

**TRINITY:**

**Trinity Community Arts  
Annual Report 2014**







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### Simon Birch, outgoing Chair Statement

2014 was an important year for Trinity with the completion of the Lottery funded improvement project. Physically the Centre has been transformed, both internally and externally and is now much more welcoming & able to function more effectively.

At the same time the essential ethos and character of Trinity has been somehow retained and even strengthened - a tribute to the hard work of Emma and of all the staff and volunteers. 2014 also marked the completion of my three years as Chair and I was delighted to hand over to such an active and positive group of trustees. The journey continues!

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### Simon Bates, incoming Chair Statement

Trinity would like to say a **big thank you** to all those who supported, funded and worked with us in 2014.

The most notable achievement for 2014 was the completion of a two-year capital project, which included repairs to our South Aisle lead roof alongside significant redevelopment of our upstairs hall space and grounds.

Contractors **gcp Chartered Architects** and **CW Duke** worked tirelessly and within strict budget and deadline to complete the scheme of works, which included a new reception area, heating system, partition wall, sprung wooden floor, lighting and drapes - to enable us to provide a more flexible space for the variety of uses of the centre.



The plan to redevelop the Trinity Centre has been an ambition for decades and this former converted church has long been a focal point for the cultural and community activities in East Bristol.

Thanks to support from funders including **Big Lottery Fund** and **Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust**, these long-held aspirations have now become a reality. With a second large hall space in the upstairs of the Centre, we are able to provide access to high-end facilities at affordable rates for a range of activities including dance, performance, meetings, conferences, weddings and more.

We held a special preview night to give thanks to staff, contractors, volunteers, partners, friends and the local community who all helped us towards achieving the vision for a renovated space. Over 200 Friends of Trinity turned out for the official opening of the new 'Fyfe Hall' - named in memory of former board member **Nicholas Fyfe**, who passed away in 2007.

The audience was entertained by **Bristol Reggae Orchestra** who gave an outstanding performance as the first musicians to perform in the newly renovated space. There were also performances from our resident groups **Hype Dance** and **Bristol Samba**. This was followed by the public relaunch event with a performance from **Adrian Utley** of *Portishead*.

Thanks again to all those who have been involved in Trinity's journey to date and we hope that you will join us for more exciting things to come in future years.



## 2014 Achievements

*“The Trinity Centre is a case in point of how old historic buildings can be given a new lease of life and once again become a key part of the community.”*

Andrew Vines, Planning and Conservation Director, English Heritage (South West), October 2014

Throughout the year, the Trinity Centre was used by over 40,000 people, across 222 activities and events. This includes:

- 7674 participants in community events, across 12214 unique visits
- 730 people participating in projects such as our Community Garden, Arts West Side and Vice & Virtue
- 41 young people involved regularly across our youth music training programme
- 53 volunteers supporting across all activities
- provided 4 paid intern-ships for young people aged 18-24 through the Creative Employment Programme.

Our Trinity Community Initiative (TCI) provided 1,180 hrs of free or subsidised space hire at The Trinity Centre for grass-roots groups and community projects to deliver their events. We also provided 125 hrs free or subsidised space at Arts West Side – our satellite venue on Old Market High Street.

In line with the Bristol Green Capital 2015, we will be focusing on making Trinity more sustainable, both environmentally, through taking steps to make Trinity a greener venue and financially, through building our reserves.

Our activity plans for 2015 include exploring new ways of bringing communities together, such as a series of live community-debates, taking more artistic control over our live-programming and providing more learning opportunities for young people. We're looking forward to doing more for our communities in 2015!





## Reaching Communities

**Karina Castro, Projects Manager**

I am pleased to present the first report of the new Reaching Communities Team for 2014. Our new team has a wide range of responsibilities - from developing and monitoring participation and engagement of the communities we serve through our projects and activities, to supporting groups/organisations and ensuring that the key outcomes for the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Building grant and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Catalyst grant funding are met.

### Big Lottery Outcomes

- Provide opportunities for residents to participate in activities to reduce isolation and improve psychological and physical health and well-being.
- Provide services and events for marginalised communities to encourage social integration, promote understanding, and improve community cohesion.

### HLF Catalyst Outcomes

- Increase community involvement through the development of Friends of Trinity and Membership.
- Expand Trinity's profile through PR and fundraising campaign and develop team's skills in marketing, fundraising and outreach.

Our grant funded projects in 2014 included: Arts West Side (Awards for All); Trinity Community Garden (Comic Relief and BYCA holiday programme); Youth Music Makers (Youth Music); Girls in Tune (Community First); Kwaya/1:1 (Soundsplash-Bristol Plays Music); Wild Walks for Wellbeing (Quartet); Vice & Virtue: Discovering the History of Old Market 1900-2005 (HLF/Quartet, Old Market Association) and Friends of Trinity (HLF Catalyst).

Over the last year, we have worked hard to strengthen Trinity through the provision of a wide range of projects and activities, which provide high-quality and responsive support for our communities.

We have seen our regular weekly groups and classes grow stronger and reaching out to new participants: Bristol Samba, Hype Dance, Bike Workshop as well as monthly and weekly Community Garden drop-ins, BOREA and RMA socials (bingo). Our Gentle Dance for over 50's group has grown from an average of 5 participants to 25 this year! And Awaz Utah women's support group has seen numbers increased with their programme of activities now including a Zumba class at lunchtime.

*“The Trinity Centre is an important hub in Bristol and delivers valuable work in bringing together various communities that would not normally mix. It is a vital resource providing many community/voluntary groups and organisations with great facilities for meetings and events and support to develop their activities and reach.”* Sarah Minter, Development Manager, LGBT Bristol

In 2014 we were able to host over 75 activities under our Trinity Community initiative (TCI – for TCA members), totalling over 1,100hrs of free subsidised space, including: 19 theatre rehearsals from Theatre Damfino, Frenetic Engineering, Wardrobe Theatre, Old Vic and other smaller theatre companies; 9 dance rehearsals/workshops including schools and young people participating at St Pauls Carnival and Harbourside Fest, as well as dance companies like 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage and State of Emergency, plus free taster sessions from Swing Dance Bristol; over a dozen meetings from Fixers, FareShare South West, 1625 Independent People and free community events from Envision, Knightstone, Homeless Link and Burning Man Network Bristol.

Trinity has also hosted new partnership projects under TCI like the West of England Centre for Inclusive Living (WECIL) and art+power 'monthly creative challenges'; LitterArti's week long recycling workshops and exhibition as well as career taster sessions in music and dance with our neighbours, In to University, back in the Summer. Late in the Autumn, Trinity hosted Young at Heart Line Dancers workshops for over 50's as well as 2 Social Dances for over 50's in partnership with LGBT forum and Link Age as part of the Celebrating Age Festival.

We also celebrated Black History month with a wide range of activities and events, including 'Tangled Roots' workshops, 'Amsterdam' performance, 'Bristol African Music History' event and the screening of 'Henrietta Lacks' and 'Reggae Inna Space' films.

### **Community Groups**

With the improvement of our second space upstairs 'Fyfe Hall', we have been able to cater for even more community and subsidised hall hire, offering high quality spaces at discounted rates to organisations such as Voscur and Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Partnership as well as small independent groups for their product launches, like Good Bristol Magazine and training staff and volunteers, like FareShare South West and Leyhill HMP. We now offer basic catering included in the conference packages which we are refining to ensure a professional service.

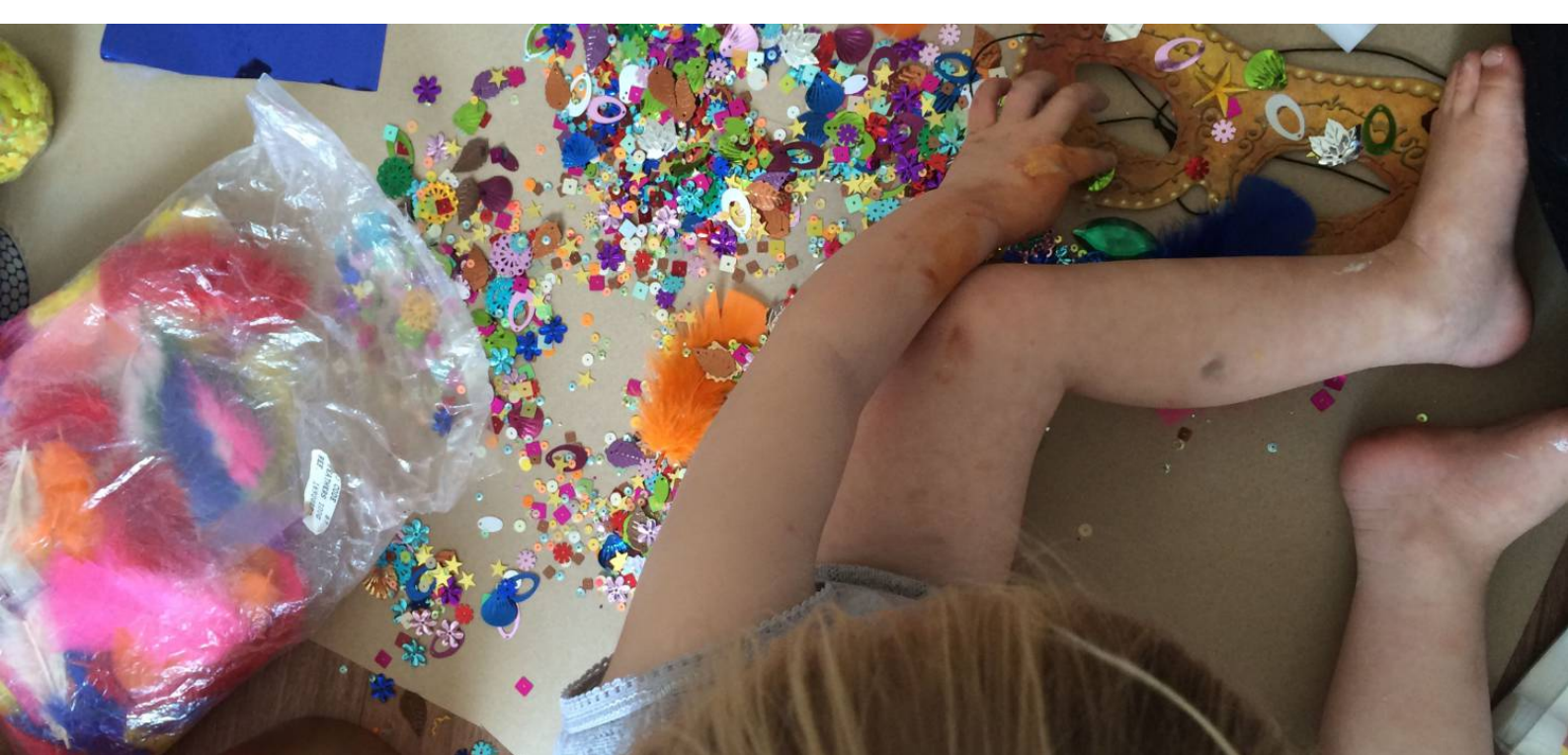
We have also increased the number of local resident weddings and community celebrations from all backgrounds, as well as spaces to host alternative events such as conventions, galas, talks and film screenings, for example working with Bristol Swing Dance, SWHoop, Transitions Bristol, NHS, the Bristol Cameroonians Association, Senegambia Hidden Talents and Kombo Sillah Association.

Misfits Theatre Company, WECIL, Awaz Utaoh, Borea and RMA have all continued to benefit from use of subsidise spaces as well as the regular classes from Bristol Samba and Hype. We are constantly working on increasing our number of regular hirers, not only to increment our income but also to ensure that we have a broad range of classes and activities available at Trinity. We have successfully increased the number of Sunday hires by reducing the hire rate on that day, encouraging more bookings. We now have regular kids roller discos with BUMP, monthly meetings for Sunday Assembly and occasional Swing Dance workshops.

The 'Fyfe Hall' is also offered at a subsidised weekly rate for dance and theatre companies which has not only brought in additional income but has also enabled us to build our network of artists.

*“It is very hard for someone with a learning disability to have a normal social life. So with Trinity helping us put on full on Rhythm of the Night clubs is amazing. We have over 100 people with disabilities dancing the night away at each event and it is getting bigger and better.”*  
Tony Holdom, Director, Misfits Theatre Company.





## Project: Arts West Side (AWS)

*“Running the sessions enabled me to have a structure whilst unemployed and the volunteering and running of the sessions enabled me to add the experience to my CV and I was offered a job!”*  
Volunteer, Arts West Side

At the end of 2013 we received funding from Awards for All, to run our “Activate West Side” project from AWS. The programme of activities was developed in response to the needs of the local community, based around shared interests or community focus, in order to meet the growing need of the area.

The grant helped to fund an Activities Coordinator, Sarah Bentley, to support the original aims for AWS and expand our activities offer for the community, supporting volunteers to develop and deliver their own programme.

2014 saw more than 60 sessions ran by 26 volunteers. From weekly poetry groups, women lunch clubs, art collectives, meetings and workshops to creative play sessions for children as well as healthy eating sessions and exhibitions. Over 230 participants were involved in our activities. The project has created new partnerships with local residents and organisations like Parents4Play, Children's Scrapstore and the Trinity Community Garden. Through the project we have also been able to support the Bristol Somali Youth Network, who now call Arts West Side home, as well as our tenants Photography 8 and the Good Roots Cafe.

Key activities and achievements of the project include:

### **West Side HERstory**

Free creative writing workshops tailored for women who have experienced trauma and/or have mental health issues, led by Sarer Scotthorne. Initially planned for 8 weeks (Feb-Apr 2014), the project was so successful that it ran up until the end of May and came back for a second round (Sep-Dec).

The workshops culminated in the publication of 2 small pamphlet of works created by the participants. Feedback from Sarer and participants has shown that the sessions have helped to rebuild self-esteem and self-belief in the individuals' value and place in society. We will continue to support *West Side HERstory* in 2015.

## Creative play days

After a highly successful free “Exploring Play Days for under 7’s” back in April, we developed a partnership project “Creative Play Days” for under 5’s together with *Parents 4 Play* and *The Children’s Scrapstore*. These free weekly drop-in sessions for children and their carers, led by volunteers, explored creative playing through storytelling, music and crafts.

Sarah Bentley finished her post in October and left successful pilot partnership activities in place, like the *Art Café for over 55’s* in partnership with LinkAge and the University of West England (UWE) as well as *Creativity Makes me Happy* for people with learning difficulties in partnership with Stepping Out. Both activities ran weekly from October until December 2014 and we look forward to continuing both projects in 2015.

Our aim for the future is to create a sustainable project that is able to grow and develop whilst operating within values based on community development and cohesion. With an award to deliver the 'Grow it, Cook it, Eat it!' project from Arts West Side and Trinity's Garden as part of Bristol 2015, we hope to see a full programme of activities within 6 West Street for the coming year.

*“The project enabled me to build confidence and overcome my fears and my own inadequacies.”*  
West Side HERstory participant







## Project: Community Garden

*“Trinity Community Gardens offers a very unique approach to gardening courses that is very different from anything else on offer in Bristol.”* Wild Goose Coordinator

In January 2014 we supported the volunteer-led group that has been leading on gardening activities since 2010 in the transition to become an independent branch of our organisation, giving the Trinity Community Garden (TCG) the opportunity to explore new ways to grow and become sustainable.

This was a busy year and over 1500 people visited Trinity's Garden, through activities and events. We engaged around 300 of these in specific projects between March and October: using our spaces to grow, forage and cook and participants experiencing truly sustainable living and the complete food cycle.

The garden provided a place for workshops, healthy eating sessions, drop-in days and community events through Art West Side partnership (Awards for All funded) and Comic Relief, as well as the new Children's Quests funded by the Bristol Youth Community Action (BYCA) Holiday Activity Fund. These project grants also gave the newly formed TCG group the opportunity to build a reputation as service providers in the area and supported their first successful applications for additional funding. Community First funded their community days and Quartet Express Grant funded courses for people with mental health issues.

Trinity has also been working in partnership with the Wild Walks for Wellbeing, supporting their activities and administering their Quartet fund.

*“Walk for Health Bristol is a BCC Public Health hosted initiative and many of our project participants, but specifically the Wild Walks for Wellbeing group for adults with mental health issues, have benefited greatly from the relationship we have recently established with Trinity.”*  
Walk for Health Bristol Manager.

We had a small set back in June when considerable damage was done to the hand-built roundhouse building (outdoor kitchen) after it was set on fire, leaving walls and ceiling burnt and damaged. We dedicated Trinity's Big Gig on Sun 13th July to the Community Garden, to help raise funds to repair the damage, adding to Incredible Edible donations and the help of the whole community that came out to show their support. Everyone came together over a week long period



to help with the re-build and we were able to complete the necessary works in record time.

A special thanks to volunteer Steve for watering the plants all summer and raising over £100 through the sale of his tomato plants! We also received a Churngold Environment grant after the fire and we now have a metal storage for all our wood and flammable materials.

Whilst winter has meant activities in the garden have come to a temporary halt until Spring, we've been busy behind the scenes. We've got funding from Bristol's Green Capital 2015 to run our monthly Sunday community day which will be kicking off in April next year. TCG is also planning to run a weekly children's after school group, a weekly community day and a weekly youth group. This is the most activity the garden has ever seen, so bring on Spring!

*"All the other spaces that are affordable for children's play schemes are indoors and it was really nice for them to be outside. It's healthier to be in contact with nature and have the connection with food. It was a life building experience for them."* Parent of Children's Quest participant



## Project: Friends of Trinity

The Friends of Trinity project builds on initial work undertaken over the last five years as part of TCA's community engagement strategy, aiming to build bridges across the many different languages, cultures, beliefs and values that our communities share. TCA identified key target groups as: local residents, volunteers, hirers, local not-for-profit groups/organisations, staff, gig-goers, Bristol musicians and artists.

With the help of Heritage Lottery Fund Catalyst Grant our Friends of Trinity project helped us to increase the organisation's capacity, freeing up existing staff from admin duties to develop our existing membership scheme. It strengthened our staff through professional collaborations with consultants and training, creating a greater pool for advocacy for the organisation.

We worked closely with Slack Communications, who helped us develop TCA's Marketing and Communication Strategy to promote the organisation, its services and events to relevant target audiences. This strategy aims to complement the Fundraising Strategy and Annual Plan provided by The Foundation for Social Improvement (FSI), identifying routes to increase people's knowledge of the organisation as a charity and recommendations towards developing and achieving our future fund development aims and objectives.

With the help of 2morrow2day we also hosted one-off separate forums for Non-users and Existing service users, as well as case studies, to draw new ideas and reflect diversity and local views. We covered three areas of engagement for TCA, asking questions and testing ideas for what could be achieved regarding: Community Involvement, Membership and Fundraising. This particular piece of work helped to put TCA in people's horizons and a new and renewed interest in the organisation and the building as such was sparked. 2014 saw our Board of Directors growing and diversifying, with 2 new members elected in our Annual General Meeting in September.

From 2002 to date Trinity has signed up 142 members (individuals and groups), collecting an annual £5 fee from each one of them, although not all of them have remained active or renewed their memberships. We currently have 27 active members but in 2015 we will be structuring our memberships in different levels, to be able to appeal to different individuals with different abilities to join in but also with diverse interests and levels of engagement with the organisation. Once we have established the membership packages we will recruit new members and work to keep them engaged, following our new Marketing and Fundraising Strategies.

Both strategies have been written in a way that will enable the Trinity team, within existing capacity and help of the Board, to implement key actions in accordance with an agreed schedule from March 2015. We will also be working on our monitoring indicators so we can adapt or modify our approach to our new strategies.

Throughout the life of the project we were able to expand our networks and local organisations and groups have become interested in being actively involved with TCA. We discovered that Trinity has a reputation for a place where heritage is valued and captured through a range of activities and projects delivered from the Centre and that our efforts to continued investment in this valuable historic building are recognised by the community.

*"I walk through Old Market every day and having read and heard the stories I now feel a much deeper connection with the place. I can now imagine the old butchers and music hall and I appreciate why Old Market has formed into the shape it is now in."* Oliver, volunteer





## Project: Youth Music

### Youth Music Makers

In April 2014 we made an application to extend the provision of our Youth Music Makers project until September 2014, using the underspend funds from our Youth Music grant. We extended our delivery by 6 months, enabling us to continue our engagement of young people in music making activities. With another round of publicity and maintaining the current students we had, we worked with 15 young people (13-21 yrs old) between April-September, providing over 230 hours of music contact time across our activities and getting 6 young people through Level 1 RockSchool.

### Kwaya Urban Choir / 1:1 sessions

Trinity's Urban Choir project 'Kwaya' started in 2013, funded by Bristol Plays Music' Soundsplash programme. At the end of the originally planned 31 sessions young people from this and other projects mentioned their interest in 1:1 instrumental tuition, especially piano and guitar. We quickly identified a need to move on towards quality of musical provision and focused work, where young musicians could be supported to progress their musical and other skills through music. With the remaining funding budget our 2 Music Tutors delivered 32 drop-in sessions, 3 specialised tutors ran 22 one to one sessions (guitar and Piano) from September 2014 to February 2015, engaging 8 young people and helping 2 of them to complete Level 1 RockSchool.

### Girls in Tune (Women in Music)

This project aimed to provide a series of music workshops for young women ages 14-21, focusing around urban and electronic music from April to December. The project enabled participants to engage in music workshops, learn skills and create their own music to share with friends, family and online. It provided a safe space for young women to explore their thoughts and feelings about their race, heritage, cultural differences around Bristol and how women are viewed in society. Our 6 participants had the opportunity to record their work, and 2 of them performed an acoustic set at our Xmas Art Market alongside Phoebe Langton-Beck (Music Tutor) in December.

### Summer Activities

We put together a wide range of summer activities for children and young people during summer, at Trinity, the Garden and AWS, including: Creative Play at AWS for under 5's and their carers; Children's Adventures in Nature for 6-12 yrs; Herbs for a Healthy Tasty Life for children 5+ and parents; Hype Dance (regular weekly dance class) for 5-18 yrs; Girls in Tune sessions for 14-21 yrs; Summer Music (training sessions) for NEET 15-18 yrs; Youth Music Makers drop-ins for 13-21 yrs; a Summer Podcast Project: The history of Old Market (radio & music production) and LitterArti recycling workshops and exhibition for all ages.

## Youth Training Programme

Dave Thomas, Training Coordinator

*"[The music sessions] had a massive impact with them learning new skills, giving them confidence and building self-esteem."* Include CFBT

Following the decision from City of Bristol College to not subcontract out ESF training for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) at the end of 2013, Trinity worked to build up a new contract partnership with lead provider Weston College.

Rita Gupta, Training Coordinator, began implementation of new course provision between February-July 2014. When Rita left, I had the pleasure of joining the Training Team as the new Training Coordinator. I had to pick up the pace really quick and started by strengthening our links with the Weston College team.

The Training Team spent a good part of the year networking and contacting colleges, agencies, education and training providers within the local area, working to build regular contacts and further develop Trinity's partnership links for learner referrals and progression routes. We have been able to explore new ways of working with SGS College Filton, Include CBFT, KTS, Learning Partnership West, City Of Bristol College, Youth Offending Team, Reform Training and The Princes Trust.

We updated our flyers, posters and booked ourselves in regular Ujima and BCFM radio slots, promoting Trinity's music provision and developing strong links with both stations. We also organised various outreach sessions with other organisations involved with NEETs in the city. Our Trinity Training Facebook page was used as an additional promotion tool and we found out that it was also a really good way to stay in contact with current and ex-students alike.

The hard promotional work and new links paid off and we successfully recruited 18 students for the period between August and December 2014. Most of the students have progressed into other informal and part-time learning, with six of the students going on into full-time learning.

In September, the Team managed to secure a table at the Ways to Work Jobfair at The Galleries, displaying our music flyers and handing out information to young people. We also went out for a mobile workshop session, taking record decks and handing out promotional material at the Juice Project in Cadbury Heath.

We have also been busy developing new links with other youth music providers in Bristol, including BIMM, Access to Music (ATM) and DBS. We have put together a 'progression route folder'. This is full of flyers, information and contacts of local college courses, apprenticeships, job and education agencies that offer relevant and realistic opportunities for learners to consider after their time at Trinity. ATM has become a favourite progression route for many of our students.

Third year music teaching students from BIMM have been helping to deliver observed 'micro teach' sessions with our students. We are planning to send our tutors out to observe lessons at BIMM, ATM and DBS to develop their practice and enhance overall quality. Our team also spent some time looking into their own professional development and we updated portfolios, amended lesson plans and student ILP's in line with Weston College and Ofsted requirements.

We closed the year by attending our first Bristol Plays Music (BPM) hub meeting, which undoubtedly will open doors for Trinity, as we become more involved as an active HUB partner.

*"I have really enjoyed my time at Trinity. The support and guidance I received has allowed me to follow my musical passion and express myself in my own unique way."* Jake, music student





## Project: Vice & Virtue - Discovering Old Market

*“Vice and Virtue is not merely valuable to the current local community but also to the dispersed former community...the number of people who attended and contributed to the reminiscence events and the steadily increasing attendances at the lecture series are evidence of local interest in the project.”* Christine, Vice & Virtue volunteer

This 18 month project, started in September 2013 funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, consists of oral history and reminiscence activities, designed to encourage members of the community to share their experiences, photos, documents and memorabilia around the history of the Old Market area. This rigorous research will culminate in June 2015 with an exhibition, booklet and heritage trail featuring all the work gathered through the life of the project.

In keeping with HLF guidelines and following our experience delivering past projects we brought together an excellent team of heritage professionals and interested volunteers.

Dr. Edson Burton started his post as a part-time Project Coordinator in October 2013 by conducting a preliminary research and designing, producing and disseminating press releases and flyers to generate initial interest in the project. We identified and linked with a number of key local history and organisational partners such as broadcaster and historian John Penny, Dr Madge Dresser (UWE), Steve Penny (UWE) Eugene Byrne, Delroy Hibbert, Leighton De Burca, Paul Bradbury, LinkAge and LGBT Forum.

After a highly competitive recruitment process at the beginning of 2014, we appointed local historian, writer and publicist Mike Manson to the role of Archival Researcher. His range of skills and extensive networks gave him the edge over the field.

Over the year 14 volunteers signed up to the project, helping with research, contributing with contacts as well as supporting access to resources and delivering events. Volunteers ages ranged from 13 to 60 and many have come from professional, creative and academic sectors. Edson encouraged volunteers to pursue mini projects, involving the use of oral and archival sources, on the varying aspects of Old Market, which led to a wealth of material emerging on Russell's Pawn Shop, Kingsley Hall and Methodist Central Hall.

In order to build team spirit, support and guide volunteers with their research, Edson and Mike established a regular weekly Tuesday drop-in and bi-monthly Saturday meetings, to share research and information at Arts West Side.



*"I walk through Old Market every day and having read and heard the stories I now feel a much deeper connection with the place. I can now imagine the old butchers and music hall and I appreciate why Old Market has formed into the shape it is now in." Oliver, Vice & Virtue volunteer*

Volunteers were trained in how to conduct research both in using primary printed resources and in oral history by attending the following workshops and sessions: an Introduction to Oral History by Dr Madge Dresser; an Introduction to Bristol Reference Library by archivist Jane Bradley; two Introductions to Bristol Record Office by archive assistant Matt Coles and a Writing History Workshop by project archivist Mike Manson.

Our major form of public engagement has been through a series of talks (reminiscence sessions) by local and national experts on the many aspects of Old Market's History. We looked beneath the area's reputation and explored the many cultures that have lived here, its national significance as an area of architectural conservation and key moments of historical interest:

**24/06/14 - Bread & Batons:** Dr Roger Ball explored the clashes between National Union of Unemployed Workers that led to the 1932 Bristol riots

**09/07/14 - Coming Out in Rainbows:** Berkeley Wilde (Diversity Trust), in partnership with LGBT Forum, explored the services and clubs that have given the area its unique character

**22/07/14 - Sex Work, Myths & Facts:** Representatives of the English Collective of Prostitutes provided an insiders view of sex work in Britain, challenging public perceptions

**26/08/14 - A Night at the Cinema:** John Penny & Clive Burlton recreated the cinema experience of the 1950s & 1960s at the ABC Cinema in Old Market using rarely seen film

**02/09/14 - Methodist Central Hall:** Dr Angela Connelly explored the rise, role and decline of this vital Methodist institution, part of the new industrial classes

**30/09/14 - Remaking Bristol:** Mike Hooper explored the impact of post war urban planning decisions on ordinary lives that reshaped the communities of Bristol

**21/10/14 - The 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion:** Clive Burlton revealed some of the personal stories of the Gloucestershire Regiment in WW1

**28/10/14 - Black GI's in Britain:** Prof. Neil Wynn explored the impact of US racial politics on war time Britain (1943), when tensions spilled over into full blown fighting on the streets of Old Market

**25/11/14 - Old Market Uncovered:** Mike Manson rewrote our understanding of Old Market, shedding a light on the secret service investigations, retail dynasties, charity work, etc

The talks attracted diverse audiences responding to specific themes and as the series gathered momentum it attracted a core audience with a general interest in the area's history, with an average attendance of 25 people aged between 18 to 80.





*"[The project] greatly enriched my understanding of local history and it stimulated an interest... Being part of this project, I came into contact with people I wouldn't normally meet. I would definitely volunteer for this type of project in the future."* Louise, Vice & Virtue volunteer

In February we partnered with the LGBT Forum to host a social dance (reminiscence session), leading to some useful contacts with members of the local constabulary who were in attendance, and the event led to other LGBT Dances as part of Pride week in July, Celebrating Age Festival in October and a further one in December, promoted and supported by LinkAge. These events led to successful links to interviewees but also created an additional opportunity for people who had not taken part in the talks to feed into the project.

Members of the public have shared many of their Old Market recollections informally through conversations and ad hoc visits to the Trinity Centre, Arts West Side. The Vice & Virtue team also gathered a number of anecdotes, quotes and interest from visitors to Trinity's annual community events (Garden Party & Our Big Gig) where a temporary exhibition was on display.

By the end of the year we launched our Short Story Competition. Writers were asked to submit fiction or non fiction accounts, of 2000 words max relating to Old Market. Edson has recruited writer and creative writer Rosemary Dun to judge the entrants, and Tangent Books will supply a range of books to the winner, who will be announced in 2015.

The project has captured the voices of local former workers and employees but also some of the most hard to reach voices such as female sex workers. By the end of 2014 the team had conducted 18 of the target 20 interviews. It will be all hands on deck as we approach the final phase of the project, pulling together the content – photographs, written & oral testimonies, archival references – into a Vice & Virtue booklet, online heritage trail and a semi-permanent exhibition to be launched in 2015.







## **Project: Ignite Arts**

**Rhiannon Jones, Programmes Manager**

The Ignite Project is a formalisation of our charitable aim to ensure access to the arts for all. Across 2014 we have focused on moving from a 'venue for hire' model, toward being more actively in control of our programme through direct event delivery, co-promotions and partnership development.

As part of this focus, we sought to expand the Events Team has with the appointment of two interns through the Creative Employment Programme. This enabled us to increase our capacity and manage extra administration and delivery required to deliver in-house events.

We have helped to programmed events targeted towards local audiences, including our Garden Party, Our Big Gig, Pop Up Cinema and Fireworks Party. These events benefited from Big Lottery funded improvements to the external grounds, as well as from the good weather we have had throughout the year.

The Garden Party had a great turn out of over 1100 people through the gates and a full programme of live music including Gorgon Sound, Baraka, Mr Woodnote featuring Lil' Rhys and The Fantasy Orchestra. Our Big Gig was more family and workshop focused and featured activities such as drumming, circus and mask-making workshops as well as live music.

The launch of our Outdoor Cinema provided an alternative low-cost night out for the local community, working with Know Alternative, an activity we hope to expand on in 2015. Fireworks night party was another successful event with 1,250 people attending and many staying post display to enjoy live music from Bristol Afrobeat Project. By keeping our publicity local we are able to ensure we reach our target community for an evening of celebration.

This year our in-house promotions included our re-launch event for the newly refurbished Fyfe Hall. We brought together Adrian Utley's Guitar Orchestra, Young Echo, Peverelist, Asusu and Smith & Mighty giving a taste of past, present and future of local artists who have performed at the Centre. This allowed us to showcase our new space, celebrate our achievements and test our in-house programming capabilities.





Jazz Jamaica, Arifa, Resonators and This Is The Kit, each bringing a different audience and expanding our musical offer. The Resonators was our greatest success, 404 people attended and a overall profit of £3.5k. This Is The Kit also brought in an audience of 369 and £2k profit. While Jazz Jamaica and Arifa events did not perform as well in terms of ticket sales, these events helped us to reach different audiences and enabled us to identify areas for development. Throughout 2015 we will be reviewing our costings, ticket pricing and event timings in order to improve our in-house programme. We are working on minimising risk through raising funds to purchase of our own equipment as well as increasing our marketing capacity.

The development of our upstairs hall space has helped us to provide more affordable, accessible and high quality service for all users and budgets. We have focused on building our partnerships in theatre and dance to expand our artistic programme and provided rehearsal space for emerging artists appealing to new audiences.

We focused our resources on programming around Black History Month, to provide an array of different events in October. This included *Amsterdam* by Chanje Kunda & *The Ultimate Seduction* by Isadora Vibes, creating an evening of spoken word performance. Also *A Brush With Immortality* exhibition and film, exploring the life of Henrietta Lacks. *Reggae Inna Space*, *Tangled Roots* and *Scenes Sound Systems and Shebeens* all added to this diverse programme, which helped to engage a wide and local audience in the arts.

Additional partnerships have been forged around theatre and dance and discussions have led to a stronger worker relationship with Theatre Bristol and Bristol Ferment as well as individual artists. This has led to participation in significant city wide festivals including Ausform presenting *Intercourse* by Louise Ahl and *Cosas* by Alma Söderberg; Bristol Biennial, presenting *Secret Gig* by Justyna Scheruing as well as confirmation of involvement in Mayfest 2015, IBT15 and Solo Forum Showcase next year.

We are currently researching funding opportunities to support artist development within the Centre so watch this space. Our initial Grants for the Arts application received positive response and despite not successfully securing funding, however we are optimistic about the upcoming Ignite programme.



*Damon Albarn & The Seven Seas  
by Bryan Angelinetta*

## Live Music

*"Trinity Bristol is a fantastic space with endless possibilities and a truly musical spirit"*  
Damon Albarn

It has been a strong year for Trinity in terms of events, hires and income, also in terms of the development of our overall programme and the quality of the events hosted within the building. Our programme has grown and our public events have increased from 159 at the end of 2013 to 222 in 2014. In addition to this we have also seen an increase in the diversity of events from conferences and business launches to film screening, dance competitions and showcases.

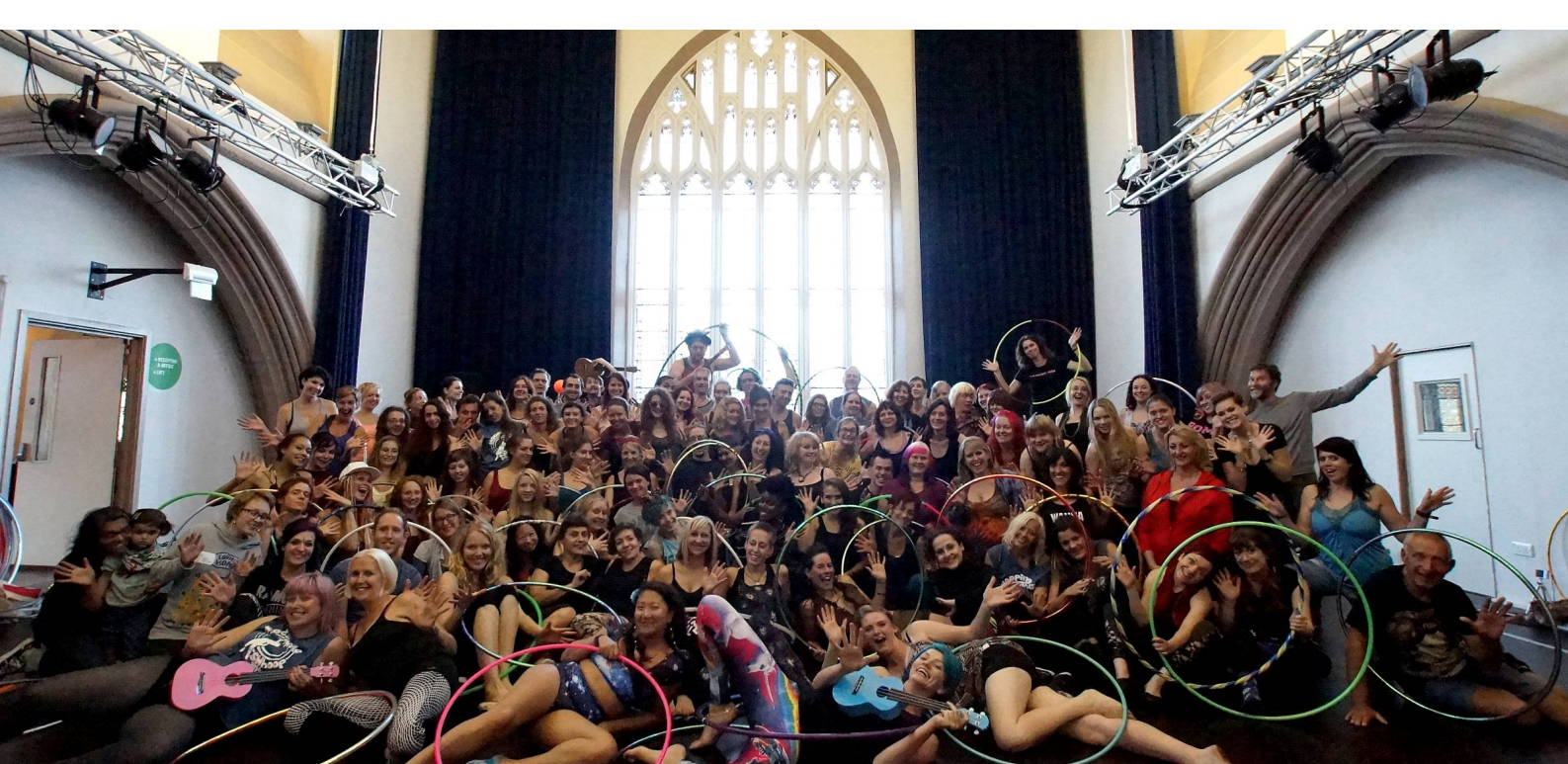
Despite major construction work taking place for the first three months, our live music programme grew from 23 events last year compared to 38 in 2014. This has impacted positively on our overall bar income, helping us to support our projects, activities and subsidised space provision.

Our live music highlights this year came from rising stars such as FKA Twigs, Tuneyards, The Pierces and Submotion Orchestra as well as seasoned favorites such as Damon Albarn, who chose to host one of only three warm-up gigs here at Trinity making his fourth appearance at the Centre in recent years. Morcheeba, performed another warm up gig to a sell out crowd in the Autumn with Skye Edwards dazzling the audience with her charms. Swans, Chrisse Hynde, Hugh Cornwall, Hazel O'Connor and Throwing Muses featuring Tanya Donnelly added to the list of great artists who have performed with the centre. Swedish masked, tribal, psych rockers Goat performed to a packed house with incredible live retro kaleidoscope visuals.

New partnerships have been developed with major promoters such as Metropolis and AGMP and long established partnerships have continued to grow with The Fleece, DHP and SJM. We have continued to work with promoters to deliver regular events such as headlined this year by Dot to Dot, Festival Real, Estate, Courtney Barnett. Teachings in Dub and Planet Shroom continue to go from strength to strength as well as some of our one off late night highlights include LTJ Bukem, helping Lion Pulse celebrate their first birthday and a massive NYE party to end the year on. This year we worked with Tremor and After Dark who brought a fabulous night of entertainment, live music, walkabout theatre featuring Slamboree Sound System and Dutty Moonshine.

Thanks go out to our Events Team and new security team, Metropolis, who have worked together to deliver a fun, safe events programme.





## Venue

*“Our activities at Trinity have been a great success over the past few years and our initiatives have always been supported with Trinity's staff time, access to facilities and equipment. We've also really appreciated the fact that Trinity have been willing to approach all our discussions as partners working on events that benefit local communities, rather than simply as venue manager to venue hirer.”* David Zilkha, Director, Swing Dance Bristol

We have successfully re-opened our upstairs halls and launched a beautiful new space perfect for dance, theatre and alternative music performances as well as conferences and weddings. The addition of a second hall-space has allowed us to maximise centre use and avoid cancelling classes and regular groups when hosting large commercial events, which is important for finding a balance between our charitable activities and hire revenue streams.

Mayfest, Bristol Swing Dance, Cameroonian National Day, Anarchist Bookfair and South West Hoop have gone from strength to strength. Bump Roller Disco has grown, regularly selling out their monthly events and introducing a second daytime event for children and families, 'Lil' Bumpers'.

We also secured our License for Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships and successfully hosted our first official ceremony, with more bookings for the coming year. Feedback has been brilliant and many of our new bookings come from word of mouth or attendance at previous events. We seem to have struck a good balance between afford-ability and income generation and this will provide a great alternative income over the traditionally quiet summer months.

In addition to wedding we also delivered private events and parties. Our ability to host business launches, conferences and meetings has benefited by having the upstairs hall with our refurbished Graffiti Room providing the perfect breakout space for refreshments. The introduction of drapes for the downstairs hall at the end of the year will also hopefully increase the viability of this space for meetings as many bookings are interested in using the whole building for multi-room conferences.

Bar Manager Sarah Ferrie and her Assistant Manager Alex Stanley have helped to improve profit margins in this area across the year and regular events meetings have allowed the Programme Team to work more closely together particularly on more complex events such as conferences and weddings. Our bar turnover has increased from £183k in 2013 to £266k for 2014. Overall, with venue footfall increasing from a 31,000 to over 40,000 across all activities and events at the centre, the future is looking very bright for Trinity.



## Building

*"We have enjoyed excellent relationships with the staff here, whose flexibility and professional conduct have helped us sustain a strong continuity of delivery. We have appreciated over the years the terrific improvements made to the infrastructure and to the increased services to the community."* Drs Stephen Robins & Emma Kerr, SWhoop Hula Hoop Convention, hosted annually at the Trinity Centre

This year, thanks to a recent repair scheme to our lead roof and the Trinity Centre Redevelopment Project, the Trinity Centre was removed from the English Heritage 'at risk' register in October 2014.

The development and improvement of the premises, to maximise community benefit and potential revenue to ensure sustainability for any group running the space, has been a vision for many since as early as 1976.

The space has had several periods of significant investment, including the construction of an intermediate concrete floor and replacement of several windows by Bristol City Council between 1987-1991.

Ambitions to conserve the building and develop the space as a hub for community, arts, youth and education activities can be seen in early drawings by then architect, George Ferguson in 1977 and Bristol City Council's business plan for the Centre from 1989, which related to the installation of the existing second floor and proposals to install a mezzanine to create additional training spaces.

Since acquiring the building in 2003, TCA have carried out alteration works to adapt the space to improve accessibility so it can be used by all areas of our community. The Trinity Centre programme of capital works has been phased to ensure areas can be completed in discrete stages to improve likelihood of achieving funding and reduce impact on ongoing provision. Former work phases have included installing a lift, training rooms and accessible toilets to help improve access to community training resources on the first floor.

Recently completed phases, 2013-2014, included a repair works scheme to the South Aisle lead roof funded by English Heritage and match funders and a development works programme to bring the upstairs hall space into use, funded by Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities Buildings and match funders.



Our facilities team have also worked to carry out maintenance and repair works supported by small grants funding from groups such as landfill trusts and our own income generation to make the centre a better place to be. In 2014 thanks to a grant from the Clothworkers Foundation, we renovated our outdated kitchen, to provide a clean, modern environment for the community groups who use our space to prepare and serve food. Following Trinity's recent successes, we have provided advice to many other community and arts venues around their leases and capital projects.

With building of Trinity's size and importance, there is still much investment needed to realise the full extent of this facility. Planned applications for coming years include Heritage Lottery Fund for a repair scheme to our stained glass windows. We are also making improvements to greening the venue – this included installation of LED lighting at the end of 2014 in order to reduce our emissions and save on energy costs.

We have also recently launched the **Make Trinity COOLER Appeal** to raise funds to improve our hall by installing a new air-extract system. We believe venues like the Trinity Centre make Bristol a great city. We hope that people give what they can, so that we can make the centre a nicer place for everyone, as well as helping to make Trinity more sustainable.

People can text donate to HOTT65 [and the amount you would like to donate] to 70070 or make a donation via Just Giving: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trinitycool](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/trinitycool)





*Morcheeba  
by Nathan Hicks*

## Finance

In 2013 we ended the year with a small profit, however carried forward a £20,000 deficit from 2012. Following on from Trinity's 2013 Turnaround Plan, we developed a plan for 2014, to address both short-term deficit issues whilst working towards achieving long-term viability. We worked towards consolidating and building our services and income streams with the aim of improving our financial position. In particular, this involved replacing lost income from our car park when long-standing hirers Avon and Somerset Constabulary gave notice that they no longer required permits.

With limited core funding, Trinity is reliant on income generated by the car park to cover core costs, including £25,000 utilities, £15,000 insurances and licences and £10,000 professional fees such as auditing. As of 1 April, Trinity hired the services of Car Park Management and we now offer a Pay and Display facility. This is increasing in its use and, while we are not yet at the same levels of income as with permits, this way of management also provides us with greater flexibility as we are better able to accommodate visitors to the centre as well as those working in and around the area.

In 2014 we also focused on maximising our potential as a community arts hub through capital works to bring our second hall space into use. This was completed within 2014 and, while there was some disruption to activities and hires in the first quarter of the year, the overall impact on our financial position was immediately positive, already helping us to generate an additional £5k in hire income for the year in comparison to the previous year, with the future looking bright for 2015.

With more accurate monitoring of our funded project activities - thanks to a new Quickbooks accounting system and the development and implementation of more effective procedures and processes - these activities were able to take place without requiring additional revenue for unforeseen spends. We were fortunate to receive a generous donation of £20,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation towards our core costs, which enabled us to focus resources on developing activities around the newly redeveloped upstairs hall.

While our new training contract with Weston College got off to a slow start, the appointment of new Training Coordinator Dave Thomas has seen great success for this service contract. While the contract is not yet contributing towards all the costs associated with the project, support from other funders such as Merchant Venturers towards core costs has enabled us to subsidise this activity.

Our bar continues to be our biggest revenue stream, contributing towards over a quarter of our core costs. Highest grossing events included Rough Assembly and New Year's Eve Countdown Carnival, each generating over £3,000 which helped place us in a position of profit for 2014.

Financial forecasts for 2015 are based on a modest growth of previous activities, with a focus on the development of our live events programme, private functions hire, car park hire and training services. Our aim for 2015 is to be in a position of holding a small reserve at year end, which we can build on in order to ensure Trinity is a robust, solvent organisation for the future.



## Team

People bring buildings to life. This new section of our annual report is dedicated to sharing the stories of our fantastic team members who work tirelessly to make all the Trinity magic happen...

### **Ripley's story**

I became an intern at Trinity during November 2013 through the Creative Employment Programme. During my internship I worked on various projects within Trinity and developed skills such as minuet taking, event organising and working within the community.

One day a week I worked with Sarah, the Project Co-ordinator for Arts West Side and helped her run and manage the building. Over my six-month internship I attended meetings with her and helped organise events and activities as well as helping to promote the space as an arts venue. I learned how to co-ordinate activities and how to work with and support people who wish to run workshops, helping them to develop their project ideas within the space.

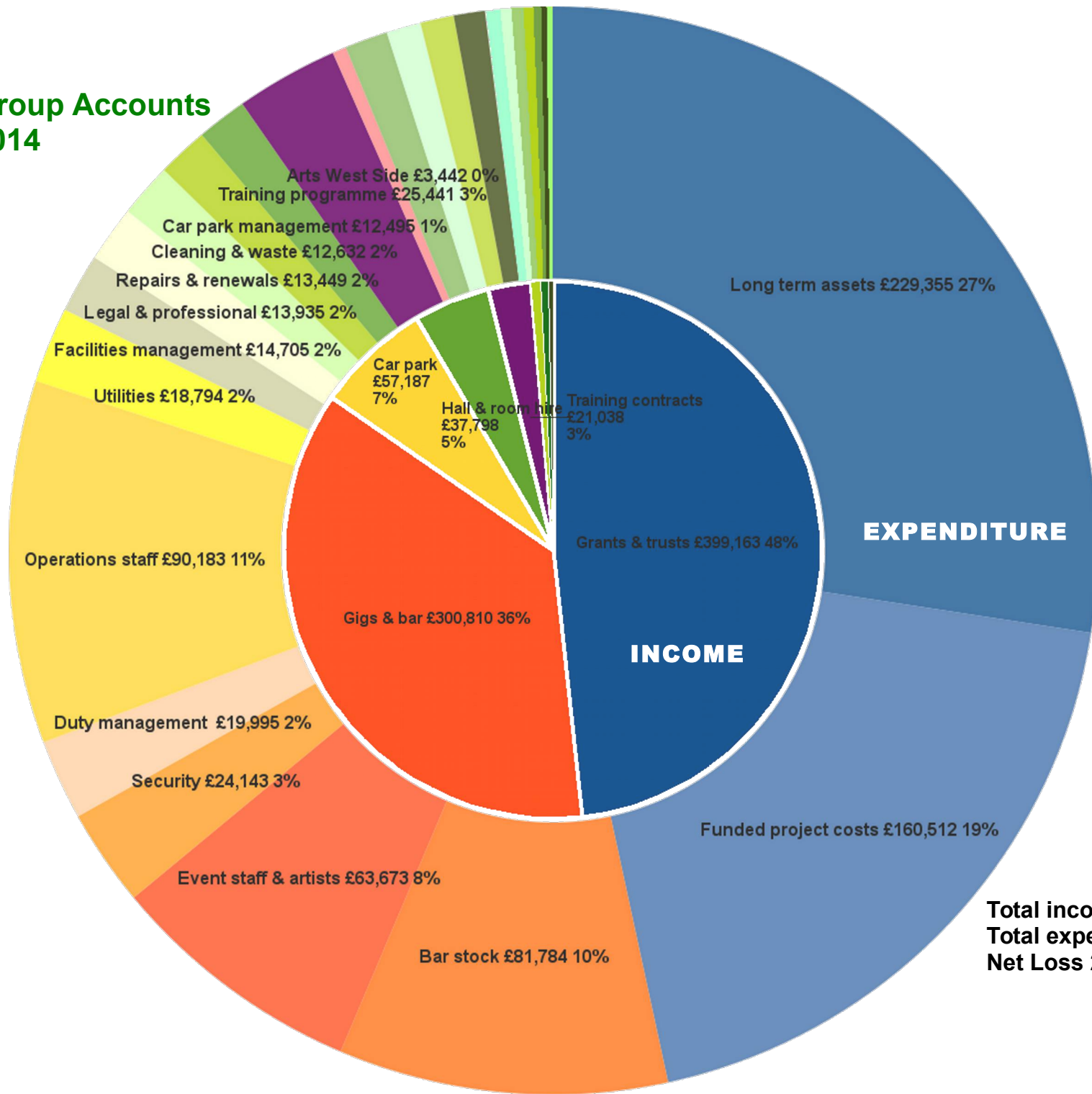
I also learned about another project, Vice and Virtue. Dr. Edson Burton, who is the Project Co-ordinator, worked with me to enable me to learn from aspects of his project. I took minutes within meetings that he ran with volunteers and members of the public who were interested in getting involved in learning more about Old Market. Edson also showed me how to interview members of the public and the best ways to get interesting pieces of information and stories from them.

During my internship I also assisted Rhiannon, the Programmes Manager and Jamell, the Events Coordinator. I helped plan, promote, run and evaluate regular public events such as our Garden Party and the New Years Eve event as well as the launch of Fyfe Hall. They taught me how to manage various aspects of an event such as décor and engaging with stallholders. I also learned how to work with outside hirers who wish to hold their own events. Be it a community activity such as Hype Dance - a weekly dance group for young people - or a private event such as a wedding or conference, I helped take bookings, set up for the events and manage the schedule on the day.

I learnt a lot of things during my time as an intern and have developed skills that I would have had the opportunity to develop if I had not had my internship with Trinity.

A combination of a friendly team of people who are patient and willing to share their knowledge about working within the community sector and the working environment itself has really reinforced my desire to work somewhere that benefits the community in a creative and expressive way.

# Group Accounts 2014



**Total income**      £827,080  
**Total expenditure**   £836,538  
**Net Loss 2014**        -£9458



## Partners & Supporters

Special thanks to all those who have worked with us and supported us this year including:

- Awaz Utaoh for delivering a weekly women's drop-in service at Trinity
- Bond Dickinson for ongoing support with legal and professional services
- Bristol Samba, Hype Dance, SWHoop & regular hirers who stuck with us through building works
- CW Dukes and subcontractors for all their hard work to deliver the Big Lottery capital works
- Dot2Dot, DHP, The Fleece & music partners for providing a diverse music programme
- Elizabeth Glasbey & Nixey Powell for QS services to deliver the Big Lottery capital works
- FairShare South West for helping to provide food for our project activities and volunteers
- Incredible Edible for their donations to help us rebuild our outdoor kitchen after a fire
- Jelli Records for working with Trinity to host a series of folk and acoustic gigs
- John Bos, Louise Baker, Simon Cook & Bristol City Council for ongoing support
- Jonathan Platt, Tom Mellor & GCP Architects for supporting delivery of our capital works
- UjimaFM for working with us to deliver the Digital Activism Project
- Leyhill HMP staff and volunteers in the delivery of our ex-offenders volunteering scheme
- LGBT Forum for engaging in our projects and help us deliver activities to improve our programme for the LGBT community
- LitterArti for raising awareness about rubbish and sustainability through workshops and exhibition
- Link Age for delivering activities to improve our programme for older people
- Mayfest, Solo Forum, Ausform & other arts partners for some great performances
- Metropolis Security working with us to host all our large public events
- Old Market Community Association for working together to help improve the Old Market area
- Paul King Sound Reinforcement & PA Companies for professional technical sound provision
- Nimbus & Simon Cartlidge Architects for delivering our Roof Repair project
- Sparker Onj & Steve Woodsy for delivering our spectacular community fireworks display
- Tomorrows Warriors for working with us to provide a new series of workshops for young people
- Tony Holdom & The Misfits for working with us each year to put on the best disco in town!

## Funders

- Awards for All - Activate West Side project
- Bristol Youth Community Action (BYCA) Holiday Activity Fund (Quartet) - Children's Quests
- Big Lottery Reaching Communities Buildings Fund - The Trinity Centre Development Project
- Bristol City Council - Key Arts Provider
- Bristol Community Buildings Fund - LED lighting
- Bristol Plays Music – Kwaya/1:1
- Business West & Youth Wage Incentive - Creative Employment Programme
- Churngold Environmental Fund (Quartet) – Garden Shed
- Clothworkers Foundation - Kitchen refit
- Comic Relief (Quartet) - Trinity Community Garden Activities
- Easton and Lawrence Hill Community First Fund – Girls in Tune (Young Women in Music)
- Foyle Foundation - Equipment
- Garfield Weston - Core costs
- Heritage Lottery Fund Catalyst Grant - Friends of Trinity Project
- Heritage Lottery 'Your Heritage Grant', Quartet Express Programme, Old Market Community Association - Vice & Virtue Project
- Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust - New gas boiler
- Merchant Venturers Charitable Trust - Core costs
- Quartet Community Foundation – Wild Walks for Wellbeing project
- Youth Music - Youth Music Makers project

**Plus a huge thank you goes to our hard working staff, committed board and dedicated volunteers, who make the Trinity Centre, Garden and Arts West Side such amazing and vibrant spaces!**