



A message from Malvern Cube Trustees

This was the first full year in which we could say the pandemic and its after-effects were truly behind us. With our hiring rate back to pre-pandemic levels we were once again busy and the Cube felt alive.

After the major projects of the previous year, improvements to the centre were modest, but two important projects were completed. We carried out a full re-cabling of the centre to streamline and simplify the IT network and installed a lighting control desk in the theatre to improve the whole lighting operation during performances.

Our events programme really moved up a gear. There was a marked increase in the number and quality of events put on at the Cube, either by external organisers, or by the Cube itself, bringing in much needed revenue. They showcased the centre as an alternative venue for good value drama and music, and as a place for emerging dramatists and musicians to 'cut their teeth'.

It was a good year too for our staff and volunteers; from the Centre Manager and office team, to the staff and volunteers who keep it clean and well-maintained, run the café, and who make sure our events run smoothly for performers and audience alike. We also welcomed Sue as our new Finance Administrator.

The steady stream of comments on the warm welcome, the lively, positive atmosphere, and the sheer joy of participation, told us we are providing a real community benefit that is enjoyed and appreciated by all.

There were drama and music events
every weekend



We hosted 4 weddings



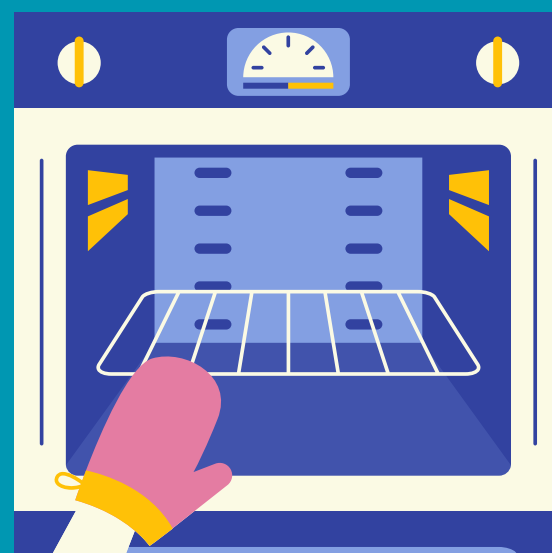
We doubled
the number of
Cube volunteers



Youth clubs and holiday activities were enjoyed by **hundreds** of young people



The café got a new cooker



Mobile NHS checks happened **HERE**

The **incredible** FEAST



Theatre Festival took place

Men's Shed helped us make a new high raised planting bed



We installed a new lighting desk in the hall

15 new chairs were donated by Stanbrook Abbey

All this (and more) happened because of the hard work of staff and volunteers and through the generous support of The Peoples Postcode Lottery, Cllr Malcolm Victory, Malvern Community Fund, The Elmley Foundation, Cllr Beverley Nielsen, The Chase Brass Band, Malvern Hills National Landscape, our hirers and users.

The story so far

In 2012 the Cube opened its doors to the community, having been rescued from closure by local people. It's now a vibrant and welcoming centre with a busy cafe at its heart. We host events, arts and entertainment, offer meeting rooms and performance space for hire, as well as being home to a thriving programme for young people and over 30 regular community groups who offer a huge range of activities. Self-funded and led by volunteers, we think it's a very special place.

To find out how you can support us and be part of this visit www.malverncube.com



Like everyone, we were hit by the ‘cost of living crisis’. The centre is self funded so we have to earn any money we spend or rely on the generosity of grant givers and supporters. We tightened our belts, reduced costs where possible and worked hard to bring in extra money. So we were pleased to (almost!) break even.



Matthew,
Trustee Treasurer

“I have been treasurer at Malvern Cube for several years now but every year I am amazed at just how much gets done with so little money. Much of this is due to the hard work put in by volunteers, from the trustees who give their skills and expertise for free, to those who mend, build, cook, clean and support our events and activities. Their contribution is immense. Likewise our small staff team go over and above what they have to do, all of which helps to keep costs down. Those who invest in the Cube can be certain their money is well spent!”

Our volunteer numbers doubled this year to 29 ‘regulars’. They carried out a huge range of tasks, from gardening our lovely grounds to helping count cash in the office and being on the door at events. Whilst all of this is of huge help to the Cube we know that volunteers also get something out of it and enjoy being part of the Cube ‘family’.



Suzanne,
Volunteer

“I have several roles at the Cube. I help produce the timetables which show ‘what is happening where’ throughout the week; a small but important job when there is so much going on. Once a month I’m also to be found in the gardens, looking after our raised beds and the wider landscape alongside the Cube gardening gang and occasionally you can spot me on the door for events – especially if it’s a band or an artist I’m keen on! I’m really pleased to be able to support the Cube and in return I enjoy being part of the volunteering teams.”

As always the Cube café provided a warm welcome at the heart of the building. Our aim has always been to provide healthy and affordable food for people using the centre and those who just drop by for a coffee and some company. This year saw both regulars and new users enjoying a warm welcome and customers ranged from babies through to centenarians – and their pets!



Kaz,
Café Manager

“As the Café Manager I look after the running of the Garden Café. I want to make sure that people who come to the Cube can get a warm and nourishing meal, hand made with local ingredients – some of which come from our own community garden. We cook daily and a team of volunteers help me to prep, bake and serve food and drinks. We love the positive and welcome atmosphere the cafe brings to the centre – and so do our customers!”

This was another great year for events at the Cube. They ranged from being part of Worcestershire Open Studios, showcasing art, to hosting children’s author Julia Donaldson and producing our own Cube video. We were the venue for a huge range of music and drama, from community theatre to folk, rock and Indie gigs, as well as great performances by our own resident theatre companies.



Caitlin,
Versatile Arts

“We’ve been putting on events through Versatile Arts for many years at Malvern Cube. We have a good ‘fit’ as our aims are the same - to deliver exciting, vibrant, live performances. Our partnership with Malvern Cube also lets us work with other creatives there and we help each other to plan and programme events, which are often supported by the great Cube events volunteers. It’s a wonderful place for collaboration and sharing ideas.”

