



# Trinity Community Arts Annual Report 2010



*Trinity from above by Nathan Jones*

## Statement from Chair

I hope that all members will agree that Trinity has had a very successful 2010. This Annual Report gives details of the activities that have been taking place at the Trinity Centre over the last year. Our thanks go to our committed staff, volunteers and members who supported in the delivery of these services. The Directors feel that 2010 provided a period of stability after the past challenges experienced by Trinity. We do not think that we have got everything right yet, but we hope the members will agree that we are moving in the right direction.

At last year's AGM we adopted new articles, which now enable us to carry out our work with a clearer understanding of our position and legality. There were some concerns expressed in certain areas and following a period of further consultation we will be presenting a refined version of the articles for approval at the 2010 AGM. We believe this will address the issues raised and ensure our constitution is a true reflection of our shared mission and values. We have been working with the Cooperative Assistance Network, CommunityMatters and the Business Development team from the Communitybuilders Fund, who have all helped us in 2010 with the ongoing development of the organisation.

We have been working with Bristol City Council in the negotiation of a longer lease for the Trinity Centre, to secure the future of this building for the community. Bristol City Council have now implemented a Community Asset Transfer Policy, which will help to advance this process and we are hopeful to achieve a positive outcome in 2011. We have also applied for Charitable status and are receiving support in order to ensure this application will be successfully concluded in the near future.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the members to thank the Board of Directors and our Company Secretary Simon Hewes and the team at Bond Pearce – all of whom have given a huge amount of time voluntarily, and have received no payment for their services, either directly or in the way of expenses.

Throughout the year we have been working to identify how best we can widen participation through our membership. We have held several consultation sessions and are keen to work with local people and Centre users to assure the needs of our communities are reflected and influence the future development of Trinity.

We have received considerable grant support from a variety of funders to deliver projects, training and improve the building. Future applications are in hand, which will hopefully yield further development. The directors and staff feel that we are now in a strong position to move forward and further develop and improve the scope and range of activities taking place at Trinity.

**Geoff Day, Chair**





Link Age Tea Dance

## Community

2010 presented all kinds of interesting and challenging opportunities for us, in how Trinity has been used by the community - truly embracing its role as more than just a music venue.

To date we have had weddings, conferences, children's parties, conventions, Eid prayers and celebrations, clothes swapping, various workshops and demonstrations to name but a few of the activities that have happened. Our weekly classes now include Bristol Samba Band (drumming & dancing), Hype Dance (urban dance troupe for three age groups), Zumba (Latin style dance/aerobics class), Burlesque Dancing (starting 2011), Bike Workshops, and an ICT Computer Class.

At the start of the year we hosted a fantastic Indoor Picnic with creative group The Love of It as well as a Jobs Fair organised by Jobs Centre Plus, attended by over 900 people. During the year we also hosted a Labour Party Conference, as well as an anti-Female Circumcision Conference in June which was well attended by the Somali community.

Through our Trinity Community Initiative we have provided space to groups including Bristol Refugee Rights, Eastside Roots, Theatre rehearsal space to The Idle Dream and MAX Theatre and Young Bristol as part of the Gathering Voices Festival of Song. In addition, Awaz Utaoh started the year at Trinity, holding their regular meetings and workshops aimed at Asian women every Wednesday - to everyone's delight, as staff gets to sample their fine cooking! We also helped them to deliver a Diwali Fireworks Party in November.

Trinity joined forces with Bristol Link Age in July 2010 to put on seasonal tea dances, with support from Quartet Community Foundation, encouraging more older people to use our centre to get active. Each event has attracted around 50 people, with very positive feedback from the participants. As a result, from September, Trinity has been co-funding weekly gentle dance sessions to complement the tea dances. These are becoming popular, with the group now self tutoring every two weeks and getting involved in the planning of the main tea dances.

Curious Arts delivered their Summer Spectacular - dance and drama activities for adults with learning difficulties - in August, closing the week with a top performance.

September was a busy month, as we hosted Shift Bristol's Practical Sustainability workshops, Click Sargent's Summer Shindig, 16-25 Independent People's social and awards ceremony, The Dinners Group consultation meetings and KPMG's corporate volunteering day.



October saw a Belly Dance Convention and in November we hosted an International Hoola Hoop Convention as well as Envision's Make a Difference event, with people coming from all over the country and beyond to join them. There was also a Live and Unsigned music talent contest supported by The Avon & Somerset Constabulary.

Closing the year, Trinity worked together with the BBC and the local people from Stapleton Road, to produce a film about the history of the community and area as well as hosting the Misfits theatre group's annual Rhythm of the Night event, as well as 16-25 Independent People's Christmas Party.



### **Trinity Community Gardens**

Trinity's is everyone's garden, and a garden whose strength lies in its capacity to accommodate a seemingly infinite variety of plants and human activity. 2010 saw plenty of the latter with our free community events in May (Garden Party), September (Picnic) and November (Free Fireworks).

This year volunteers linked with Eastside Roots have given exceptional amounts of energy to make the Garden a welcoming place. Many thanks to all the volunteers who help create this magical, ever-changing and all embracing community garden.

Weekly permaculture sessions on Thursdays have been well attended by committed regulars and others who come along for shorter times to gain experience while looking for jobs. Volunteers turn their hands to all sorts of jobs in the garden, especially helping with the big tasks such as turning and sieving the compost.

Members and users should be very proud of the six year journey it has taken to get to this point - all the fundraising and meetings that have created this great resource for the community, place us now in an excellent position to thrive and grow in the future.

**Karina Castro, Centre Administrator**





*What's Your Trinity Story Project Workers  
Edson Burton and Annie Berry*

## Projects

### **Project Respect**

For the third year running, Trinity has run a programme of arts workshops for young and older people funded by Quartet Community Foundation, exploring people's memories, sharing experiences and creating artworks together. Working with local artist Sarah Bentley, we once more partnered up with The City Academy's Dice Project. We took the group of young people to work with older people residing in Brunel Care Home in St Georges. While this posed many new challenges, this also meant that we worked with older people who were otherwise not engaged at all with any community activity, unlike past groups of older people we worked with who were already engaged with organised social meeting groups.

One of the older people from the home commented: *"we don't get any visitors so it is really nice to see young people – we don't really have any activities here and there is not full-time warden so it was nice to create an activity that we can meet the community"*.

This project is incredibly successful at breaking down barriers and promoting cohesion. The National Youth Agency have included the project as a case study in their Youth Led Intergenerational Practice Case Study Report, being launched in 2011.

### **Music Makers Project**

Our most recently launched project, funded by Awards for All will complement our Training Programme for 16-18 year olds. In 2011, we will be introducing two new sessions running every Thursday, which will target 13-15 year olds who have been excluded or who may be at risk of exclusion from school, and 19-25 year olds who have been out of education or employment for an extended period.

The project will give us the opportunity to work with a broader range of ages than we are currently able to with our Training Programme, and will encourage people to get back into education or training, using music as a tool for engagement. The project will culminate in a final youth talent event in Summer 2011.

**Emma Harvey, Centre Manager**





*Salif Keita performing at Trinity*

### ***What's Your Trinity Story?***

The year long project funded by Heritage Lottery Fund Your Heritage Grant, featured an oral history and archiving project about Trinity from 1960-today, with specific reference to its role as a music and community venue.

As part of the project, volunteers were trained in oral history by staff from UWE. Our Research Assistant Annie Berry sourced and collated written, printed and photographic items on Trinity's history. As Outreach Worker for the project, I conducted 30 oral and audio visual interviews with former clients and users of the centre. This and other previously uncatalogued material is in the process of being uploaded to Trinity's on-line archive., and volunteers and staff will continue to collate information at the end of the project.

We engaged members of the public through an arts and music event commemorating the legacy of punk and new wave cultures at Bristol. We also held a popular reminiscence session with the West Indian Parents and Friends group, who were strongly linked with the Centre in the 1980s. We also delivered a series of workshops involving the public in learning about stained glass techniques and producing a community stained glass window design, currently on display in our Upstairs Main Hall.

After eighteen months of events, transcribing, interviewing and archiving, *What's Your Trinity Story?* is almost at an end. The final aspect of the project will see the production of an exhibition and booklet, to be launched in 2011. The exhibition will feature a range of snapshots from events, perspectives, and activities from the Centre's various incarnations.

The public are still invited to contribute to the ongoing Trinity story and we still welcome photos, flyers and stories which can be added to our online archive.

**Edson Burton, Outreach Worker**





*Music Training Programme*

## Training

### **Training Programme**

We have been working with 65 young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), as part of our 2009/2010 training contract with Bristol City College and 26 young people for this academic year. We have also been recognised as part of our work with Education Unlimited (EUL) Partnership, by being awarded the prestigious Beacon Award for Widening Participation.

In the 2010/2011 academic year, we have continued to offer a selection of creative courses including music, graffiti and photography. Students have included their work in a number of exhibitions and received air play on the radio. Feedback from students, parents and the College has been particularly positive and we are keen to continue the development of our creative courses.

We are continuing to build partnerships with other groups and youth agencies in order to find new ways of working and ensure that we reach as many young people as we can with our services.

### **Future Jobs Fund Programme**

As part of the Future Jobs Fund we have worked with 20 young people throughout the year, providing work placements in areas such as Events, Training, IT and Facilities. This has been a very successful project, helping young people who have been out of work for extended periods improve their confidence, gain experience and apply for future work and training.

Of the young people who took part several have gone on to full time studies whilst others have gone on to a variety of paid work positions, including a BBC Work placement, and an IT Support Apprenticeship at Bristol City Council. We also have two budding musicians who are developing skills in the music business as performers.

### **Youth Club**

We have launched an after school youth club, supported by local volunteers. At the moment the youth club is for young people aged between 7-13, but we have plans to expand this in the future and open up an evening session. The club is well attended with over 30 young people coming each week, and we have kindly received funding from Avon & Somerset Constabulary Trust for games and toys.

**Rhiannon Jones, Training & Events Coordinator**





*Magnetic Man*

## Events

### Trinity Promotions

Trinity has hosted a number of different events aimed at a variety of audiences and age groups. As always we have tried to keep events free to the public where possible. Highlights include Kid Carpet rounding off the Garden Party which also included a host of local bands, creative workshops and the Bee Parade! Our Fireworks night was so popular this year we had to shut the gates. Once we had dazzled the crowds with an array of fireworks, Dizraeli and The Small Gods had the whole building rocking till the end of the night.

Following on from the previous year's success we ran two art markets, Christmas and Spring, filling the hall with beautiful original works for sale in a festive atmosphere. Each event had over 30 artists exhibiting a range of work including pottery, painting, jewellery and crafts.

We also hosted our first ever roller disco with daytime sessions for families and children followed by a disco themed evening event for the grown up (mostly turning up in fancy dress!)

To finish off the year in style, this year saw EZ Rollers and Laid Blak at our NYE Masked Ball entertaining revellers.

We are keen to continue to develop and expand our own music programme so that we can ensure Trinity continues to provide a platform for local talent and celebrates all that is good and great about the Bristol Sound.

### Commercial events

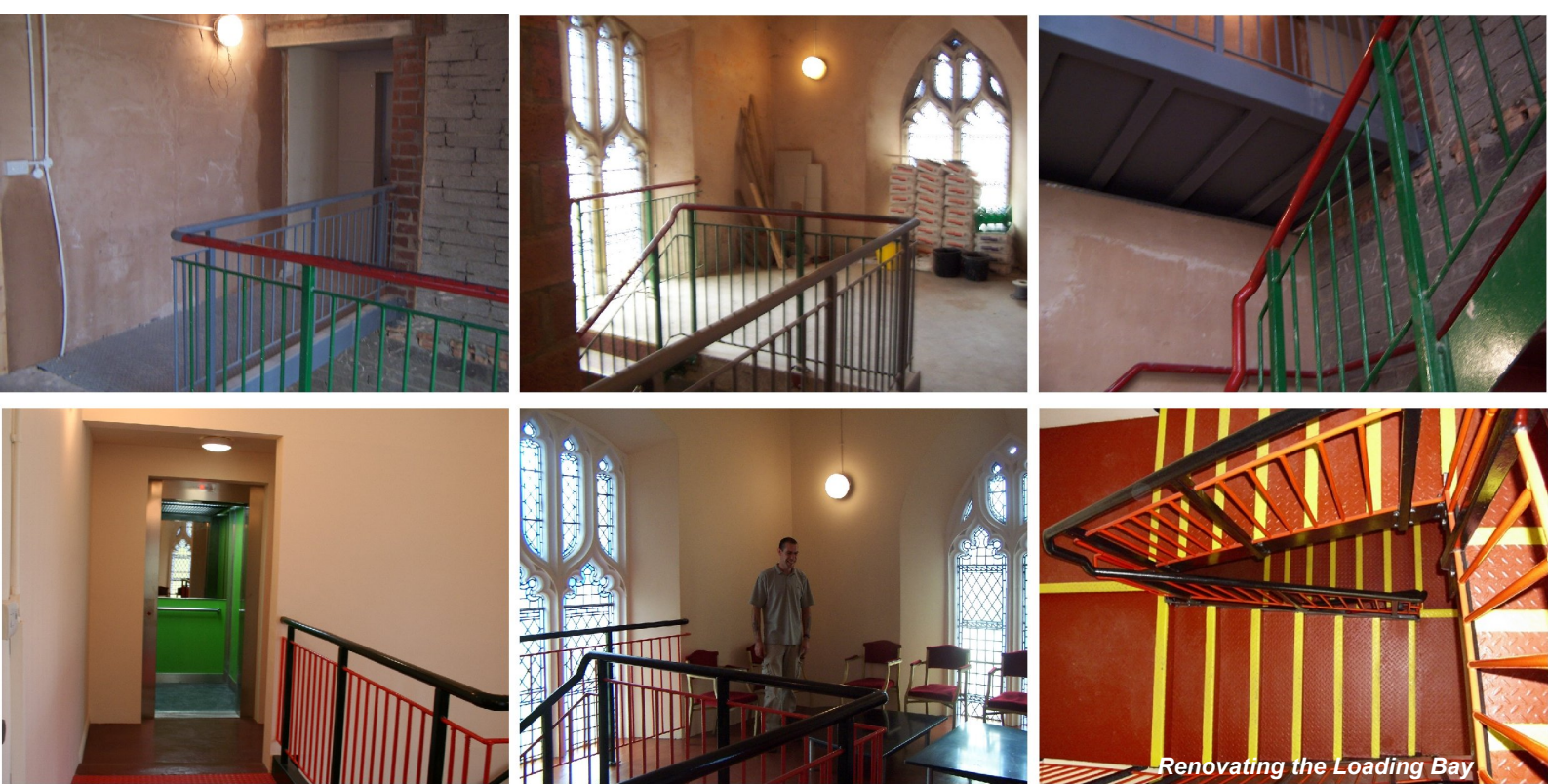
Our commercial programme of live music grew from last year with some surprise appearances from big names such as Gorillaz and a few scoops including Magnetic Man, featuring Katy B and Hurts. Other notable gigs include Flying Lotus, Dreadzone who performed to mark the launch of their new album. We have built strong working relationships with promoters including DHP who continue to secure artists that are on the rise.

We have also continued to work with local promoters and artists including Teachings in Dub, Patchwork and Black Roots, who reformed their original line-up to perform at Trinity, as they had done 25 years earlier. These events help to ensure that Trinity keeps true to its roots as a home for reggae, dub and sound systems.

**Rhiannon Jones, Training & Events Coordinator**







## Building

Thanks to funds this year from SITA and YANSEC, we have been able to complete the first Phase of our Building Development Plan – installing upstairs toilet facilities and a lift platform to complement works completed with funding from Bristol Objective 2. This included renovating our 'Loading Bay' – a main access corridor to the upstairs hall spaces. The transformation, it is fair to say, has been dramatic and it creates a far more welcoming appearance for people coming to take part in training and activities in the space.

We have also carried out a large amount of redecorating with the help of our maintenance team, painting the main entrance and upstairs hall spaces, as well as refitting our kitchen. We are fortunate to have a strong facilities team with a diverse range of skills in electrics, plastering, bricklaying and more. Their skills and vision for Trinity have led to us tackling more and more jobs, raising the standard of our facilities for Centre users.

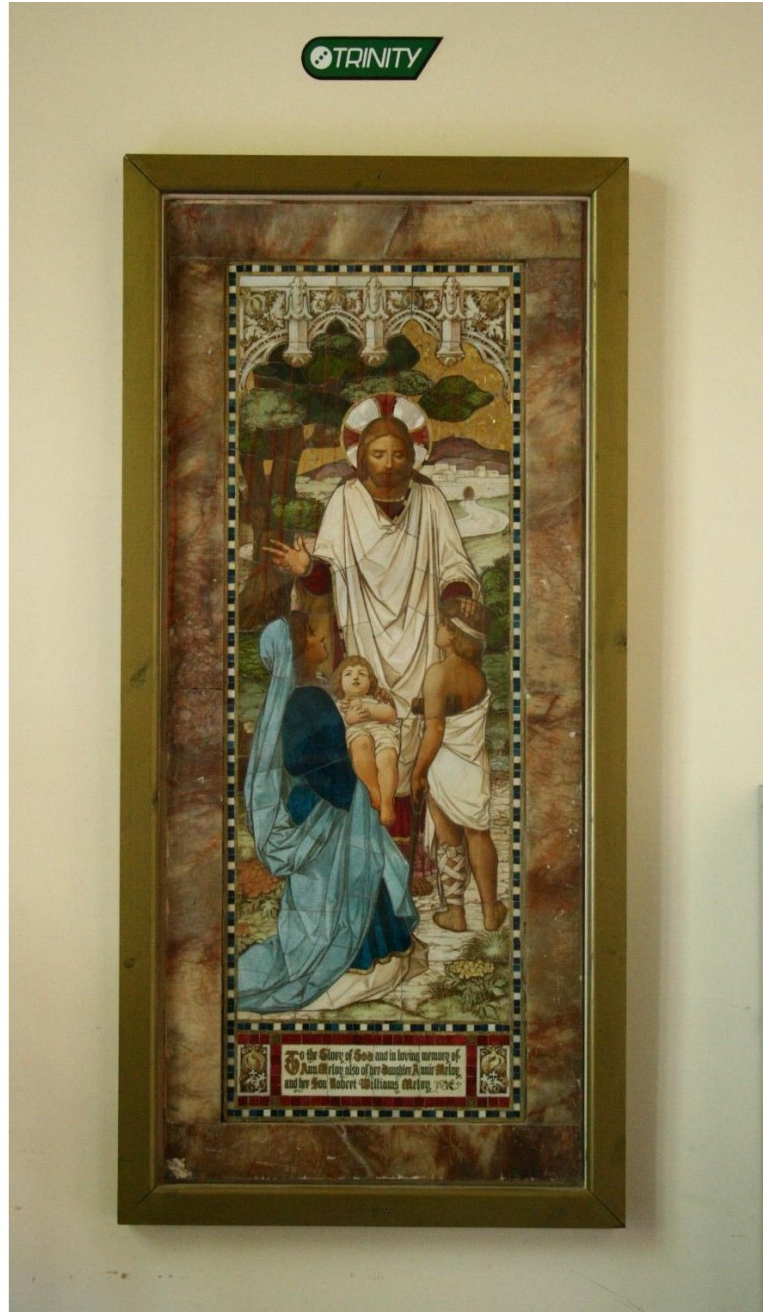
We have also been working for some time with Leyhill HMP to support ex-offenders reintegrating back into society on their release, by providing work placements at Trinity. Their volunteer efforts have helped transform the space so our thanks go out to them.

In terms of future plans for the Centre, we continue to consult with Centre users regarding ongoing development of the space. Key works highlighted are repair to our roof, as identified in our Conditions Survey from 2009, for which we are seeking funding from English Heritage. We have also been in discussions with Pro Help to carry out a feasibility study which will help us identify which are the most practical and beneficial areas of the building to develop next, working with firms GCP Architects and GSS Architects on concepts and possible alternations to the interior space and external grounds.

BLF Reaching Communities will be launching a new fund at the end of 2010. The fund for community buildings in areas of high deprivation will award up to £500,000 for capital projects. We are planning to submit an application for this fund and now more than ever it is important for people to give us feedback – good and bad – so that we can inform this process.

**Emma Harvey, Centre Manager**





Above: Before and after pictures of works funded by YANSEC  
Below: Our redecorated foyer





## Finance

Trinity has experienced steady growth now for the last 8 years and this year we generated an income of £450,000 to invest in activities for our communities. Trinity continues to attract exceptionally motivated staff and volunteers, all of whom can have pride in their efforts in building the foundations for the success we are now beginning to see realised.

For some time now there has been a positive and uplifting vibe amongst those working, volunteering and using the centre. This energetic environment has given rise to an effective attitude, willing and able to respond to the negative downturn in the economy - using it instead as an opportunity to develop the organisation.

We believe that the varied income streams we have developed have been essential to meet these changes in the economy. This year we have attracted over £40,000 in project funding, over £160,000 in training income and a significant income £120,000 from events. With the reputation and professionalism we are acquiring, it is likely that these sources of income can be developed and improved.

As our community hall hire is approaching capacity we are experiencing a very busy and active centre. We are keen to see the upstairs hall developed so that we can meet increased need. We also believe that there is still significant scope which can be developed in terms of our projects, training and events.

It has always been our goal to become a charity. The complexity of our organisation and the capacity to manage this change has slowed this transition to date, however we are moving towards this reality. Becoming a charity will give us the opportunity to attract additional funding from streams that would otherwise be unavailable, and allow us to build a healthy reserve to ensure our future stability.

Finally, we are looking forward to more change. The financial systems that have brought us to this position, although sufficient for a small business, are no longer meeting our needs. A complete review was undertaken, supported by committed volunteer Jane Burgoyne, of all practices and procedures. This has led to us adopting a new finance system, OpenERP, which is better able to meet the reporting and auditing needs of our organisation.

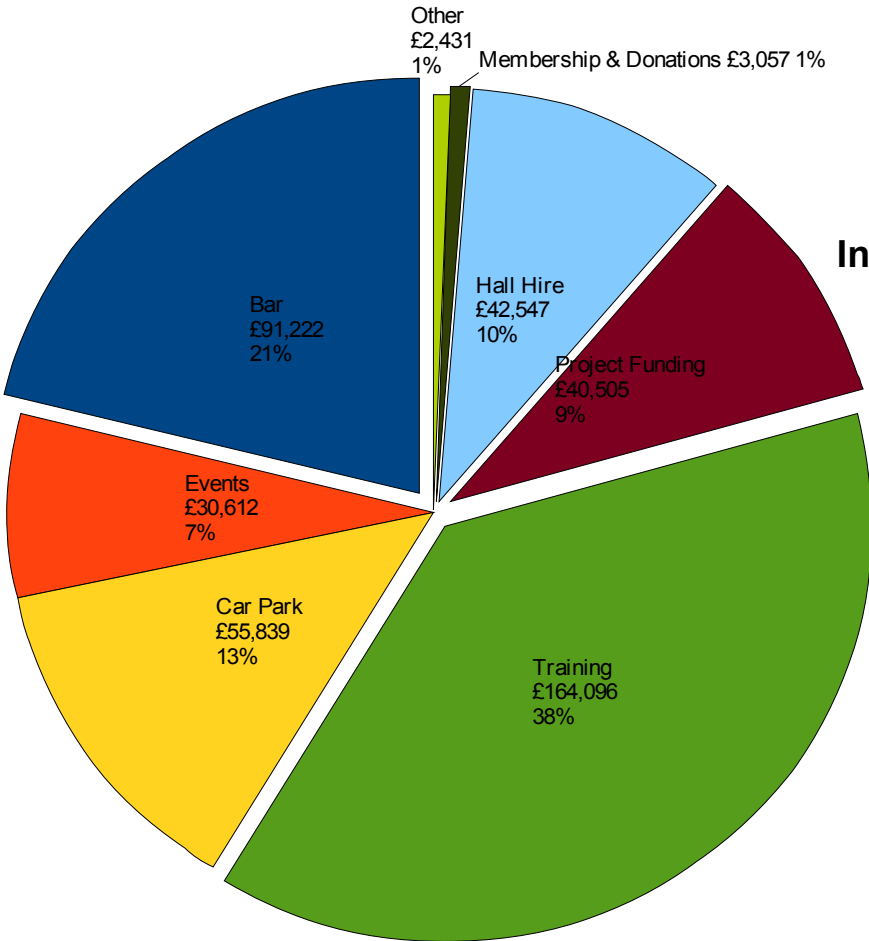
We will continue to work innovatively, seize opportunities and explore all ethical revenue streams with the aim of ensuring a sustainable future for the Trinity Centre. We are confident that through this positive approach we will create an environment that will empower our communities, and provide an effective, stable resource for all.

**Matthew Hewitt, Finance Manager**

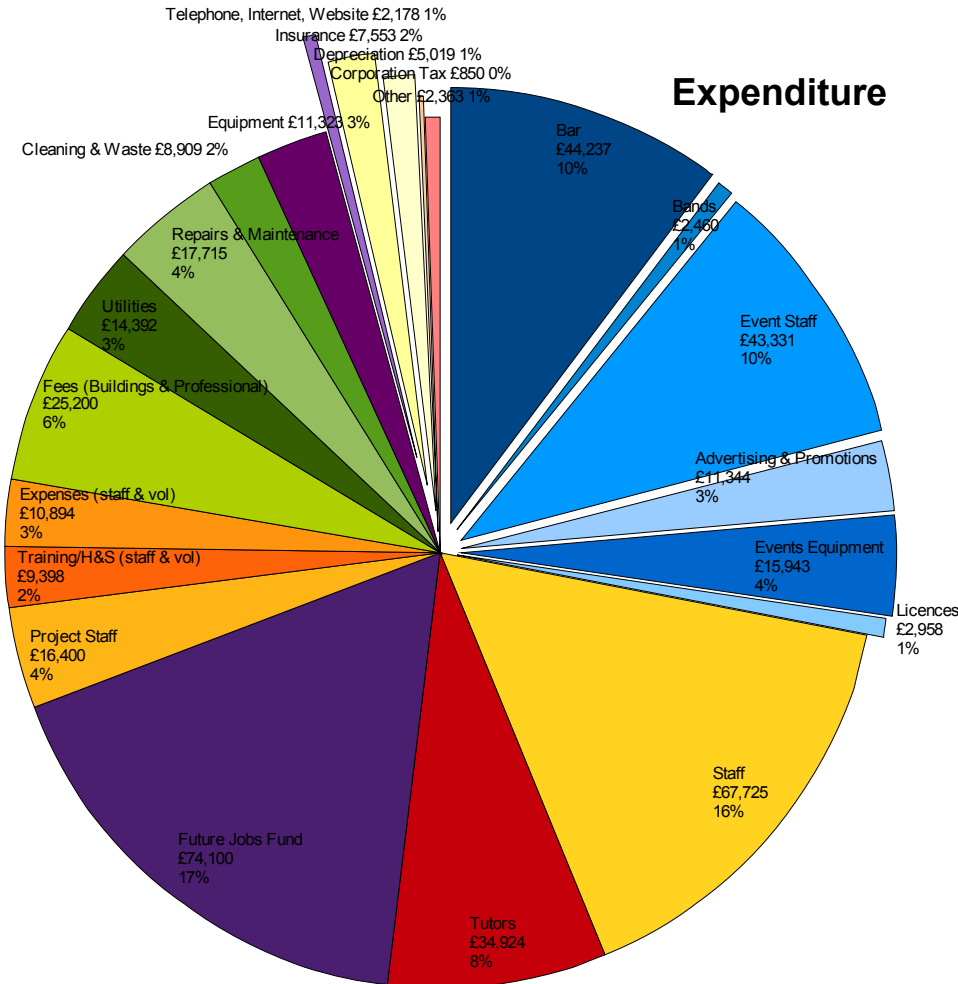


# Accounts 2010

## Income



## Expenditure



<b>Income</b>	<b>£430,309</b>
<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>£115,724</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£312,641</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>£ 1,943</b>
<b>Corporation Tax</b>	<b>£ 850</b>
<b>Retained Profit</b>	<b>£ 1,093</b>



## Funders & Supporters

Thanks to all those who have supported us this year - special thanks to:

A&S Constabulary Police Community Trust  
 Awards for All  
 Awaz Utaoh  
 The BBC & Video Nation  
 Blokey Pete & Aquila  
 Brian Titley & The Cooperative Assistance Network  
 Bristol Records Office  
 Bristol Refugee Rights  
 City of Bristol College  
 English Heritage  
 Future Jobs Fund

Heritage Lottery Fund  
 Jane Burgoyne  
 Jonathan Platt & GCP Architects  
 KPMG  
 Link Age  
 Local Councillor Sue O'Donnell  
 Mike Wheeler, John Bos, Paul Barnett & Bristol City Council  
 Patsy Newman & The Ethical Property Foundation  
 Paul Serry & Transparency Life Coaching  
 Paul Wiltshire & A1 Entertainments

Pro Help  
 Quartet Community Foundation  
 Simon Hewes & Bond Pearce  
 SITA Trust  
 Sparker Onj  
 Steve Woods & Bristol Wireless  
 Susan Gordon  
 UWE  
 YANSEC  
 And last but not least thanks to our amazing staff our hard working and dedicated volunteers.

