

## Cotton Shed Trustees Report 2020



Chair of the Charity: Mr Keith Lofthouse  
Secretary: Mrs Karen Taylor

Treasurer: Dr Brian Miller

Trustees:  
Dr Brian Miller  
Mr Keith Lofthouse

Board Members:

Mrs Karen Taylor  
Miss Emma Hollis  
Miss Emma Jones  
Mrs Marcia Hollis  
Mrs Karen Turner Riley  
Mrs Gina Tomlinson  
Mr Glyn Ellis  
Mrs Cath Eddisford  
Mr Corey Scott  
Mr Matthew Eddisford  
Miss Bethany Swarbrick

Co-opted members Mrs Cath Eddisford (Artistic Director)

### Summary Report for the period year ending December 2019 (inclusive of Jan-April 2020)

#### Chair's Introduction

Cotton Shed Theatre Company has completed its thirteenth year of inclusive theatre workshops/sessions throughout East Lancashire. More projects, productions and developments have ensured we continue to grow and reach those who benefit most from the projects we run. We have continued to increase funds and attendance and the future continues to look bright.

2019/2020 has included the following key productions and projects.

- **Dust 2020.** This was destined to be Cotton Sheds biggest production to date due to be performed in March 2020. However, Covid-19 and lockdown meant the production could not go ahead and the performance has been put on hold to take place later in the year. Dust brings together 5 theatre groups made up of children, young people and adults of varying abilities. It has been devised and created by the members themselves and is about one boys journey into a magical land of pirates, fairies and adventure. The main focus is on greed, fear and chasing our dreams.
- **Silver Shed:** Silver Shed sessions have carried on to date with continued funding. The team have reached more care homes in the Rossendale valley and therefore more dementia patients and elderly residents have had access to interactive theatre sessions. As the sessions grow they continue to make a huge difference and have a positive impact on those who are lonely and isolated.
- **Friend Shed.** Friend Shed continues meetings on a Wednesday mornings (during Covid-19 this is taking place via Zoom online). Once we are out of lockdown the sessions will continue face to face at the Garage café, which is part of Tor View Specialist Learning Community. Friend Shed continues to establish social links for anyone who may be isolated in the local community. It is also used

for signposting people to other groups to expand their socialising and supportive links.

- **Sign and Rhyme:** The sessions aimed at 0-4 years continues to grow in popularity, maintaining three sessions weekly. Sign and Rhyme continues to develop links with various establishments and sessions have taken place at schools, nurseries and the renowned puppet theatre 'The Boo' in Waterfoot. Online videos have ensured young children can still access sessions during the Covid-19. Sign and Rhyme is led by three members of the artistic team and continues to offer opportunities for volunteers, some of who have additional needs or disabilities.
- **Summer School:** Cotton Sheds Summer School for 5-11 years was more successful than ever in 2019 with more accessing the sessions than ever before. We plan to hold two weeks worth of workshops in summer 2020 due to popular demand. The sessions are inclusive and aimed every year for both mainstream children and children with additional needs and/or a disability.
- **Significant developments**  
Cotton Shed currently runs the following weekly workshops  
Sign and Rhyme (0 – 4 years) (3 sessions)  
Beginners (4-7 years)  
Children's (8-11 years) (2 sessions)  
Youth Theatre (12-15 years)  
Company (16+ years)  
Silver Shed (2-3 sessions)  
Friend Shed

We recruited a new administrator in 2019 who is a welcomed addition to the team. We have secured funding for a dance practitioner, which we will recruit for as soon as we return to regular activities after lockdown.

Thank you to all the staff, members, volunteers, parents and carers and our ever-growing audience. Your support is paramount to our charity.

### **Financial Update**

A statement of accounts for the year 2019 is attached. Three local schools. Haslingden High School, Tor View Specialist Community and Haslingden Primary School continue to support Cotton Shed by providing in kind support. Provision of office space, theatre space for performances, rehearsal space is some of the support these three establishments give to our charity.

Cotton Sheds main source of financial support during 2019 has been from grants, donations and productions. Successful grant applications are crucial in ensuring Cotton Shed continue to grow and develop and offer the inclusive services that are much needed in our locality.

### **Future Focus**

Financial sustainability will remain key. Successful grant applications, a strong artistic team and supportive board alongside parents and carers place us in a very optimistic position for the future.

**COTTONSHED ACCOUNTS**  
01 JANUARY - 31ST DECEMBER 2019

Balance Brought Forward		EXPENDITURE	RECEIPTS
	correct with bank statement 31/12/2018	£	£ 58,788.44 NM
1 Salaries		£ 61,812.41	£
2 Accommodation, Travel, Subsistence & trips			£
3 Petty Cash		£0.00	
4 Publicity			
5 Communication		£ 1,083.87	
6 Insurance		£ 270.14	
7 Subscriptions/Membership		£ 20.00	£ 16,314.12
8 Grants/Donations including Gift Aid & Virgin Money Giving			£ 46,927.88
9 Summer School			£ 2,285.50
10 Recruitment		£ 50.00	
11 Training		£ 545.00	£ 250.00
12 Production Costs		£ 2,830.63	
13 Production Income		£ -	£ 3,802.30
14 Resources		£ -	
15 Sign and Rhyme		£ -	£ 14,488.23
15a Sign and Rhyme Parties		£ 30.00	£ 1,765.52
16 Misc		£ -	
17 Friendshed		£ 64.80	
18 Beeptime project		£ -	
18 Silvershed		£ 220.00	£ 370.00
20 Cottonshed Room Hire		£ 2,213.00	
21 Shine Alive		£ 280.00	
22 Audit of Accounts		£ 75.00	
23 S&R Hiltide		£ -	£ 1,080.80
		£ 58,004.63	£ 147,031.24
	correct with bank statement p		£ 57,426.59 NM

Treasurer:   
Angela Holtsworth

Date

17/13/2020

Independent Examiner:

 12/02/2020  
Natalie McMahon Date

N McMahon  
C/O Haslingden Primary School  
Ryefield Avenue  
Haslingden  
BB4 4BJ

**Independent Examination of Cotton Shed Theatre Accounts 2019**

I confirm I have undertaken an independent examination of the Cotton Shed Theatre Accounts and in my opinion, they give a true and fair view of its Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31/12/2019

Natalie McMahon  
Independent Examiner