

Annual Summary 2021

to 31st March 2021



EATMT

Red Gables

Ipswich Road

Stowmarket

Suffolk IP14 1BE

www.eatmt.org.uk T: 07495 054669

Registered Charity 1082774

East Anglian Traditional Music Trust

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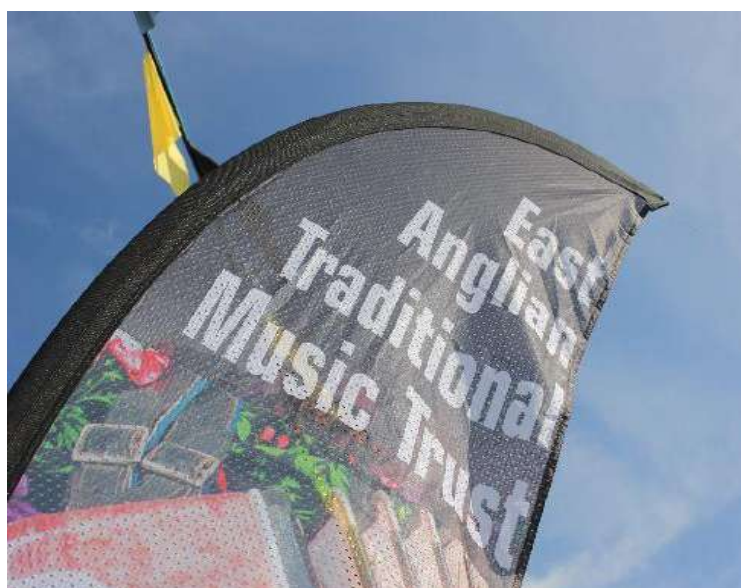
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for year ended
31st March 2021

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Trustees and Staff

East Anglian Traditional Music Trust

Registered Charity No 1082774

Patrons

Gloria Buckley (MBE)

Lesley Dolphin

Mark Murphy

Chair

Ivan Cutting

Trustees

Miriam Stead

Lindsay Want

Eammon Andrews

Administrator

Alex Bartholomew

Office Address

Old Stables

Museum of East Anglian Life

Crowe Street

Stowmarket

Suffolk IP14 1DL (until March 2021)

(From March 2021)

Red Gables

Ipswich Road

Stowmarket

Suffolk

IP14 1BE

Bankers

HSBC

20 Market Place

Stowmarket

Suffolk IP14 1DL

The Trustees submit their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Infrastructure

The East Anglian Traditional Music Trust is an independent registered charity and has been in existence since 2000.

Charitable objectives

The charity's main objective is to advance education in the traditional folk music of East Anglia and other areas, including folk songs, tunes, dances, customs and traditions. In order to achieve this the Trust organises workshops, classes, concerts, lectures, exhibitions, community and schools projects, carries out research, archives work and publishes resources.

Organisation of the Charity

The charity's governing document is the Declaration of Trust executed on 8 June 2000. The Board of Trustees, comprising the Chair and Trustees as set out on page 3 governs it.

Board members give their time to the charity on a purely voluntary basis. Whilst the success of the charity is dependent on the efforts of its members and volunteers, it is important that its work is supported by well trained and professional staff. The Administrator is responsible to the Board for managing the charity to implement its strategy.

Method of Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are nominated and elected in accordance with the Declaration of Trust. New Trustees are provided with relevant information and training opportunities.

Governance and Internal Control

The Trustees meet three times a year; this includes meetings to review the strategy and performance and to agree the operating plans and budgets.

Company and Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and

hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- the charity is operating efficiently and effectively
- its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition
- proper records are maintained and financial information used within the charity or for publication is reliable and
- the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- a strategic plan and an annual budget approved by the Trustees
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and non-financial performance
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks.

The Trustees are pleased to report that the charity's internal financial controls, in particular, conform with guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.



EATMT's set of jig dolls eager to get dancing again!

Report from the Chair

EATMT- Chair Report 2021

It is a relief to see the Trust getting to the end of March 2021 with its finances in good order. The continued support of our staff, volunteers, friends and online audiences have kept the charity alive and in good health despite the prevailing circumstances. However, the inability to make solid future plans while the pandemic continues to threaten all our cultural organisations has led to much of our activity being put on hold.

Huge thanks go to Alex for “keeping the show on the road” if only in a virtual sense and running the organisation so efficiently. We can in all honesty say that once restrictions are lifted we can return to our normal business of keeping East Anglian traditional music alive and in the public’s eye.

As her report shows, we have used the period to bring up-to-date many of our working practices, move premises, talk and plan how the future might look and keep our finances in good order. As a glance at our figures show, the support from our local authorities through their discretionary grants has been crucial, as has the continued support of our own Friends organisation.

Special thanks must go to those who have donated material and instruments, especially the families and friends of those whose legacies have provided much benefit, and to the volunteers who have sorted through the memorabilia bestowed on us.

Once again we thank Frances Hammond for donating her time to prepare our accounts detailed at the end of this Report.

Finally, we hope you are keeping well and safe through this period of upheaval and that we will see you again very soon singing, dancing or applauding.

Ivan Cutting – Chair of Trustees

A Review of Activities

April 2020-March 2021

Report from the Administrator



Young instrument hirer Finn whose lessons from the Maestro Tony Hall were halted in March 2020

Running a Charity through Covid-19 – the Coronavirus Pandemic

During the financial year which ran from 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2021 like many organisations, we experienced a full year of working in pandemic conditions – a situation unlike any in the charity’s 20 years of existence. The fact that we are writing this report whilst well into the 2nd financial year of Covid-19 is testament to the drive, dedication and commitment of a core number of people – all who were living through additional personal crises – who were determined for the East Anglian Traditional Music Trust not to fail.

For a charity that until now has mostly been a successful self-funded music charity due to the running of regular public-facing events, we were faced with a “fight or flight” situation given the closure of venues and the nationwide Covid restrictions .



A Lockdown project – the creation of a CD following an article on the East Suffolk Country Band

Moving on and changing the focus



Left to Right: The Old Stables, Red Gables, Collections with an East Anglian theme

Just before the end of the last financial year, we received a difficult telephone call from a long term Friend and Supporter, Dave Cooper, who informed us of a terminal cancer diagnosis. Dave had not made any formal arrangements but was ringing to offer the Trust his music collection, including some instruments but mostly his vast and eclectic record collection. Due to lack of space and time, this would not normally be something we would agree to, but it was incredibly difficult to say no and gut instinct kicked in with a “Yes!” We were due to visit Dave in the following weeks so that we could discuss further ideas about how we might use this collection, but within a fortnight, Dave sadly passed away. We hadn’t had a chance to formalise this agreement.

With thanks to his daughter and close friends, rather surprisingly, despite lockdowns, travel restrictions and having died *in testate*, in August 2020, and after a hire van had made two trips to West Norfolk, we found ourselves in possession of thousands of commercial vinyl, tapes, mini disks and CDs as well as an abundance of personal tape recordings of the various folk clubs that Dave ran in various parts of the country over the years as well as recordings of his various radio folk shows.

Arguably, without this sizeable physical donation, life for EATMT could have looked very different to how it looks today. This donation, partly because of the way in which it was offered and partly due to the ‘Great Lockdown Clear Out’ and the impetus and time this Covid period gave people, a number of other donations were triggered. Some of these are of immense importance – not just for our regional heritage but also nationally.



We quickly found premises to store the *Dave Cooper Collection* in an attic room in Red Gables – a wonderful large Victorian House where Mid Suffolk Voluntary Organisations Forum is housed and time was divided by spending “sorting” days with a number of volunteers at Red Gables and also in the office at the Old Stables. The collection was divided up – the relevant East Anglian recordings and books were kept and added to our reference library, some of the more popular

commercial items were sold to a local record dealer who has a regular market slot in the county and some items were donated to charities and organisations that were able to keep the music being played. In particular, we donated a number of commercial Jazz recordings to the Essex based National Cultural Centre for Jazz and much of the world music collection went to a local radio DJ who hosts a Friday night show called the Gap Year on digital radio station IO radio and EATMT gets a weekly shout out with a record played from the collection every Friday. A very valuable guitar by maker “Martin” which was also left to the Trust was sold to a friend of Dave’s and the income for this secured the rent on our attic room for a year. We feel very sure that Dave would have approved of this work and we’re so pleased that much of this collection will be being played and listened to by many more people.

During the year, a small office suite also became available (sadly, a business that succumbed to the Covid restrictions and lockdowns) and in February 2021, following a meeting with the Trustees, it was agreed to take on this office suite and move the entire charity into the one building at Red Gables. It provided the Trust with a healthy space and with potential growing room for collections as well as enabling the Trust to be housed alongside other charitable and voluntary organisations. We handed in our notice to the Museum of East Anglian Life who had provided an office in the Old Stables for almost 15 years and they very kindly gave us additional time rent free to move and clear the space. Much unwanted furniture which had come to us free through donations was ‘freecycled’ once again.

We are extremely grateful to the staff at MSVOF and to the staff of the various organisations who are based at Red Gables for the wonderfully warm welcome we have received since renting space here and we look forward to a long and happy working relationship with them all.

Events – on-off-online

Planned live events over the year were gradually shelved as we moved in and out of restrictions – falling by the wayside was our annual Stepdance Day, our planned September Song at the local John Peel Centre and a workshop day which had started to be planned for March 2021.

However, we dipped our toes into the world of digital events and used previously secured funding for the promotion of Stepdancing from the **Instep Research Team** to create (film and edit) a stepdance film which is now available to watch for free on the Trust’s YouTube channel. Part of the film included a tutorial which was originally created to feature in the Strumpshaw Tree Fair’s online event in July.



Lenny Whiting, Steve Matthews (Suffolk); Erin Brown, Michael Czarnobaj (Cambs); Mo Allum, James Delarre (Essex); (below) Plug Emery, Ben Davies (Norfolk) – Stepdancing across the region



We were also invited to programme an evening of traditional story and song by the John Peel Centre for IVW (Independent Venue Week) in January 2021. The Yarnsmith of Norwich – a wonderful teller of stories and Nick Hart - a traditional singer who was due to perform at our September Song event, were our chosen guests for this evening. The John Peel Centre covered the artists’ fees for this event and EATMT was involved with the promotion of the event and liaised with the artists on behalf of the John Peel Centre.



The Yarnsmith of Norwich, aka Dave Tong and traditional singer Nick Hart both providing East Anglian stories and songs at the John Peel’s Centre for Independent Venues Week, January 2021 - online

Projects

At the end of the previous financial year, an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund was made for a much needed Molly Dance Project called ‘Keeping up the Day’. As we hit the first lockdown, the funding pot was closed and our application returned. Only current and

previous funded organisations would be able to access funds for emergency hand outs and so months of hard work were forced to be put on hold. There is an urgent need to conduct the archiving and collecting for this style of dance and so once pots of funding re open, we will be looking to re-apply.



A small project funded by Stowmarket Town Council and the Concertina Trust that had been partially awarded at the end of the previous financial year to take our dancing Jig Dolls into Care Homes was reworked after getting permission to do so from our funders and part way through the year, a virtual tuition pack was created by ex EATMT directors Katie and John Howson with the view to delivering a Jig Doll Package to the Care Homes around Stowmarket for staff to watch and then share with residents whilst visiting Care Homes was not permitted for family or other members of the public.



Specific Covid Funding pots were applied for and EATMT were grateful to receive help twice through the year via allocation from our local district council, Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council and we are as ever extremely grateful to the Grants and Funding team for their continued support.

Gordon Ruddock Bursaries

Another immediate hit was our Ruddock Bursary offer. Though it was regrettable that we could not offer this to young musicians, it was the right decision because it turned into a

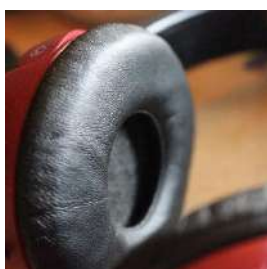
year when not much could have been achieved for these young people. One opportunity we were able to give was the year-long free loan to a young musician of a lovely Hohner accordion that was donated to the Trust at the start of the year for the use of young players by a Friend of the Trust. Young Eden obviously didn't get the chance to play with other young musicians over the year, but he was grateful of the chance to learn and managed a couple of online lessons to get him started.

Website work

Development on the website was our main focus in the weeks and months of lockdowns and restrictions and this development attracted offers of help to contribute to articles from East Anglian supporters and from the national folk scene. In order to compensate for the lack of live events we endeavoured to also include more audio and video within the website.

The addition of so much material led us to consider the security and safety of the website and so in the autumn months, the website was migrated to a new site and a local company charged with the regular backing up of the site.

Much of the Trust's donations over the year came in the form of audio and there is a need to consider creating a strong searchable database and to make sure the website has the capacity to upload in time all of these wonderful East Anglian recordings and this need will focus on future project applications.



Given the reliance on the internet over this year, we are pleased with how far we have come in using our website as a digital platform. It has been a steep learning curve but one we are immensely proud of.

Tributes

We were saddened to hear of the death of four familiar and friendly faces from EATMT events – Ian Prettyman and Dave Cooper (bottom left) were regular performers at Traditional Music Day and were regular volunteers and performers across the region. Stepdancers Dusty Smith and Brian Whatling (bottom right) were also regular performers at Traditional Music Day and Stepdance Day. Their presence at future events will be greatly missed.

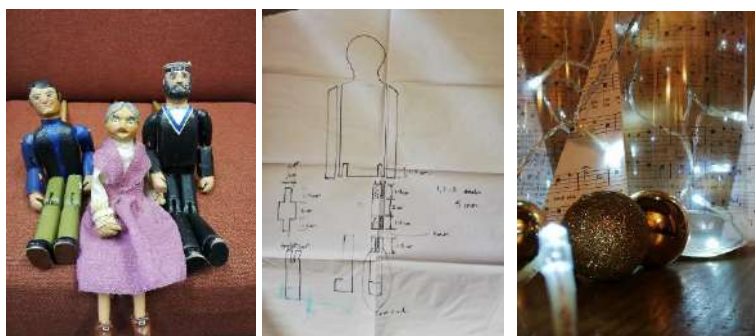


Newsletters

Spring 2020

Summer 2020

Autumn/Winter 2020



Our quarterly newsletters are available to read online in the current Newsletter section of our website and are then transferred to the Archive section under past newsletters. 10% of our supporters receive these newsletters as paper copies. During the year, instead of creating a shorter version of our news (which pre Covid we would do in order to save costs), we have endeavoured to create a much fuller booklet with more news and articles included than normal. This has led to an increase in production costs but we feel this extra expenditure has been worthwhile for many of our older postal supporters, many of whom live alone without internet access and during lockdowns possibly felt extremely isolated.

Friends Scheme, Book Sales & Instrument Hire

Friends membership has remained steady and the latter part of the year saw a slight increase in membership. The Instrument Hire Scheme also saw an increased use with people using the Lockdowns as an opportunity to learn squeezebox and with instrument donations over the year, we hope to add more instruments to the scheme. Income from book sales also remained steady.



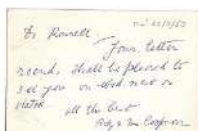


Thanks

It goes without saying that without the regular support of our local councils – Stowmarket and Mid Suffolk & Babergh District in particular – our volunteers and our regular and loyal Friends and Supporters, the Trust would not exist. Nor would it exist without the time given by its Trustees. We are grateful to Frances Hammond who has acted as the Trust's Independent Financial Examiner. Thanks also go to the Museum of East Anglian Life who have provided us with our home for almost 15 years on a beautiful site and to our new landlords at Red Gables who have welcomed us warmly into this wonderful building. We were grateful to the Instep Research Team who agreed to fund our Stepdance promotion via video and to the Concertina Trust whose donation contributed to the Jig Dolls in Care Homes tutor pack. We continue to be affiliated to the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Past EATMT projects have been supported by:

Adnams Charity
 Alfred Williams Charitable Trust
 Arts Council England (National Lottery)
 Awards for All (National Lottery)
 Britten-Pears Foundation
 Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust
 Community Champions
 Foundation for Sport and the Arts
 Heritage Lottery Fund
 Hervey Benham Charitable Trust
 Joint Morris Organisation
 King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council
 Mid Suffolk District Council
 Norfolk County Council
 RVW Society
 South Norfolk District Council
 Stowmarket Town Council
 Waveney District Council



Postcard to Russell Wortley from musician Billy Cooper. Part of the Russell Wortley's Dulcimer Collection that EATMT are in possession of

Statement on Public Benefit

The objectives, and review of achievements and performance sections of this report clearly set out the activities which EATMT undertakes for public benefit. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Reserves Policy - Updated 23.9.2020

In the light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the threat posed to small charities, the Trustees replaced their old Reserves Policy at their AGM on 8th October 2020 with the following:

1. The General Reserve should be built up to a level which would finance a reasonable period in which to run down the organisation's operations in the event of a major loss of income. In the current circumstances the Trustees believe this reserve should be £15k, which would allow the Charity to operate at a basic level for a year.
2. There should also be a Development Reserve to allow future activities to be resourced or provide matching resources for potential grant applications. This should be at least £10k
3. Restricted Reserves will be consequent upon funding for projects lasting more than one year.
4. That the level of all Reserves should be reviewed in line with this policy on an annual basis.

Review date: Policy Reviewed September 2020.

Next review due October 2021.

The logo for East Anglian Traditional Music Trust, featuring the text "East Anglian Traditional Music Trust" in a bold, white, serif font on a black rectangular background.

Review of the transactions and financial position of the charity

A full financial report is available on request from the Trustees.

The format of the financial statements and accounts is in accordance with the recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charity Accounts. There have been no changes to accounting policies.

Results for the period

The Income and Expenditure Account shows a net surplus on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31 March 2021 of £2,307 (31 March 2020 £5,387 deficit). There is a surplus on all unrestricted funds of £28,906 (31 March 2020 £26,599) with total reserves at 31st March 2021 of £36,683.

Financial position at balance sheet date

The Board considers that the charity's financial position at the balance sheet date is satisfactory.

Instruments

The Trustees are pleased to report that legacies of instruments continue to be left to the Trust either for hire or for sale to augment the Trust's income. The accounts reflect solely the income from instruments sold that have been received from the legacy and a conservative value on other legacy material. As and when this material and other donated instruments are sold the income will be recognised within the accounts.

Degree of financial dependency

As mentioned above, the charity is dependent on the voluntary efforts of its members and volunteers. However, there is no significant degree of dependence on any single member or small group of members in respect of voluntary effort for financial contributions.

Political contributions

The charity made no political contributions during the year.

Independent Examiner

In accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the financial statements have been independently examined by Frances Hammond.

By order of the Board
Ivan Cutting, Chair