

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1175861

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-11-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St. Austell Arts Centre
87 Truro Road
St. Austell
PL25 5HJ

Phone 0172672685

Email info@staustellartstheatre.org.uk

Website www.staustellartstheatre.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO AREA) TO PROMOTE, MAINTAIN AND ADVANCE EDUCATION PARTICULARLY BY THE PRODUCTION OF PLAYS AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE ARTS INCLUDING THE ARTS OF DRAMA, DANCE, MUSIC, SINGING, LITERATURE, SCULPTURE AND PAINTING.B) TO RESTORE AND PRESERVE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE ST AUSTELL ART CENTRE BEING A BUILDING OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL AND CONSTRUCTIONAL INTEREST.C) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF ST AUSTELL WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS, BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID INHABITANTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATIONS WITH THE OBJECTS OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CIO FOR THE PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH [SECTION 7 OF THE CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005] AND [SECTION 2 OF THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008]

Activities: To promote, maintain, improve and advance education particularly by the encouragement of the arts, as either a participant or observer.To restore and preserve for the benefit of the public the St Austell Arts Centre, being a building of historic and architectural interest.To provide facilities for the use of inhabitants of St Austell and its surrounding area, for arts & leisure activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Cornwall

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£89,552	£84,170	-	-
2024-03-31	£78,285	£100,857	-	-
2023-03-31	£73,725	£84,846	-	-
2022-03-31	£49,059	£54,347	-	-
2021-03-31	£73,610	£35,201	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mark Stuart Gray	Chair	2024-03-05
Amanda Claire Hamley		2021-06-15
Penelope Anne Mergler		2025-01-06
Richard John Clemo		2024-03-05

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1175861

Accounts

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2025

Registered Charity Number: 1175861

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2025

Trustees: Jacqueline Bull
Richard John Clemo
Sandra Marilyn French
Mark Stuart Gray
Amanda Claire Hamley
Penelope Anne Mergler – appointed 6th January 2025

Address: St Austell Arts Centre
87 Truro Road
St Austell
PL25 5HJ

Charity Registration No: 1175861

Independent Examiner: Peter Williams & Co
Latham Park
St Blazey Road
Par
PL24 2HY

Objects & Activities:

To promote, maintain and advance education particularly by the production of plays and the encouragement of the arts including the arts of drama, music, singing, literature, sculpture, and painting.

To restore and preserve for the benefit of the public the St Austell Arts Centre being a building of historic architectural and constructional interest.

To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of St Austell without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the

interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupations with the objects of improving the conditions of life of the said inhabitants.

Structure, governance and management:

St Austell Arts Centre is a charitable incorporated organisation first registered on 21st November 2017

The charity is governed by a constitution.

Management of the charity is vested in a board of trustees.

Activities:

The theatre hosted a varied programme of events throughout the year including folk and classical music, tribute acts, touring comedians and talks on local interests.

We were delighted to continue our long-standing relationship with in-house theatre group the St Austell Players who successfully performed three plays – ‘Guards Guards’, ‘Street car named desire’ and ‘A murder is announced’.

We welcomed Bodmin Theatre company in September as they performed ‘Evita’ to large audiences, and Trewoon Pantomime Group in February who once again took to the stage for their interpretation of ‘The Little Mermaid’ which was well received by all ages.

The theatre also hosted Maureen Pascoe’s school of dance for two Summer performances as well as the Cornwall Performing Arts ‘sell out’ Summer and Christmas shows.

As well as activities in the theatre, the Centre continues to host a number of groups who use our facilities and rooms on a regular basis ensuring we continue to provide a valuable community asset. These groups include U3A, toddler groups, St Austell Bridge Club, Pentewan Valley Parish Council, Age UK and Cornwall Performing Arts.

We are indebted to our hardworking volunteers who carry out a variety of tasks to ensure the Centre can continue to operate including car parking, front of house, sound and lighting and staffing the theatre bar. A huge thank you to all our volunteers.

Financial Review:


The Centre's main sources of income were from theatre productions and events, bar sales and room hire. We were also very grateful to have received a small number donations during the year.

The accounts show the charity reported a surplus for the year, which reflects robust financial management of the Centre overseen by the board of trustees.

The charity endeavours to keep a small reserve to cover seasonal dips in income and unexpected costs such as emergency repairs.

The trustees declare that they have approved the above report.

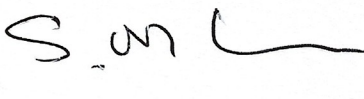
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s): 

Full name(s): MARK GRAY

Position: Chair

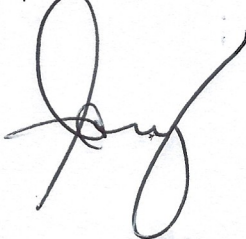
Date: 27-8-25

Sandy Friend 

Renelope Anne Megler



AMASSA CAIKE HANLEY



ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ending 31st March 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income				
Room hire	33,428			
Theatre events	<u>29,504</u>			
Total room hire & theatre events	62,932	-	62,932	40,325
Bar sales	19,548	-	19,548	14,960
Donations	1,894	-	1,894	23,000
Interest	104	-	104	-
Other income	74	-	74	-
Grants	-	5,000	5,000	-
Total income	84,552	5,000	89,552	78,285
Expenditure				
Staff costs	18,060	-	18,060	32,178
Rent	2,354	-	2,354	216
Utilities	17,546	-	17,546	15,449
Insurance	808	-	808	4,059
Cleaning	6,719	-	6,719	1,937
Accountancy & Professional fees	3,031	-	3,031	1,440
Licences	1,170	-	1,170	1,929
Performer fees	17,457	-	17,457	14,617
Advertising	1,527	-	1,527	-
Technical support	745	-	745	100
Bar supplies	6,840	-	6,840	1,324
Training	252	-	252	1,100
Bank charges	212	-	212	144
Equipment & repairs	1,894	1,200	3,094	2,023
Office expenses	1,179	-	1,179	1,302
Commission - ticket sales	2,325	-	2,325	-
Interest charges	823	-	823	-
General expenses	28	-	28	23,039
Total expenditure	82,970	1,200	84,170	100,857
Surplus (Deficit) for the period			5,382	- 22,572

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current Assets		
Stock	669	678
Debtors	2,585	6,012
Accrued income	1,336	-
Cash at bank and in hand	22,864	30,682
	<u>27,454</u>	<u>37,372</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	- 4,951	- 20,251
Net current assets	22,503	17,121
Funds of the charity		
Brought forward	17,121	39,693
Surplus for the year	5,382	- 22,572
Total Funds	22,503 *	17,121


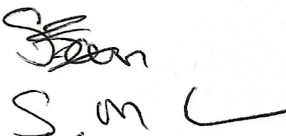
* of which £3,800 are restricted funds arising from St Austell Town Council grant for electrical rewiring project

Notes:

1. The accounts for year ending 31st March 2025 have been prepared on an accruals basis.
2. The charity has no outstanding loans.
3. No remuneration was directly, or indirectly, paid, or payable, out of the funds for the year to any trustees or to any person or persons known to be connected with any of them.

The trustees declare that they have approved the above accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s):  

Full name(s): MARK GRAY SANDY FRENCH

Position: Chair

Date: 27-8-25

Penelope Mergler

Peny Mergler. 27/8/25

AMANDA CHARIE HANCOCK

Jay 27/8/25

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Austell Arts Centre

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

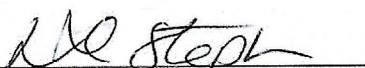
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 1 the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- 2 the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 3 the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Dated 4 September 2025

Mrs Lois Stephen FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Peter Williams & Co
Latham Park
St Blazey Road
Par
PL24 2HY

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1175861

Accounts

St Austell Arts Centre
Trustees' Annual Report 2021 - 2022

Events and activities at the St Austell Arts Centre this year have been overshadowed by the recent, unexpected and sudden death of its Chair, Caz Doyle. Caz was a much-valued member of the Arts Centre team. In her time, she served as a committee member, honorary bar manager and most recently as Chair of Trustees.

Her premature passing will leave a large hole in the heart of the St Austell Arts Centre. As a consequence, at the time of preparing this report, the Board of Trustees is without its Chair. A new Chair will be elected soon to continue the excellent work and successes the Arts Centre has achieved in recent years.

The 2020 – 2021 report concluded with the hope that the Arts Centre would be able to retain its position in the heart of the community, once the Covid pandemic had concluded. However, this was not to be the case, as the pandemic continued and the Arts Centre, adhering to government guidance, could only re-open in September, 2021. Therefore, the 2021 – 2022 year has left the Arts Centre with just a little over six months of being allowed to operate in its usual way, open to the public.

Since then, there has been a gradual increase in the will of individuals and groups to return to a level of full, post-Covid, activity. Community groups that use the Arts Centre, and bring in a large proportion of its income, have discovered that some can meet, quite successfully, via Zoom. This has meant that some of the Arts Centre's regular hirers are still choosing to avoid meeting in person, or are alternating face-to-face meetings with meetings online.

This “new way of working” has inevitably had an impact on the Arts Centre's income, as groups exercise caution in returning to what was their pre-pandemic means of operating. As with last year, the Arts Centre has been grateful for government grants to help support its business. However, these grants are greatly reduced from the previous year's level of support, given during the height of the pandemic.

Audiences will also require time to regain their confidence about returning to theatres before attendances return to their previous levels. This is a situation reflected nationwide. Together with

the now present cost of living crisis, where money is required for the ever-increasing cost of essentials, disposable income for a night out at the theatre will be less available. The Arts Centre will work hard at keeping ticket prices affordable for all, without compromising the quality offered.

The reduced income due to the slow return and reduced frequency by community groups using the Arts Centre, the impact on audience numbers and the reduction of grants is in stark contrast to the increase in running costs to the Arts Centre. These factors combined have resulted in the Arts Centre making a small, but manageable, financial loss during the 2021 – 2022 period.

Prior to re-opening our doors in September 2021, during the summer we did manage to stage a number of socially-distanced outdoor performances in our car park. This was an important attempt to keep the Arts Centre's profile raised. Audiences numbers were variable but it was also a means of supporting and giving employment to performers and theatre companies who were also sorely deprived of making a living over the past 2 years.

With the next 12 months being the first year in which the Arts Centre can fully function since 2019-2020, it will be a year in which the Arts Centre will need to relaunch itself. This will not be easy but it is a challenge that will be met with great resolve.

Thanks are due to all of the Arts Centre's volunteers. Without their constant enthusiasm and support the Arts Centre would simply not be able to operate. In this coming year, trustees and volunteers are determined to work together to re-establish the St Austell Arts Centre as an important and integral part of community life, for both residents and visitors to the area, for many more years to come.

Trustees of the St Austell Arts Centre

2021/2022

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2022

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH, 2022

Balances	2022	2021
Current account year end	49,614.75	54,902.92
Cash	<u>174.69</u>	218.58
	49,789.44	55,121.50
Assets		
Stock	895.60	771.78
Prepayment	-	-
Debtors	<u>237.00</u>	-
	<u>1,132.60</u>	<u>771.78</u>
	50,922.04	55,893.28
Liabilities		
Creditors	108.00	831.14
Accruals	<u> </u>	
	108.00	
	<u>50,814.04</u>	<u>55,062.14</u>

Represented by:

2021	
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2020	24,264.48
General surplus for the year	38,409.03
Assets / Liabilities balance	(59.36)
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2021	<u>62,614.15</u>

2022	
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2021	62,614.15
General surplus for the year	(5,288.17)
Assets / Liabilities balance	1,024.60
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2022	<u>58,350.58</u>

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

GENERAL FUNDS

Income	2022	2021
Bar Takings	5,901.65	289.05
Theatre & Room Hire	10,245.58	2,459.50
Raffles	22.00	-
Grants received	16,000.00	40,750.14
Job Retention Sceme	8,431.16	17,472.94
Show Income	7,120.54	1,085.76
Donations	-	11,552.38
Energy refund	1,337.95	-
	<u>49,058.88</u>	<u>73,609.77</u>

Less expenses

Publicity / Advertising	385.12	-
Water	383.48	216.18
Salaries	21,653.28	21,653.28
Cleaning	313.67	142.61
Equipment	1,882.46	-
Raffles	-	-
Maintenance	5,319.12	223.20
Landline / Wifi	808.11	541.43
Petty Cash (inc. Postage & Stationery)	489.67	81.42
Bar stock	3,321.23	-
Professional Fees	409.90	857.58
HMRC	3,925.04	5,147.96
Employer's Pension Scheme	1,474.20	1,435.48
Electricity	985.36	3,602.51
Performer Fees	10,773.88	873.60
Rent	432.00	324.00
Computer / Printer	-	80.49
Insurance	1,359.53	-
Licenses	431.00	21.00
	<u>54,347.05</u>	<u>35,200.74</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>(5,288.17)</u>	<u>38,409.03</u>

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1175861

Accounts

St Austell Arts Centre's Chair's Report 2020 - 2021

My report from last year concluded with the hope that the situation revolving around the situation around Covid-19 would not continue for too long. The Arts Centre had just been forced into closure, in line with the Government's guidance to close theatres and community venues.

Unfortunately, the situation has remained with us during the past 12 months and the Arts Centre has been in an enforced closure for most of the past year.

This, of course, means our usual trading has been severely curtailed. Our theatre has remained closed and community groups have, in the main, not been able to meet, due to the restrictions in place. We did present one open-air show in our car park, but that was our sole promotion of the year.

As such, government support has been vital to us. Much-needed grants have compensated for our loss of income and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the government's furlough system have enabled us to retain our staff. A Crowdfunder fundraising campaign also was vital to sustain us and to help ensure we will be in a strong position to re-open, once the time comes.

Both Cornwall Council and St Austell Town Council have been very supportive of us during the past year and I would like to express our thanks to them.

Our invaluable community groups have also suffered. They have not been able to meet, nor to present their shows this year. We are grateful to all of them for their ongoing commitment to the Arts Centre and we hope we will be welcoming them all back before too long.

Again, I am thankful to my fellow Trustees. Each of them, I hope, will continue to play their part in re-launching the Arts Centre and help to ensure its vital role for many more years to come.

I sincerely hope that next year I will be able to present a report of more optimism and activity. Once the pandemic is over, the Arts Centre's place in the heart of the community will be more important than ever before.

C Doyle, Chair

St Austell Arts Centre 2020 / 2021

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2021

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH, 2021

Balances	2021	2020
Current account year end	54,902.92	23,898.24
Cash	<u>218.58</u>	130.18
	55,121.50	24,028.42
Assets		
Stock	771.78	915.20
Prepayment	-	-
Debtors	<u>-</u>	152.00
	771.78	<u>1,067.20</u>
	55,893.28	25,095.62
Liabilities		
Creditors	1,381.28	831.14
Accruals	<u>-</u>	
	831.14	
	<u>55,062.14</u>	<u>24,264.48</u>

Represented by:

2020

Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2019	22,233.56
General surplus for the year	7,078.74
Assets / Liabilities balance	236.06
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2020	<u>29,548.36</u>

2021

Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2020	24,264.48
General surplus for the year	38,409.03
Assets / Liabilities balance	(59.36)
Accumulated fund as at 31 st March 2020	<u>62,614.15</u>

ST AUSTELL ARTS CENTRE
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

GENERAL FUNDS

Income	2021	2020
Bar Takings	289.05	7,551.22
Theatre & Room Hire	2,459.50	24,552.67
Raffles	-	1,710.00
Grants received	40,750.14	916.00
Job Retention Sceme	17,472.94	-
Show Income	1,085.76	12,888.53
Donations	11,552.38	<u>15,027.07</u>
	<u>73,609.77</u>	<u>62,645.49</u>
Less expenses		
Publicity / Advertising	-	627.90
Water	216.18	518.37
Salaries	21,653.28	21,653.28
Cleaning	142.61	2,517.84
Equipment (inc stock)	-	2,023.32
Raffles	-	235.29
Maintenance	223.20	2,548.00
Landline / Wifi	541.43	552.45
Petty Cash (inc. Postage & Stationery)	81.42	869.82
Professional Fees	857.58	1,660.51
HMRC	5,147.96	6,175.88
Employer's Pension Scheme	1,435.48	1,435.48
Electricity	3,602.51	4,833.47
Performer Fees	873.60	10,040.51
Rent	324.00	432.00
Computer / Printer	80.49	850.00
Licenses	<u>21.00</u>	<u>615.95</u>
	<u>35,200.74</u>	<u>55,566.75</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>38,409.03</u>	<u>7,078.74</u>