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# artsrichmond

## (Richmond upon Thames Arts Council)

### Annual Report 2009-2010

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## *Arts in an age of austerity?*

This is my first report as chairman. Clive Bradley stepped down at the end of 2009 having occupied the position for the constitutional maximum of six years. My first responsibility is to thank Clive for his enthusiasm, commitment and huge success in raising the profile of the arts and of artsrichmond in the borough. His wisdom and skill have not been lost to us however as he continues to play an active role continuing to write the monthly newsletter and contributing to the local news media.

If 2009 was marked by concerns about funding 2010 will be remembered for prolonged anxiety about cuts and how they will affect artistic programmes and organisations. Until the outcome of the comprehensive spending review has been digested at local level, probably not until the very end of the year, we won't fully appreciate the full extent of the financial impact. However, in reviewing the way grants are handled, organisations have been warned by the council administration not to make any further commitments based on 2011 indicative grants.

A new Conservative administration was returned by the electorate in May this year. As the council nominates three members to participate in our activities we are pleased to welcome our old friend (and long standing member of artsrichmond) Frances Bouchier with her colleagues Councillor Pam Fleming and Samantha Salvoni. Further changes to the committee were the election of Hilary Dodman (as deputy chairman) and novelist Jessica Duchon. We reluctantly say goodbye to our treasurer, Pam Frazer, whose eye for detail, energy and commitment has served us well. We are pleased to say her talents have not been entirely lost as she has agreed to remain on the committee.

Our strategy for the year has been to ensure we maintain the quality of our artistic endeavours; to keep the costs of membership at a realistic and affordable level and to work with partners to extend our range particularly in terms of audience.

Collaboration and widening participation have been at the heart of our work this year. We have, through our participation in the Voluntary Sector Strategic Partnership (VSSP), voiced the concerns of arts organisations about financial cutbacks and we have disseminated to our societies information regarding the

grant review process. We have worked closely with the cultural, arts and libraries teams in the borough, not least in the highly successful multi-cultural event "Say Hello". As a joint move with the borough team an application has been made to Arts Council England for funds to broaden the audience of the Literature Festival (formerly Book Now!) through increased diversity in programming, community engagement and audience development through digital marketing channels. At the time of writing we await the outcome. Other arts organisations such as the Orange Tree Theatre and Dramatic Edge continue to be our partners in a range of initiatives.

If the financial situation were not difficult enough, artsrichmond is facing the prospect of another move. We are examining the possibility of joining other charities in the LBRuT council sponsored accommodation hub. At this stage we have not closed any options open to us including sharing accommodation as before.

It is probably worth noting that during a period of financial uncertainty, artsrichmond has managed to retain not only its affiliated societies which number 100, but also its individual members. Indeed, we have managed to attract both new individual members and eleven new societies, including Tide Tables Café in Richmond, Out of Focus Theatre Group, and Way Out West.

Over the past year over 3250 people have participated in activities arranged by us.

A quick over-view of 2010 activities

- An innovation: over the Christmas/ New Year holiday period works of local artists were displayed and offered for sale in the Orange Tree Theatre. A popular event organised by Karen Hindle which we hope to repeat.
- A very successful choral workshop opened our year with John Sutton once again leading 100 singers in a Gilbert and Sullivan day.
- Artsrichmond contributed to the "Say Hello" mayoral gathering highlighting the many different cultures and artistic traditions flourishing in the borough.

- Screenwriter and novelist Julian Fellowes delighted a large gathering in the Duke Street Church - a great joint fundraising event for artsrichmond and The Museum of Richmond.
- March: friends of the Libraries Open Forum with Ian Dodds, Head of Culture, outlining how libraries would be responding to reduced funding and electronic developments.
- During an unseasonably cold weekend at the start of May we ran our very popular art tent on Richmond Green as part of the May Fair celebrations, and on the next day, the book picnic featuring Lady Antonia Fraser in conversation with Anne Sebba proved a huge hit.
- Better weather in June for the garden party at Garrick's Temple hosted by our wonderful joint president Liz Crowther - an opportunity for those involved in the arts to network in a beautiful setting.
- October: The Swan Drama awards hosted by our Joint presidents, Clive Francis and Liz Crowther, in a gala celebration of a year's work on 42 productions reviewed by our team of judges: Hilary Dodman, Pam Frazer, Heather Morgan, Keith Wait and Bernard Wigginton. Later in the month saw the opening of our splendid photographic exhibition at Duke Street Church admirably organised by Frances Neale and Karen Hindle.
- November. Lord Hurd will be in conversation with James Naughtie and Gavin Esler with Anne Sebba which together with the Young Writers' Festival at the Orange Tree Theatre comprise part of our contribution to The Richmond upon Thames Literature Festival.
- Our work on the Arts Advisory Committee, the Voluntary Sector Strategic Partnership and other bodies continues to promote the interests and express the concerns of our affiliated societies as do our monthly mailings, increasingly popular, our eleven newsletters and burgeoning media publicity.

Showcoach is the travelling arm of artsrichmond, taking members to the theatre, concerts, museums and festivals. Our deputy chairman, Hilary Dodman has taken over the programme and has introduced new activities and venues which have proved to be very popular. A dozen events over the year have attracted a new audience without alienating established "coachers". Edie Purdue, once the doyenne of Showcoach now devotes her talents to Showcoach artistic holidays and produced two sell-out trips to Sicily and Wales..

We are now required by the Charity Commission to set out the *Public Benefit* we offer. The **Objectives of the Council** are to advance education by fostering and promoting the maintenance, improvement and development of artistic taste and the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the arts, and the promotion, support, assistance and improvement of libraries, through the activities of Friends and user groups, in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. We believe that this Annual Report shows that these Objectives are amply fulfilled to great public benefit.

We are grateful to our Presidents for this year, Liz Crowther and Clive Francis for their outstanding contribution. In presenting the Swan Awards they really "wowed" the audience. The theatrical theme extends into next year as we look forward to working with the talent that guides the Orange Tree Theatre, our Presidents for 2011, Sam Walters and Auriol Smith.

**Grants and donations** We gratefully acknowledge grants from the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Richmond Parish Lands Charity, Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity, St George plc, Squires Garden Centre, Kay Williams, Joan Russell-Williams, Malcolm Richards Trust and anonymous donors.

**Artsrichmond INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st March 2010**

<b>Income</b>	<u><b>2009-10</b></u>	<u><b>2008-9</b></u>	
<b>Grants:</b>			
LBRUT (Grants Direct -restricted Fund)	5775	5953	
RPLC	3500	3834	
Donations (note 1)	1050	2910	
Subscriptions	6530	6277	
Surplus on events	6576	7367	
Equipment hire	56	130	
Gift Aid	1516	1057	
Interest	642	695	
Services to member socs	385	88	
Charibond revaluations	<u>493</u>	<u>0</u>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>26523</u></b>	<b><u>28659</u></b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Salaries	10172	10904	
Rent	2743	4036	
Repairs & Leasings (copier, franking machine, storage)	2975	1719	
Showcoach	45	0	
Utilities Phoenix Wharf	<u>750</u>	<u>0</u>	
	<b>16685</b>	<b>16659</b>	
<b>Office Expenditure</b>	<b>5722</b>	<b>6801</b>	
misc inc. Charibond revaluation	0	279	
Office move/new equipment	1427	2297	
Depreciation	610	2278	
	<b><u>2037</u></b>	<b><u>4854</u></b>	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b><u>24444</u></b>	<b><u>28314</u></b>	
<b>Surplus/loss on year</b>	<b>2079</b>	<b>345</b>	
<b>Accumulated funds bf</b>	<b>25432</b>	<b><u>25087</u></b>	
<b>Transfer to contingency fund</b>	<b>-10000</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	
<b>Accumulated funds cf</b>	<b><u>17551</u></b>	<b><u>25432</u></b>	

A donation of £1000 was received from Hampton Fuel Allotment charity  
 This is reserved for events 2010-11 and is shown under creditors on the balance sheet  
 Other donations are included in the appropriate events for which they were given

<b>BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2010</b>	<u><b>2009-10</b></u>	<u><b>2008-09</b></u>	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Office Furniture and Equipment	<b>1832</b>	1015	<b>1015</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Cash at bank	17728	18009	
Charibond	9787	4294	
Debtors inc Bostock Legacy	2629	4437	
	<b><u>30144</u></b>	2641	<b><u>29381</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>31976</u></b>		<b><u>30396</u></b>
<b>Less Liabilities</b>			
Creditors - inc. Showcoach	4465		4964
Contingency fund**	-10000		
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS C/F</b>	<b><u>17551</u></b>		<b><u>25432</u></b>

\*\* for anticipated office move and related expenses

**Examiners Certificate**

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet of the Richmond upon Thames Arts Council (*artsrichmond*) and in my opinion they give a true and fair view of *artsrichmond's* affairs at March 31,2010, in accordance with the

accounts and explanations given to me.



Signed

Norman Edwards, FCCA (rtd) September 2010

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# Richmond upon Thames Arts Council

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**Presidents 2009 Lee Langley and Lady Panufnik**

**Presidents 2010 Clive Francis and Liz Crowther**

**Presidents 2011 Sam Walters and Auriol Smith**

**Vice Presidents** Rosemary Leach Sandra Green John Coombs Clive Bradley Edie Purdue

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## Officers and Executive 2009-10

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*Chairman* David Ward  
*Deputy chairman* Hilary Dodman  
*Treasurer* Pam Frazer  
*Executive Officer* Sian Morgan

*Elected* : Nicky Browne - Sue Bell - Patricia Caunter – Laurie Coombs – Miranda Corben - Hilary Dodman – Jessica Duchen- Karen Hindle – Jen Laney - Heather Morgan - Frances Neale– Nuala Rowland - Gillian Thorpe - Gillian Wade

*Co-opted members* Francis Bennett (*Chairman –of the Friends of Richmond Libraries*) - Pat Parsons – Lesley Bossine (Landmark Arts Centre)- Bob King

*Nominated by London Borough of Richmond upon Thames:* Cllr Frances Bouchier – Cllr Pam Fleming – Cllr Samantha Salvoni

*Holding trustees:* John Coombs – Sara Burn Edwards - Sandra Green – Howard Greenwood – Edie Purdue

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## Patrons of artsrichmond

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The Mayor of Richmond upon Thames - Marcia Ashton - Lord Attenborough - Lady Attenborough Sir David Attenborough OM CH - Lt Col Duncan Beat - Isla Blair - Jason Bowyer PNEAC - Gyles Brandreth -Sara Burn Edwards - Dr Vincent Cable MP - Helena Caletta - Liz Crowther - Stephen Dodgson - Clive Francis - Michael Frayn - Bamber Gascoigne - Julian Glover - Howard Greenwood - Jerry Hall - Sir Jeremy Hanley - Toby Jessel - Karl Jenkins - Susan Kramer MP - Lee Langley - Rosemary Leach - Bernard Marder QC - Sir Trevor McDonald OBE - James Naughtie - Lady Panufnik - Cllr Pat Parsons - Maurice Press - Alan Price - Anne Sebba - Colin Squire - Frank Thornton - Claire Tomalin - Sam Walters MBE

*Convenor of patrons:* Sara Burn Edwards

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