

# Holborn Community Association

## Annual Report

### 2019-2020 +



# CONTENTS

**Organisational report 2019-2020**

**Our community activities 2019-2020**

**Community response 2020**

Given the impact of the global pandemic it didn't seem meaningful to report on 2019-2020 without talking about where we now. So, our report looks a little different this year and includes information on our work from April to October 2020 as well.

# INTRODUCTION

The year of this report (2019-2020) seems like a long time ago. It's important to recognise just how much the organisation achieved in that time though - decanting from Bedford House, relocating services and still managing to increase the numbers of people we support. Our Under 5s work, our arts programme and those attending our activities for 55+ all grew. Its not just about numbers - our reach across specific areas and groups of people has grown and how we help them get involved in sport, arts, learning changed, making it more effective.

And then everything changed again. We've supported the community to meet basic needs, improve mental health and crucially I think - keep them connected. Its been at times fun, exhausting, humbling and rewarding. A huge thank you to the team at HCA, our Trustees and the people of Holborn themselves for coming together. I hope you recognise the story told here about the difference you've helped HCA make over the last year and a half

**Paul Crozier**  
**Director**  
**November 2020**

**Who we helped  
in 2019-2020:**

**2,880 people  
supported**

**24,000  
attendances**

**41% BAME**

**31% 4-18 yrs**

**17% over 55**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Our strategy across the year (increasing our self generated income and improving grant funding) paid dividends - with both our income and expenditure increasing as we delivered more support across the community. Going forward HCA planned to use surplus funds both to bolster our organisational reserves and support work tied to the launch of our redeveloped building (fit out, communications and a new Community Sports Manager).

Those plans have been severely disrupted by the impact of the pandemic throughout 2020 and going forward. Support from Camden and our existing funders has been essential - but we will lose a significant amount of self generated funding in 2020 reducing our flexibility. At the same time the funding landscape is becoming even more competitive. The Trustees are confident that we are a viable ongoing concern over the next 12 months but acknowledge there are difficult and uncertain times ahead.

	Amount (£)	% of total	Comparison to 18/19
<b>Income</b>			
Camden	100,000	19	down 1%
Grant and foundations	174,772	35	up 9%
Self generated income	185,699	37	down 9%
Donations	43,093	9	up 2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>503,564</b>		<b>up 1.5%</b>

With inclusion of the capital project our accounts present a complex picture. The table above reflects organisational performance outside of the redevelopment project by looking at our performance across revenue funding

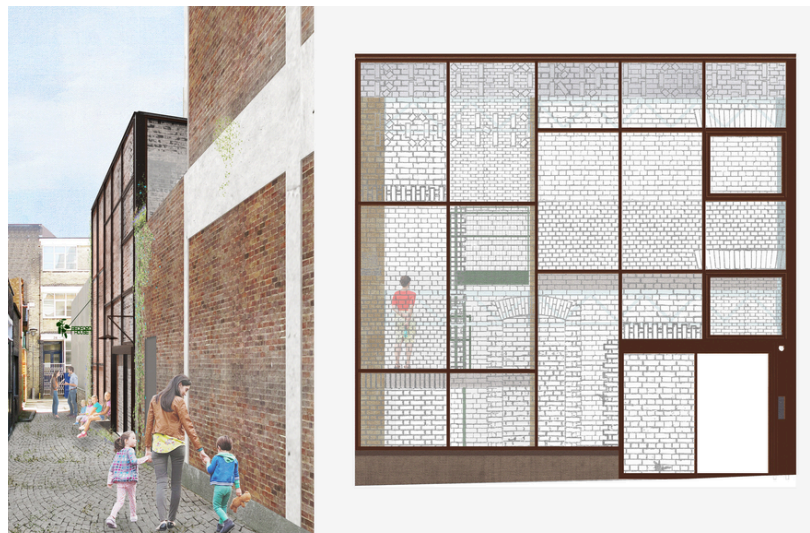
Copies of full accounts can be provided or are available through Companies House

# REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Bedford House closed for activities in April 2019. The amount of work needed to decommission the building, decant equipment and clear several decades of clutter should not be underestimated. HCA faced some unexpected legal hurdles which then delayed our project commencement in 2019. We have made it though! After many years, construction work started in April 2020. We're on course to remain on budget and reopen Spring 2021.

The new building will be more accessible, environmentally friendly and energy efficient as well as providing a much better space for participation in activities. We've been refining the design over the last 8 months to make sure its not just a better functional space but a beautiful, striking one - with a profile and impact that can stand alongside other local institutions. We believe that's what the community deserves.

Work has started on programming for the new space and we will be involving the community more widely in the new year.



Representation of how the new building will look along with detail of artwork to front facade.

The artwork etches a brick pattern onto glass (reflecting local buildings) and will include text on each 'brick' with names and events from across Holborn's history

# ARTS

## DIGITAL MEDIA PROJECT



DMP is in its 6th year! Young people from our Media Arts Club undertook projects in augmented reality, podcasting, and created artwork for a virtual gallery, and we led animation projects on Tybalds Estate, and with Mind in Camden Voice Collective. We partnered with Somerset House for our Summer Film Project - the young people's film 'Londoners' won the London Spirit Award for London Rocks Film Festival. 20 young people gained their Bronze and Silver Arts Awards.

## POTTERY



Throughout the year we have continued to run pottery sessions after school for children 6-12 years old and young people 13 - 16 along with classes twice a week for adults

This year we also delivered 2 weeks of pottery course for Camden Summer University with themes covering ....and ran regular pottery sessions for the over 60's

## ARTS GROUPS



Our Community Arts programme facilitated a number of other groups across the year bringing people together to work across a range of art forms. These included our Adult Carers Group, Make and Mend sessions, Creative Communications for autistic children and young people and Creative Writing for the over 60's.

We also took sessions out to the community with weekly Art Club starting on the Tybalds Estate.

**Highlights and events...** Bedford House Festival... Bloomsbury Festival Cromer Street Parade... working with Likewise...making sessions at Argyll School...drama sessions for 1A Nursery...Fun Palace...Tybalds Christmas Fair...100 Years of Council Housing Photo Competition...Christmas Card Competition... jewellery making workshops... autism friendly sessions at British Library...Trips to Unicorn Theatre, Royal Institute of British Architects and Somerset House...3D Game Design Project

# OLDER PEOPLE

## DAY CENTRE



Based at Millman Street Community Centre we provide day care to vulnerable older people, with a core group of around 25 attending throughout the year

As well as participation in activities we provide lunches, offer access to things that make a difference (hairdressers, advice, therapy) and take a lead role in care planning and advocacy for our members.

## BEFRIENDING



Our Befriending Scheme matched 27 isolated older people with volunteer befrienders in the year 2019-2020.

As well as providing vital regular contact the scheme has delivered regular training sessions for volunteers and matched IT volunteers with isolated older people to share digital skills.

## ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME



HCA's activities programme for the over 55's focuses on maintaining physical, social and cognitive stimulation. Over the year our activities were attended by ....people, with ....attendances.

The programme includes dance, yoga, tai chi, computer classes, art sessions, creative writing and one off events and sessions delivered with the help of partner organisations. We also organise trips to local exhibitions as well as day trips in the summer months.

Highlights and events...yoga and tai chi sessions...Ben Uri Museum Art Appreciation project...parties hosted by Metrobank and John Lewis volunteers...Stantec history day...summer BBQ...CREATE sessions...Reflexology...salsa, line dancing and south asian dance classes...mosaic making...Volunteers refurbishing the centre...UCL Intergenerational Dance...WW2 Heritage Project...St George's Community Teas...Chinese Calligraphy...Care Visions Activity Groups...

# CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## UNDER 5'S



Our daily Under 5's sessions moved to Holborn Library from May 2019. Between then and February 800 families attended over 7500 times. As well as our usual soft play, the new setting allowed for daily role play sessions and we hosted Rhyme Time activities in partnership with the Library.

Visiting organisations included Little Village, Hunter Street Health team and Family Support workers from the local children's centre team

## STEM HOMEWORK CLUB SUMMER TRIPS



The STEM Homework Club delivered regular sessions focused on Science Technology Engineering and Maths between April and February. Volunteers planned and led activities on the Tybalds Estate working weekly with children between the ages of 6 and 12.



Not having the space at Bedford House didn't stop us running a summer trips and activities programme. 160 people attended our trips (many coming on more than one) to places inside and outside of the capital. All attendees were from the local ward and got an opportunity to visit places they hadn't been too before and otherwise might not have been able to afford to.

Highlights and events...Cake decorating classes...Kidzania...Grandparents Day...Walton-on-Naze trip...Diwali activities for under 5's...Kew Gardens...Family Christmas Party...

# Sport and physical activity

## GYMNASTICS



Holborn Gymnastics Club moved from sessions in Bedford House to take over space within Holborn Library running classes for 4 - 14 year olds 2 nights a week throughout the year. Members of the club undertook a gymnastics challenge for BBC Children in Need raising over £600 in November 2019.

As well as our week night sessions the squad continued to meet at weekends (at Camden School for Girls) with further classes delivered at Kentish Town and Gospel Oak primary schools

## TAEKWONDO



Our Taekwondo sessions led by Master Rienzi moved to our Millman Street centre in 2019.

As well as weekly sessions members of the club attended a national tournament in Manchester with HCA providing a small bursary supporting children and their parents to attend.

## BALLET



Thirty eight children attended our ballet classes throughout the year, with weekly lessons and end of term performances for children and families

Everything else...Yoga for women sessions...Creative Walking Project...set up South Camden Sport and Physical Activity Network...

# C19 Community Response (March-July 2020)

## DOORSTEP HELP



Doorstep Help started as a delivery service for food and prescriptions open to all. It's scope and impact rapidly grew, providing advocacy and advice, maintaining care, managing medication and acting as the 'hands' for GP's, nurses, families locally. The Doorstep Help rounds provide regular contact and conversation for those who are most vulnerable and support to engage digitally, keep active and manage fears and anxieties about the ongoing pandemic

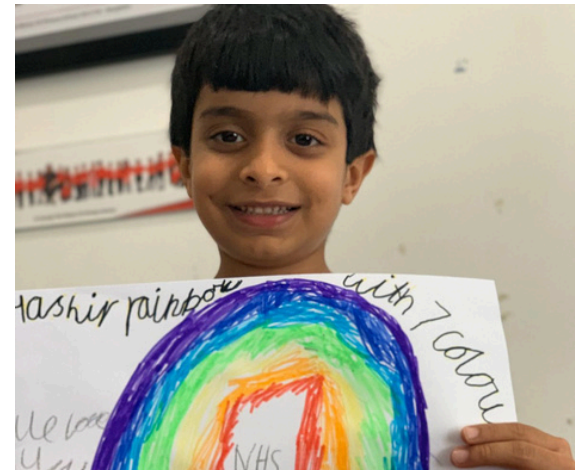
## PHONE BEFRIENDING



Moving to a phone befriending model the scheme grew considerably providing regular check in calls to some across our user base, creating new befriending matches and in some cases matching isolated older people with a number of volunteers to help them feel they were still part of a community network.

Volunteers from the existing scheme have taken on new befriendees, new volunteers have been recruited and volunteers from across other parts of the organisation have got involved.

## APART CLUB



Our apArt Club delivered online sessions for carers, autistic children, Tybalds Estate and over 55's groups as well as new sessions, like the one engaging children from Kings Cross (in partnership with One Housing). We ran wider digital engagement activities including whatsapp groups based on where people lived (estates and schools) as well as daily creative challenges. The Digital Media Project facilitated an intergenerational virtual gallery project, promoting positive mental health for young people and adults.

**Highlights and events...**Ramadan Food Parcels...volunteer refurbishing all Millman Street garden furniture...Community Cards programme...collecting donations and delivering food parcels... arranging transport for hospital visits...

# C19 REOPENING (JULY-OCTOBER 2020)

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARTS



With Holborn Library no longer available and accounting for social distancing guidelines our gymnastics and under 5s services returned looking very different

Our Gymflex programme offered a blend of digital sessions and physical classes at 1KX

Under 5's moved to smaller sessions delivered from Donmar Warehouse, St George's Bloomsbury and Calthorpe Community Garden



Our arts programme went out to where people were in the summer taking Arts on Tour to the Bourne, Red Lion, Hillview and Tybalds estates with activities for 0-12 years old.

All of our arts groups returned to physical sessions in September, held at 1A Centre, Museum of Order of St John and the Donmar Warehouse.

The Digital Media Project has been funded for a seventh year and will return with a film project soon!

## OLDER PEOPLE



Both the Doorstep Help and Phone Befriending programmes have continued.

Reopening our day centre service took a huge amount of planning and preparation - whilst members have less time with us and maintain support bubbles we were really pleased to be one of the first day centres in London to reopen and know that its been hugely beneficial to our members.

Everything else... Couch to 5k group sessions... monthly creative walking groups... Bloomsbury Festival online activities...

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Thanks from our Chair

In these strange times it has been great to see HCA respond so well to the very challenging circumstances that we all find ourselves in. Our big project of the rebuilding of “Bedford House” (soon to be renamed “Holborn House”) commenced at the very end of our 2019/2020 financial year and has I am pleased to say proceeded un-impacted by lockdown. The redevelopment will run throughout this financial year and be complete by Spring 2021.

During lockdown, despite many of our services being disrupted, I am very pleased at how HCA has been able to respond with significant “doorstop” services delivering food and a friendly face to many. We have preserved those essential services, particularly, to the isolated and elderly and have kept Millman Street open as much as has been safely possible. I as always want to thank our wonderful staff and amazing volunteers as well as our funders for their support this year in particular. I look forward to seeing HCA our neighbourhood and all our members and users flourish in 2021.

**Crispin Burdett, Chair of Trustees**

**Many thanks to the following for their generous support since April 2019....Camden Strategic Partners Fund, Camden Community Infrastructure Levy, GLA Walking and Cycling Grants, GLA Good Growth Fund, Independent Age, London Community Foundation, Power to Change, Ageing Better Camden, St Andrews Holborn, St Giles in the Fields, Labtech, BBC Children in Need, John Lyons Main Grant Scheme, 3 Verulam Chambers, Mischon de Reya and all of our generous individual donors.**

HCA uses digital media to connect with our community including Facebook, Twitter, and our website.

Check out **holborncommunity.co.uk** and follow us:

 @HolbornCommunityAssociation

 @HCANEWS

 @1AArts

[hcamac.tumblr.com](http://hcamac.tumblr.com)

<https://hcafilm19.tumblr.com>

[holborncommunity.co.uk](http://holborncommunity.co.uk)

Registered Charity No: 801064

Company No: 02344228