable children. 20 + children across the town attended over 5 days at the beginning of the summer break. Thank you to all parents, relatives and friends who squeezed in for a perforamnce at the end. Feedback was excellent with parents stating that the children not only enjoyed the experience but found they had developed confidence and teamwork skills.

Key Outcomes:

- ^a• 90% said their confidence, group work, ideas and creativity had improved.
- 86% said their communication skills had improved.
- Some children were so fully engaged they did not bring their phones by the end of the week!
- Friendship was a key outcome with 90% saying they enjoyed making new friends.
- The course reduced the severe anxiety levels of one girl, who now wants to persue perfoming arts after school.
- A young person with global learning delays managed to perform 10 different scenes/numbers without prompting.









Neurodiversity Training

Hastings Thrives was approached by a couple of local community organisations to provide neurodiversity training for their volunteers. They felt the need for more support to keep and engage neurodiverse young people.

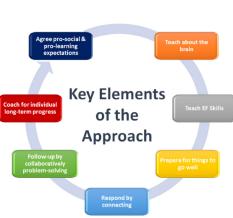
Thanks to National Lottery community funding we were able to work with educator Kit Messenger from Changing Chances and run neurodiversity training in September and November. The aim was to train community group volunteers so they could put in place inclusive thinking and practises.

Organisations who received training included the Brownies, Woodcraft Folk, In2Play, Demelza Children's Hospice, ProAct, local childminders and individual providers in schools. Feedback from the training was excellent. Two family key workers who joined in said it was the best training they had received.

"This was the training I never knew I needed. It's been amazing and a real eye-opener."

"Thank you for putting this training together. It is the most useful training I have accessed in a long time. A very refreshing approach and Kit's enthusism is infectious."







Pre-school

Schools identified too many children were arriving into Reception without meeting developmental milestones. This meant the children were not fully equiped to deal starting school. We wanted to look at whether we could affect children at the earliest stage.

The Chalk Cliff Trust enabled us to work with Kit Messenger from Changing Chances and run a pilot at Robsack Wood preschool nursery, training all their staff in key neurodivsity thinking and adapting material to look at this age group.



Parenting

It can be difficult for parents with neurodiverse children and we wanted to see if we could affect the whole environment of a child, both at nursery and at home. Robsack Wood pre-school identified 5 children who may have faced exclusion at a later date and through the Isabel Blackman Foundation we were able to offer the same staff training to the parents of these children. We are very grateful for the parents for all their time, effort and dedication to the course and learning. We know from feedback they valued the course and it made an immediate impact with all parents feeling more empowered. The training had repercussions, not just on the children at pre-school, but also their siblings and wider family connections.

These pilots will need to be evaluated further down the line to look at ongoing impacts.



The Chat Project

We launched the Chat Project to improve the communication skills of all young children at Primary school. Playground breaks were seen as the perfect opportunity to enable children to 'chat' with trained volunteers - to improve their speaking and listening skills and help them to understand how conversations work and to gain experience and confidence in expressing themselves. This was piloted at Silverdale Primary Academy with Year 2 children and proved so successful the pilot volunteer was sometimes overwhelmed by the quantity of children wishing to talk to her. Boys and girls were equally keen to communicate. Plans are in place to extend this pilot, train more volunteers and have more playground sessions.

Future Plans

We launched the 'new look' Hastings Thrives to school representatives at the end of September and showed our new website: hastingsthrives.org which reflected Hastings Thrives changes and enabled us to have full autonomy over making changes.

Our focus is to continue to provide enrichment activities in music and the arts as well as addressing, through training, the needs of professionals, the community and parents working with the neurodiverse children. We look forward to continuing and developing our existing and pilot programmes.

Financial Report

December 2018 - November 2019

the possibilities...

Background

This was a successful year for Hastings Thrives as it delivered projects devised following the impact of two major external factors: 1. Independence from East Sussex County Council funding and 2. The Government's Hastings Opportunity Area Funding which took over Hastings Thrives role. The main identified areas or work were pre-school, community and parenting, as well as continuing to build on successful songwriting and other arts-based initiatives.

All projects were run and continue to be run in budget, except for one, which was £74 over budget and therefore easily absorbed by the charity. The Songwriting Competition was brought within budget and Hastings Thrives stopped running the costly Sky Parade for which it struggled to raise the necessary funds.

A new bookkeeper led to exceptionally neat records and the introduction of income and expenditure sheets.

Hastings Thrives continues to rely on unpaid voluntary support enabling the charity to achieve far more than it would otherwise. This includes:

- A new website with 90% of time donated and updated by volunteers
- A solicitor amending and updating the Charity's constitution.
- Event support from volunteers and Trustees.
- Most Project Management time donated.
- Most fundraising time donated.
- School support.

Finances

Hastings Thrives started the year with an opening balance of £5330 and closed the year with a balance of £16054. £10811 of this represents restricted grant funding, and there is an outstanding invoice of £60, leaving a total of £5183 unreserved funds. Of this £1002 represents income recuperated from the previous financial year. Figures are rounded to the nearest £1.

Income.

The total income for the year was £56255.

- 1. Grants of £49188 including:
 - £30913 East Sussex County Council funding for schools which was transferred directly to Icklesham School to distribute to schools outside the Hastings Opportunity Area Funding remit.
 - £6100 from the National Lottery for Community Neurodiversity Training.
 - £3000 from the Chalk Cliff Trust for training Robsack Wood nursery staff
 - £1500 from the Isabel Blackman Trust for training parents with neurodiverse children at Robsack Wood pre-school .
 - £2300 in grants for songwriting from The Blue Spark Foundation, Hastings Lions, Roy Hudson Trust, Lucy Tate Trust and Hastings Round Table.
 - £5375 from Hastings Opportunity Area for performing arts and songwriting.

- 2. Fundraising income of £7017 including:
 - £1500 company sponsorship by Hastings Direct
 - £4500 ticket sales from 2018 and 2019 songwriting competition. The new accounting system highlighted the White Rock Theatre had not reimbursed ticket sales, minus charges, in 2018.
 - £777 general fundraising
 - £270 school fees.

Expenditure

The total expenditure for the year was £45510. This was made up of:

- 1. Restricted expenditure either from Grant funds or Hastings Thrives commitments to projects of £42771 representing:
 - £6460 Songwriting Competition, including £660 carried over from the 2018 Competition.
 - £2924 Summer Performing Arts project. This was overbudget by £74 and Hastings Thrives drew from its reserves.
 - £2050 Community training in Neurodiversity.
 - £260 Women in Science project.
 - £30193 Schools fund
- 2. Trustee expenses and associated costs, including AGM expenses were £248.
- 3. Fundraising expenses were £400.
- 4. Accounting expenses were £783 including bookkeeping and independent auditing of accounts.
- 5. The new website was £549, including purchase of a Wordpress theme.
- 6. Our annual Insurance cost of £760 remains high due to hosting a large event.

Outstanding

£60 costs remain outstanding from the Songwriting Competition.

Reserved Income

Grant money remaining to be spent, or remaining to be paid for work carried out is carried over to the next financial year as reserved income of £10811, representing:

- 1. Pre-school Project £3000
- 2. Neurodiversity Training £4050
- 3. Parenting Project £1500
- 4. HOA Songwriting £2261

Assets

Hastings Thrives has no physical or financial assets. *Financial Report completed by Jenny Lozano June 2020*

At the End of the Financial year the Trustees were:

Laura Carter (Chair) Nikki Lofting (Treasurer) Susanna Longley, Paul Briant, Jonny Morris Report completed by Laura Carter, Chair, July 2020

¹We have changed the reporting year to align with our financial year so there is some overlap with the trustee report submitted July 2019.

² Changes in the constitution to reflect changes in how we are now working were agreed at the AGM and submitted and agreed by the charity commission September 2019



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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period To 30.11.2019 from 01.12.2018

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Section A Receipts and p	Unrestricted		Endowment		• (0.20 pt • (0.10 pt layeren)
	funds	Restricted funds	funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest f
A1 Receipts					
Balance brought forward	5,330		-	5,330	18,35
Grants		49,188	-	49,188	53,50
Fundraising events	4,500	. 1	-	4,500	3,2
Donations	677	100	-	777	2,8
Sponsorship	1,500	4		1,500	
Fees		270		270	
	-	-		-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,007	49,558	-	61,565	77,9
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Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy Marketing (Website)	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy Marketing (Website) Sub total	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy Marketing (Website) Sub total	248 400 760 783 549	-	-	248 400 760 783 549	
A3 Payments Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy Marketing (Website) Sub total A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	248 400 760 783 549 - - - 2,740	- - - - - - - 42,771	-	248 400 760 783 549 - - - 45,511	
Cost of Charitable Activities Governance including Trustee expenses Fundraising Insurance Bookkeeping and accountancy Marketing (Website) Sub total	248 400 760 783 549 - - 2,740	- - - - - - 42,771	-	248 400 760 783 549 - - - 45,511	
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This Clarity Commission form CCILa Is a true and accounte reflection of the occounts for Hastings Thrives for period ending 30/11/2019, lecconaled to bank statement by To logy (MAAT)

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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period To 30.11.2019 from 01.12.2018

	Dayments Unrestricted		Endowment		
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A1 Receipts		-			15.55
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	-	-	•	-	
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Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,007	49,536		01,303	17,30
A2 Asset and investment sales,					
(see table).			-1		
	-	-	-		
Sub total	-		•		
Total receipts	12,007	49,558		61,565	77,9
Total receipts	TE, OUT	40,000			
A3 Payments					
Cost of Charitable Activities		42771	-	42,771	
Governance including Trustee expenses	248		-	248	
Fundraising	400			400	
Insurance	760	_	-	760	
Bookkeeping and accountancy	783		-	783	
Marketing (Website)	549	-	-	549	
		-		-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	2,740	42,771	-	45,511	
A4 Asset and investment					
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A4 Asset and investment	2,740	42,771	-	45,511	
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A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) Sub total	2,740		-	45,511 - -	
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	2,740	42,771	-	45,511	
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A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) Sub total Total payments Net of receipts/(payments)	2,740		-	45,511 - -	
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) Sub total Total payments	2,740	42,771	-	45,511 - - - - 45,511	
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