

# Report of the trustees

Sudden Productions

Year ended April 2020



# The Edge

*Teenage Suicide awareness  
Key Project 2020*

**SUDDEN**  
PRODUCTIONS

Sudden Productions has been in existence since 1993 and has been committed to bringing its productions to those who have limited access to conventional theatre and film-making in Birmingham and the West Midlands. The charity's community programmes deliver social, emotional, physical and educational benefits to young participants. Our core sectors are:

**Inclusion:** Working with marginalized groups with a keen focus on integration and supporting social cohesion;

**Education:** Developing confidence and communication, and improving behaviour and attitudes to learning;

**Health:** Effecting positive improvements in mental and physical health;

**Professional Development:** Helping to develop the careers of young talents.

We have a track record of educational plays, films, exhibitions, and workshops. Sudden Productions work exclusively with children and young people and produce projects with a focus on the difficult issues and challenges that young people face today. Over the past years we have covered important issues such as racism, homelessness, juvenile delinquency, bullying, unemployment, etc.

Most workshops and performances we offer schools, voluntary groups, youth centres are entirely free. In some places we do charge a very minimum fee (if distant and/or if there is a lot of time involved). Our free work gives many disadvantaged young people the chance to benefit from our projects. We work with young people coming off drugs and others attending rehab units, probation centres, pupil referral units social services, and young people off the streets (Homeless) each year and create partnerships with voluntary organizations, youth offending teams, local authorities, statutory bodies, etc on each project we deliver.

## **Legal and administrative information**

### **Status**

Sudden Productions is a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The charity is governed by a constitution adopted at the first AGM in 1996 revised in 2005. A new Constitution was adopted by the Trustees on the 10th of August 2008. (charity number 1018887).

### **Trustees**

Neil Hallett  
Christine Brueton  
Stephen Bradbury

### **Registered Office**

167 Linwood Road  
Handsworth  
Birmingham  
B21 9JQ

### **Objectives and activities:**

A. Promote, improve develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of drama in all its aspects by the presentation in public of plays and by such other ways as the society through its committee shall from time to time determine.

B. Educate young people in order to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities so that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and as members of society.



## Highlights and acknowledgment from the Director

The last few months have been challenging for all of us—it goes without saying that the year 2019/20 didn't go quite as we imagined!—, but even now, as we look towards an uncertain future, there is still so much for Sudden Productions to celebrate.


At Sudden Productions, we support the performing arts through making, teaching, or enjoying issue-based theatre. Sudden Productions was created to support young people who aren't fortunate enough to have the same opportunities as some others, whether because they come from socially and economically deprived areas or whether they come from communities that generally have half the access to arts education that their peers do—and in 2019/20, we did exactly that! We performed incredible and original plays developed by the Sudden Productions creative team, including our director, playwright, and designer, and we couldn't be more pleased or proud to have shared *The Edge* (teenage suicide awareness) or *Out Loud* (climate-change awareness) with our community. This was done whilst our Film and Theatre Project, *FEARFUL*, was created, which was painfully and poignantly resonant during the difficult times we were, and are, experiencing with knife crime across Birmingham and the West Midlands.

During the year ending in April 2020, Sudden Productions delivered 34 main events (i.e., performances and workshops) of *FEARFUL* (knife crime awareness), *The Edge* (teenage suicide awareness), *Out Loud* (climate change awareness), *Lucy: Young and Homeless*, and *Play for Day!*, all whilst facilitating drama workshops on the issues at hand. Furthermore, although our touring productions were forced to close in March, they still cast a profound impact on our community.

At the time that the pandemic struck, artists had to pivot their programs online and look for ways to meet this strange challenge. Our team has been working from home throughout lockdown, and, even in this time of social distancing, Sudden Productions has been keeping busy, constantly launching new initiatives and community activities. In March and April, we premiered an online playwrighting class, as well as a playwrighting and screenwriting competition. Further to this, Sudden Productions worked with seven schools and youth organisations online in March and April 2020, and, since then, teachers and youth leaders all across Birmingham and the West Midlands have worked with us to forward weekly newsletters and fun activities to young people to stay safe at home (e.g., online company projects navigating everything from online workshops and debates, to various competitions and performance livestreams).

Whilst it certainly hasn't been an easy time, I believe that Sudden Productions will come through this year stronger and more resilient, with renewed creativity and a deeper commitment to our core values. Notably, none of this would have been possible without the extraordinary support of this community: at a time when so many arts organisations have struggled, we are profoundly grateful to you, our generous donors. Some of you even attended our public or school performances, and for this we thank you. Your support has allowed us to continue our work, serve the company's mission, and ensure that we'll be ready to welcome you back when all of this is over.

With gratitude,

  
Nowell Wallace  
Director, Sudden Productions





**The Edge** consists of a stage play and drama workshops in order to raise awareness for teenage suicide. The project was developed throughout the year via workshops and partnerships, but its highlight was between March 2nd – 9th, when it toured nine schools and youth organisations, as well as being performed at the Coneygre Arts Centre and reaching 1,007 young people. This year, we enriched our database of partners, including 500 contacts (teachers and youth leaders in Birmingham and the West Midlands) who were emailed with a self-explanatory educational pack and a campaign to raise awareness for teenage suicide. The project continues online.



### Feedback from teachers and young people

"We're doing a performance around this kind of thing in Drama and seeing how this play has been done it's given us a lot of ideas how we can make it better."

"The characters were really relatable - we have a 'Lauren' here definitely, and [name removed] has anger issues so we could all see ourselves."

"One of the issues we face on a regular basis is that the pastoral team see meltdowns like we saw in the play and when that happens we aren't really equipped to deal with that, so if a play like this can help to stop that type of situation from arising in the first place I think that's a really positive thing."

"We have a lot of male students in 6th form with anger issues and I think it's really great that the central character is male."

"I had an incident just a couple of days ago where I felt like [Paul], the shouting and the kicking off I know exactly how that feels, so I've pretty much seen myself exactly."

"I liked how even though they were all suffering they all showed it in different ways, Lauren was all bubbly, Cathy was like she didn't care, and Paul showed it as like anger. It shows how it's not always the same for everybody."



## Out Loud



We delivered eight main performances and workshops of **Out Loud** in May 2019, in turn reaching 500 young people. A self-explanatory educational pack and a campaign to raise awareness for climate change was sent to our database of 500 contacts (teachers and youth leaders in Birmingham and the West Midlands), and Out Loud was developed as an online project for young people. To this end, work was carried out throughout the year in order to engage young people with the project.

### Feedback from teachers:

"Just wanted to say a big thank you from all of us at BGS for the fantastic production on climate change. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the play, they found it very thought provoking and I am sure we will be having some interesting follow up discussions. It was a very topical subject and gave us all some great

food for thought on our personal responsibilities in being mindful of climate change."

## Lucy: Young and Homeless



**Lucy: Young and Homeless** toured 16 schools and youth organisations in 2019, with tours being organised in June, September, and November. The stage play and participatory drama workshops reached over 400 young people, and a self-explanatory educational pack and campaign to raise awareness for knife crime was sent to our database of 500 contacts (teachers and youth leaders in Birmingham and the West Midlands).

### Feedback from teachers:

"Yes, we thoroughly enjoyed the play, Lucy. It was a thought-provoking issue that raised some really good discussion points amongst my year 11 drama students. It is a sensitive issue, one that is not raised in schools enough. I think the point that the theatre company tried to highlight was that homelessness

can happen at any time, to anybody! Your life can take a complete turn and this point was highlighted successfully to the students. I particularly enjoyed the cliff-hanger ending in which the character of Lucy spotted her father, and clearly had a choice to make; stay homeless or, risk going back home to an abusive father. This ending prompted an in depth discussion with the students."

## Other Projects



We created a programme of issue-based drama for eight schools and youth centres, who participated in *Fearful*, *Love Trap*, *Play For a Day!*, and, later, our online activities.

***Fearful*** consists of the screening of a short film followed by a stage play and a participatory drama workshop, and is also one of our main online projects as young people design and update the awareness campaign with us, debating online what could be done to prevent knife crime in our community.



***Love Trap*** focuses on raising awareness of child sexual exploitation and grooming via drama workshops and our online campaign. As a result of lockdown measures, children are increasingly online and dependent on social media to remain in contact with friends, express feelings, study, and distract by EUROPOL, sexual offenders are

themselves—and, as highlighted taking advantage of this situation. This increases the number of children being likely to be groomed online and become victims of sexual extortion, cyber-bullying, or other forms of sexual exploitation facilitated by information and communication technologies. Hence, it is critical to raise-awareness for such increased online risks.

***In Play For a Day!***, young people work on one specific issue with a theatre practitioner and director and devise a play in one day thanks to improvisation techniques. Online work for this in March and April 2020 consisted of creating an online library of issue-based drama activities, designing weekly newsletters on how to stay safe at home, drama activities, and competitions on our various projects.

**SCHOOLS AND ART OR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS VISITED IN 2019/20** included LORDSWOOD GIRLS SCHOOL, HILLCREST SCHOOL, GREAT BARR ACADEMY, WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM, COCKSHUT HILL SCHOOL, HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL, ARENA ACADEMY, BORDESLEY GREEN GIRLS, ASTON MANOR ACADEMY, GEORGE SALTER ACADEMY, SOLIHULL COLLEGE, BISHOP CHANOLLER, ST BASILS MILNER COURT, WINDSOR ACADEMY, ERDINGTON ACADEMY, ST BASILS EDMONDS COURT, CADBURY COLLEGE, HAWKESKEY COMMUNITY CENTRE, MARYVALE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SANDWELL CONEYGRE ART CENTRE, CONCORD YOUTH CENTRE, SMALL HEATH YOUTH CENTRE, KING EDWARDS IV, BALAAM WOOD ACADEMY, YOUTH PARLIAMENT BIRMINGHAM, THE FACTORY YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE, STONEHOUSE GANG, NINESTILES, THE KRUNCH, ALL SAINTS YOUTH PROJECT



## Sudden Productions

I report on the accounts for the year ended 30 April 2020.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with these records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

*Susan Maria Brooke*

S. M. Brookes,  
Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians  
130 Wombourne Park,  
Wombourne,  
South Staffs WV5 0LY

DATE .....12.02.2021.....

## Sudden Productions

### Statement Of Financial Activities for the year to 30 April 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds 2020	Total Funds	Total Funds 2019
		£	£	£	£
	Note				**
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
<b>Incoming Resources from charitable activities</b>					
Grants and Donations	2	8,400	43,750	52,150	58,500
Other Income		200	-	200	95
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>					
Bank Interest		-	-	-	1
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>		<u>8,600</u>	<u>43,750</u>	<u>52,350</u>	<u>58,596</u>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Expenditure	3	11,222	44,616	55,838	54,489
<b>Total Resources expended</b>		<u>11,222</u>	<u>44,616</u>	<u>55,838</u>	<u>54,489</u>
<b>Net incoming/outgoing resources</b>		<u>(2,622)</u>	<u>(866)</u>	<u>(3,488)</u>	<u>4,107</u>
Total funds brought forward		2,137	2,176	4,313	206
Transfers		(1,234)	1,234	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>(1,719)</u>	<u>2,544</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>4,313</u>

There were no recognised gains or losses for 2020 or 2019 other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities

\*\* Full comparatives for 2019 are shown in Note 5



# Sudden Productions

## Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2020

	Note	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Current Assets					
Bank & Cash		1,325		4,813	
Total current assets		1,325		4,813	
Creditors : amounts falling due within one year		(500)		(500)	
Net Current assets		825		4,313	
Total assets less current liabilities		825		4,313	
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>825</b>		<b>4,313</b>	
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted Funds		(1,719)		2,137	
Restricted Funds	3	2,544		2,176	
Total charity funds		825		4,313	

Approved by the trustees on 12-01-21 and signed on their behalf

Trustee... Neil Hallett

Name... NEIL... HALLET.

**Sudden Productions**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the Year to 30 April 2020**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**(a) Basis of Accounts Preparation**

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and the Charities Act 2011. The Financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historic cost convention modified to include certain items at fair value when applicable. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. Significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

No changes have been made to the financial statements for previous years unless otherwise stated within the notes as a prior year adjustment.

**Contractual income and performance related grants**

These are only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

**Donated services and facilities**

These are only included in incoming resources with an equivalent amount in resources expended where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.

**Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

**Funds**

**Unrestricted funds** are income funds which are to be spent on the charity's general purpose.

**Restricted funds** comprise of

Donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the charity for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The charity does not usually invest separately for each fund.

**Income**

Grants are accounted for when the charity is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report

**Going Concern**

The Trustees consider that the charity remains viable for the year ahead

**Governance costs**

Includes costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

**Sudden Productions**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the Year to 30 April 2020**

**2. Grants Received**

	<b>2020</b>		<b>2019</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Grants £1,000 and over</b>			
Sheldon trust	-	5,000	5,000
The Field Family Charitable Trust	-	3,500	3,500
The Doris Pacey and the Dr Michael and Anna Brynberg Charitable Foundations	-	3,300	3,300
The Roger & Douglas Turner Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000
The Eveson Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000
The Norton Foundation	-	2,500	2,500
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The Southall Trust	-	2,000	2,000
Edgar E Lawley Foundation	1,500	-	1,500
The Leigh Trust	-	1,000	1,000
Richard Kilcuppe's Charity	-	1,000	1,000
The Archer Trust	-	1,000	1,000
The Grimmer Trust	-	1,000	1,000
St James Place Foundation	-	1,000	1,000
The Lord Austin Trust	-	1,000	1,000
The Cole Charitable Trust	1,000	-	1,000
George Bairstow Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000
George Henry Collins Charity	-	1,000	1,000
The GJW Turner Trust	-	1,000	1,000
The Keith & Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust	1,000	-	1,000
The Edith Murphy Foundation	1,000	-	1,000
The Edward and Dorothy Cadbury Charitable Tr	-	1,000	1,000
Sylvia Waddilove Foundation UK	-	1,000	1,000
The Michael Marsh Charitable Trust	1,000	-	1,000
Grantham Yorke Trust	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-
The Casey Trust	-	-	-
The GMC Trust	-	-	-
The Alfred Leadbeater Trust	-	-	-
The Sir John Middlemore Charitable Trust	-	-	-
George Fentham Birmingham Charity	-	-	-
W F Southall Trust	-	-	-
The Patrick Trust	-	-	-
The Green Hall Foundation	-	-	-
The Gladys Jane Wightwick Charitable Trust	-	-	-
The Ratcliff Foundation	-	-	-
The Rowlands Trust	-	-	-
The Cole Charitable Trust	-	-	-
G J W Turner Trust	-	-	-
Mrs Margaret Guido's Charitable Trust	-	-	-
The Dumbreck Charity	-	-	-
Small grants under £1,000	2,900	6,450	9,350
	<u>8,400</u>	<u>43,750</u>	<u>52,150</u>
			<u>58,500</u>



**Sudden Productions**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the Year to 30 April 2020**

**3. Expenditure**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Project Manager	23,695	30,000
Artists - Creative Team	9,501	13,479
Artists (Cast, facilitators and other artists)	17,449	6,675
Production Costs and Room Hire	1,108	326
Insurance, Post, Phone and Stationery	1,595	1,800
Website	500	87
Transport and Travel costs	1,490	528
Small equipment	-	1,094
Governance costs	500	500
	<u>55,838</u>	<u>54,489</u>

**4. Funds**

	Brought Forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Carried Forward
Restricted Funds	£	£	£	£	£
The Edge	345	20,250	21,168	573	-
Fearful	527	19,000	16,983	-	2,544
Out Loud	256	4,500	5,345	589	-
Love Trap	1,048	-	1,120	72	-
	<u>2,176</u>	<u>43,750</u>	<u>44,616</u>	<u>1234</u>	<u>1,310</u>
<b>General Funds</b>	<u>2,137</u>	<u>8,600</u>	<u>11,222</u>	<u>(1,234)</u>	<u>(1,719)</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>4,313</u>	<u>52,350</u>	<u>55,838</u>	<u>(1,234)</u>	<u>(409)</u>

**Sudden Productions**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the Year to 30 April 2020**

**5. SOFA Comparatives**

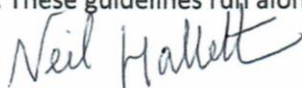
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2019</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Incoming Resources</b>			
<b>Incoming Resources from charitable activities</b>			
Grants and Donations	24,700	33,800	58,500
Other Income	96	-	96
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>	<u>24,796</u>	<u>33,800</u>	<u>58,596</u>
<b>Resources Expended</b>			
<b>Charitable Activities</b>			
Expenditure	22,865	31,624	54,489
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<u>22,865</u>	<u>31,624</u>	<u>54,489</u>
<b>Net incoming/outgoing resources</b>	<u>1,931</u>	<u>2,176</u>	<u>4,107</u>
Total funds brought forward	206	-	206
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>2,137</u>	<u>2,176</u>	<u>4,313</u>

**Treasurer's report** **Financial review:** With a total income of £52,350, 2020 saw a continued effort from Sudden Productions to raise further finances to carry out their work. The company's main expenditures were project management and artists fees: the project director in charge of coordinating all aspects of all projects and running the company was paid £23,695 for the year. Until now, the project manager received fees; however, it is planned that from December 2020, the project director will be employed by the charity. Further, £9,501 were used to pay fees of The Creative Team (Playwright, Designer and Director) and £17,449 for Facilitators and actors. Despite several funds closing temporarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we raised a similar income to that in 2019. This was paramount for Sudden Productions in order to plan appropriately for upcoming projects and bring its productions to those who have limited access to conventional theatre. Our work will mainly be online next year, and because of this, we worry that some funders may not finance such projects, despite there being a real need for funds to hire artists to work as a distance. Interest in and demand for the organisation's work continues to grow, and so funding should be raised in order to support this interest.

**Reserves Policy:** Income and expenditure of the charity fluctuates according to the pattern of grants. On-going Projects are heavily supported by volunteers. Artists are hired per project and financial commitments are limited.

**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities:** The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and financial statements for each financial year, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, which give a true and fair view of the incoming resources and application of the resources of the group during the year and the charity's state of affairs at the end of the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice had been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation. These guidelines run alongside the Company's constitution.

Signed



Trustees' name: Neil Hallett

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**SPECIAL THANKS** to our partners, artists and volunteers who make our projects happen! A big thank you to our donors!

The Sheldon Trust  
IMI Plc  
The Southall Trust  
The Leigh Trust  
The Archer Trust  
The Seccombe Trust  
The Grimmitt Trust  
Bewley Trust  
Lord Austin Trust  
The GJW Turner Trust  
The Edith Murphy Foundation  
The Michael Marsh Charitable Trust

The William Cadbury Charitable Trust  
The Richard Cadbury Charitable Trust  
The Woodward Charitable Trust  
The Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation  
The Edward and Dorothy Cadbury Charitable Trust  
The Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund  
The Lord Mayor of Birmingham Charity  
The Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust  
The Angela Gallagher Memorial Fund  
The George Bairstow Charitable Trust  
The Keith and Joan Mindelsohn Charitable Trust  
The Henry James Sayer Charity / Hopkins  
Sylvia Waddilove Foundation UK  
The Doris Pacey and the Dr Michael and Anna Brynberg Charitable Foundations  
St James's Place Charitable Foundation

The Baron Davenport's Charity  
The Norton Foundation  
The Dumbreck Charity  
The Eva Reckitt Trust Fund  
The 29th May 1961 Charity  
The Alfred Haines Charitable Trust  
The Richard Kilcuppe Charity  
Lillie C Johnson Charitable Trust  
The Cole Charitable Trust  
The Gibbs Charitable Trust  
The George Henry Collins Charity  
The Roger and Douglas Turner Trust  
The Woodroffe Benton Foundation  
The Field Family Charitable Trust  
Edgar E. Lawley Foundation  
The Eveson Charitable Trust