



THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS

NEWSLETTER

January 2017

Issue #49

Nigel Cheney
Coat for the Lethbridge Sisters
2016
125 cm x 400 cm



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THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE
ARTISTS

www.62group.org.uk

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to you all. It was great to see so many members at the AGM this year and thank you all for taking the time to come. I would like to welcome four new members to the 62 Group. They are Nigel Cheney, Caron Penney, Vanessa Rolf and Willemien de Villiers.

I would also like to welcome Hannah Streefkerk who has been invited back to the 62 Group following a vote at the AGM. We look forward in anticipation to receiving their work for selection for our future exhibitions. As you know I have been Chair for three years and am looking to move on but as there were no volunteers to take over as chair you are stuck with me for now. The current committee are all willing to stay in place for the next year so I would like to thank them for their support.

After the business of the AGM on 3 December was completed, we had an enjoyable afternoon with an inspirational talk from our 2015 new member, Richard McVetis, about his practice and his recent residency in Iceland. Thank you Richard. Now everyone wants to go to there!

Looking ahead to the New Year 2017 we continue our Making Space exhibition tour by showing our work at the Knitting & Stitching shows at both Olympia in London & in Edinburgh. There is more information about this later in the Newsletter. Pre-selected work from our Macclesfield exhibition will be shown alongside new work selected by a members' panel and we look forward to receiving your work in February.

Please note that the sending-in documents have been updated. There are two sets of sending-in documents and two different sending-in addresses for the Spring K&S 2017 show. One set is for the pre-selected Macclesfield work and the second set is for any new work submitted. Please find your updated sending-in documents attached with this newsletter.

Our new website is now live and I'm sure you'll agree that it looks great. There will be further development of the site over the next few months. It is fully responsive so looks good on a tablet and phone as well as a desktop computer. Thank you to all those who have updated their pages and if you haven't done it yet please send your information now to davidpitcher@me.com.

Our CTRL/Shift project with Liz Cooper is progressing slowly but surely and I am excited to announce that we have now secured our launch venue which is MAC, Birmingham. The mixed-arts venue has a lovely gallery space and a huge footfall. It will be a great venue for us to run education events alongside the exhibition. Images of the first-floor gallery space can be seen at our blog: <http://newsletterpics.blogspot.co.uk>

Liz is working hard to secure a second venue but it's not easy in this day and age due to cutbacks in funding for venues and restrictions on the type of work they can show. Our selection process, which of course is laudable, does not assist us when venues would like to see the work before agreeing to show it and this could become an even bigger problem going forward. To try to get round this we are investigating the possibility of selecting the work for this exhibition about six months in advance

so we can photograph our work, publicise the exhibition and produce a catalogue with a lot less stress than at our 2014 Ebb & Flow exhibition. Thereís a further update later in the newsletter.

So with that I would like to wish you a creative and productive 2017 and I hope to see many of you at Olympia.

All the Best, Sue

MEMBERSHIP LIST 2017

The updated 2017 Membership List is an attachment with this Newsletter. Please remember to delete your 2016 version. Marilyn Rathbone

ATTACHMENTS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

62 Group Membership List 2017

K&S, Olympia and Edinburgh, 2017
Preselected Macclesfield work: Checklist
Preselected Macclesfield work: Information
Preselected Macclesfield work: Sending-in form
New work only: Checklist
New work only: Information
New work only: Sending-in form
New work only: Statement forms
Financial Report 2016

EXHIBITIONS UPDATE

Making Space - Knitting & Stitching Shows, 2017
Update from Sue Stone

NB: There are 2 sets of sending-in forms for K&S attached with this Newsletter.
One set is for pre-selected work from Macclesfield and is headed PRE-SELECTED MACCLESFIELD WORK ONLY
The second set should be used for all new work submitted and is headed NEW WORK ONLY

Dates

New work selection: Saturday 25 February 2017
Selection Panel: Sue Stone (senior member), Louise Baldwin, Maggie Henton, Richard McVetis, Emily Jo Gibbs

Date of Shows

Olympia K&S: Thursday 2 March to Sunday 5 March 2017
Edinburgh K&S: Thursday 27 April to Sunday 30 April 2017

At Olympia - stand is 12 metres x 6 metres

We have a corner stand so we can have plenty of outside as well as inside wall space

We have requested plinths (& acrylic tops) as per information already sent by members

Walls are 2.74m tall
Hanging: Wednesday 1 March, 8am - 8 pm
Open from 2 - 5 March at Olympia (Olympia 2 and West Hall).
The show open hours will then be:
Thursday: 10am - 7pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am - 5.30pm
Sunday: 10am - 5pm

Debbie Lyddon is co-ordinating at Olympia so if you haven't offered yet please let Debbie know if you can help with set up, stewarding or take-down.

email: debbielyddon@hotmail.co.uk

Shipping between the shows will be handled by Bill Bowden who handles the logistics for K&SS

Collection will be from his depot in Crawley. Details for collection will be sent out in the Spring.

At Edinburgh - stand is 16 metres x 5 metres

We have a stand with two corners so we can have plenty of outside as well as inside wall space.

Hanging: Wednesday 26 April, 8 am to 8 pm

Open from 27 - 30 April at the Royal Highland Centre in Inglistone

The show open hours will then be:

Thurs, Fri & Sat: 10am - 5.30pm

Sunday: 10am - 5pm

If you can help with the Edinburgh show please let me know if you haven't been in touch already: chair@62group.co.uk

CTRL/Shift Update from Sue Stone

Our launch venue is MAC Birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH

Date of exhibition: 21 July to 9 September 2018

See images of the venue here: <http://newsletterpics.blogspot.co.uk>

Selection of work will be made in early Spring 2018 in order to give a good lead time for the promotion of the exhibition and production of a catalogue.

Concept

To refresh your memory and to inform our new members here is the concept for the exhibition:

CTRL/Shift will take shifts and changes as its theme, in particular it is centred on artists whose practice is or has transformed, in small or large ways, especially towards expressions of innovation in textile art. These shifts may be around changing attitudes to control (towards or away from it); the introduction of new materials and techniques; and/or the impact of innovative ideas and evolving technologies. The exhibition therefore offers an opportunity for participating artists to explore projects which manifest as transformations in their practice.

CTRL/Shift is intended as a convincing demonstration of the contemporary relevance and unique ability of textile and fibre arts to allow artists to explore complex themes, and to expand their practice.

It is the particular ambition for CTRL/Shift to raise the profile of the 62 Group, reaching new audiences and to give the group's members a platform to try different things in their practice. The exhibition concept has been developed in partnership with independent curator Liz Cooper; to uphold the Group's objectives to encourage

the exploration of new directions; and to create opportunities for growth and exchange of ideas.

CTRL/Shift behind the scenes

We have now been working on the *CTRL/Shift* project for almost two years and Liz has approached over 20 venues on our behalf with very mixed results. One positive result is that MAC Birmingham have offered to be our launch venue and have offered a slot from 21 July to 9 September 2018. That will be our 2018 exhibition regardless of any outcome of a funding bid.

MAC are already supported by ACE and have a full technical team in place. Penny Burnfield and Richard McVetis have offered help for this exhibition so thanks to both of them. We hope to also run a Member's professional development day or weekend at the venue possibly in Spring 2018.

Selection of work will need to be made well in advance of the exhibition in order to have images and info in time for publicity. We are at present looking into the logistics of selecting the work in Spring 2018 so if we do this we will need to store the work before the exhibition. We will be applying for funding to help make this work. I have spoken to Liz in length about how we move forward with the project. We have decided that we need to make a decision to whether we go for a single venue or a Touring bid by the end of March 2017 with a view to submitting a bid in June 2017.

Some of the venues Liz has contacted have declined either because they have programmed too much in the way of textiles recently (Devon Guild), because they do not take artist-led shows (Ruthin), or because they have particular requirements due to their own funding & programming restrictions. Others didn't want to be a launch venue (eg NCCD, Sleaford, formally The Hub). NCCD are still interested in being part of a tour but can't plan ahead due to funding issues. Liz is hoping we will have a decision from them very soon. She is also waiting for a decision from 20:21 in Lincolnshire.

NEW MEMBER: NIGEL CHENEY

I live to draw and I'm never sure whether it's by putting marks on paper or stitches on cloth. I have a fascination with colour, texture and mark-making that results in work that expresses narrative through imagery, and surface at both small- and large-scale. Natural forms such as birds, flowers and animals are studied in great detail, juxtaposed with more abstract grounds. Enjoying a full palette of textile processes, including digital printing, hand and machine embroidery, my work often explores ambiguous territories where childlike phrases and idioms stimulate visual allegories. As an expert in industrial embroidery and commercial textile design processes I have enjoyed exploring the creative possibilities of digital stitch for many years.

Since graduating from Manchester Poly (now MMU) for BA in Embroidery and MA in Textiles over 25 years ago I have spent the majority of my career based in Dublin at the National College of Art and Design, that thinks of itself as the premier art and design provider in the Republic. Recently the Embroidery course within the Faculty of Design that I had shaped for over 20 years has become the BA (Hons) Textile Art and Artefact pathway within the School of Fine Art. Challenging times.

The Irish Year of Craft, 2011, gave me my first opportunity for a solo show. *Gone*

to the Dogs was a personal reflection on worth and value, exhibiting digitally-printed, hand- and machine-stitched quilts that combined imagery of pedigree dogs with ornate decommissioned bank notes. This was a major shift in my own practice that explored the tensions between the hand-crafted, hand-operated craft processes with new technology and digital outputs.

My practice has been quite varied, exploring the tension between textile design product, clothing and more expressive fine-art outputs. *Textile Surface Manipulation*, 2013, co-written with Dr Helen McAllister, reflects my interests in textile education. The more commercial work I produce is also represented through *Design Nation* since 2015.

2016 has been a busy year with a major article on my work in the *Irish Arts Review*, a solo stand at the *Spring Knitting and Stitching Show*, a commissioned hand-embroidered up-cycled scarf for the exhibition that accompanied the Chelsea College of Art's *Circular Transitions* ethical fashion conference, and a bespoke project looking at the historical figures, the Lethbridge Sisters, that accompanies the forthcoming book by Dr Lynne Hulse.

Currently my focus is on a solo show for 2017 at the NCCD, Sleaford. *Decorated* began with research into the few artifacts that survive of my paternal great grandfather, Corporal William Holman, who died in April 1917 near Arras, France. It has expanded to include a tribute to the eleven men whose names feature on a small village war memorial in Naseby. Exploring a lost language of medals and commemoration from the First World War, I am creating larger than life-size 'body bags' from reassembled kit bags and uniforms that speak of loss, sacrifice and the domesticity of the mending processes that are required by those who survive.

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome at the AGM last December.
Nigel

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS
Pre AGM COMMITTEE MEETING
Saturday 3 December 2016, 9.30am
ST ANNE'S CHURCH, 55 DEAN STREET, LONDON, W1D 6AF

1. Apologies - Louise Baldwin, Lucy Brown, Rachael Howard, Michelle Stephens.
Present - Sue Stone (Chair), Helen Banzhaf, Heather Belcher, Emily Jo Gibbs, Ann Goddard, Hannah Lamb, Debbie Lyddon, Siân Martin, Jan Miller, Marilyn Rathbone.

2. Minutes of committee meeting 24/09/16 - Agreed as there were no matters arising

3. AGM Agenda & Committee Reports

Chair - Overview

- SS summarized her report.

Committee Jobs

Committee - 3 officers + 8 committee members + co-opted members as required.

The following officers are willing to stay on the committee:

- Sue Stone (one more year as Chair). Request for volunteers to take over as chair at AGM.
- Heather Belcher - Treasurer
- Ann Goddard would like to step down as Secretary but is willing to stay another year.

The following committee members are willing to stay on the committee:

- Marilyn Rathbone, Emily Jo Gibbs, Debbie Lyddon, Michelle Stephens, Hannah Lamb, Rachael Howard.
- Lucy Brown will step down as Senior member but stay as Education Officer.
- Jan Miller would like to step down from NL but has spoken to EJG who will help put it into Mailchimp format if required.
- We also have 3 co-opted members Helen Banzhaf (New Members), Louise Baldwin (Archives) & Siân Martin (Newsletter team)

Committee Reports

- HB presented the accounts.
- SS has copies of the reports. Time was short so we moved onto the next item on the agenda.

4. Future Exhibitions Programme Update

Knitting & Stitching Shows 2017

- K&SS new work selection 25 Feb. Volunteers are needed for the panel
- Request info from members for plinths.
- £12 hanging fee required for each venue.
- Further info to be given at the AGM.

CTRL /Shift

- SS has received an update from Liz Cooper.
- LC has approached about 20 venues - SS has the list of galleries.
- MAC Birmingham 1st floor Gallery have agreed to be the launch venue.
- Dates 21st July - 9 September 2018

5. Website

- The website is almost ready to launch. There will be further development early in New Year; Members secure area to store docs etc; and New Membership application secure area

6. AOB

- **Fashion & Textile Museum** - Liz Cooper had a meeting with them and although they are not interested in CTRL/Shift they would like to develop a relationship with the 62 Group going forward and have suggested an annual lecture and a future collaboration or opportunity to display work at the Museum. SS has contacted Celia Joicey. LB & SS hope to meet with them in the New Year.
- **Hannah Streefkerk Membership Proposal** will be put at the AGM. AG has had messages of support for the proposal from Jean Draper & Audrey Walker who are unable to attend the AGM.
- **Change to Constitution** - wording was agreed.

7. Date of the next committee meeting - 25 March 2017

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS AGM

Saturday 3 December 2016, 11.00am

St Anne's Church, 55 Dean Street, London, W1D 6AF

- 1. Apologies** - Jeanette Appleton, Hilary Bower, Lucy Brown, Julia Burrowes, Rachael Howard, Michelle Stephens. Mary-Ann Morrison, Tilleke Schwarz, Fiona Rutherford, Jean Draper, Dot Daly, Jae Maries, Audrey Walker.
Present - Sue Stone (Chair), Louise Baldwin, Helen Banzhaf, Caroline Bartlett, Jan Beaney, Heather Belcher, Penny Burnfield, Nigel Cheney, Isobel Currie, Catherine Dormer, Caren Garfen, Emily Jo Gibbs, Ann Goddard, Christine Gornowicz, Maggie Henton, Paddy Killer, Hannah Lamb, Jean Littlejohn, Debbie Lyddon, Siân Martin, Jane McKeating, Richard McVetis, Jan Miller, Marilyn Rathbone, Shuna Rendel, Elizabeth Tarr.

Sue Stone welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 2. Minutes of AGM 2015** - Agreed as there were no matters arising

3. Committee Reports

Chairman's Report - Sue Stone

- SS has been Chair for 3 years and would now like to step down. She asked everyone to think who could do the job and take over from her.
- SS welcomed 4 new members to the 62 Group. Nigel Cheney, Willemien de Villiers, Vanessa Rolf and Caron Penney. Nigel was at the AGM and Vanessa joined us in the afternoon.
- Thanks go to Helen Banzhaf who organised the New Members selection this year. Helen will be sharing the job with Rachael Howard next year.
- Our exhibition this year was *Making Space* at Macclesfield Silk Museum. There were 55 submissions from 39 members and 46 pieces were selected. SS would like to thank Michelle Stephens for all her hard work before, during and after the exhibition.
- The exhibition was well received. The space was very challenging with lots of pipes and radiators. We were originally promised, ie white walls and exhibition support.
- Thanks to Jo Hall at *Embroidery* magazine we had great review in the magazine and thank you to Hannah Lamb for organising this. We also utilised *Facebook* and *Twitter*.
- SS thanked everyone who sent work or helped with any aspect of making the exhibition at Macclesfield successful. 22 *Radical Thread* books, 30 *Ebb & Flow*

catalogues and 2 pieces of work were sold.

- The *Making Space Tour* continues in March at the *Spring Knitting & Stitching Show*, Olympia and the Edinburgh K&SS show in April 2017. Further details later in the meeting.
- Looking further forward to 2018/19 we have made progress on CTRL/ Shift our exhibition with Liz Cooper. Further details later in the meeting.
- Our presence on *Facebook* and *Twitter* has been further developed this year and we now have over 3,580 likes to our FB page. Hannah Lamb has offered to help with Twitter.
- Thanks to the members who have liked and shared posts and retweeted and liked tweets helping to raise the profile of the 62 Group.
- Our PayPal account is working well to take workshop payments and book sales and over half of our new members applicants paid by PayPal.
- We have had a new website designed. The launch has been slightly delayed due to SS's husband's recent ill health but this will now go live soon. More about this later.
- Finally SS acknowledged the support that the committee has given her over the past year which has been quite a busy one for her and thank them for all their hard work. The 62 Group could not be run smoothly without the numerous hours that committee members work voluntarily on behalf of the Group.

Treasurers Report - Heather Belcher

- The annual accounts for year beginning 1 September 2015 opened with a balance of £11,336.65 and closed this year on 31 August 2016 with a balance of £13,119.14 (an increase of £1,782.49). See Financial Report attachment
- *Making Space* at the Silk Museum brought in a very healthy income from both the sale of catalogues (£240) plus the tickets sold for the Education programme (£910) and submission and hanging fees (£965). The sale of catalogues is not shown on the balance sheet as they were invoiced after the year ending 31 August.
- The exhibition did need to be heavily supported by members. After paying member travel expenses it made a modest profit of £375, covering its costs.
- Fees collected from New Member applications this year went a large part of the way to covering the costs of setting up the two days of selection, with two different panels of 62 Group Members carrying out the selection. The costs are mostly advertising and member travel expenses.
- We now have a PayPal Account which allows payments online for book sales, New Member Applications and the Education Workshops. Income generated through this service was £1284. We pay a small fee for these transactions but it makes payment easier for people and because of that generates more income for the group overall.

Secretary's Report - Ann Goddard

- After 8 years of being Secretary AG would like to stand down. She is willing to stay on for another year with the hope that another member will volunteer to take over by then.
- There were problems this year with receiving emails through the website as the links stopped working & Inigo the website hosts seemed unable to fix them.
- Since cancelling the renewal with Inigo, the website has been in the process of being overhauled so external messages have not been received during this time. Emails from members of the group have still got through and have

been forwarded as they come in.

- One member realized she hadn't received the Newsletter for a long time and AG discovered the member's name had disappeared from the contact list. Many apologies to the member concerned and this has now been corrected.
- If you think you have not received a Members' Newsletter in a while please let AG know so she can check her contact list and forward another copy.

Membership Report - Marilyn Rathbone

- This year one member left the Group: Suzy Shackleton
- We have four new members: Nigel Cheney, Caron Penney, Vanessa Rolf, Willemien de Villiers.

Which means that we currently have:

- 56 Exhibiting Members
- 6 Honorary Exhibiting Members
- 17 Honorary Non-Exhibiting Members
- 11 Friends

Sabbaticals:

- 2 members took sabbaticals in 2016: Dawn Dupree and Imogen Aust
- 2 members will be taking Sabbaticals in 2017: Imogen Aust and Elaine Megahey

New Membership Selection - Helen Banzhaf

- Both Selection Panels were held in London at Helen Banzhaf's address.
- Each Panel meeting consisted of four different 62 Group Members plus HB.
- The 1st stage Selection meeting was based on prospective candidates' images of their work plus an application form with relevant information re: their practice etc.
- At this stage there were 17 applicants: 11 paid by PayPal, 5 paid by cheque, 1 neglected to pay so her work was not considered.
- Six members were invited to submit work for the 2nd election Panel meeting in November.
- Four applicants were successful and were invited to become members: Nigel Cheney, Caron Penney, Vanessa Rolf, Willemien de Villiers (a resident of South Africa)
- All four new members have expressed their delight at becoming fully fledged Members of the 62 Group of Textile Artists. And they are welcomed.

Education & Handling Collection - Lucy Brown

Making Space Silk Museum Macclesfield

- There were two workshops programmed; *My Life in Silk* led by 62 Group Artist Paddy Killer; *Space (in your mind) for a new plan* led by 62 Group, Artist Tilleke Schwarz
- For the first time tickets were sold via 62 Group website for both workshops. Paddy's workshop had to be cancelled, due to her ill health. Thank you to Sue Stone who took the time to do all the refunds and apology emails. Tilleke Schwarz's fully booked workshop (with a waiting list) went ahead. Participants travelled from far and wide; including Leicestershire, West Midlands, Cheshire, Sheffield, Cardiff and Nottinghamshire. Tilleke and her workshop received highly positive feedback and we have found that there is a huge appetite for more 62 Group events.

Making Space Knitting & Stitching Show, Spring 2017

- LB is currently in the process of firming up the events for Making Space at the Knitting and Stitching show Spring 2017.
- We have proposed a *Making Space* talk, tour and discussion event and also

one-to-one artist surgeries/student portfolio review sessions for students/creative practitioners'. Collating a large programme of education events for something on the scale of *Knitting & Stitching Show* is quite a complex task for the K&SS team... so sorry to those members who are having to wait regarding the outcome of proposals sent in... LB is hopeful that our events will run and will be in touch with members in question soon. Thank you for your patience.

Handling Collection

- There were two more donations to the 62 Groups ever-growing Handling Collection.
- The Handling Collection so far consists of twenty one 2d and 3d samples generously donated by 62 Group exhibiting members.
- The Collection is there for all our members to use. If you have any suggestions, please do get in touch. We would like to get the Handling Collection photographed and digitised so it can be accessed by anyone, online, on the 62 Groups fresh new updated website and planning to get this done sometime in the new year.
- LB thanked Paddy Killer, Tilleke Schwarz, all members who have donated handling samples, and members who have taken the time to send proposals for K&SS Spring 2017. Special thanks to Michelle Stephens for hosting Tilleke's stay in England, and for supporting Tilleke's two-day workshop. Things would not have gone as smoothly as they did if it had not have been for Michelle's commitment and support throughout *Making Space*.

Making Space, Macclesfield - Michelle Stephens

Feedback on Take-Down:

- MS would like to thank those who were involved in the take-down: Claire Johnson, Isobel Currie, Richard McVetis, Ann Goddard and Paddy Killer, also Debbie Lyddon's husband who collected works for other members.
- Two pieces sold during the exhibition, both by Kay Smith.
- At the conclusion of the exhibition there were 10 Radical Thread and 16 Ebb & Flow catalogues left. These have been left in the shop to try and sell.
- MS suggested members be reminded to label all their bubble wrap. Due to the difficult circumstances when hanging the exhibition, the packaging became mixed up and it was difficult come take-down to match it all back up.
- The Museum complained about the amount of phone calls from members with queries about take-down dates. This information was given to everyone via email and was listed on the forms so there should have been no need to contact the Museum.
- MS suggested a group email be sent out to remind members to send separate return packaging for each piece submitted. This enables any unselected pieces to be returned.
- MS recommended getting a generic 62 Group exhibition pop-up banner which can be taken to all exhibitions for better PR during the show.
- MS also suggested compiling a PV name list so that catering is covered more accurately. That way we can better gauge attendance at events as well.

Publicity - Hannah Lamb

- This year the focus of publicity has been on our Macclesfield show *Making Space*.
- HL achieved free online listings with the Crafts Council, Embroiderers' Guild, Art Rabbit and a-n exhibition listing.
- Press releases were sent out to a number of publications, aiming to get editorial

coverage for *Making Space*. We achieved a small piece in the May/June issue of *Embroidery*, and also took out a paid advert in the same issue. Selvedge agreed to write a blog post on *Making Space*, although this was initially delayed and took some chasing. In the end HL wrote it and it was published on 9 July. However there were issues with getting the correct images into the post. Although it was a bit of a messy process HL now understands how they work and hopes to be able to use this opportunity again in the future.

- Jo Hall kindly agreed to review *Making Space* and this was published in the Sept/Oct issue of *Embroidery*. It was generally a very favourable review, which picked out some of the different themes explored by members through reference to key works. Our relationship with *Embroidery* magazine continues to be strong and we appreciate the support we have from Jo Hall.
- HL suggested it would be useful to consider how the press coverage achieved by the group can be archived. In the meantime she is keeping press cuttings.
- HL mentioned due to work commitments and poor health she has been less able to work on publicity over the past few months but hopes to be able to focus more on publicity for the *Spring Knitting and Stitching shows*.
- HL would be grateful to members for useful leads and suggestions of different publications to approach. She is also keen to tap into the different groups and organisations members are involved with and see how we can promote through these.

Website - Sue Stone

- Launch delayed because of Dave's ill health but it is now ready and will go live.
- The new website is fully responsive so it works well on tablets and phones as well as desktop computers.
- If you have updated already then thank you very much and if you haven't sent anything yet then please send your new info through to Dave asap.
- During the down time we have not been idle and we have collected an additional 300+ names for our mailing list.
- We will be continuing to develop the website over the next few months and will be introducing a secure member's area to store documents for your reference such as sending-in forms, newsletters & information about exhibitions etc to make them easier to find instead of being lost somewhere on your computer.
- We will be updating our New Members application process so that the first stage information can all be uploaded to a secure area of the website. Second stage selection will remain as it is with the sending of actual work to be presented to the selection panel.

Public Newsletter - Emily Jo Gibbs

- EJG requested news of members' exhibitions, workshops, awards, residencies etc to be sent to her for inclusion in the Public Newsletter. (The Members' Newsletter will no longer feature this information).
- SS shares the info on *Facebook & Twitter*.
- The Public Newsletter is sent out on the following dates: 1 March, 1 June, 1 September, 1 December

Members' Newsletter – Jan Miller

- The 62 Group Newsletter has continued to be emailed to all members four times a year. Alongside a Letter from the Chair and Committee Meeting Minutes, it updates information about the Group's current activities plus attachments for

future reference.

- A new production process has not yet been established and perhaps from April 2017 progress will have been made.
- The next copy deadline is 31 December 2016 and new members are invited to introduce themselves in the January 2017 edition.
- Many thanks to the Committee, especially Sue Stone and Ann Goddard; and the Newsletter Team of Siân Martin and Paddy Killer.

Blog – Sian Martin

- Originally the blog was private and could only be seen by 62 Group members. Its role was for sharing exhibition photos that could not be fitted into the Newsletter.
- It is now an advertising platform for workshops. So if members wish to publicize their workshops please send details to Sian.

Archives – Louise Baldwin

- LB saw Lesley Ruthven (LV) in July and had a very positive meeting. LB handed over a couple of catalogues to add to the collection they hold at Goldsmiths.
- LV seemed very happy to meet and clarify what was to be held there and how to add to our archives.
- LV suggested the archives should hold: AGM agenda, AGM Minutes, 62 group Catalogues from shows, photographic records of shows (CD), Newsletters (printed version if possible), documentation of any other significant events.
- LV adds that this list is not meant to be restrictive or exhaustive just a guideline.
- LV emailed LB a form to fill out when delivering work to the centre.
- LB will hand on any items sent to her.
- CD asked if 62 Group or Goldsmiths have ownership of our archive. LB will find out and ask if we have a contract.
- JB mentioned the Embroiderers Guild collection has a 25 year contract at Aylesbury and suggested this as a possible venue if we lose Goldsmiths.

4. Voting for Committee

- SS made a request for suggestions to take over the Chair in a year's time. No offers yet.
- Proposal for the following 3 officers to remain in their role:
Chair – Sue Stone, Treasurer – Heather Belcher, Secretary – Ann Goddard
Proposer: Jan Beaney, Seconded: Jean Littlejohn
Agreed
- Proposal for current members of the committee to continue: Lucy Brown, Emily Jo Gibbs, Rachael Howard, Hannah Lamb, Debbie Lyddon, Jan Miller, Marilyn Rathbone, Michelle Stephens
Proposer: Penny Burnfield, Seconded: Jean Littlejohn
Agreed
- LB will step down as Senior member but stay as Education Officer. AG later agreed to become a Senior member in her place.
- Co-opted members are Louise Baldwin (Archives), Helen Banzhaf (New Members), Sian Martin (Members' Newsletter and Blog).

5. Amendment to Constitution

The following change of wording had previously been sent to members. (This does not apply to newly selected members in their first year.)

3.1.7 Membership fees:

Exhibiting members will be required to pay an annual subscription to the 62 Group, via the Treasurer and due on September 1st. (the beginning of the financial

year). Payment made before 30 September will be at the fee agreed by the committee each year. Thereafter a penalty surcharge will be levied, increasing in increments of £10 per month as follows: £10 from 1st October; £20 from 1st November; and £30 from 1st December. Non-payment of subs by the close of the AGM will result in withdrawal of membership (see 3.2.3)

3.2 Membership shall lapse if:

3.2.1 The member has failed to send work to THREE CONSECUTIVE 62 Group exhibitions.

3.2.2 The member's work has not been accepted for the inclusion in THREE CONSECUTIVE 62 Group exhibitions.

3.2.3 Member's fees have not been received by the Treasurer by the close of the AGM in the year that they are due.

3.2.4 Honorary membership is for life. Honorary exhibiting members will NOT lose their membership if they fail to send work in to THREE CONSECUTIVE 62 Group exhibitions. Their work will be subject to the normal exhibition selection procedures.

- Proposer: Heather Belcher, Seconded: Marilyn Rathbone
- Agreed

6. Future Exhibitions Programme Update

Knitting & Stitching Shows 2017

- K&S new work selection 25 Feb at Louise Baldwin's house. Maggie Henton, Emily Jo Gibbs, Richard McVetis, & Sue Stone volunteered to be on the selection panel.
- SS requested plinth info from members asap.
- £12 hanging fee required for each venue.
- Send in dates for pre-selected works to Debbie Lyddon's house – 16 & 17 Feb.
- Help is needed to set up & steward the show. A rota is being arranged.
- The sending in forms need to be redone due to the Edinburgh Show.
- SS has spoken to Helen Marriott at K&SS and the transport of work between venues and return back down south at no extra cost to the group has been arranged with Bill Bowden who handles the logistics for K&S.
- Members will just need to arrange to pick up their work or get it sent back from the depot which is near to Gatwick airport if they are unable to collect in person from Edinburgh. The final information for this will be sent out soon.

CTRL/ Shift

- SS has received an update from Liz Cooper.
- We have secured a launch venue which is MAC, Birmingham.
- The dates for the exhibition are 21 July to 9 September 2018 in the main gallery at MAC.
- Liz has had to work very hard to secure a starting venue. Venues seem to shy away from artist-led exhibitions nowadays and are wary of being a launch venue for group shows. Policy changes and cut backs have not helped us at this time.
- SS is looking to recruit another member for the CTRL/ Shift team to join Rachael Howard & SS, preferably, London or Midlands based. This will not be a committee job.
- LC has approached about 20 venues - SS brought the list of galleries for members to view.

7. AOB

- **Fashion & Textile Museum** – Liz Cooper had a meeting with them and although they are not interested in *CTRL/Shift* they would like to develop a relationship with the 62 Group going forward and have suggested an annual lecture and a future collaboration or opportunity to display work at the Museum. SS has contacted Celia Joicey. LB & SS hope to meet with them in the New Year.
- **Hannah Streefkerk membership** – proposal to invite her back to the group. HS previously resigned from the group due to problems when moving from Netherlands to Sweden. She re-applied to the group in the normal way this year but her paperwork and CD were lost in the post. Images of her recent work have been circulated to the group prior to this proposal.

Proposer: Siân Martin, Secoder: Penny Burnfield.

Agreed.

8. Date of the next AGM - 2 Dec 2017

After lunch, the day continued with a very interesting talk by Richard McVetis on his recent residency in Iceland.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Please send news of members' exhibitions, workshops, awards, residencies etc to Emily Jo Gibbs

emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com

for inclusion in the Public Newsletter which is mailed out on 1st May, 1st June, 1st September, 1st December.

Please note that anything for this edition has been forwarded.

Sue Stone chair@62group.co.uk will continue to post to FB & Twitter

Please continue to send your photos for the blogspot

to: www.newsletterpics.blogspot.com

sian@distantstitch.co.uk

Please send information only for members to jan.miller44@gmail.com by 31st May.

Many thanks to the Newsletter team, Siân Martin and Paddy Killer, for their help, support and patience in producing 62 Group Newsletters. Jan Miller