



Rye Wurlitzer Academy
Rye College
The Grove
Rye
East Sussex
TN31 7NQ

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1161821

CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR PERIOD 1ST SEPTEMBER 2020 to 31ST AUGUST 2021

Our year started and continued in the strange times of the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic, with it being impossible to arrange any fund-raising events.

Fortunately, we were thrown a lifeline through the Hailsham Organ Club, where Michael Wooldridge had performed a couple of years ago and, on that occasion, he invited Jayden & Freya Vicarey along to perform. They were very well received. Sadly, membership at Hailsham declined and a decision was taken by the serving officers to close their club. They were so impressed when they saw the Vicareys that they voted the RWA would benefit from remaining funds. In discussion, it was felt that rather than stop the life blood of live organ music for the remaining members, half of the surplus was received by RWA and the remaining amount was ring-fenced to continue concerts in Hailsham, with an agreement that RWA students would be featured in some of them, thereby providing a platform where they could appear in order to gain performance experience other than just at Rye. The re-launch was hampered by various covid lockdowns but concerts started in August 2021, with the RWA's Jamyma Hanson and Robert Eldridge scheduled to play the concert in September 2021, and up to seven students planned to give the Christmas concert. RWA students will continue to appear there from time to time, alongside visiting professional players. The donation we received from Hailsham of £3,500 has provided a much-needed lifeline in a year with no income from our usual fund-raising events.

Like the majority of professional entertainers, none of our students have been able to perform during the year but, fortunately, events are now being arranged.

We continued to strive not to let the pandemic beat us in the teaching department and, with continuing support from Rye College, we delivered virtual lessons until May 2021 when we resumed face to face tuition at the college.

Fortunately, regular, and new donations continued to be received throughout the year from a variety of people and from other organisations, as you will see from our financial report; all are appreciated, whatever their value. I would like to thank our regular donors through our Sponsor a Student scheme for their continuing support. All support during this year was invaluable, with all our fund-raising events cancelled, and we finished the year with a surplus.

We continued to enjoy good relations with the Aquinas Trust, who operate Rye College, and welcomed the support in this current year of Executive Principal Barry Blakelock and the senior management team. Sadly, a small recruitment presentation only attracted four new students, perhaps understandable when students had only just returned to college life and were focusing on core subjects and their new college routine. It is hoped that our "normal" recruitment presentations will resume in the new college year.

Once again, the project could not be the success it is without the continued professionalism and commitment of Principal Tutor, Michael Wooldridge, who gives much of his personal time to support the whole project and who, in his professional capacity, has continued to work wonders with the students in their lessons.

E-Newsletters continued during the year when we had sufficient news to tell our 300+ supporters to this medium. In May we did manage to hold a Family Day at the East Sussex National, with socially distanced time slots throughout the day, at which our students were able to play the largest Wurlitzer in Europe, which was enjoyed by players, parents and in some cases, grand-parents listening.

To conclude, 2020/21 will be remembered as a year in which we survived despite the pandemic, and in which we continued doing what we do best, bringing high quality learning to our students, which it was the least we could do in continuing "strange times".

Richard Moore - Chairman & Founder





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TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2021

Review of Year to 31st August 2021

This year due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, income has been severely affected, as no events have been able to go ahead. This resulted in a shortfall of income against expenditure. Income has been entirely from donations, and these have ensured that a teaching programme for students was able to continue.

Income and Expenditure

Income for the year totalled £9.5k compared to £17.4k the previous year. This represents a 54.6% decrease in income.

There was no income from events and although donations remained the same as 2019/20, this was due largely to a one-off donation from Hailsham Organ Club.

Expenditure for the year totalled £10.7k compared to £14.8k in 2019/20. This decrease is due mainly to lower Tuition costs, as a result of on-line lessons at the start of the year and a lack of event costs for Hall Hire, Artist Fees and catering, as previously mentioned.

Summary

With an income of £9.5k and expenditure of £10.7k, we have a £1.2k shortfall for the year, resulting in an end of year Bank Balance of £2,107.



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**INCOME & EXPENDITURE BALANCE SHEET
FOR YEAR ENDED
31ST AUGUST 2021**

INCOME

Donations	7,860.00
Sponsor-A-Student	1,008.00
Show - Door Admissions	0.00
Raffle	0.00
Catering Donations	0.00
Other Donations	0.00
Gift Aid Reclaim	643.41
Sale of Instruments	0.00
Other - Sale of Organ	0.00
TOTAL INCOME:	9,511.41

EXPENDITURE

Tuition	7,730.00
Artists Fees	0.00
Hall Hire	100.40
Accommodation	0.00
Printing/Stationery	35.99
Organ Removals/Purchases/Storage	2,770.00
Organ Repairs	0.00
Catering	0.00
Music Books	17.85
Other	38.35
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	10,692.59

Opening Balance: 01/09/2020	3,288.20
Plus Income	9,511.41
Less Expenditure	(10,692.59)
Closing Balance: 31/08/2021	<u>2,107.02</u>

Barclays Bank Balance: 31/08/2021	2,107.02
Uncleared Cheques	
Funds Available: 31/08/2021	<u>2,107.02</u>