

Alloa Musical Players

Annual Report

2021-22



Alloa Musical Players
The Covid Recovery Sessions

Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2022

Activities, achievements, and performance

2021

May

It is hard to remember what life was like back in May 2021. From April, Covid-19 was beginning to be more controlled and travel outwith our own areas of Scotland was beginning to be allowed. Older people were receiving a second vaccination and we moved to Level 2 (remember Levels?) Masks and social distancing were still very much the order of the day and numbers at gatherings restricted. Everyone was testing all the time and isolating if positive – schooling disrupted, working at home still normal and international travel very limited. So, this is the second Annual Report compiled under CrAMP – the Covid Recovery programme.

The pandemic at its height stopped almost every type of human interaction other than survival. People reading this Report years from now will find it hard to believe that we were locked down, confined to our homes, banned from travelling more than a few miles and forbidden to touch each other. Schools were closed. Theatre, song, dance, audiences – all banned. People died – thousands – especially the elderly or vulnerable.

The phenomenon called Zoom remained an important link for families and community groups like AMP.



June

Our plans for holding our usual “Summer Energiser” sessions and for launching “Junior AMP” remained abandoned due to the restrictions in place during the pandemic.

Work continued on the company website, doggedly archiving programmes, photographs and other material. The pandemic certainly provided an opportunity to spend long hours on the computer.

July

Much the same as June – with Trustees meeting on 9th July to plan a second online AGM – who would have guessed?

August

Trustees met again on 20th August to set out plans to present at the AGM.

Our fourth AGM as a charity took place on Monday 23rd August 2021, by Zoom once more.

There was one change to Trustees, with Laura McPherson stepping in and Antony Carter stepping down. Office Bearers remained the same, although the job of Secretary is floating.

The big decision was, with huge regret, to once more postpone our staging of “Little Shop of Horrors”, as we could not guarantee the pandemic would allow a successful run of rehearsals or that an audience would be willing to attend a show in March 2022 depriving us of our main source of income.

Because 2022 was AMP’s 70th year Trustees proposed doing a show of highlights from AMP’s history, perhaps the last ten years of AMP shows. This would allow for smaller group rehearsals and would be a way to celebrate our success. It would allow members to still be engaged and take part but in a more manageable way. It would not expose us to financial risk in the same way a full show would. Kaye Finlay and Lesley Easton (Production Team) were keen to be involved in such a project. Two Members, Leslie Drury and Gavin Orr took on the task of devising the piece.

September

Devising got underway on 6th September and rehearsals and casting followed.

October

Auditions for solos happened on 25th October. We worked on into the autumn, working with the doors open, wearing coats and masks when standing or dancing and sitting in a socially distanced arrangement for singing sessions. It was cold and several people either caught Covid or stayed away due to isolation requirements – making everything pretty problematic.



Massive kudos goes to the Production Team for devising ingenious ways to get around these problems.

November

Rehearsals continue. Trustees met on Friday 12th November. We realised this show would not fly in March and booked instead an August 2022 date at Alloa Town Hall.

There was excitement when we found out we had been awarded the world's biggest quaich! NODA give prizes for theatre programmes created by community theatre companies, and our programme for "Chicago" was runner-up in 2020. The massive quaich (The Underwood Quaich) was brought to a rehearsal by NODA Rep. for District 13, Elizabeth Donald.



December

Mid December we stopped for Christmas, but we feared there was trouble ahead. Group events were being cancelled (such as the Alman Drama Club Christmas Dinner) as the virus was on the rise again. A new variant, Omicron, was identified - much more transmissible than the previous Delta variant. People were Lateral Flow Testing almost daily. By 10th December, the Scottish Government and Jason Leitch were on our screens telling us to prepare for another wave.

We did manage to help out in the community at Christmas – here are some of us playing elves for Alloa Rotary’s Santa Grotto at Sterling Furniture ...



2022

January

An attempt was made to continue to rehearse soloists by Zoom while the pandemic was at its worst again.

However, at a meeting on 20th January 2022, The Trustees in consultation with Kaye and Lesley (Production Team) decided to abandon the 70th Birthday production we had been struggling to rehearse since last September. Covid-19 had beaten us. The recent Omicron variant restrictions had drained our last dregs of enthusiasm and the only possible performance date in August seemed just too far away to sustain interest.

Most Covid restrictions were lifted by the end of January – but too late for us to press ahead.

We planned to hold a big 70th Birthday Party instead, perhaps in May. A team to progress this under Laura McPherson was assembled.

We would begin anew with rehearsals for Little Shop of Horrors in August 22.

We would offer the Production Team their full honoraria as they have done many months of hard work.

We would run 6 Summer Energiser workshops.

We booked Hawkhill Community Centre on Sunday afternoons across the summer and applied for a grant to cover this cost.

We cancelled the August Town Hall booking.

February

The 70th Anniversary Party was arranged for Sauchie Hall on Saturday 1st October 2022.

March

Nothing happening! But as happened the previous summer, the virus did not require restrictions. Nevertheless, the new variant was spreading fast and was to affect 1 in 16 people in Scotland at its height. However, due to most people being vaccinated, fewer were hospitalised and illness was generally less severe.

April

With no restrictions on the horizon for the moment, we looked forward to the Summer Energisers, the AGM on 8th August and start of rehearsals on Monday 22nd August.



Grant Funders

No grants were applied for our use in 2021-22.

Friends of Alloa Musical Players

The following members of our community have in the past generously supported AMP as donors and we hope they will continue to do so when we return to the stage:

Gold Friends

Dick Clark
Alistair Spowage

Silver Friends

Nancy Irvine
Margaret Cowell
Mrs S Mason
Jack Storrie
John Cunningham

Bronze Friends

Marion Fitzpatrick
Avril Hughes
Bill Kettles
Lesley Kettle
Taylor Williams
John Adamson

Table Sponsors

A number of local businesses sponsored tables at previous productions, helping us to keep ticket prices down and make our shows as affordable for our audience as possible. We are grateful to:

SMS Tyre & Exhaust Centre
Norland Joiners
Ladybird Tearoom

CTSI
MacFarlane Jewellers
Alloa Rugby Club

Dunmar House
The Royal Oak Hotel

Obituaries

None to report this year

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name

Alloa Musical Players (SCIO)

Registered Address

Glenochil Bungalow
Menstrie
Clackmannanshire
FK11 7EG



Trustees

Rob McDermott, President
Lindsey Spowage, Vice-president, Admin
Laura McPherson
Leanne Cook, Treasurer

Lesley Kettles
Kirsty Gillies, Membership
Caitlin Smith
Alan Musgrave

Structure, Governance and Management Constitution

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 25th September 2017. The charity was previously an unincorporated association (since 1952) but changed its legal form to a SCIO. The assets of the unincorporated association were transferred to the SCIO on 1st October 2012. It has a two-tiered structure consisting of:

1. the MEMBERS who have the right to attend members' meetings (including any annual general meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the members appoint people to serve on the board and take decisions on changes to the constitution itself;
2. the BOARD - who hold regular meetings, and generally control the activities of the organisation; for example, the board is responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position of the organisation.

The people serving on the board are referred to in this constitution as CHARITY TRUSTEES.

Appointment of Trustees

The Management Committee, which meets as and when necessary, but at least four times per year, are the charity's Trustees. All Members are eligible to be Trustees. Trustees, of which there must be at least 5 but no more than 8, step down at each AGM, but are eligible for re-election. The AGM is generally held in August. Trustees control the activities of the organisation; for example, the Board of Trustees is responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position of the organisation, protecting it, ensuring legal and charitable compliance, and providing leadership and direction.

Members are those who sign up to agree to abide with the rules and values of the organisation. Membership is no longer associated mostly with performance on stage but is for all who wish to join in any voluntary capacity to support AMP's aim, vision, mission and charitable purpose. There is no charge, but Members are encouraged to become donors. There are as many volunteers supporting our activities off-stage as take part in performances on-stage.

Key Volunteer Roles

Stage Management/crew
Props and Set
Costumes
Prompt
Front of House
Tickets online
Tickets over the counter
Box Office
Hospitality

Programmes
Marketing Materials
Sponsorship
Grants
Community Fundraising
Social Media and Website
Theatre Bar
Scores and Librettos
Patrons and Friends

Alloa Musical Players has the following Honorary officials:

Honorary Presidents: Joyce Stalker, Margaret Cowell, Avril Hughes, Lynda Young and Kate Paterson

Objectives and Activities

AMP provides opportunities for local people to fulfil their potential, growing and learning through musical theatre, both as participants and as audience, and we share skills by working in partnership across our community. Our vision is of a friendly, inclusive community, both of place and of interest, where the performing arts and supporting crafts and technology support the wellbeing of our citizens.

Purposes

The organisation's charitable purposes are the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science through the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.

And in furtherance of the above purposes, we carry out the following activities:

- provide a range of opportunities for local people to enjoy participation in musical theatre and to develop their knowledge and skills at all levels
- develop audience awareness and appreciation of community-based musical theatre
- play a useful role as a community partner to other local organisations

In normal times, from September to February, we rehearse twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays – with additional Sunday afternoon rehearsals in January and February. We then present our musical in Alloa Town Hall in late February or early March. In summer we sometimes rehearse a less ambitious performance for autumn performance, or, as this year, we run theatre workshops. Also, in summer we review our situation and if necessary, recruit new sessional professionals as Artistic, Dance or Musical Directors. Fundraising of all kinds continues across the year as well as social activities, and involvement in other organisations' initiatives.

Throughout the year we also work to research and select future material for performance, taking suggestions from our members, and seeking Performing Rights for short-listed shows. We try to think two years ahead and ring the changes in style and vintage of musicals.

Financial Review

Our main source of income as planned is our sale of tickets for performances we give. We also work to secure grant income where and when appropriate. We secure sponsorship of tables at our Town Hall show and we recruit supporters and donors as Friends of AMP. Members continue to be encouraged to donate to their organisation as far as they are able. Performing members are required to contribute to the cost of hired music and costumes, and this can be done in instalments across the year.

Our Accounts for 2019 – 20 are posted on the OSCR website at <https://www.oscr.org.uk/about-charities/search-the-register/charity-details?number=47773>

Reserves Policy

At the close of our Financial Year, we held £8135.43 cash in the bank representing around 3.5 times more than this years annual turnover. The Trustees' policy is to work to retain a minimum of one quarter of annual turnover to meet commitments and cover any unexpected expenditure. The organisation has no staff

and no long-term rental agreements. AMP is insured against the costs of unforeseen cancellation of performances, and sessional staff contracts have tapering arrangements should they need to be ended early.

Plans for the Future

In the coming financial year, 2022/23 we hope and plan to return to our usual practice of staging a performance in Alloa Town Hall in March.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Lindsey Spowage	Lesley Kettles
Full name(s)	Lindsey Spowage	Lesley Kettles
Position (e.g. Chair)	Vice President	Trustee
Date	Aug 3, 2022	Aug 3, 2022

Receipts and Payments Account For Alloa Musical Players for the Year ending 31/5/2022				
	2022	2022	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Opening Bank Balance - 1/6/20		7,985.86		8,670.44
Opening cash balance		2,331.41		2,331.41
Add Receipts				
Performance Subscriptions/Donations	1,188.00		1,382.00	
Box Office Ticket Sales	-		-	
Friends/Patrons	-		-	
Sponsorships	-		-	
Front of House Income	-		-	
Bar receipts	-		-	
Aftershow Party Tickets	-		-	
Sweets	-		-	
Grants	1,000.00		-	
Advertising Income	-		-	
Sale of Teas in Rehearsals	-		-	
Lucky Number	-		-	
Libs	-		-	
Clothing Merchandise	49.00		-	
Photos	-		10.00	
Community Fundraising	22.14		35.89	
Miscellaneous	-		-	
		2,259.14		1,427.89
		12,576.41		12,429.74
Less Payments				
Rehearsal Hall Hire	288.00		-	
Town Hall Hire	100.00		100.00	
Storage	1,200.00		1,200.00	
Remuneration (Production Team)	2,000.00		-	
Royalties	-		-	
Insurance	375.98		375.68	
Noda Membership	72.00		163.00	
Marketing	-		-	
Printing Programme	-		-	
Postage and Stationery	-		-	
Noda Fees for Service Awards	-		-	
Bar Supplies	-		-	
Sweets	-		-	
Grants	-		-	
Music	-		-	
Ticket paper/printer ink	-		-	
Photography fee	-		-	
Costumes	-		-	
Staging	-		-	
Transport	-		-	
Sound (& Lighting)	-		-	
Clothing Merchandise	-		-	
Miscellaneous	-		273.79	
Orchestra Fees	-		-	
Fundraising Costs	405.00		-	
Thank You Gifts	-		-	
		4,440.98		2,112.47
Closing Balance		8,135.43		10,317.27
Cash Balance		2,331.41		
Bank Balance - 31/5/22		5,804.02		
		8,135.43		

Notes to Accounts – for the year ended 31 May 2022**1. Basis of accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

2. Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the object of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the club.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. The charity received money from Groundwork UK Tesco scheme to help with show costs.

3. Related party transactions

The Groups insurance policy includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance for all its trustees. No other remunerations was paid to the trustees.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
Director remunerations	1,000	0	1,000
Musical Director remunerations	1,000	0	1,000
Stage Manager remunerations	0	0	0
Rehearsal Accompanist remunerations	0	0	0
	2,000	0	2,000

4. Grants received


	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
Groundwork UK-Tesco	0	1,000	1,000

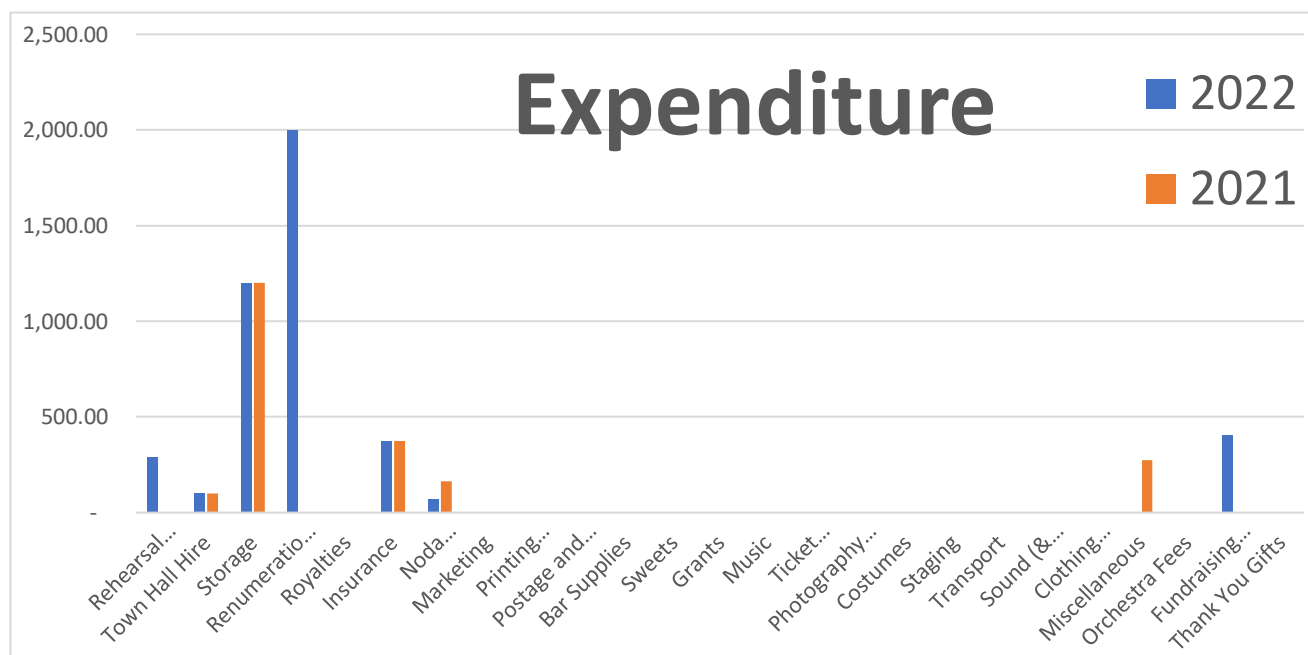
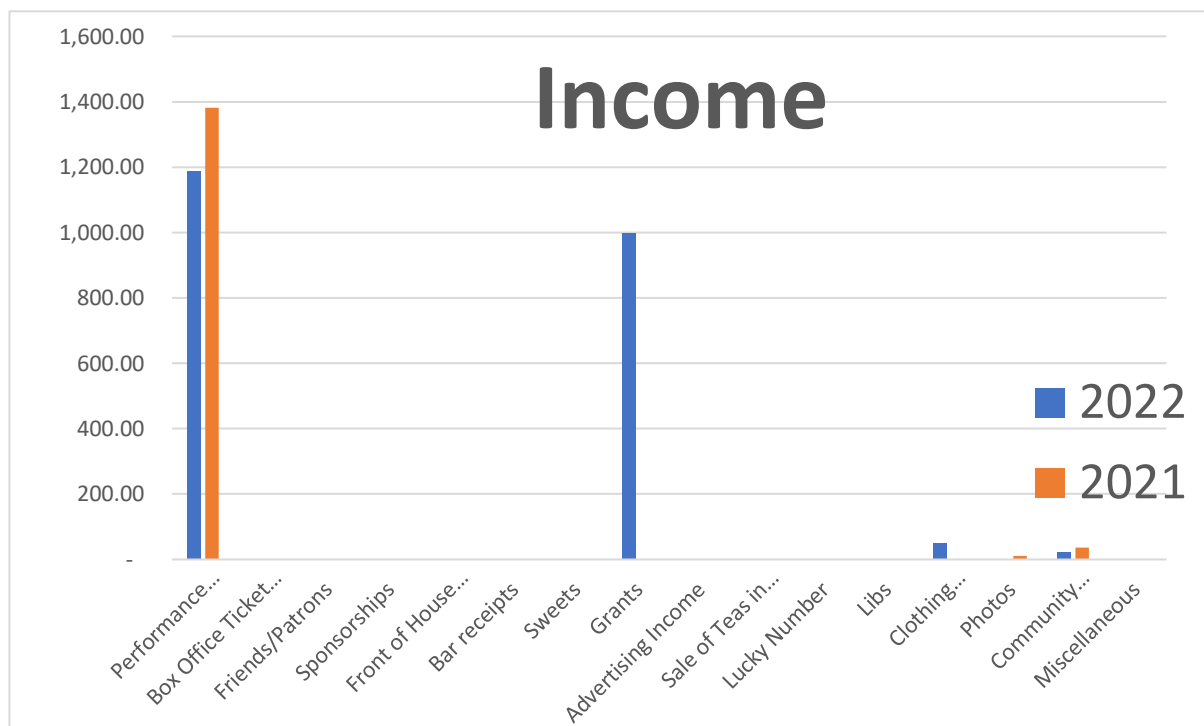
5. Miscellaneous accounts

None.

6. Reserves

As can be seen our end of year figure we have reserves available after a year with very little expenses and is within our agreed reserves policy.

	<p>Leanne Cook AMP Treasurer</p>
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Contact information

Website: www.alloamusicalplayers.org

Email info@alloamusicalplayers.org

Our website holds a great deal of information about our Company including current news, a gallery of photographs, our historical timeline since 1952 and a secure Trustee area holding key documents.

Find us on Facebook

Telephone: 07765 638687 (please leave a message)



Bank Details

Alloa Musical Players
Bank of Scotland
Account No. 00335686
Sort Code 80-05-28

Signature: 

Email: lindsey.spowage@googlemail.com

Signature: 
Lesley Kettles (Aug 3, 2022 21:40 GMT+1)

Email: jellybaby2101@hotmail.com












Annual Report 21-22 with financials

Final Audit Report

2022-08-03

Created:	2022-08-03
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