



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

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1161821

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR PERIOD 1ST SEPTEMBER 2021 to 31ST AUGUST 2022

Our year started "back to normal" with a proms night event, featuring the Rye Bay Crew, our first event at the college since February 2020, after which the Covid-19 pandemic took over. The organ was fortunately fine until the end of the show, when a major wind leak occurred, which resulted in the Wurlitzer being out of action until August 2022 due to the severity of the fault and its position in the chamber, which made it difficult to repair, along with the need to gain access to the hall and the availability of the technicians.

Funding for the RWA was greatly assisted by the Right Worshipful Mayor of Rye Cllr Rebekah Gilbert J.P., who chose our charity, along with another, as her Mayoral Charity for her series of fund-raising events. Sadly, her first year of office was affected by Covid-19 but from her five events, A sponsored Walk, A Night at the Opera, A sponsored Head Shave, A Black Tie Gala Dinner and a Scratch messiah, a total of £6,500 was raised.

Our concert presentations at Hailsham had started and students were featured in September 2021 with Jamyma Hanson giving a solo concert along with a cameo spot by Robert Eldridge, in December 2021 seven students performing in concert with teacher Michael Wooldridge, and then other students made cameo appearances along with other artistes in early 2022.

Fund raising events continued at Rye, with a successful Christmas Concert as far as performances by the students and content but sadly a hesitation by the main age group that support us, and over 30 people not attending on the night at the last minute, it did not help our proceeds. This hesitation to return to live events since the pandemic has continued with events in 2022, including at all the reliable favourites from the past; A Fish and Chip Jazz Supper with Liane Carroll, Supper with the Shadows in April, and a Variety Show with Andy Eastwood in July were all consistently down on pre-Covid attendances and, whilst all were profitable, they did not generate the audience and income we would normally expect of them.

Our senior student Jamyma Hanson was engaged to perform in a number of concerts, including at the UK's largest keyboard and organ festival at Pakefield, the Horsham and the East London and Essex Organ Clubs, and on the Worthing Wurlitzer, which is renowned as one of the world's finest instruments.

Regular and new donations were slightly thinner on the ground this year, as you will see from our financial report. We are most grateful to those who continue to support our Sponsor a Student Scheme.

We continued to enjoy good relations throughout the year with the Aquinas Trust, who run Rye College, and much appreciate the continuing support of Executive Principal Barry Blakelock and the Senior Leadership Team. It is anticipated that our "normal" recruitment presentations will continue 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.

Our e-newsletters continued during the year, when we had sufficient news to tell our 300+ supporters to this medium.

To conclude 2021/22 will be remembered for a year in which we survived and continued doing what we do best in bringing high quality learning to our students, 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 2022

Review of Year to 31st August 2022

This year it has been good to hold events once again, following the Covid 19 Pandemic, and income from these have been almost back to normal. Although donations from trusts and foundations have been low, donations from the Rye Mayor's Fund and income from the sale of instruments has more than off-set this shortfall and the resulting total income is back in line with that before the pandemic. However, after many years without an increase, cost of tuition has increased and although all other expenditure is as expected, overall costs have increased, resulting in a shortfall of income to expenditure.

Income and Expenditure

Income for the year totalled £16.1k compared to £9.5k the previous year. This represents a 69.5% increase in income.

Income from events was £5.9k but donations were only £3.6k, down by £4.2k on the previous year. However, donations from the Mayor's Fund of £4.4k and sale of instruments totalling £1.2k along with £1k from the sponsor-a-student scheme, brought income back up.

Expenditure for the year totalled £17.3k compared to £10.7k in 2020/21. This increase is due mainly to higher Tuition costs, as a result of a return to in-person lessons and an increase in fee rate, along with expected event costs.

Summary

With an income of £16.1k and expenditure of £17.3k, we have a £1.1k shortfall for the year, resulting in an end of year Bank Balance of £964.



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**INCOME & EXPENDITURE BALANCE SHEET
FOR YEAR ENDED
31ST AUGUST 2022**

INCOME

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Donations | 3,625.05 |
| Rye Mayor's Fund Donations | 4,413.89 |
| Sponsor-A-Student | 1,008.00 |
| Show - Door Admissions | 5,027.00 |
| Raffle | 875.60 |
| Catering Donations | 0.00 |
| Other Donations | 20.00 |
| Gift Aid Reclaim | 0.00 |
| Sale of Instruments | 1,150.00 |
| Other - Sale of Organ | 0.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME: | 16,119.54 |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Tuition | 11,535.00 |
| Artists Fees | 1,700.00 |
| Hall Hire | 375.00 |
| Accommodation | 0.00 |
| Printing/Stationery | 74.00 |
| Organ Removals/Purchases/Storage | 2,610.00 |
| Organ Repairs | 0.00 |
| Catering | 897.97 |
| Music Books | 0.00 |
| Other | 70.69 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE: | 17,262.66 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Opening Balance: 01/09/2021 | 2,107.02 |
| Plus Income | 16,119.54 |
| Less Expenditure | (17,262.66) |
| Closing Balance: 31/08/2022 | 963.90 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Barclays Bank Balance: 31/08/2022 | 963.90 |
| Uncleared Cheques | |
| Funds Available: 31/08/2022 | 963.90 |