**SCOTTISH COMMUNITY DRAMA ASSOCIATION**

**EDINBURGH DISTRICT SC021396**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ending 30th June 2020

**Current trustees**

Donald Arnott Chairman

Angela Binnie Vice-Chair

Iain Kerr Treasurer

Sheila Clarke Ordinary member

Maureen Edwards Ordinary member

Alison McCallum Ordinary member

Alistair Ferguson Ordinary member

Stuart Mitchell Ordinary member

Kevin Edie Ordinary member

Stephen Hajducki was co-opted on to the Committee for advice in the organisation of Festivals.

**Contact address**

c/o Iain Kerr, 13 Damside, Edinburgh EH4 3BB

**Recruitment and appointment of Trustees**

All of the Association`s Trustees are appointed or re-appointed by the members at our Annual General Meeting held in September each year.

**Governing Document**

The Association is a charitable unincorporated association and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our Constitution.

**Charitable purposes**

Our purposes, as recorded in our Constitution, are to encourage amateur drama in Scotland. The Association has four Divisions which in turn are divided into Districts for the purpose of administration and organisation of the Association. This report relates to the activities of Edinburgh District, which covers Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders.

**Activities and Achievements**

We organised the Edinburgh District round of the National One Act Play Festival in February 2020. The Edinburgh District Festival had twelve entries, which this year includes seven Youth entries. Three Open entries were due to appear in the Eastern Division round of the competition at The Byre Theatre in St. Andrews in March, but this was cancelled due to the Covid 19 virus. This round, plus the Scottish and British Finals were also cancelled due to the virus. The Eastern Division round of the National Youth Festival was held at The Regal Theatre in Bathgate in March in the week prior to all theatres closing. This was won by Mill Youth Theatre with St.Kentigern`s Youth Theatre placed second. Neither of those clubs were able to proceed to the Scottish Youth Final due to the closure of all theatres. The District Festival made a surplus of £151 and this was £1300 down on the previous year due to lower ticket sales of 85. Audience numbers are a concern as is the continuously rising costs of venue rentals.

Two of our Committee represent Edinburgh on the Eastern Division Committee. We have continued to provide support and advice for clubs and Individual Members. As part of this service, we have a District website [www.scdaedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.scdaedinburgh.org.uk/) and a Facebook Page BEST-of-the FEST-Edinburgh-District-SCDA and a Twitter Account @SCDAedinburghDC all of which are extremely popular and effective. We run an e.mailing service to assist Edinburgh clubs to publicise their shows, notification of casting opportunities, appeals for costumes, properties, sets etc. We extend this service to our Facebook page and website.

There is currently a vacancy for the position of Secretary, due to the death of Mrs. Susan Wales Hampson who has served us so well for nearly twenty years.

**Financial position**

Our total funds stood at £6736 at the end of the year (£7092 last year). The General Account, our working fund, stood at £270, having fallen from £657 last year. This fall was largely due to a much lower surplus on the Edinburgh District Festival this year. And there has been another increased expense, in that our website costs have gone up from £35 to £107; this comes from switching to better software to handle phones and tablets, and provide a more manageable system. The General Account, however, has dropped repeatedly in recent years, except for last year, when it increased by £778 in the year. We must continue to make great efforts to improve attendances at Festivals if we are to arrest any decline in funds. Our Reserves policy is to keep a minimum level of £1000 in the General account, enough to initiate the running of a District One Act Festival, allowing for a possible loss, if not to cover all the outgoings. We will need to restore the General Account to £1000 by a transfer from the Arts Centre Fund.

The Arts Centre Fund, a designated fund in terms of the Regulations, stood at £5465 and is for the support of amateur drama in Edinburgh. It has been our custom to grant modest awards to the winning clubs at the Edinburgh District Festival, but not this year.

The Liz Willis Fund stood at £1002. This is a Restricted Fund (to be used only as specified by the donor), “to help fund workshops and hopefully resurrect a summer drama school”. No claims have been made on the Fund this year. But please note that the Fund is available to members to support workshops.

This Report is part of the Accounts for the year and will be presented to members at the 2020 AGM in September.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees,

Don Arnott, Chairman.