

Trinity Community Arts (TCA) Ltd



Annual Report – 2006



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Trinity Community Arts – Creative Expression for All

Trinity Community Arts Ltd (TCA) provides space for a culturally diverse programme of community and arts activities. We deliver a range of imaginative and inclusive projects and events at **The Trinity Centre** – a working hub for the Bristol arts, digital music, video, multi-media and performing arts scene.

Creative Expression for All

TCA's mission is to use the Centre to engage the local community of all ages in imaginative and socially inclusive projects. We want to:

- Continue to provide a community hub for digital music, video, multi-media, visual and performing arts projects
- Develop an extensive range of culturally diverse community and arts activities for all ages, backgrounds and abilities
- Contribute to regeneration, by supporting local initiatives and prioritising resources for education and training
- Promote access and sustainability awareness in all areas of our activities
- Form links with other agencies and organisations in these areas

Aims

With the help of the people from Lawrence Hill, Easton, Ashley and the wider Bristol community, we work towards:

- Improving social cohesion through providing space for meetings, information, advice and guidance, access to communications, and engaging activities
- Providing and facilitating training, workshops and other forms of education, to empower the local community in the use of arts, media and communication technologies
- Involving and engaging local people in the activities of the Centre by publishing a newsletter and through an interactive website, broadcasting community radio and TV, forming specific task groups and partnering with other community organisations and networks
- Maintaining and developing the cultural heritage of the building
- Making the Centre and its activities socially and environmentally sustainable through the adoption of appropriate technologies, use of sustainable materials, and by maximising energy-efficiency
- Promoting and supporting open and democratic technologies, and raising awareness of free software
- Developing regional arts networks by facilitating live performances, exhibitions, meetings, seminars, training and conferences
- Building and maintaining an accessible and secure database of local artists, arts providers, arts support agencies, business and arts funding
- Offering access to the Centre's resources through Time Exchange currencies; providing opportunities to gain Time Exchange currency credits and assisting in their administration





Chair's Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have come together here and helped Trinity to become what it is today. I am always impressed by the passion people have for keeping this place alive and in particular the amount of volunteer time given. We appreciate the continued support from our funders, partner organisations, volunteers and neighbours. Trinity Community Arts Ltd (TCA) owes its existence to you all.

TCA has moved forward significantly. We are offering training opportunities in music technology, engineering and internet radio, realising our objectives as outlined in our mission statement. We are very pleased with the newest member of staff, the Young Person's Training Coordinator and fundraiser Ines Hughes. Part of the focus for the next twelve months is to concentrate heavily on delivering our training objectives and building on our community successes.

Our administrator Mel West continues to be the backbone of the organisation, coping with our continued expansion and ensuring continuity of service during the growth we have experienced over the last year. Mel has skilfully dealt with the problems created by the diverse nature of the community groups and organisations that wish to use the space, and continues to promote Trinity positively and effectively.

Generally we all feel very positive about the future but recognise that there is a limit to the level of voluntary help we receive. There is a need for more staff to run this large and diverse project and for this we need to provide more office space. As we develop we hope we will receive continued support from the local authority and other funders to ensure this valuable resource we have here in Bristol is not wasted and is developed to its full potential. We are very pleased with the increased use of the space for community activities, and at present we are able to hire out the main hall, upstairs hall, recording studio and meeting room. On all of our weekday evenings we have regular classes and courses running in the main hall and we are making progress with more day time bookings. We are continuing to improve the first floor hall, training rooms and gardens so that we can develop and extend our community resources and training opportunities. This has been helped by TCA securing funding from Objective Two for development of the building which is due to start in 2007. The project will involve relocating and upgrading our recording studio, installing a lift and building much needed wash-rooms upstairs. Bristol City Council's Equalities Fund and Yansec have also offered financial support, with match funding and donations in kind provided by TCA.

Trinity has a legacy as a live and alternative music venue and we are continuing to support and promote Bristol's local artists, whilst also showcasing major national and international artists. The income generated from such events is very important to our local economy and generates a variety of work opportunities. In September we entered into a partnership with Muse Music to program and run evening events here. Muse has attracted promotion companies such as SJM and Metropolis. So watch this space.

All here at Trinity hold the vision of what this project may become with the help and support from our funders, the council and the residents of Bristol. We all firmly believe this project can and will develop into a renowned centre of excellence in the South West and become one of the finest jewels in Bristol's crown.

Matthew Hewitt - Chair



Community Activities Report



This year has seen many changes at The Trinity Centre. The organisation has been finding its feet and getting more settled into the magnificent space of this Grade II Listed Building. There have been many challenges and new developments.

I have been working hard to get the organisation up and running, finding creative solutions to some of our problems, finding workable ways to move forward, and acting as the central point of communication for the many users of the centre. From humble beginnings (in a small and chaotic office!) more people have become aware of this amazing space and I have seen the number of community events and activities taking place here grow and grow. Trinity Community Arts Ltd (TCA) is proud to have been able to provide space and support for over fifty organisations to hold their activities and events here in 2006. Many of these organisations have returned for further bookings. We would like to offer special thanks to the teachers and students in our regular evening classes for continuing to use the centre - Bristol Samba and Hype Dance Company. Thanks also go to two new additions to our evening class programme - Kung Fu Lau Gar with Leonard Jackson and Wing Chun with Liam Duggan.

“Trinity is a wonderful space for us to use. There is plenty of room for us to rehearse with good acoustics. Everyone at Trinity is really accommodating and we are happy to be based here.”
Deborah Paproska, Bristol Samba

“Trinity is a great venue for me because there is lots of space for all the local kids to come and practise and learn new skills at my dance classes.”
Tasha Benjamin, Hype Dance Company



There has been a truly diverse and inspiring range of community activities which have taken place over the last year. Rehearsal space has been provided for productions such as Kompany Malakhi's 'A Hiphopstory', which included an international cast of actors, musicians and break-dancers in this original work. We have been happy to work with other local organisations such as ACTA to host their cabaret evenings for adults with learning difficulties.

“Trinity has provided an invaluable space for us by getting people with learning difficulties out into the community and doing what everyone else does. Thanks for helping to make our Rhythm of the Night events a great success.”

Tony, Misfits Theatre (supported by ACTA)

A number of theatre and dance groups and musicians have rehearsed and run workshops over the course of this year. Several fundraising events have taken place with bands and cabaret acts organised by local people. Money has been donated to organisations close to home, such as the St Werburgh's City Farm, and further afield, such as a benefit night which raised funds for an AIDS support project in Malawi.

There have been many different daytime activities taking place such as business advice sessions, workshops, public meetings and training sessions, community networking days and celebrations. One highlight was a visit from Tony Benn, speaking at a Stop the War Coalition meeting, to a packed and attentive audience. Also in 2006 a successful retro market place has been launched at Trinity, with dozens of stalls selling a weird and wonderful range of retro goods, and an organic cafe serving delicious food for when you are all shopped out. This event was a huge success and is now a regular quarterly fixture in our calendar.



“The Trinity Centre has given me the opportunity to hire a beautiful venue with superb facilities and staff on hand at an affordable rate.”

Retro Lex, Retro and Flea Market Organiser

In the late spring myself and colleague Ines Hughes attacked The Trinity Centre's office and meeting room with sugar soap, sand paper and paint (not to mention our best singing voices) to improve two cluttered and scruffy spaces. Fresh coats of paint, a sand and a polish of the parquet flooring and several old pieces of furniture in a skip later, both spaces

looked revitalised and transformed. It is now possible to have meetings in a brighter, more inspiring space and to get more than one person into the Trinity office at a time! A definite result.

We have been glad to welcome local schools into The Trinity Centre on several occasions this year for educational and fun activities. A young people's interfaith conference saw school children getting involved in workshops and discussion groups and during the day a circle of olive trees, with messages of peace attached, were planted outside. Another event was held which included a film showing, as part of the schools awareness week, to address the issues of drugs and crime for young people in the area.

This year has also seen the arrival of the Easton Community Garden Centre group who are in the process of transforming our garden. Raised beds have been built, a seating area and polytunnel constructed and many other areas of the garden will be re-planted and re-designed. Workshops have included pallet chair making and tree pruning with many more activities planned.

“Easton Community Garden Centre has been given the opportunity to get their hands dirty by improving the Trinity Centre garden. Fruit trees have been planted, raised beds created and outdoor workshops have taken place. Our aim is to establish a co-operative and not-for-profit enterprise, eventually regenerating several areas across Easton.”

Jenny Bull, Easton Community Garden Centre

Towards the end of 2006 I organised the annual Trinity bonfire extravaganza, which was funded this year by TCA to provide a free and accessible evening of entertainment for the local community. The event was characterised by beautiful lighting, lovely food and drinks, and an impressive fireworks display.



A final thank you to everyone who has offered us words of encouragement, feedback and advice, given their energy through volunteering, and hired out or visited the centre for their activities over 2006. We appreciate your enthusiasm and support and we intend to make Trinity go from strength to strength so that it's here for people to use for many years to come.

Mel West - Administrator



Events Report



The Trinity Centre is famous for its diverse and exciting events and this year was no exception. We were visited by countless touring visual, musical and dramatic artists and engineers who transformed both indoors and outside. This included an extra special outdoor light show and fantastic fireworks display on bonfire night among other outdoor exhibitions. We also staged a range of other events, from the innovative art exhibitions to community fancy dress parties.

From this year onwards The Trinity Centre is able to stage public entertainments events both in the front area of the upstairs space and outside, including live music. This is thanks to a new aspect of the current entertainments law which allows a limited number of applications for Temporary Events Notices to be made to the City Council and Police Authority. This also means that theatre events are now taking place and has enabled the future expansion of cabaret night Arumdo, and facilitated events such The Family Gathering's Winter Solstice Party, run by the group who organise the Sunrise Festivals.

We made use of the Trinity Centre's garden and grounds for arts activities on a number of other occasions, including the city-wide annual inter-faith tree planting ceremony, and local people regularly exhibited and performed. Notable events included the Action Time Vision's film and theatre showcases with local young people.

In 2006 we focused more on live music and local talent, staging several Music Time Bank events in collaboration with Umbrella MELTS, enabling local musicians to earn time credits to spend in the Trinity Centre's future recording studio and new music suite.

Faith-based events

The Trinity Centre has hosted a variety of cultural and faith-based events in the evening. There have been weddings and engagement parties for many different faith groups. There have also been religious and cultural celebrations at Christmas, Eid, Solstice, and Ramadhan. Overall this has reflected the diverse community that the Trinity Centre serves with Somalian, Asian, Caribbean and other African settlers working to stage successful events, both independently and together with groups such as The Asian Arts Agency and Awaz Utaoh. The last of these was held in December 2006 with an event run by Awaz Utaoh, a multi-cultural and multi-faith celebration to raise local awareness of winter and autumn cultural events such as Christmas and Diwali.

Public entertainments

In 2006 Trinity hosted a total of 63 public entertainments events including 'The Battle of Britain' national breakdancing competition, classical Indian music concerts, Muslim women-only dances, and religious and family celebrations. We also hosted combined arts showcases combining visual, multimedia and performing arts with the music gig and art gallery experience. This is not to mention the wealth of national and international acts who performed live, some broadcast live over the internet, including Zion Train, Paolo Nutini, Alabama 3, The Slitz, Horace Andy, Babyhead's album launch, Four Tet, Jah Tubby, Oxjam, Aba Shanti-i, Tom McCrae, The Mystery Jets, The Easy Star All Stars and many more.

Arts installations

The Trinity Centre is now recognized for its innovative arts installations. This year's late-night events included the visionary décor of Alpha Wave and Arumdo, with Vision-On's complex lighting shows. The regular cabaret and live music of Arumdo with five star dinner services, organised by local people, transformed the centre with their unique table layout, decor and lighting. All these events are also designed to be affordable for local people.

Young people's events

Trinity Community Arts have produced several evening entertainments events for young people, encouraging under-18s to become actively involved in events such as the 'Big Up' event, funded by The Big Boost. Workshops took place leading up to the event, with young people choreographing dance and composing original songs specifically for this event, and performing to over three hundred other local young people. This event also provided the opportunity for the Trinity Centre's music, dance and internet radio students to try out their newly found skills.

"I have been stewarding at Trinity for two years now. I have made good friends and been able to record some of my own music at Trinity as well as seeing some great bands. I recommend it to anyone, to do something new and have some fun."

Alex Kyriacou, Volunteer



Inner city festivals

We collaborated with several inner-city festivals and were instrumental to their success. These events included the World On Our Doorstep and the Venn Festival. We also staged a free firework display in our gardens on bonfire night with live music and food.

Entertainment activities, such as those mentioned above, have provided sufficient financial turnover for TCA to create over two dozen work opportunities including those related to the operation of the bar, security, cloakroom, cafe, event production, and sound / light engineering. These events also contribute significantly to the Trinity Centre's volunteer programme with roles associated with event production such as fire stewarding. TCA would like to take this opportunity to thank these valued volunteers - you know who you are!

Mel West - Administrator



Young Person's Training Report



I began in my job as Young Person's Training Coordinator almost exactly a year ago and it's something to celebrate that I'm still in post today! On a grant from the Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Renewal Scheme to support my job for just six months, I knew when I first started that it was make or break whether I would last much longer than this.

I got lucky and managed to fundraise enough money to support some fantastic new young people's projects and myself up until now! But it wasn't just luck. The Trinity Centre is a very real place to be, and with the help of many selfless volunteers and some excellent colleagues and directors, it's been easy to take on the challenges this year has brought. We have all been working extremely hard to move the organisation forward positively, and this can be seen by the amount of brilliant and diverse activities which are currently happening in this building.

Developing the upstairs space

The upstairs space was used from March as a training space for our highly successful 'Passion for Music' course. Both the music recording studio and internet radio rooms have been vastly upgraded with new equipment and grants from various funding sources, including: the Education Unlimited Scheme from the City of Bristol College and several of the Quartet Foundation funds.

Young People's Projects

a) 'Passion for Music'

From March to July this year we ran a free music course for anyone aged 16 - 18 years and unemployed or at risk of permanent exclusion from school. The aim of this course was to help these young people get positive and passionate about music, and so guide them towards a career in the music industry, or on to a further education course at its end.

With substantial support from the Education Unlimited Scheme at the City of Bristol College, we were able to supply six fantastic and well-known musicians and freelance artists to teach this course, including the famous session singer and founder of Studio 7, Kizzy Morrell, world renowned artist Peter D. Rose from 'More Rockers', and the amazingly humble Karl Williams, world-class music technician for 'Massive Attack'.

The course has been an amazing success. Of the 32 young people signed up, 20 of these attended regularly, with 12 achieving Asdan Award accreditation and 15 moving on to jobs or college courses at its end. Consequently our second course began at the beginning of November 2006 and will be running until March 2007, based on the same structure but slightly improved.

The seven different course modules mean the young people can choose which skill areas they wish to focus on, allowing for flexibility and personal taste. These modules include the history of the 'Bristol Sound' movement, jamming and forming a band, singing and song writing, learning to be an MC, recording and manipulating music, performing live on stage, and how to get ahead in the music industry. Hopefully, it will be as big a success as the last one!

b) 'Introduction to Radio'

Funded by the combined forces of Quartet's The Mall Foundation, The Bank of Ireland Charitable Foundation and The Bristol Rag Fund, we began our first radio course for young people at the beginning of November.

It is open to anyone aged 14 - 25 years who has an interest in radio, but participants are not required to have any previous knowledge. They will learn how a radio studio operates, how to do radio interviews, create jingles, record and produce a whole show, which can be broadcast later. The idea is that any young people who enjoy this course can then get involved with the running of our community radio station, 'Trinity Radio', which currently has regular DJ slots, local current affairs programmes and live streaming over the internet of our music gigs, therefore operating most evenings of the week.



c) 'The Big Up Event'

This event was devised, fundraised for and organized by one of the young people attending our regular Young People's Forum meetings. The money is being provided by The Princes' Trust 'Big Boost' Scheme.

Sean Mooney created an opportunity for young people to develop their MC and Urban Dance skills. The under-18s took part in a talent show with a panel of judges, and MP3 players as prizes, on Wednesday 29th November. The over-18s attended a series of four workshops in either MC or Urban Dance skills, to rehearse for the evening event which took place on Thursday 30th November. Rappers and dancers were challenged to 'big each other up' in their lyrics, movements and attitude throughout the evening. Nearly three hundred young people and their families attended the events which ended with a special DJ set from the 'Souljah Clique'. A fantastic achievement by everyone involved and there are already plans underway for the next young people's event. Watch this space!



d) 'Young People's Forum Group'

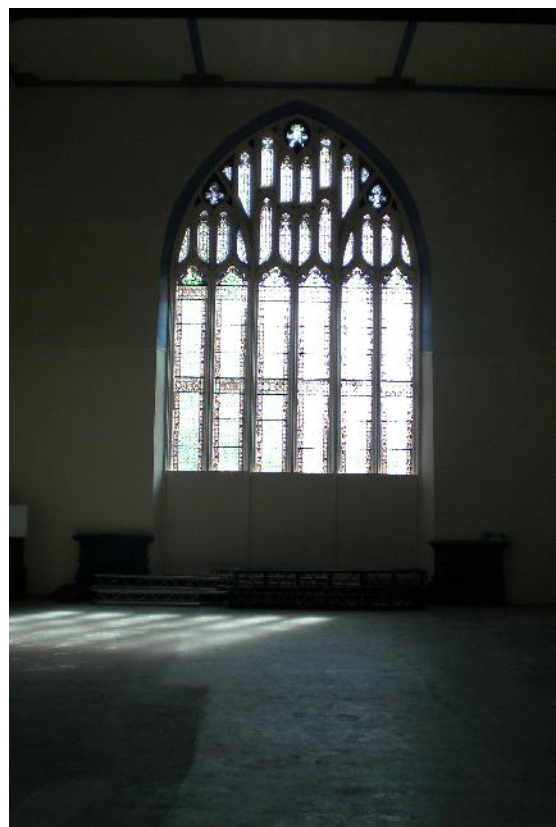
Meeting on a monthly basis, this group formed to make decisions about the type of projects they wish to happen for young people at the Trinity. Open to any local young person from 14 – 25 years old, the group works alongside myself as Training Coordinator, to give them support and advice about which pots of money to apply to for funding.

Current projects being applied for include a large mural which will bring together young people, the elderly and the homeless, in order to promote community cohesion and create a new outside sign advertising the Trinity Centre's activities; a graffiti art exhibition to decorate the stairwells; a video project to be devised and produced by the young people themselves, and finally a spectacular promenade theatre show involving music, film, sculpture and stories based on the changing history of our impressive church building.

Ines Hughes - Young Person's Training Coordinator

Building Development (Phase Two) Report

After the successful re-opening of the Trinity Centre (following extensive building works throughout to make it safe and accessible once again for community use) it is now time to begin Phase Two of our development plan. This involves re-designing the facilities on the upstairs floor, and also the access to these facilities. The third and final stage of development will be the realization of the building's development via the cohesive and locally-led vision to install a full and varied range of resources at the Trinity Centre. These resources will become available to local people as outlined in Trinity Community Arts (TCA) Ltd's founding business plans, documents and consultation report.



TCA has recently been granted approximately £50,000 by European Union funding body Objective 2 for this next phase of development at the Trinity Centre. In addition to this £7,500 has been offered by the YANSEC funding body, and £7,000 from Bristol City Council's Equalities Unit. Around £19,000 was offered in-kind by TCA in terms of equipment and labor donations, and £23,000 was raised from TCA's own income this year.

The project will allow improvements to the Trinity Centre's upper floor to bring it up to an acceptable and inclusive standard of accessibility. Acoustically isolated training and shared workspace facilities will also be built to develop local employment prospects, and raise educational attainment for all, but with a focus on young people aged 14 to 25.

The new training and recording studio facilities are to be located in the upper floor's north and south wings. They will be reached by the new disabled access lift and via new corridors along the outer edge of the wings. These corridors will prevent disturbance to activities in the upper floor's main hall. TCA intend to use this main hall as a flexible space for activities such as theatre and dance, performance, film-making, exhibitions and scenery building, in response to local creative enterprises' demand for such facilities.

Our plan is to acoustically isolate two of the new training rooms, which will be treated and installed with state-of-the-art music equipment. These rooms will be used as a recording studio for current and future music and radio production courses at Trinity. In addition they will be available for hire in the evening using MELTS Time Credits, earned at the Trinity Centre's music events by local musicians and course students. The third room is to be an IT training room, and internet and multimedia equipment will be installed. To service these new rooms a new toilet block will also be built upstairs.

Linux software engineers and IT consultants have offered their services free of charge to install, set up and configure our media and ICT infrastructure in the proposed training and work spaces, thus saving TCA capital costs. Other substantial donations have been made by local musicians and organizations, including a massive audio sample library given by Future Publishing Ltd.

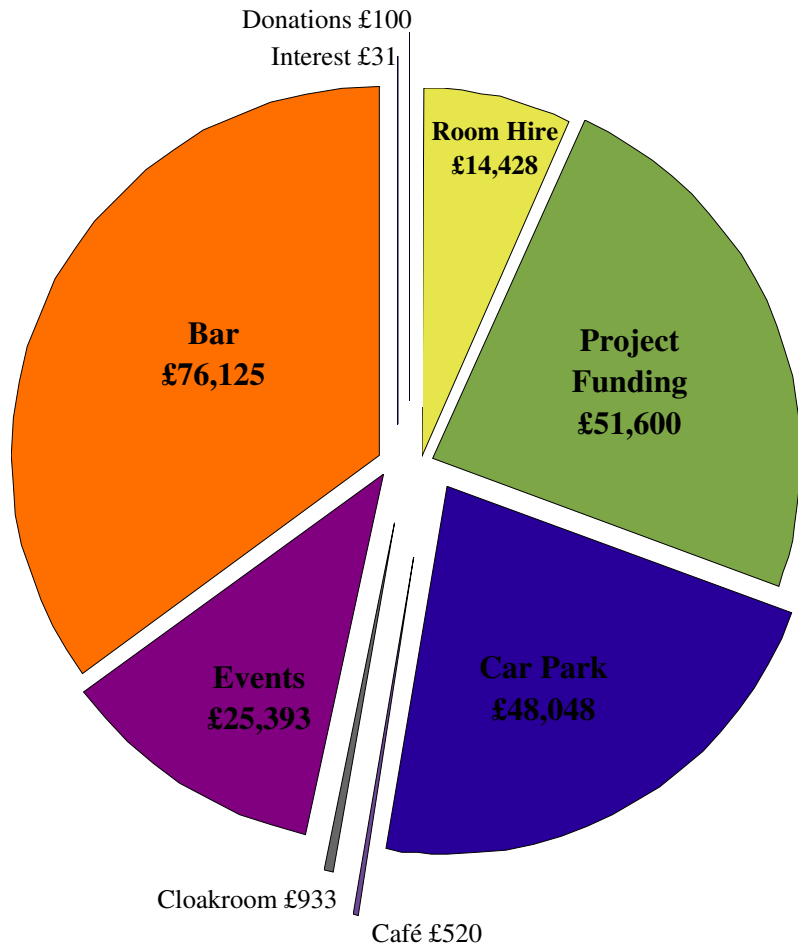
By using Linux-based software, users of the proposed facilities will be able to legally distribute software packages used for training at the Centre to former students, so they may use it in their businesses at the cost of the hardware alone. This will reduce the financial barrier to start-up enterprises assisted by the proposed facilities. It also means it is more viable to recycle second-hand computers for use by the local community, both in and away from the Centre. Accessing these resources with Time Credits will further enhance the saving to local people who wish to start up creative enterprises.

Kieran Doswell – Company Secretary

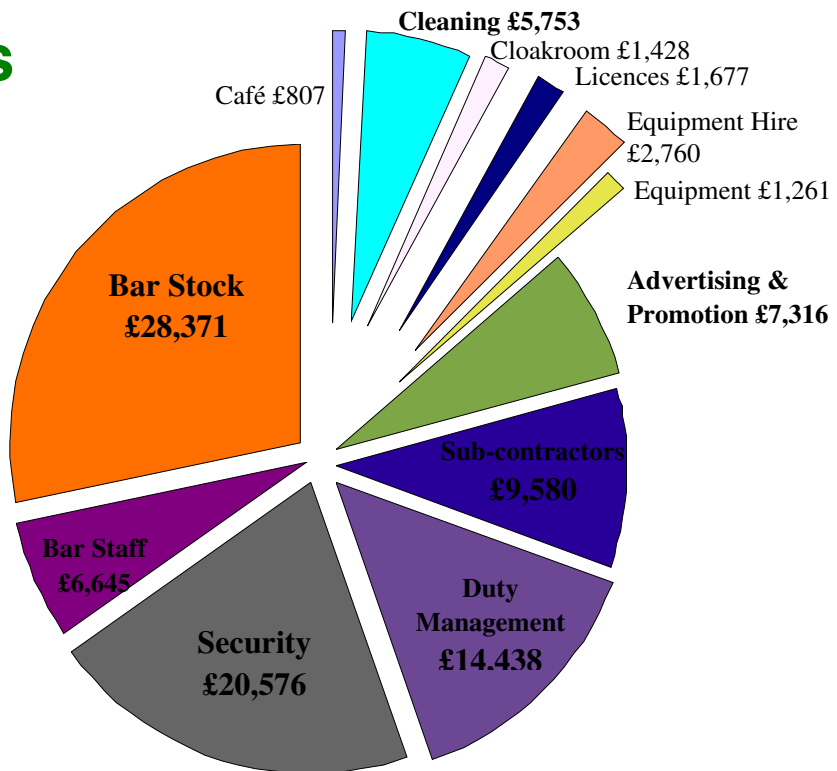


Finance Report 2006

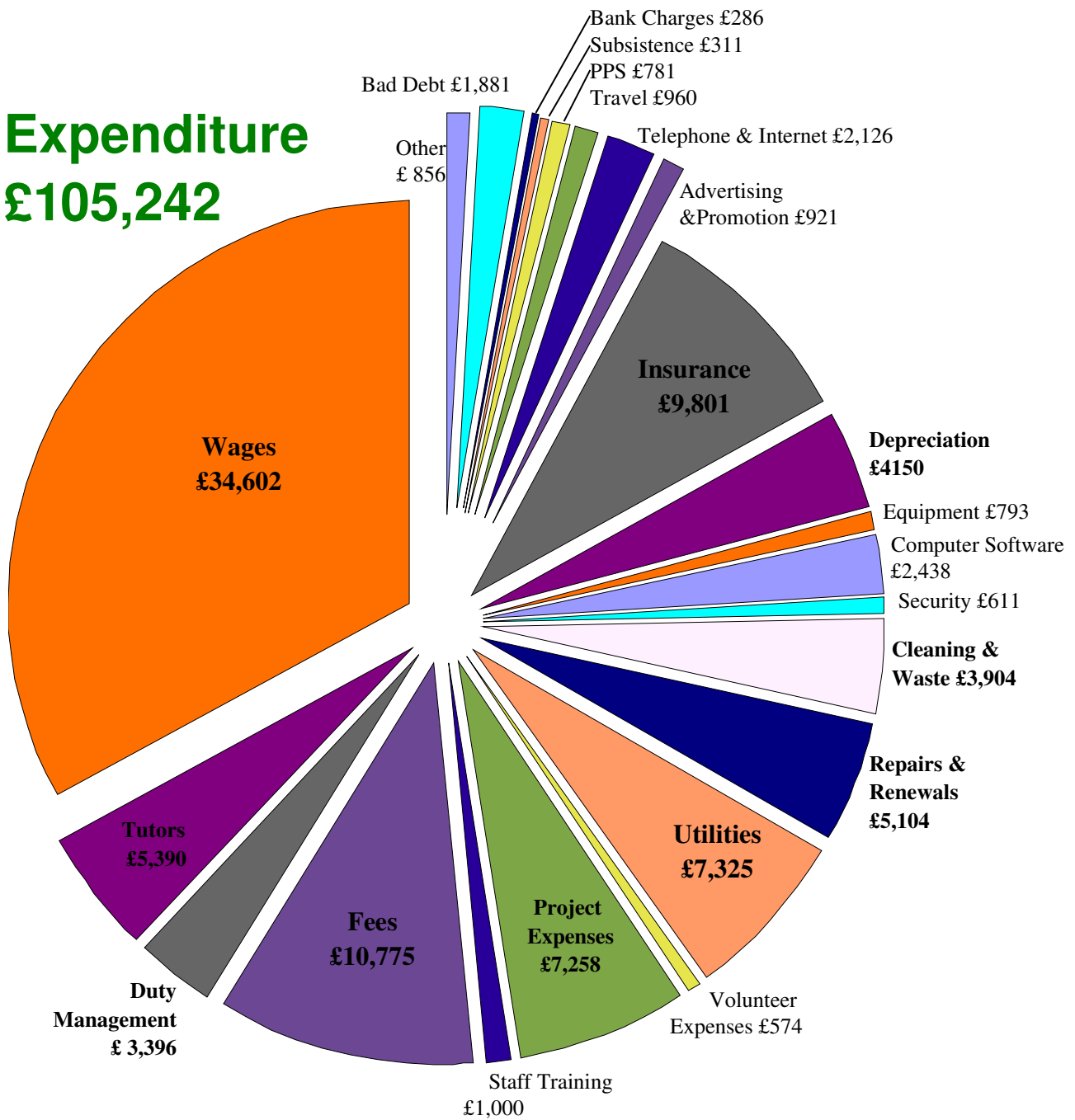
Income
£217,177



Direct Costs
£100,612



Expenditure £105,242



Income	£217,177
Direct Costs	£100,612
Gross Profit	£116,565
Expenditure	£105,242
Net Income/Expenditure	£11,323

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2006

Fixed Assets	20,746	
Accumulated Depreciation	4,150	
Assets minus Depreciation		16,596
Current Assets		36,391
Stock	3,052	
Debtors	7,311	
Triodos	19,603	
Co op	1,405	
Undeposited funds	4,829	
Petty cash	191	
Current Liabilities		46,280
VAT	11,073	
Creditors	3,073	
Deposits	200	
Inland revenue	3,585	
Deferred income	28,348	
Net Current Assets		-9,889
Net Worth		6,707
Represented by		6,707
Capital reserve	-4,617	
Profit for the year	11,323	

Who's Who at The Trinity Centre 2006

Directors

Matthew Hewitt – Chair
Nicholas Fyfe – Treasurer
Kieran Doswell - Secretary
Joe Black
Gemma Smith
Ryan Northey
Ritesh Patel
David Dravie-John
Ian Moore MBE

Management Committee Members

Richard Aires
Gemma Honour
Deborah Paproska
Kizzy Morrell

Staff

Melanie West – Activities Co-ordinator
Ines Hughes – Young Person's Training Co-ordinator

