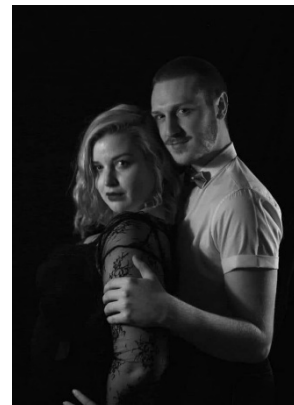


Alloa Musical Players

Annual Report

2019-20



Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2020

Activities, achievements, and performance

2019

May

“Urinetown”, our March 2019 production, was a delight for the company but a very hard sell to the public! The result was a severe hit to our finances. We were very proud of the Steam Punk design of the show and it’s artistic direction under Kaye Finlay. The set reflected this, but the Steam Punk was most effectively delivered through the costumes. The underdog characters created their own rags and tatters while the ruling class were splendidly turned out in colourful hats, wigs, and robes, supervised, sourced, and often created by Jennie Spowage. Props were also of a very high standard thanks to Willow McKenzie and team, and the makeup took the theme to new heights courtesy of Forth Valley College students. It was a show to be proud of. But due to the challenge of selling an “unknown” show, it was followed by some serious community and grant fundraising!

We secured £5,000 from The National Lottery Awards for All to help with our next production and further grant success was to follow.

On 25th May we held a fundraising singalong to the very popular movie “The Greatest Showman” in the Dumyat Centre in Menstrie. It was pretty well attended.

To support our income, Trustees decided to stage a big box office show for 2020 and at the end of April, had secured the rights to Kander & Ebb’s “Chicago”. Kaye Finlay was keen to direct once more, and as Steven Segaud was not able to stay on, we met with Lesley Easton who has for many years played bass in our band, to explore the possibility of her becoming our next Musical Director. She said yes!

June

A group of members took part in Alloa Rotary Club’s annual sponsored Hill Walk – again to raise funds for the company.

The Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust again donated £500 to allow us to run a further 6 “Summer Energiser” workshops – free to participants – with the aim of recruiting new performers and challenging current ones. These were well attended and started the process of tackling the big dance challenges of “Chicago”.

The Trustees met and agreed a revised strategy for marketing and ticket sales for 2020 to maximise income. The Chicago contract required us to reduce the number of seats available over our run – another challenge!

July

Our Summer Energiser workshops began on 2nd July and ran for 6 successive Monday evenings tutored by Kaye Finlay and located once more in Hawkhill Community Centre.

We were delighted to receive a £2,000 grant from the Foyle Foundation to help meet our running costs.

August

Our second AGM as a charity took place on Wednesday 14th August. One Trustee (Paige Allan) retired and one new Trustee (Alan Musgrave) was appointed. There was no change to office bearers. A “Welcome to AMP” night took place on Monday 19th August in Alloa Rugby Club and rehearsals for Chicago had begun. There was a large influx of new members (another benefit of choosing a highly popular show).

On 29th August, four AMPers performed to backing tracks as the opening act for the Clackmannanshire Business Awards in Alloa Town Hall. This was somewhat nerve wracking, but the sound engineering was very professional, and our contribution seemed to go down well in a beautifully lit and decorated Town Hall!

September

Rehearsals continue twice weekly. We continue to store out costumes and props with The Wee County Crafters in Alva and try very hard to keep it all in good order!

October

And rehearsals continue! Big event at the end of the month: Trustee Antony Carter married his partner Ross Marchbank in the Albert Halls, Stirling. Several AMP friends were there to share and enjoy the lovely event.

November

AMP sings some songs to entertain the crowds at the Christmas Lights Switch-on in Alloa – learning some Makaton in the process!

December

Monday 16th was not a rehearsal, but a Christmas party for the cast and crew of Chicago – with some truly hilarious party games.

2020

January

Rehearsals began again after the Christmas break.

On Saturday 18th, everyone was invited to the home of new AMPer, Leslie Drury, for a party/photo-shoot for pre-publicity. She proved to be very talented in setting up and photographing the cast in their various stages of self-created Chicago costumes! And the food and drink were to die for – thanks, Leslie! This led to some very creative work on our Programme for Chicago. It was to be a mock newspaper of the time using the black and white images, vintage ads and creative writing talents of many of the players.

February

This was our very busiest time with preparations for set, costume and front-of-house activity hotting up and everyone making a massive effort to promote ticket sales for Chicago.

All the hard work was rewarded – for the first time in the history of Alloa Musical Players, every single performance was sold out!

Performance week was 26 – 29th February – five shows in all – one fewer than normal due to contractual arrangements.

ALL THE NEWS
ALL THE VIEWS
EVERY DAY

CHICAGO NEWS

2¢
Sterling Exchange
Rate 1s 6d

25th FEBRUARY 1920

YOUR CITY, YOUR NEWS

WEATHER: Rain, with a chance of snow

CITY OF SIN: IS VAUDEVILLE CHICAGO'S DOWNFALL?

By Mary Sunshine

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are firmly in the grasp of the 1920s. This is a decadent decade of devilish debauchery and degenerates.

Family values have been thrown to the wolves, lost amongst the jazzed up liquor fiends who have turned prohibition, a shining example of unswerving moralism, into an exploitative free-for-all tempting lost sheep into ungodly pastures and pastimes. I refer, of course, to the speak-easies that darken every corner of our city.

The liquor-filled jazz halls tempt our menfolk like moths are drawn to flame. Yet men are easily led astray and may just as easily be led back to a life of moral fibre. It is the particular temptations which jazz gives the women of Chicago that strikes fear into my heart. For it is women, the moral compass of our great city, that are most at risk in this modern age of loose dance moves and looser morals.

I remember when I was but a tiny tot myself, we girls all had similar dreams: Family. The love of a good man. To bring up children with the morals found within the good book. Every woman's true place of fulfilment is at the center of such a home. Somewhere along the line, however, this dream has been lost.

A horrifying trend threatens to blight our nation's greatest values. Women have fallen prey to the sinful lifestyle of the speak-easies and the easy money to be made there.

Two such women of recent notoriety embody the dangers of this trend: Mrs. Velma Kelly and Mrs. Roxie Hart, two devoted wives who gave up domestic life for employment in the lust-filled sin-ridden world of the jazz clubs. Their lives were intertwined with the fame and glamour of today's vices: jazz and liquor. Now these women stand accused of the most shocking crimes, having given in to the deadly sins so feared in the bible, culminating in breaking that most sacred commandment: "Thou shalt not kill!" The interest and fame that has followed these crimes sends shivers down my spine. A husband, a sister, and an extramarital lover lay slain to fits of vengeance from these vixens.

We can no longer stand back and play witness to the travesties of these times. The fame and following these jazzlets have acquired highlights the danger jazz poses to every good Christian home. I implore you, dear reader, to reflect on your own childhood dreams and reject the provocative pleasures of these jazz babes and their speak-easy sins.

Chicago's "Babes of Jazz" - the women led astray by jazz & liquor

Mr. Billy Flynn Criminal Lawyer for Hire

Specializing in crimes of passion.
"All he cares about is love!"
CALL GRANVILLE 256

SUPPORTING LOCAL WOMEN: Clackmannanshire Women's Aid SCIO

At each performance, a collection will be taken for Clackmannanshire Women's Aid, a registered charity, providing information, support and safe refuge accommodation to women and children who have, or are currently, experiencing domestic abuse. Clackmannanshire Women's Aid believe that leaving an abusive relationship is a process, not an event, and will support a woman at every stage of her journey.

More information on the services provided can be found at: www.clackswomensaid.org.uk

Seeing ticket sales going well, we invested in some proper café style barriers complete with AMP logos to "pen-in" our orchestra and they added a great deal to the ambience front-of-house. Reports were glowing and we were able to pay all our bills this year and replace our precious reserves. We could move forward with confidence to 2020.

March

Or could we? By the second week of March Scotland was moving into lockdown to try to suppress the advance of the deadly virus COVID-19. Nothing like this had ever happened before and we could only raise a massive sigh of relief that we managed to get our show completed before disaster struck.

April

We did not apply for funding for summer workshops as we knew we could not hold them under COVID restrictions. It soon became clear that everything we do – all of our activities – are highly risky in terms of spreading an airborne virus – dance, singing, physical closeness, crowded rehearsal rooms and performance venues – what a nightmare.

Trustees had decided that this was the year to launch **Junior AMP** and we were about to apply for funding and advertise the first workshops for young people. All of this had to grind to a halt.

Like everyone else we began to meet both for business and for fun using the online platform Zoom, and members created a series of excellent quizzes that kept spirits up for a while.

We had decided to stick to box-office hits meantime, in terms of selecting material, and at an online meeting agreed on “Little Shop of Horrors”. It was a popular choice, we purchased the licence, and we felt it was just about flexible enough to be remotely rehearsed in the hope that in the early months of 2021 we might be able to meet up in person again and perform our show as usual in the first week of March.

As we prepare this report for our Zoom AGM on 3rd August 2020, we are still unclear about that plan – but we will continue to try to keep the company alive and well until there is a solution to the pandemic.

Grant Funders

Alloa Musical Players are grateful to the following funders:

- *The Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust* donated £500 for Summer Energiser workshops
- *The National Lottery (Awards for All)* awarded £5,000 to help stage our 2020 production
- *The Foyle Foundation* for £2,000 of revenue assistance

Friends of Alloa Musical Players

The following members of our community have generously supported AMP as donors:

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 Urinetown, 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

We say goodbye and remember our Diamond Patron:

Sir Bobby Stewart

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name

Alloa Musical Players (SCIO)

Registered Address Glenochil Bungalow Menstrie Clackmannanshire FK11 7EG	 <p>OSCR Scottish Charity Regulator www.oscr.org.uk Registered SCIO SC047773</p>
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Trustees

Rob McDermott, President
Lindsey Spowage, Vice-president, Admin
Antony Carter
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

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 2018 – 19 are posted on the OSCR website at <https://www.oscr.org.uk/about-charities/search-the-register/charity-details?number=47773>

We successfully applied for two grants to support our running costs for 2019/20.

Reserves Policy

At the close of our Financial Year we held £11,001 cash in the bank representing around one third of the 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, 2020/21 we are uncertain about how much of our usual activity we will be able to continue due to the restrictions in place while we try to suppress and eliminate the COVID-19 virus in Scotland. We will continue to do business and link up socially using Zoom – and of course some of us meet in small groups to socialise within the constraints of the regulations.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		 <small>Lindsey Spowage (Feb 6, 2021 16:17 GMT)</small>
Full name(s)	Leanne Cook	Lindsey Spowage
Position (e.g. Chair)	Treasurer	Vice Presedent
Date	6/2/2021	Feb 6, 2021

Receipts and Payments Account For Alloa Musical Players for the Year ending 31/5/2020

	2020	2020	2019	2019
	£	£	£	£
Opening Bank Balance - 1/6/19		1,633.74		6,992.32
Opening cash balance		1,588.78		1,400.88
Add Receipts				
Performance Subscriptions/Donations	3,887.03		1,404.79	
Box Office Ticket Sales	12,857.14		8,769.40	
Friends/Patrons	375.00		550.00	
Sponsorships	600.00		600.00	
Front of House Income	2,351.00		1,644.60	
Bar receipts	3,154.86		1,458.83	
Aftershow Party Tickets	-		47.50	
Sweets	194.00		156.60	
Grants	7,000.00		1,700.00	
Advertising Income	140.00		405.00	
Sale of Teas in Rehearsals	315.01		276.25	
Lucky Number	86.50		66.00	
Libs	110.00		230.00	
Clothing Merchandise	905.76		171.34	
Photos	100.00		96.00	
Community Fundraising	1,727.75		1,128.55	
Miscellaneous	-		-	
		33,804.05		18,704.86
		37,026.57		27,098.06
Less Payments				
Rehearsal Hall Hire	1,204.00		932.00	
Town Hall Hire	1,683.00		3,887.00	
Storage	1,200.00		1,200.00	
Remuneration (Production Team)	3,450.00		3,300.00	
Royalties	2,280.00		1,669.68	
Insurance	375.68		365.68	
Noda Membership	117.00		163.00	
Marketing	1,028.99		146.24	
Printing Programme	505.00		426.00	
Postage and Stationery	41.80		87.00	
Noda Fees for Service Awards	-		-	
Bar Supplies	887.42		808.87	
Sweets	149.50		127.67	
Grants	165.00		2,052.99	
Music	891.99		810.00	
Ticket paper/printer ink	27.99		-	
Photography fee	100.00		104.00	
Costumes	183.09		353.12	
Staging	298.93		-	
Transport	-		300.00	
Sound (& Lighting)	5,573.80		4,993.68	
Clothing Merchandise	955.20		244.80	
Miscellaneous	16.00		37.80	
Orchestra Fees	3,360.00		1,537.50	
Fundraising Costs	1,530.33		140.78	
Thank You Gifts	-		187.83	
		26,024.72		23,875.64
Closing Balance		11,001.85		3,222.42
Cash Balance		2,331.41		
Bank Balance		8,670.44		
		11,001.85		

Notes to Accounts – for the year ended 31 May 2020**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 had a grant for energizer workshops to be held during the summer from The Gordon Fraser Trust and received grants from The National Lottery, Awards for All for support to run our 2020 production as well as a grant from the Foyle Foundation for support of revenue 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 2020
Director remunerations	0	1,500	1,500
Musical Director remunerations	0	1,500	1,500
Stage Manager remunerations	150	0	150
Rehearsal Accompanist remunerations	300	0	300
	450	3,000	3,450

4. Grants received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
Awards For All	0	5,000	5,000
The Foyle Foundation	0	2,000	2,000
		7,000	7,000

5. Miscellaneous accounts

The miscellaneous payments include raffle books purchased.

6. Reserves

As can be seen our end of year figure we have achieved our goal to boost our reserves back to being above our agreed reserves policy.

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

Gordon Fraser
Charitable Trust



LOTTERY FUNDED

