



**Impact Report  
March – September 2020**

# When the country was locked down in March, all of our face to face activity came to a grinding halt.

Like many arts organisations we looked at ways we could still support the communities and individuals we work with and contribute to the community response across Rochdale borough in particular and Greater Manchester more widely. We have also enabled 20 creative freelancers to make work during COVID.

**Have a read and see what we've been up to during lockdown and beyond.**



## Our activities

### Get Creative Inside!

Many low income households across the borough have little or no access to the internet, and creative materials were in short supply, so we worked with partners to provide families with great ideas and the stuff to do them with.

RBC Equalities Team helped identify the most vulnerable children in the borough, and the boxes were delivered to schools and community organisations by Sky TV engineers volunteering in support of the community response.



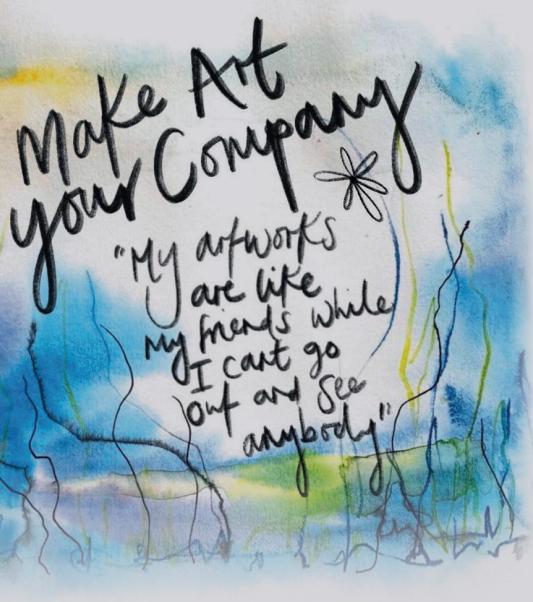
**6,000**  
family art packs produced and distributed in Rochdale borough

 Click here to download the resources

 **There are lots, and lots, of positive responses. Thank you again for thinking of us. I've just delivered to some of our families. The children's smiling faces made my day."**



David Fenton,  
Headteacher, Hollin Primary School



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**Cartwheel have been a fantastic support especially for those like myself who live alone. Their support has been priceless**



## GMCA Creative Care Kits

We contributed an activity to each of the GMCA Creative Kits, one for young people with 22,000 distributed across GM, and one for older people with 16,000 distributed. Many GM residents of all ages are the wrong side of the digital divide. We helped assemble both kits and coordinated distribution of 1,700 kits for young people across Rochdale borough, with over 30 organisations involved.



## Art for Wellbeing

Our programme supporting adults with lived experience of mental health conditions.

Throughout lockdown we have

**42**

Distributed 42 art packs

**260**

Sent out 260 art activities

**10**

Engaged 10 new participants in the programme who are receiving art packs and wellbeing calls.

**1,645**

minutes of over the phone wellbeing support

**1,700**

GMCA Creative Care Kits for young people distributed across Rochdale borough

### Download resources



[Click here Download the Older People's kit](#)



[Click here Download the Young People's kit](#)

## Draw the Day

A 10 week online programme of art & walking activities, storytelling and an interactive gallery with:

**68**

new pieces of art work contributed to our new Draw the Day website

**30**

'how to' videos on our YouTube channel

**7**

Wonders of the World stories by Professor Jigget



[Click here to find Professor Jigget on Facebook](#)

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**My daughter Hollie (who has Severe learning Difficulties and Autism)...is loving all sorts of activities you are doing on here, including the story telling and I think what you're doing is brilliant...I cannot thank you enough!**



## Overspill

Unable to carry out workshops and face to face interviews for our National Lottery Heritage Fund project, we found creative ways to complete the project:

- **2 billboards commissioned** in Middleton and Heywood seen by 159,852 pairs of eyes
- And we produced **three new publications!**

 Learn more about our Overspill project at [overspillmcr.org](http://overspillmcr.org)

**46** people photographed for our “life in lockdown” exhibitions of **Darnhill** and **Langley**



## Stepping Stones

Is this the new normal? Our first steps back to face-to-face working are taking place in our new marquee. It's pitched in the grounds of one of Blue Pits housing association houses and has offered closed sessions for residents. But it's a start!

 See all of our response to COVID under one roof here



## Collaborate

10 freelancers were awarded a Collaborate commission to make new work responding to the Climate Emergency, thanks to COVID Emergency Response funding from Arts Council England.

 Click here to learn more at [cartwheelarts.org.uk/event/collaborate](http://cartwheelarts.org.uk/event/collaborate)

Thank you to our freelancers, especially the Art for Wellbeing team, and of course our volunteers

## Funders, Partners and volunteers

It's a long list, but thanks to all our funders for being flexible and in particular:



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



Greater Manchester  
**Walking**

