



Autumn Newsletter



The Blystra team at Look Out Festival in Sept 2025

2025 so far!

In 2025 Blystra Arts were lucky enough to gain funding for two really big projects, Connected Communities, a data collection project commissioned by Safer Stronger Newquay and Stories from the Station, a Great Western Railway funded project, both of which are currently running and which finish in early 2026. This, as well as running Cornwall Youth Theatre Company has meant the company have had an exciting and busy 2025 so far! As part of our Connected Communities project and with support from the both lions groups in the town and Safer Stronger Communities we were able to be involved in the reinstated Carnival this year, working with all the primary schools and community to make umbrella jellyfish using plastic waste. In Sept 2025 we have taken on a project to support Newquay Youth Centre in scoping out its future, as an asset of Newquay Town Council. More news on this next time.

Cornwall Youth Theatre Spring & Summer Shenanigans



CYTC Members at Tropical Pressure Festival - July 2025

This summer with support from Backstage Trust and Boardmasters Foundation we were able to introduce a Spring and Summer season of work in to the CYTC program and it was amazing. Members from our main season were involved in outdoor performances at Penlee Open Air Theatre & Tropical Pressure Festival. We hope with ACE support we can continue to offer a Spring and Summer program of work for the company in the future.

Happy Birthday to Blystra!

In Aug 2025 we were 10 Years old, having started our life in August 2015, set up to promote a pedal powered film event for Carn to Cove, Blystra Arts was born. Since then we've gone from strength to strength, and run multiple arts projects in Newquay, Cornwall and beyond. We have created a little film of all the amazing projects we've delivered, and been involved in over the last 10 years:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ViYUm8CFcho>



Shakespeare in a Shed - 2016



News

Coming Up this Autumn



Newquay Lantern
Parade 2024

Newquay Lantern Parade & GWR project Stories from the Station

In 2025 Blystra secured funding to run Stories from the Station, a project exploring the impact Newquay's railway station and branchline had on the town and its people. There are a number of key dates coming up which are significant in showcasing what we've been up to in this project, including the SFTS celebration event, happening at the Headland Hotel in Newquay on the 27th September. Tickets to join us for this event can be found here: <https://headlandhotel.wearegifted.co.uk/stories-from-the-station-with-blystra-arts>

Find out more about Stories from the Station here:



Newquay Zombie Crawl 2024

Zombie Crawl 2025!

In 2025 Blystra Arts are once again involved in Newquay's most iconic event, the Zombie Crawl. The Blystra team will be back running some of the workshops across the town, alongside Hotchpotch Performance, 4Motion Dance, Bounce Dance Academy and Cornwall Theatre School. Our famous Gruesome Wounds workshop is back as well as our pumpkin carving drop in session. We are also working with Little Rainbow Facepainters to provide 4 Facepainters from across town. Details of where we'll be will follow soon. Check our socials for updates.

Connected Communities

In April 2025 we were commissioned by Safer Stronger Newquay to create a questionnaire that would capture information about how people felt about Newquay in 2025. This survey is still open, so if you're a Newquay resident please go to the QR code and fill it in.





2026 and beyond



Empowering Newquay's Future

We are currently applying for funding from Awards for All to be able to run our successful Empowering Newquay's Future event again in 2026 and 2027. On the 16th of May 2025, partners from across Newquay, including ourselves, Newquay Orchard, Newquay Town Council, both secondary schools and Newquay BID. If we are successful in our application to the lottery then we will be supporting this well received and inspiring event to become integrated in to the annual Newquay calendar.



The CYTC Another Darke Night crew - June 2025

Ffern Foundation

In 2025 we are applying for two years of funding from The Ffern Foundation, an organisation focussed on extending the reach and breadth of Folk arts across the UK.



Some of the team behind the first Empowering Newquay's Future event in 2025

Cornwall Youth Theatre on Tour

In March 2026 Cornwall Youth Theatre Company (CYTC) will be back on tour with two shows: The Importance of Being Earnest and Rime of the Ancient Mariner. We'll be touring to venues across Cornwall this March. Details to follow of this tour later this year:

<https://cornwalliyouththeatre.co.uk/whats-on/>

We are currently applying for some Arts Council funding for the company over a 3 year period. The company are always looking for funding, and we have now set up a donations page on our website. Any donations made to CYTC would be gratefully received and go towards supporting our work. Please donate here:

<https://cornwalliyouththeatre.co.uk/support-cytc/>

Find out about all our projects and commissions at www.blystraarts.org: