

# Rosehill Theatre

Community Grant Programme

Organisation:  
**Rosehill Theatre**

Project: **Reimagine  
Rosehill**

Beneficiaries: **19,044  
including children,  
students, over 65's  
and people with  
disabilities and low  
income families**

Location:  
**Cumbria**

Region: **North West  
& Central**

## £20,000k

awarded to help  
towards the cost of  
the redevelopment  
project

For further information  
visit:

<http://betl.nationalgrid.co.uk/>

or contact:

**Community Helpline**  
01285 841912



### Community Grant Case Study

Rosehill Theatre is a registered charity that has been running since 1959. As well as organising and hosting theatre productions, films, talks and comedy events, they also run workshops for schools and other local community groups from around the area.

The theatre is in an area impacted by the North West Coast Connections Project which aims to connect and export electricity that will be generated by Moorside - the new nuclear power station NuGen is proposing to build near Sellafield in West Cumbria.

### Reimagine Rosehill

The theatre was in desperate need of refurbishment to turn it into a new arts centre to provide the local population (over 30,000 people), and visitors, with improved access to arts activities.

The total cost of the redevelopment was expected to cost in the region of £3m and the theatre had managed to secure £2.8m from a range of funders but still needed more support. The theatre applied for a National Grid Community Grant for £20,000 to help towards the cost of the redevelopment project.

### The impact of support

The redevelopment and restoration of Rosehill Theatre has now been completed and the communities of West Cumbria are benefitting from high quality arts facilities. The theatre runs a programme of quality performing arts including

music, classical music, theatre and comedy. Attendance at the theatre has exceeded forecasts; performances for children and families have shown strong attendances since the reopening, with sold-out performances.

Complementing this Rosehill also runs workshops in schools, community centres and with youth groups, as well as with the Rosehill Children's Choir.

Rosehill's employees have grown to 27 (18.5 full time employees), including five apprentices across its arts and hospitality operations, making a real economic impact.

Rosehill's new restaurant, 'The Green Room', is enabling young people graduating from the local Lakes College to take up first-time jobs and apprentice opportunities.

## Hospitality staff on hand in the Green room at Rosehill Theatre



## Summer singing at Rosehill



*“The work funded by National Grid will enable Rosehill to continue to bring high quality national and international performances to the communities of West Cumbria and to engage people of all ages in participatory performing arts work.”*

**Simon Walker**  
Development Manager,  
Rosehill Theatre

Commenting on the Community Grant Simon Walker, Development Manager at the theatre, said: ‘The work funded by National Grid will enable Rosehill to continue to bring high quality national and international performances to the communities of West Cumbria, and to engage people of all ages in participatory performing arts work.

‘The Community Grant Programme has effectively provided valuable funding that will bring benefits to many residents in the area affected by National Grid’s work. The complexity of application and reporting are appropriate to the funding award and the system has been well administered.’

Commenting on the project Faye Scullion, Regional External Affairs Manager said: ‘We are thrilled to be able to support the redevelopment and restoration of Rosehill Theatre with investment through our Community Grant Programme.

In addition to creating opportunities for the people of West Cumbria to engage with the performing arts there is also a clear positive impact on the local community’.

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