

## Dear Friend of the Hogarth

2025 was another incredibly busy and exciting year for the Hogarth Charitable Trust which celebrated its silver (25<sup>th</sup>) anniversary on 5<sup>th</sup> December. There were many highlights: signing our new long-term lease, our best attended Summer Fund raiser and Residential, the youth programme's busiest month ever in August, our best year for aggregate fund raising, a successful start to our grant application campaign outside the borough and progress towards starting a major building refurbishment programme which will transform the look and feel of the Centre in 2026.

### **PROJECT 2025 (Youth Programme 2025)**

The severe challenges facing youth work and too many young people in the UK are clearly highlighted in a recently published government report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-matters-state-of-the-nation/youth-matters-state-of-the-nation#priority-challenges-and-conclusions>

We remain absolutely determined to make a positive difference. Denny and his team are looking to adapt our term time programme to broaden its appeal whilst continuing to offer families and carers the most comprehensive and best value holiday programmes.

In 2025 the Youth Team provided a record 197 days of service which included seven Holiday Programmes across eight months, our most comprehensive coverage yet. As a comparison, in the UK most schools operate for 190 days.

Denny, Naomi, Rochelle, Chantelle, Lennox, Billy and ten other youth workers completed PROJECT 2025 on 23<sup>rd</sup> December having provided 6,980 hours of youth work. In 2025 the total number attendees of 446 was 19% higher than 2024 (375). The total number of attendances of 4,482 was 1% higher than 2024 (4,443). Attendances were split 62% male and 38% female (2024 63%:37%) with 50% aged 13 and above (2024 39%). It is encouraging that our programme is attracting more young people, specifically those aged over 13 and we continue to do more to enhance the programme's appeal to our female cohort.

Our Summer Holiday programme included an extended Summer Residential for 34 young people. We have uploaded some photos and videos of this fun-filled Residential: <https://hogarthtrust.org.uk/youth-programme/>. Our Zest-For-Life

evening on 30<sup>th</sup> October attracted the highest number of young participants. 2026 will mark this event's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with plans underway to make this an even more memorable event. PROJECT 2026 started on 2<sup>nd</sup> January with a special new year's party day for Seniors aged between 12 and 16.

## **FINANCE AND FUNDING**

### ***Centre Revenue & Costs***

Hall hire in Chiswick is always very competitive and this year the economic environment for events was even more challenging. Given this backdrop our Centre Manager Dani Karas did extremely well to match last year's record for license fees of just under £180,000, sourced from a diverse set of more than 60 licensees. Our two halls, café and art room are licensed for a diverse range of activities which include Adrenalin Dance (a 50+ movement class), Busy Lizzy Chiswick (pregnancy and post-natal fitness classes with newborns welcome), British Theatre Academy (age 5+) and Ghost Dance Troupe (street dance classes for nursery age to year 7+). In our fully fitted out martial arts centre, experienced instructors teach judo, karate, self-defence and taekwondo.

Despite continued inflationary pressures, Dani also controlled 2025 Centre operating costs very well and below budget. Licence fees (the primary source of funding for our youth work) more than covered the Centre's operating costs and enabled a transfer of £77,500 to part-fund (42%) our 2026 youth programme (PROJECT 2026). This was 10% more than the transfer at the end of 2024 (£70,000) and the largest transfer since we took on full responsibility for the youth programme in 2019. As a reminder, the annual surplus generated from license fees typically funds 40% of our youth work and we must raise 60% externally. This is always a challenge and would not be possible without your continued generous support.

### ***Grants & Sponsorships***

The landscape for grants and sponsorships is as incredibly competitive as ever. Every year we rely on our summer fund raising event, donations, grants and sponsorships to pay for 60% of our youth work. In 2025 these external sources of funding raised approximately £110,000 (42% higher than 2024), our best year yet and a terrific team effort. In September we started our first grant application campaign outside of the Borough of Hounslow. We have applied for a total of 23 grants and are very pleased to have already secured our first grant for PROJECT 2026 from the National Lottery Awards For All.

Looking ahead, the date for our seventh **ANNUAL WINE TASTING** evening with our very good friend and super sommelier Tim Syrad is **THURSDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> June**. This date is a safe distance from all scheduled World Cup football matches involving England! We will start selling tickets in April and, having somewhat over-reached our hall's capacity in 2025, we will limit attendance to 70 guests. Please put this date in your calendar and tell your friends and remember to book early.

We continue to grow our Friends of the Hogarth network which increased by 5% in 2025 to 340 people. Please can you kindly act as the Charity's ambassadors and ask your friends and work colleagues if they would like to be added to our quarterly newsletter.

### **CHARITY MATTERS**

We remain committed to pay staff no less than the London Living Wage because we believe that this is the right thing to do. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 we therefore increased our lowest hourly rate by 6.9% to £14.80.

We have recently updated our DONATE webpage and would encourage anyone considering a charitable donation in early 2026 to support our work with young people: <https://hogarthtrust.org.uk/donate/>.

The recently updated Index of Multiple Deprivation confirms that the Centre remains surrounded by areas of relative deprivation in which families bear low and insecure income with limited access to affordable leisure, enrichment and social opportunities.

[https://mapmaker.geods.ac.uk/#/index-of-multiple-deprivation?d=11110000&m=imdhi9\\_dc&lon=-0.2387&lat=51.4857&zoom=13.12](https://mapmaker.geods.ac.uk/#/index-of-multiple-deprivation?d=11110000&m=imdhi9_dc&lon=-0.2387&lat=51.4857&zoom=13.12)

This is why we purposefully limit attendance fees for young people. In 2025 most service users paid just £1 for up to a full day of activities including excursions during holidays.

As a reminder, we have a very distinctive funding model whereby the Centre operations self-fund and create a surplus to part-fund our youth work. Unlike many other charities, this means that every £1 that you donate is spent entirely on youth work, there are no intermediary costs or expenses. This compares very

avourably to a typical UK charity which may spend £1 on fundraising to raise £4. A £20 donation to our charity will fund one hour of youth work.

Our budgeting, forecasting and financial controls are tested and robust. We maintain a relentless focus on cost efficiency to maximise the Centre surplus. To this end, we have locked in lower cost gas supplies for 2026-28 and will move to a cheaper renewable (zero carbon) electricity tariff in the Spring. Post-COVID, we continue to build the Charity's financial resilience. Our aim is to hold cash to cover 12-months of total projected expenses. We ended 2025 with eight months of cover.

Given our somewhat obscure location sandwiched between two schools in a cul-de-sac with strict traffic controls, we have applied to the council for a signpost to the Centre to be installed at the intersection of Chiswick High Road and Duke Road which will help to raise local awareness.

We finally signed a new long-term lease for the building with the council in September. In the first half of 2026, long overdue refurbishment works to the building's exterior will begin. A grant from Hounslow's Thriving Communities Capital Fund will part-fund this work. We expect some inevitable dislocation to Centre activities as very old windows are removed and replaced, but we will work closely with the team of contractors to minimise the risk of disruption. With new windows bringing more natural light into the Centre we are calling this **PROJECT BRIGHTER FUTURES**.

We thank every individual, sponsor and grant provider for your support during 2025. I send a very **BIG THANK YOU** to all our part-time staff (some 20 people), my three fellow trustees (Tony Bowden, Jeannetta Orton and Jonathan Walker), local councillors (Joanna Biddolph, John Todd and Peter Thompson), the Mayor of Hounslow (Councillor Amy Croft), our accounts examiner (Colin Airey), our Honorary Solicitor (Jonathan Walsh) and various council officers (Nick Ljustina and Herdeep ChaggarAshby) for all enabling us to deliver another year of safe and diverse activities for our local community. It really feels that we are building our legacy and sustaining our long-term future. As always, we begin the new year with unified ambition and very clear social purpose and return energised and refreshed to serve our community – the best is yet to come!

**We wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2026**  
**The Youth Team, Centre Staff, Trustees,**  
**and our many hundreds of young participants**



We would very much like to retain your contact details so that we can update you on our progress and events. If you do not wish to be updated, please respond to this e-mail with the word **UNSUBSCRIBE** and we will remove you from our records, in line with data protection (GDPR) requirements.