



DIRECTOR

John de la Cour

John de la Cour has been a professional grantmaker for much of his career. He has run The Elmley Foundation since it started in 1995. For ten years until June 2005 John was joint South West Regional Manager of the Big Lottery Fund (formerly the National Lottery Charities Board and later the Community Fund), where he was responsible for the assessment of all applications and management of some 4,200 grants totalling £160 million. He was closely involved in the design of programmes helping disadvantaged people, and pioneered joint working with the other lottery distributors which led to the piloting of *Awards for All*, the most highly-rated lottery programme. Jobsharing this post allowed him to combine it with the Directorship of The Elmley Foundation.

John's previous grantmaking experience was with the Arts Council. He was Music and Combined Arts Officer for West Midlands Arts after a variety of jobs in music, starting as an artist's agent with the leading London company Ingpen and Williams, and going on to work for a number of ensembles and companies, in particular the Melos Ensemble and The Fires of London. He left London to be Concerts Manager for the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Sinfonietta and later returned to the Arts Council, overseeing operations in the South West from 1978 to 1987. This included running England's largest small-scale touring operation, with over 400 events per year throughout the region. He was closely involved in the campaign to bring opera to regional audiences which led to the formation of Opera 80, now English Touring Opera, and helped set up South West Jazz and the South West Early Music Forum.

Interest developed in the work of welfare organisations, and since 1989 John has worked in the parallel worlds of the arts and welfare simultaneously. He was joint Chief Executive of Exeter Council for Voluntary Service 1989 until June 1995, and then seconded to help set up the National Lottery Charities Board. He was Artistic Director of the 60th anniversary Malvern Festival, chaired Exeter Samaritans and Exeter Citizens' Advice Bureau, and co-founded a charity devoted to development work in south-western Uganda on the border with the forests of Rwanda and Zaire. The latest project, the building of the area's first ever clean water supply, dramatically improved the lives of the region's women and children, and transformed the local health and economy.

His interest in broadening access to the arts by connecting different sectors has increasingly led to involvement in projects with the Church, young people, historic buildings and encouraging the replication of national achievements in design at local level.

Grandson of the late Countess Beauchamp, he was Lord Beauchamp's godson, and has been closely involved with Madresfield since moving from Denmark to England in 1958.

He is Chair of Governors of Hereford College of Arts, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and holds an Honorary M.A. from the University of Worcester.

TRUSTEES

Diana Johnson

Diana Johnson has a national reputation as practitioner, researcher and writer on local cultural development. After an Oxford music degree she worked overseas, first as Assistant Director of the British Council in Berlin, later as a music critic for the Australian Broadcasting Commission, and as Director of the Arts Council of Australia ACT division where she promoted the country's first Performance Art festival.

In 1981 she was appointed Director of the Beaford Centre in North Devon. The Centre gained wide recognition for its participatory arts projects with people of all ages, and for its touring events throughout a large rural area, and Diana was invited to join the Minister for the Arts' rural arts Thinktank. Since 1989 she has advised a large number of agencies and local authorities in a freelance capacity. Among her reports and publications are *Making a Song and Dance about it*, the Gulbenkian Foundation's first funding scheme for rural arts; *Standing up for the Arts*, a briefing document for local authority councillors; *Going with the Grain* for North West Arts, and *A Different Kind of Future*, a joint plan for the local authorities and artists of Somerset. She has researched creative industries development plans for Shropshire and Somerset and (with Ros Porter) compiled a development plan for dance in Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire.

Current work includes business planning for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, forward planning for Wiltshire and Cornwall local authorities and mentoring several independent artists and arts organisations in artistic and business planning. She is an Arts Council Artsmark assessor, Arts Lottery Fund adviser and decibel creative adviser. She is a Trustee of a groundbreaking Healthy Living Centre in Devon funded by the New Opportunities Fund, and is a former chair of Exeter and Devon Arts Centre and governor of Dartington College of Arts.

Sam Driver White

Sam Driver White is a former Senior Partner of Worcester Solicitors Harrison Clark, and had a close association with Lord and Lady Beauchamp over many years. He has been involved in the artistic life of Worcestershire for over thirty years. He has been Chairman of the Three Choirs Festival Association, the Elgar Choral Festival, Worcester Cathedral Arts and the Elgar School of Music, and is still Chairman of the Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust and Vice Chairman of the Elgar Birthplace Trust, and the Elgar Foundation.

He was on the Executive Committee of the British Arts Festivals Association, a former President of the Worcester and Worcestershire Law Association, past Chairman of the Worcester Three Choirs Festival, Worcester Concert Club and the Worcestershire Association, and a past member of the Worcester Arts Council. He is a director of the Worcester Porcelain Museum and Worcester Cathedral Enterprises. He is also Chairman of the Three Choirs Festival Society (The Friends).

He is a Director of the Ravenmeadow Golf Club, and a governor of Malvern St James school, Malvern. He was, with John de la Cour, an executor of Lady Beauchamp's estate.

Deborah Swallow

Deborah Swallow is Director of the Courtauld Institute of Art. She read English at New Hall, Cambridge, and gained her PhD in Social Anthropology at Darwin College, Cambridge. From 1974-1983, whilst being an assistant curator at the University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, she was Lecturer and Director of Studies in Anthropology at Girton College and was also Fellow of Darwin College.

In 1983 she began a distinguished career at the Victoria and Albert Museum, starting as Assistant Keeper in the Indian Department, rising to become Acting Keeper, Chief Curator and Senior Chief Curator of the Museum. She was then appointed Director of Collections with strategic responsibilities including acquisitions, research, assistant curator training, regional policy and outreach, and national and international relations. As Keeper, she was responsible for the management of the Asian Department.

She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a member of the Advisory Board of the Nehru Centre (High Commission of India) and an Executive Trustee for the Nehru Trust for the Indian Collections at the V& A. She is a specialist in the history of the relationships between British, Indian and South-East Asian textiles and dress, and in the ways sectarian and cult affiliation have been expressed through the patronage of art and the endowment of religion, both in its built and material forms and as ceremonial and ritual performance. She has published widely on these subjects.