SUITABILITY OF ELMBRIDGE VENUES FOR ALL ART FORMS

Further to 4.8 within the EBC Arts Review, it is important to note that, with regards to the suitability of Elmbridge venues used for the presentation of performing and visual arts, some artforms/venues are more adaptable than others.

Film societies are thriving in the Borough of Elmbridge. Using the Riverhouse Arts Centre as well as a variety of local halls, below is a list of film clubs in the Borough:

- Thames Radical Cinema, Riverhouse (evenings)
- Silver Screen Film Club, Riverhouse (daytimes)
- Walton & Weybridge Film Society, Cecil Hepworth Playhouse
- Hersham Cinema Club, Hersham Community Centre
- West End Film Club, West End Village Hall
- The Barn Theatre Club Films, The Barn Theatre Club Molesey
- Elmbridge U3A Film Club, Claygate Village Hall

Live music can struggle to be presented in Elmbridge due to suitability of venues. The Riverhouse Arts Centre presents a variety of classical music in a recital format as the stage is not suitable for numerous players. They successfully present small folk, jazz and rock ensembles and in May 2018 they will present the first ever Walton Folk Festival.

Beyond the Riverhouse Arts Centre, Elmbridge has two sports & leisure venues that present both folk and jazz live music. The Ram Folk Club in Thames Ditton, presenting weekly folk music, has been based in the Old Cranleighan Club since 1983. Jazz at Imber Court is presented monthly at Imber Court Sports & Leisure in East Molesey.

There are no suitable outdoor bandstands in Elmbridge to present choirs, brass bands or the like.

Elmbridge boasts over 25 adult amateur choirs and choral societies. Some groups have regular ‘homes’ for rehearsals and concerts, whereas many do not. Due to space restrictions, several choirs leave the Borough to perform in halls that can accommodate them.

Fine art exhibits can be presented at the Robert Phillips Gallery at the Riverhouse Arts Centre, the Fountain Gallery (if the artist is a member) and the Medicine Garden in Cobham (if the artist is a member). The following art societies thrive within the Borough, using schools and the Riverhouse for their annual ‘shows’:

- Walton Art Club
- Weybridge Art Society
- Molesey Art Society

There are no ideal public venues in Elmbridge to present dance as there are none with enough depth in the wings.