



ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE CHARITABLE TRUST BOARD
30th April 2019

Report Title: CEO's Update
Report of: Louise Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Contact: Natalie Layton, Executive Assistant and Charity Secretary
Email: Natalie.layton@alexandrapalace.com , Telephone: 020 8365 4335

Purpose: This report updates the Board of Trustees on current issues and projects at Alexandra Park and Palace. It also provides additional information on the events programme and a range of activities of the Charitable Trust.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
N/A

1. Recommendation

1.1 To note the content of this report including the closure of Alexandra Palace Way from 10am on Friday 5th July until 5am on Monday 8th July for the Red Bull event.

2. Park Update

- 2.1 The electrical cable for Go Ape has now been installed. At the time of writing the final connection and testing is outstanding, it is expected to be complete by April.. This will enable to the generator and temporary cabin to be removed.
- 2.2 The Park Manager has been undertaking a programme of repairs and maintenance to broken toilets, to bollards and railings damaged by drivers, and vandalised Park furniture. The programme of tree safety work continues as advised by independent tree inspectors. A number of hard surface repairs have been made to footpaths around site.
- 2.3 In response to the antisocial and potentially dangerous parking on the Pavement in front of the Palace Building, the Trust has installed a barrier of bollards as a preventative measure. We have communicated this on social media. The reaction has been largely understanding and supportive. It is intended to replace the barrier with a more suitable solution, which has not yet been developed or costed. The Trust has no funds to deliver a more permanent solution to address this issue, at this time.

- 2.4 There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour from a small group of young teenage boys on BMX bikes around the site. We are liaising with the Police to address this issue.

3. East Wing and Theatre

- 3.1 In January, the Theatre's Trust annual Theatre's At Risk Register announcement event was held in the Alexandra Palace Theatre. It was attended by representatives from theatres across the country, Michael Ellis MP (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) and Jack Dee, a Patron of the Theatres Trust.
- 3.2 Alexandra Palace Theatre had been on the at risk list since the register was created and, following the completion of the restoration project, has now been removed – delivering one of the trust's major objectives. It is one of only two theatres removed from the list this year because they were returning to live performance use. (Others were removed due to the fact that efforts to save them had failed).
- 3.3 Following the success of the opening season, the Theatre held further performances from the BBC Concert Orchestra, Dons of Comedy and The Little Orchestra in February and March. The BBC Concert Orchestra's performances on 6th and 16th February were broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and can be listened to online at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/concertorchestra/events/by/date/2019>
- 3.4 Later in the year, the Theatre will be seen on ITV as the venue for The All New Monty 2019: Who Bares Wins, which will be raising awareness for regular checks for breast, testicular and prostate cancer. We also recorded an episode for a new BBC 4 series celebrating Victorian ingenuity – the episode filmed in the Theatre will focus on early cinema and some of the pioneering figures who worked around Alexandra Palace.
- 3.5 On 14th March we hosted the press night for our co-production, Richard III. The performance was attended by critics from key titles including Evening Standard, Time Out, Daily Telegraph, The Observer, Financial Times and Metro, as well as a number of online reviewers. The production was very well received with many commenting on the theatre's restoration.
- 3.6 Willmott Dixon Construction have officially handed over and vacated the site, returning only to resolve snagging issues. The East Court is now open to the public each day from 9am. The information desk is staffed by the visitor services team normally until 5pm but later if there is a performance in the Theatre or the East Court is in use for a function or activity.

4. Creative Learning

- 4.1 With the reopening of the East Court in March, the Creative Learning team has launched a family programme, which includes weekday morning sessions, and targeted weekend programmes that enhances the special bond through creative play between parents/guardians and their children (ages 12 and under). Families can experience a range of art forms and activities from arts and crafts making to dancing, drumming and song! This offers an ever-changing programme that includes hands-on activities developed in collaboration with teachers/artists, performers, tour guides, and curators. The programme offers regular activities that are either free or low cost.

- 4.2 The Transmitter Hall continues to be used for a host of different activities, such as Singing for the Brain and the monthly Wellness Café. Discussions are taking place with sponsors to support the redecoration of this space to make it more welcoming and more suitable for activities using colour, texture and layout, particularly for people with dementia. If the project goes ahead a team of apprentices from a local college will work on the project.
- 4.3 In March, students from Mountview's M.A. in Site-Specific Performance made a promenade performance piece inspired by APPCT's history in the basement for an invited audience. This is the first project in a 3-year relationship with Mountview site-specific course.
- 4.4 The Creative Learning team was awarded two grants to deliver the following projects:
The Tottenham Grammar Foundation awarded:
- £10,000 towards **Big Schools Day BAFTA Kids** (BAFTA: British Academy of Film & Television), which will take place in May. This is the first of two Big Schools Days at the Palace this year
- and
- £6,000 towards Biblio Buzz **The Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award**, which took place on 8th April. 25 schools across Haringey voted for their favourite book from a shortlist of 6 young authors. Young readers in all of the borough's 9 libraries were able to vote and children's book author, Michael Rosen was the Master of Ceremonies at the event.
- 4.5 The second Big Schools Day, Para Dance, an externally funded event for children with Special Education Needs in partnership with Para-dance and London Youth Games. This aims to engage with 400 pupils in schools across London.

Other activities:

- 4.6 Palace Uncovered will target secondary schools and further education colleges and will give students the opportunity to present work in the theatre whilst creating performance work for their qualifications. Artists will work with teachers to help facilitate sessions (so there is CPD attached to the programme) and the students get to perform their exam projects in our world-class venue.
- 4.7 Speech Bubble is an outreach project in partnership with London Bubble which uses drama as an intervention to support speech and language development in schools with a high volume of pupils where English is their second language. We aim to reach a target of 3 new schools in the East of the Borough.
- 4.8 Rhythm Stick - A club night run for and by people with disabilities. 15 NEETs (Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training) with disabilities will learn how to support an event over a 10-week training programme. The club night will create a safe space for adults with disabilities to socialise.
- 4.9 Haringey Has Pride - A community promenade performance with the final section taking place in the theatre – this project explores the history of LGBTQ+ issues in Haringey and is a partner project with Jacksons Lane. Regular rehearsals are taking place in the Transmitter Hall with Kay Adshead (published playwright who has had commissions at the Royal Court, Bush Theatre, Kiln Theatre, National Theatre & many more)

- 4.10 Creative Learning has taken a leading role in the design and delivery of a CPD event staged at the Bernie Grant Centre in May. This event showcases the work of cultural organisations and the opportunities they can provide to teachers in Haringey.
- 4.11 International Women's Day in March was celebrated in some of the learning and wellbeing activities.
- 4.12 As part of our aim to diversify our volunteer base we are developing a programme for Supported Volunteering opportunities across the Palace for people with early onset of dementia and people with learning disabilities.

5. West Yard Storage Building

- 5.1 The works to the main building and North West Tower are largely complete with 'snagging' works and defects taking longer to address. The new West Yard security gates have been working for 3 months and we are working with the events and security teams to refine their operation during 'event' and 'non-event' modes.
- 5.2 We anticipate the works will now be completed in May 2019 when the goods lift ramp and surface water attenuation tanks are installed in the North Yard, and Building Control sign off issued. The final sign off and installation of the new goods lift to go into production is anticipated during July 2019.
- 5.3 The outstanding matters, such as the control panel for the gates and external road treatments that may be subject to amendments, are nearer to concluding.

6. Events and noise management

- 6.1 Following another successful run of the PDC World Darts Championship, January saw 30,000 people attend events at Alexandra Palace.
- 6.2 In February we expanded our hire tenancy to 20 days which saw more than 60,000 people attend shows including a world-class music line-up featuring Chvrches, Frank Turner and Jungle.
- 6.3 After Richard III, Alexandra Palace Theatre's programme features comedy from Tommy Tiernan, Reginald D. Hunter and Ardal O'Hanlon plus music from Graham Nah, Archive and Yolanda Brown. We are also delighted to be hosting the Monteverdi Choir and the transfer of English National Opera's Olivier-nominated Paul Bunyan.
- 6.4 In March and April, The Great Hall will see a diverse range of exhibitions return, including Country Living, Crafting and Model Railway. We also have sold-out concerts from Anderson.Paak, The Free Nationals and Robyn.
- 6.5 Red Bull will take place on Sunday 7th July 2019 from 12:00 to 18:00 (gates open at 10.30am). Resident group representatives are reminded to notify their members that Alexandra Palace Way will be closed from 10am on Friday 5th July until 5am on Monday 8th July (two hours earlier than in previous years).

6.6 Table of noise complaints calendar Year to Date:

Month	Event	No. of complaints
July	Kaleidoscope Festival	11
August	The Great Fete	4
October	Chemical Brothers concert	2
November	Fireworks festival	4
December	1 st Dec Theatre opening concert	1
	8 th Dec Mosconi Cup	1
	3 rd – 29 th Dec Darts	6
February	Jungle	1
	Parkway	1
March	School group making noise in Go Ape field	1
Total number of noise complaints received (2018/19 1st Apr-31st March)		30

6.7 Tottenham Stadium is now completed and operational. Pre booked shuttle buses on match and other event days are scheduled to pick up and drop off at Alexandra Palace Station. The Trust is assessing the impact of the shuttle buses on the operation of Alexandra Park and Palace, the road and car parking facilities.

7. Car Park charging project update

7.1 The Trust has undertaken a procurement process for expert support in readiness for the project to start in April 2019. One of the first tasks is to develop a timetable for the project, to include a period of consultation.

8. Recruitment of Independent Members

8.1 The recruitment campaign is now live for an independent member of the Trust's Finance, Resource, Risk and Audit Committee and two independent Non-Executive Directors of Alexandra Palace Trading Ltd.

8.2 The role descriptions are available on

- the <https://www.alexandrapalace.com/about-us/jobs/>
- Guardian, Exec Appointments, Charity Jobs websites
- and posted on appropriate social media channels..

9. Legal Implications

9.1 The Council's Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no comments.

10. Use of Appendices

None