

RAGGED SCHOOL MUSEUM

The Ragged School Museum is a unique survivor of Dr Barnardo's work in the East End, and the most significant Victorian ragged school to survive. The Ragged School Union was a major reform movement of the 19th century; campaigning for universal free education, a keystone of social progress. The RSM is the only ragged school to be available to the public and the only building associated with Dr Barnardo in the area of the East End where he began his philanthropy.

The Museum has never been funded on a regular basis and has relied on a mix of grants and earned income often in widely varying proportions.

1. Development of the Ragged School Museum & the History of funding

1.1. 1990 -2000 In the first decade of operation the largest element of the RSM's income was a grant from the London Boroughs Grants Scheme (£10k – 1991; £28K – 1997) with various grants from LB Tower Hamlets and support from a variety of trusts and foundations and a smaller group of corporate donations.

1.2. 2001 – 2007 By the turn of the century LBGS changed priorities and the RSM was no longer eligible for their grants. Grants from LBTH increased and the amount raised from trusts and foundations reflected the growth of the Museum's programme of exhibitions and events. Museum staff numbered at its peak 5.7 (5 full time and one part time) plus the sessional actors. LBTH contributed a large proportion of the grant income, nearly £80K in 2006. By 2007 the RSM generated 38% of its income through the shop & café, room hire and schools income.

1.3. 2008 – 2013 The financial crash had a major impact, trusts and foundations, and corporates contracted their giving. Grants from LBTH steadily declined. The Museum reduced staff to 3.7 plus the sessional actors. The popularity of the schools programme increased steadily and the Victorian lesson gained a strong reputation for the quality of the experience. A redesigned timetable enabled more schools to take part. The income the RSM generated from selling services particularly as a location for film and photo shoots, and paranormal investigations reached a peak of 69% in 2012

1.4. 2014 We currently generate 64% of our income. Additional income is derived from trusts and foundations. We have no regular core funding and currently the only recurring grant is £3.7k from the LBTH. The Museum has temporarily not replaced a vacancy and currently employs 2.7 staff.

Financial year end	Income	Spending	View	LBTH grants	Trusts & Foundations	Earned Income	%
31 Mar 2013	£199,213	£203,027	Accounts	£5,267	£28,621	£127,576	64
31 Mar 2012	£171,285	£172,884	Accounts	£6,148	£46,686	£117,572	69
31 Mar 2011	£175,502	£175,928	Accounts	£8,970	£44,957	£120,045	68
31 Mar 2010	£176,780	£176,566	Accounts	£32,390	£25,481	£115,717	65
31 Mar 2009	£179,958	£185,773	Accounts	£26,648	£41,600	£108,191	60
31 Mar 2008	£172,094	£191,269		£33,000	£40,345	£ 96,642	56
31 Mar 2007	£195,890	£183,361		£47,000	£66,679	£ 73,453	38
31 Mar 2006	£232,062	£213,255		£79,591	£63,843	£ 88,293	38
31 Mar 2005	£202,744	£241,545		£70,460	£63,286	£ 67,295	33
31 Mar 2004	£228,132	£221,091		£47,216	£120,279	£ 57,879	25
31 Mar 2003	£219,468	£192,667		£50,000	£96,555	£ 59,631	27
31 Mar 2002	£278,721	£261,197		£68,971	£134,756	£ 58,322	11
31 Mar 2001	£207,874	£179,985		* £50,160	£150,403	£ 43,763	21

* Inc LBGC

(The links are to the RSM accounts on the Charity Commission website)

Current Operations Statistics 2012-13

Visitors:	23,031 overall
Schools:	16,305 with 558 sessions delivered to 287 schools
	On average 97% of the sessions are booked
Family Learning:	3,412 participants in 23 – 25 sessions
Volunteering & Work placements:	4970 volunteering hours

2. Planning a Sustainable Future

The Museum has been developed in stages:

1. No48 Copperfield was developed from the mid 1980's until the opening in 1990,
2. No 50 was refurbished in 1996 as offices with wheelchair access.
3. Parts of No46 have been brought into public use; currently 618 sqm of the buildings is underused.

The Museum cannot generate more income in the current state of our buildings. The staff and trustees accept that the development of the building is imperative. A grant from Arts Council England has facilitated strategic planning. Our aim is to make an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the funds to bring the entire building into public use and to increase resilience and achieve financial sustainability

2.1 The RSM aims to:

- Create a wheel chair accessible Victorian classroom & disability access to the whole building.
- Develop an exhibition on the history of the buildings & the Ragged School Union, the work of Dr Barnardo and the social history of the Victorian East End.
- Ensure that the historical fabric is respected, enhanced and secured for the future.
- Improve public facilities - bring No46 fully in o public use, improve the condition of all the buildings.
- Create a temporary exhibition space to attract repeat visits.
- Create, within the limitations of its historic fabric, an energy efficient sustainable building.

2.2 Work complete or in progress:

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|--|------------------------------|
| • Conservation management plan | Richard Griffiths Architects |
| • Feasibility study & Development Plan | Richard Griffiths Architects |
| • Access Audit | Earncliffe |
| • Collections management Review | Heritage & Community |
| • CAD plans | Downland Partnership |

2.3 The RSM aims to increase sustainability and resilience by:

- Hire of the refurbished top floor for seminars / conferences.
- Hire of the refurbished top floor for corporate events.
- An expanded schools & education programme.
- A café / restaurant opening onto the canal
- A section of the first floor of 46 let on a desk basis
- More capacity for additional venue hire for photo shoots etc.

2.4 Business Planning in progress

Initial evaluation of potential income are encouraging. A conservative estimate of the annual revenue generated from a café / restaurant is £57K. Letting of desk space on the first floor of No 46 could generate £60K. These are entirely new sources of income. We are working on projections of income from:

- Increased capacity for school / education / U3A visits.
- Increased visitor numbers as a result of longer opening hours.
- Corporate hire of rooms / whole venue.
- Increased use by film & photo shoots because facilities are improved



The Ragged School from 1879 to 2009