
62group
Members Newsletter

June 2023
Issue 75

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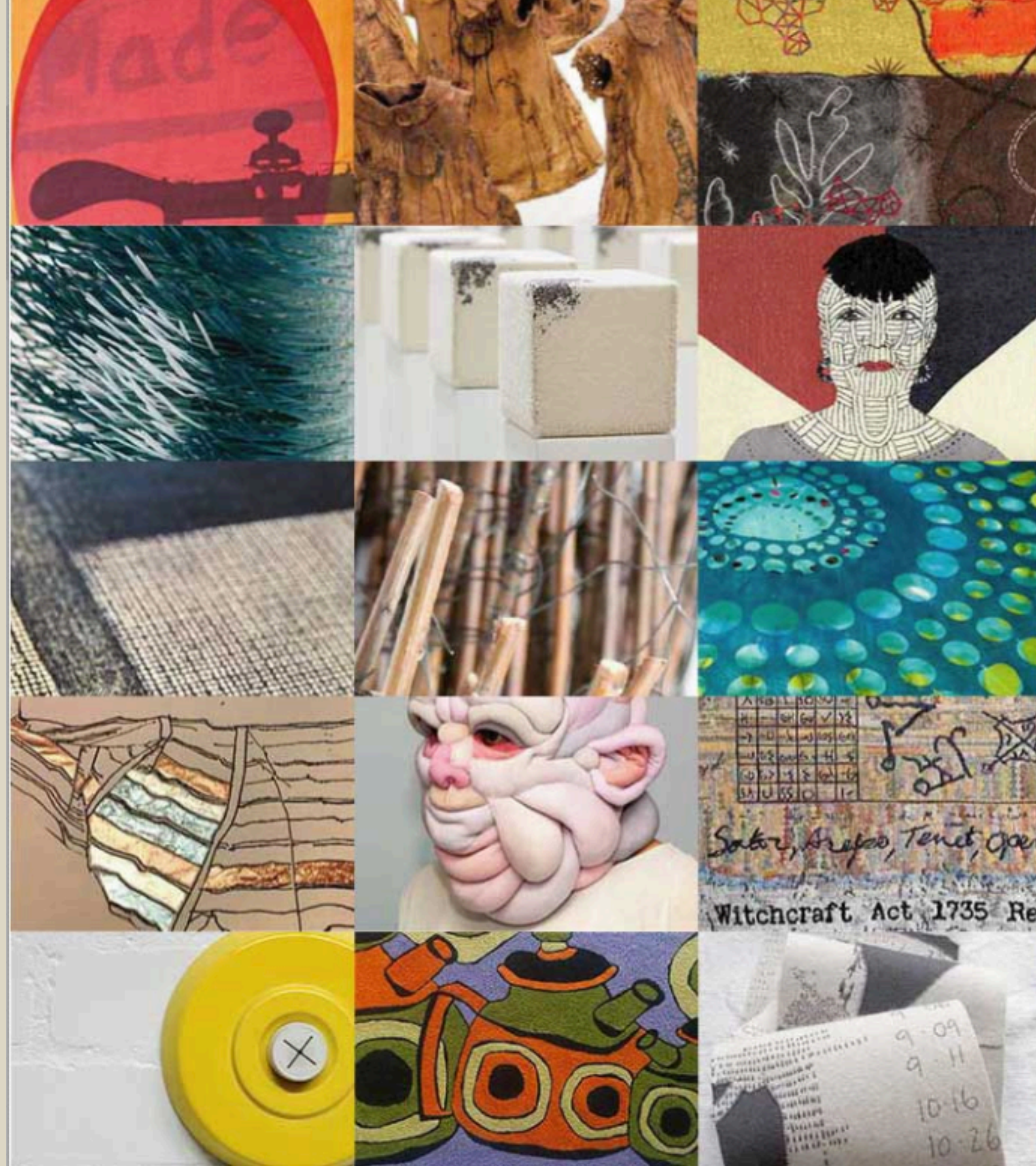
Letter from the Chair

Dear Members

I write having just managed a quick trip to Sunny Bank Mills and, even though I'd been on the selection panel, I was blown away by the work, the curation and what a wonderful exhibition Ealish, Clare and the team have staged. Thank you everyone!

Looking forward, we are planning our 62@62 celebrations, partially funded by a legacy from the inimitable Audrey Walker. We're titling the celebrations 'Making as Learning' and this gives an opportunity to reflect back as well as think forward. We've got a huge space to fill, so do allow yourself to be expansive if that's your way; there are smaller spaces too which will allow for more intimate works.

We're also planning a symposium, which we want to be a blend of making and learning approaches, so there's scope for more academic elements and more making-based and all things between.



Letter from the Chair contd



I'm hoping to get to Riga to see the textile triennale before it closes in September- many friends have sent images and it looks so enticing. I was recently at a symposium attached to the Magdalena Abakanowicz exhibition, mostly with Polish artists and academics and it was fascinating to hear how she and her peers navigated art-making across the East-West divide. Joanna Inglot is planning a book on the back of the event and I'd recommend you look out for it as there's so much new understanding of her work to be heard.

It's also graduate show time across our universities - there's so much textile on show across many of the arts, most notably painting. It's fascinating to see how these students are using the mediums we are so familiar with. It's also worth offering a lecture or workshop to the course leaders to support student understanding.

I hope you all manage some downtime over the summer months - I hope to see many of you soon, but for now, thank you and take care

Best wishes

Catherine

'Fragment of a Dress'

A Performance by Hannah Lamb

Join me in the Spinning Mill Loft at Sunny Bank Mill on Saturday 1st July for a performance based on my embroidered artwork Fragment of a Dress, which was created last year for the Brontë Parsonage Museum in Haworth.

Originally commissioned in 2022 as part of a year-long celebration of costume and textiles at the Brontë Parsonage Museum, I created Fragment of a Dress as a modern-day reflection on the special place that clothes have in our lives. I invited museum visitors to write a short piece about an item of clothing that held significance for them. The resulting handwritten passages were then carefully hand embroidered onto silk organza by a team of volunteers, which was then transformed into a voluminous skirt or dress. The work was presented with a nod to the 19th century dresses worn by Charlotte Brontë and her sisters.

Performances start at 1:30pm and 3pm.

PLEASE NOTE – unfortunately there is no step free access to the performance space in the loft. There is a lift that will take you to the 2nd floor, plus one flight of stairs with a handrail. Because this is a heritage building, some floor surfaces may be slightly uneven.

Tickets available to book online: <https://www.hannahlamb.co.uk>



Recording the pandemic

Lynn Setterington

As the COVID inquiry finally gets underway, here is a timely piece from Lynn:

“2 of my pieces have been bought by Special Collections at Manchester Met University and are important in documenting, recording and capturing aspects of the COVID19 crisis which affected all of our lives

Both are hand sewn artefact - Blue Plaque records Dominic Cummings visit to Barnard Castle 2020 and the Accountability Gown from 2023, draws attention to the huge amount of money wasted on unsuitable PPE

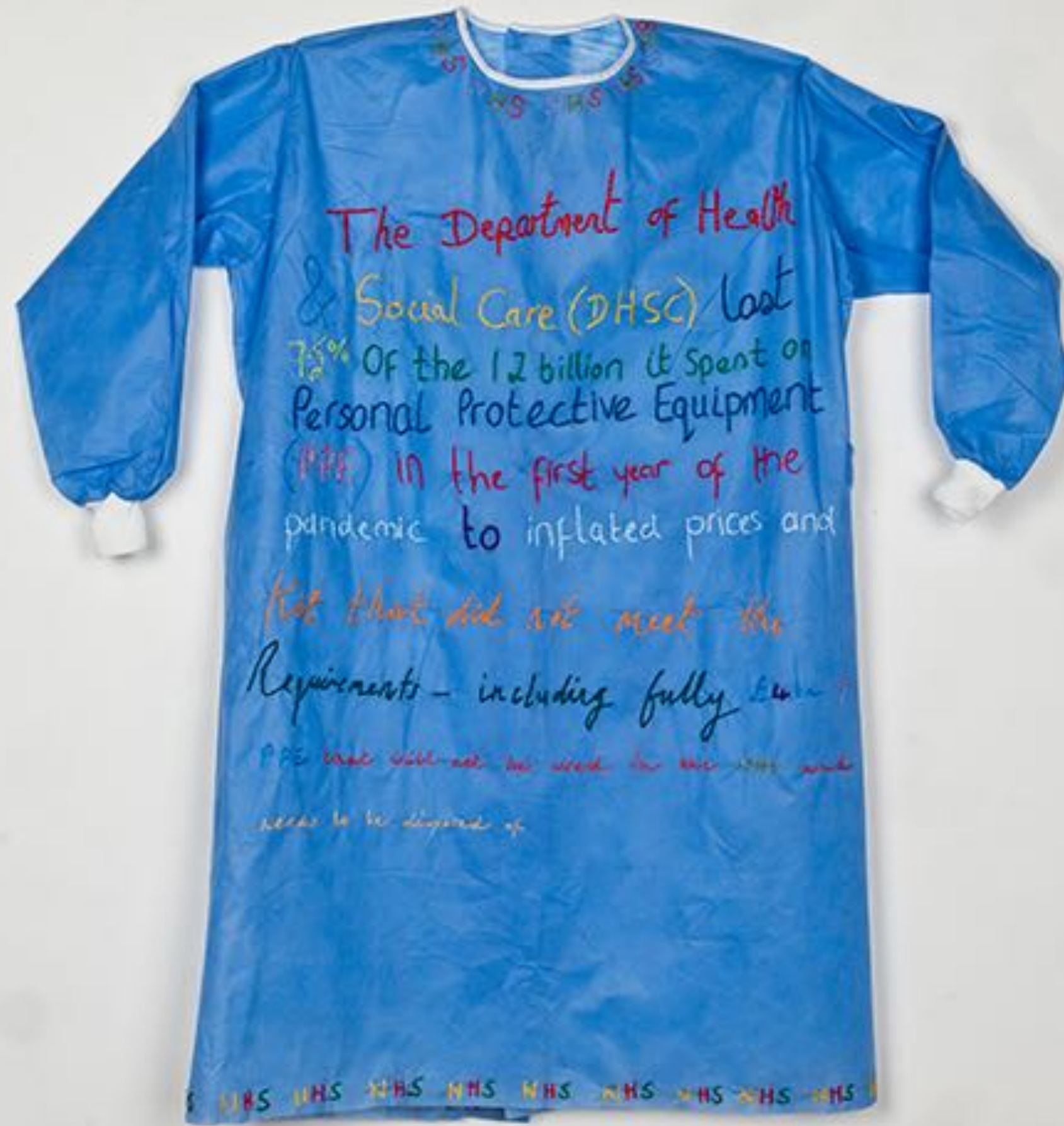
These acquisitions includes supporting evidence such as the twitter feed for the blue plaque which was seen by 1000's and helps recognise alternative narratives and ways of presenting work outside the gallery/museum/space”

Lynn Setterington



Recording the pandemic (cont'd)

Lynn Setterington



Lynn Setterington



Lynn Setterington

2024 Exhibition - 62@62

Salts Mill - 'Making as Learning'

The Brief

We would like to invite members of the 62 Group to engage with the theme: **Making as Learning**.

Submissions will consist of new experimental work, which could include work-in progress, site-specific, performance, or participatory activity to show learning as part of the making process.

The exhibition (and a supporting Learning as Making symposium) are partially funded through a legacy from Audrey Walker and we suggest that work may be inspired directly or indirectly by Audrey Walker, both as an educator and artist. The theme was conceived with this in mind.

The relevance of *Making as Learning* to you as artists may be considered in many ways, such as:

- a reflection on your notes or personal archive^[1]
- samples, yarn wraps, dye recipes,
- film stills, journals and sketchbooks
- the tangible and intangible qualities of your making as learning,
- the invisibility of your research on a corrupted storage device, a fading discarded sample or smudged notebook page
- how we learn from our making processes that become illegible or disintegrate over time?
- an item in a collection that connects to your practice in some way
- sensory or playful approaches that relate to your artistic sensibilities
- the structure of the archive with a reflection on how you retain and organise your making and learning processes for future use.
- Teaching or Workshop samples, notes and archives – could these form part of your reflections and submission?^[2]



^[1] Reflection on your personal archive, maybe complimented by observations of real-life and online collections of other textile makers studies such as the [Barbara Sawyer Archive](#), the [Fabric Workshop Archive](#) of commissioned artists samples at the Philadelphia Fabric Workshop and Museum, the [Textile Study Collection](#) (established by Audrey Walker), [The Crafts Study Centre](#) in Farnham, Surrey and the [Tactile Textile Resources](#) and handling collection of samples at Whitworth Art Gallery in Manchester.

^[2] You may be interested to look to further resources at [National Arts Education Archive](#) based at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park - and reflect upon pedagogic trends in textile art and design courses, despite uncertain educational priorities in some members home countries.

Salts Mill - 'Making as Learning' (cont'd)

The location & timing

The exhibition will be sited on the fourth floor attic room at the top of Salts Mill in Bradford September 2024. The **work will need to be sent to Salts Mill early September** and the **digital selection of work will be made in late May/early June**. The actual dates to be confirmed soon.

Salts Mill is a former textile mill and is now home to art, shops, and restaurant. The attic room at the top of Salts Mill is the former spinning room and measures 168m long. It is a unique, and stunning space that provides an opportunity to create work that *could* be site-specific, installation based and/or at a grand scale.

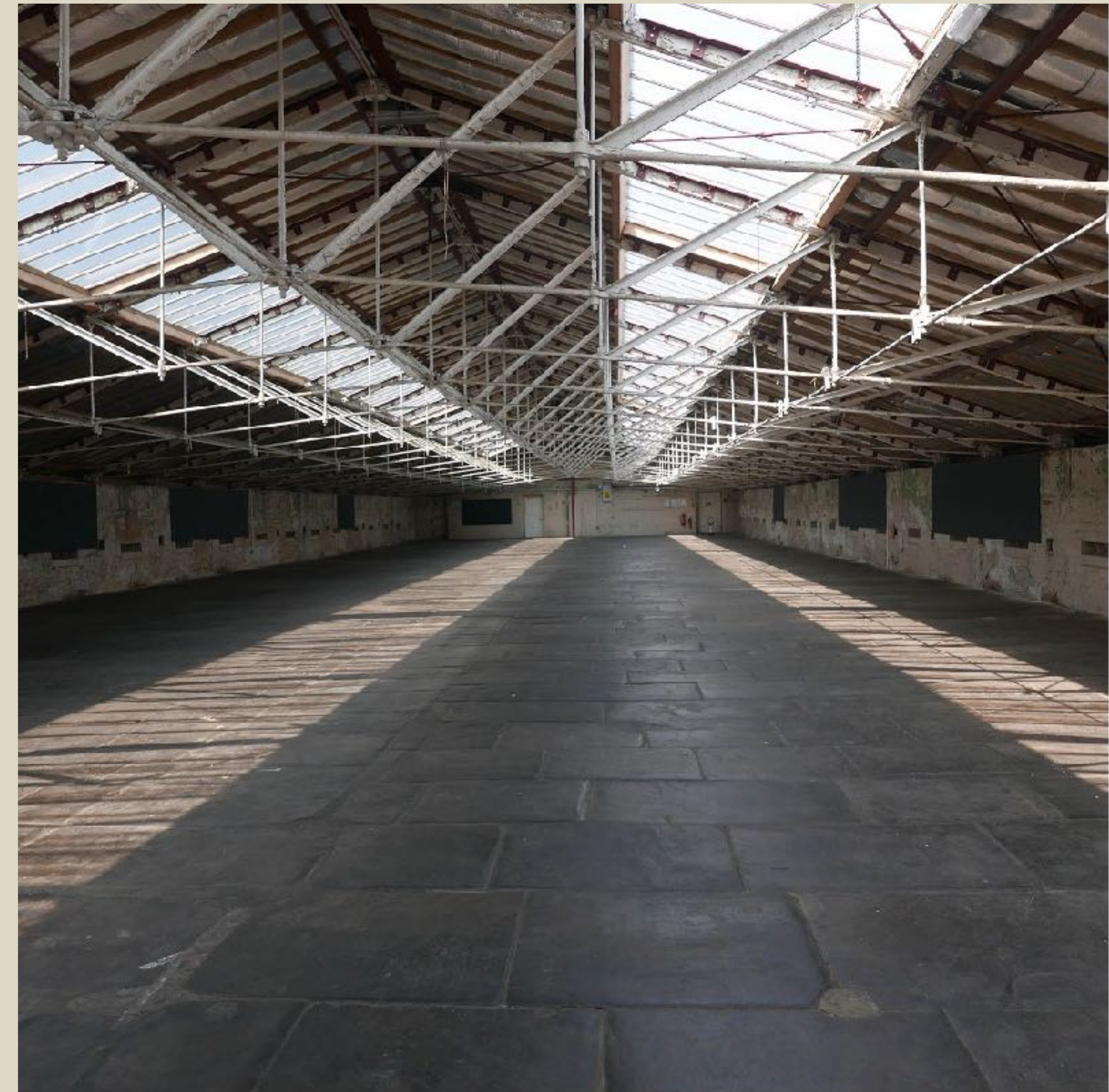
The space provides an 'environment' as opposed to a consistent and stable gallery space. The location does not have any artificial light sources and is lit through the windows in the ceiling; to work in this space will be stimulating, as the light in the space will fluctuate with the weather. We do not have access to any plinths, and the floor is uneven and therefore there may need to be alternative solutions for the display of works – you may consider suspending work (there are many opportunities to hang light work from the metal rafters) or laying work directly onto the floor. Due to the seasonal atmospheric conditions of the location, materials that are vulnerable to light, damp, dust, or wetness may alter character over the course of the exhibition.

Things to consider:

- If plinths are used – these need to be supplied by individual artists.
- Materials maybe affected by the atmospheric conditions of the space.
- Electricity can be used for audio visual work – but there may be a charge.
- Arrangement for transporting your work to and from site needs to be made. Small work may get lost so these should be taken to the site in person or couriered to Ealish.
- The space will be open during daylight hours: 11am – 4pm.
- There is no running water in the space.

For more on Salts Mill visit <https://www.saltsmill.org.uk/#about>

To see Cloth and Memory 2 at Salts Mill visit <https://www.clothandmemory.com/>



Exhibition Space

Salts Mill - 'Making as Learning' (cont'd)

Study Day(s)

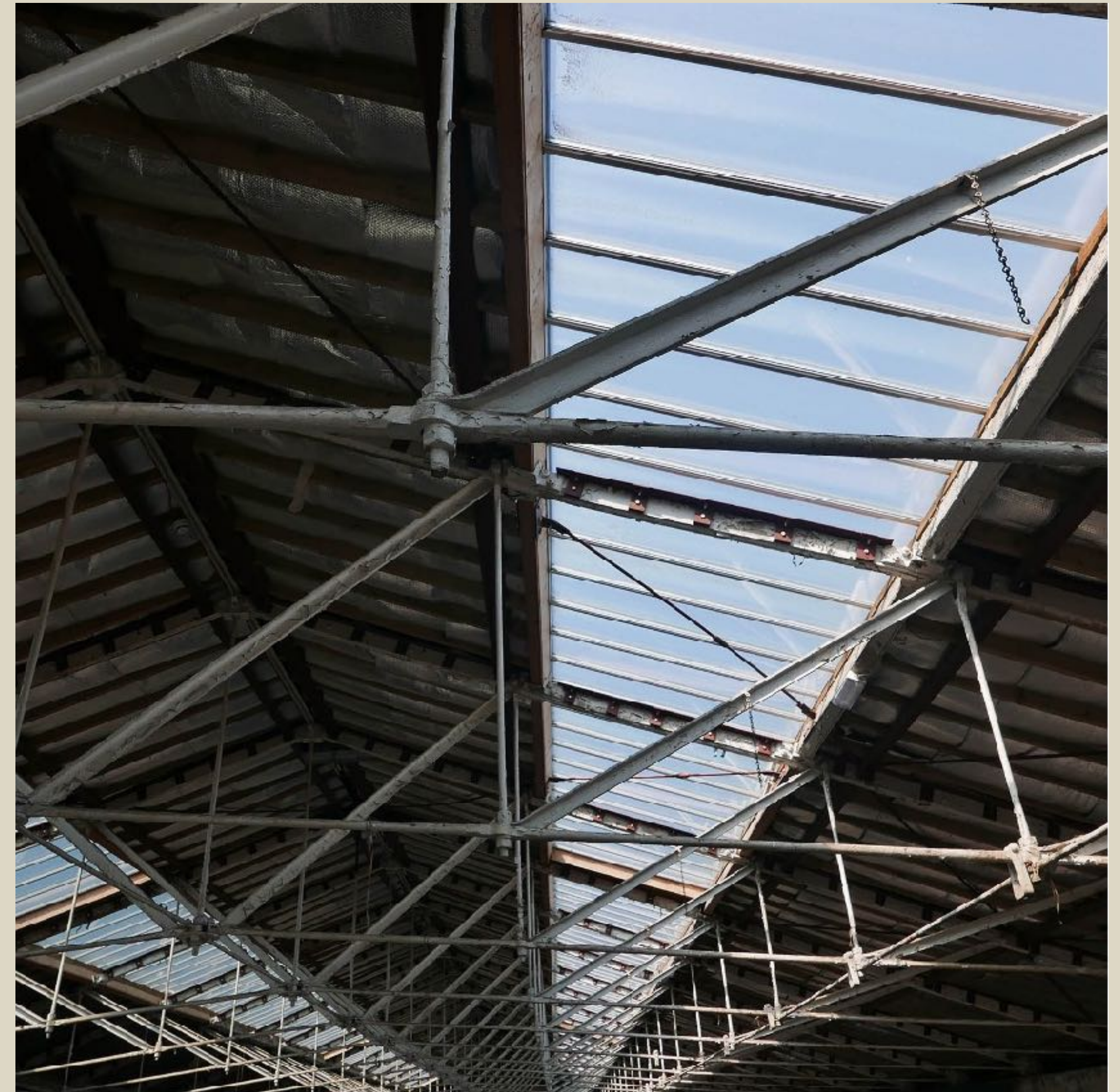
We will plan a study day(s) at Salts Mill, to look at the venue and discuss members ideas for artwork, installations, performances, workshops, and learning projects and how the work can be presented.

We would also be interested to discuss formats of presenting the 62 Group Members existing work, as a historical narrative and to demonstrate the creative field of Textile Art. This could be further teased out during our networking meetings.



No drilling is permitted into walls, but work can be pinned onto grey panels lining walls.

Salts Mill - 'Making as Learning' (cont'd)



Reasonably light work can be suspended from metal rafters. They are not too high to reach easily.

Salts Mill - 'Making as Learning' (cont'd)



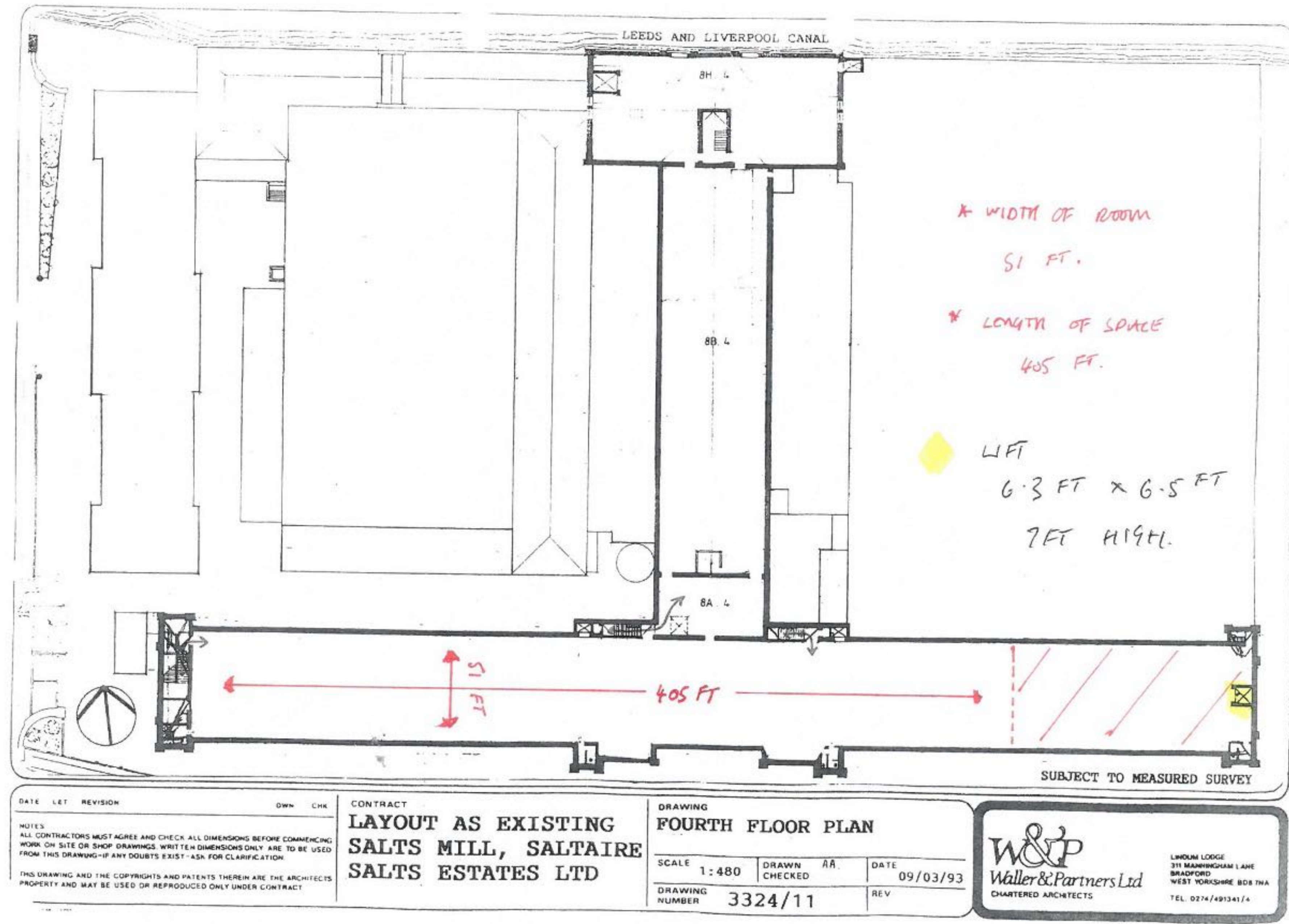
Many chairs are available and could be used for workshops.

**Small dark space
– perhaps for a 62
Group showreel.**



**We can book a
small room for
study days to
discuss proposals
and share ideas
and see the
space.**

Salts Mill -
'Making as
Learning'
(cont'd)



Floor plan of 4th floor
attic – see the area
with the red pen
annotations.



03 06 23

Committee Meeting Decisions & actions

Present:

Catherine Dormor
Ealish Wilson
Claire Barber
Isobel Currie
Christina Hesford
Emily Jo Gibbs
Sally Spinks
Hannah Lamb

Apologies:
Vanessa Rolf
Helen Davies
James Hunting

Committee:



We are looking for somebody to take over **Publicity** from Hannah Lamb, **Treasurer** from Christina Hesford and also really need an extra pair of hands to partner with Ealish on **New Members**, and Helen Davies on **Social Media**. **Please get in touch if you are interested.**



Finance:

We have a healthy balance £14725.04.



Big thanks to Christina for her work in the Treasurer role as she'll be stepping back in the autumn. **We also urgently need someone to cover for her maternity leave.**

Membership:

Current Membership - we are 62 strong!!!

- Exhibiting: 54
- Hon Exhibiting: 6
- Associate: 2
- Hon Non Exhibiting: 19
- Friends: 11

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CHANGE YOUR EMAIL

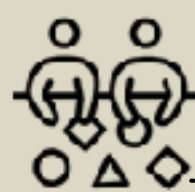


Publicity:

Sunny Bank Mills publicity was well received and the exhibition continues to be promoted right across social media. Great features on Ealish in the York press and Embroidery magazine featured Jane Walkley's work at Tailored.

New & Associate Members:

Applications closed on June 1st. 23 applications received for new members and 26 for associates. A panel will be held for both groups on 30th June with an external participant joining the Stage 1 selection process.



Education:

Vanessa, James and Woo Jin have been pulling together ideas for next year. They will work closely with Claire and Ealish once the dates and venue have been set for 62@62.

Social media:



Followers @ 23 May:

Instagram 6,773
Facebook 7,497
Twitter 1,976

Instagram continues to grow with the others static.

As well as reposting members post, Helen makes a feature international days and invites non-members to post. Any ideas on topics/days, let Helen know.

Please keep tagging @the62group in your posts.

Diversity & Inclusion:



James, Woo Jin and Vanessa are working on our Diversity and Inclusion agenda, they will be getting their heads down to propose some more initiatives - especially connected to 62@62.

Previous Minutes:

Approved and will be on the members site soon

Date of next meeting:
Saturday 2nd Sept 2023



Newsletter:



June edition has been circulated by Emily. We now have over 2,000 signed up to receive it.

Please continue to send any newsworthy items to Emily each quarter before the 1st of December, March, June and September.

Exhibitions:



Tailored continues at Sunny Bank Mills from 13th May - 2nd July 2023.

The exhibition has had a wonderful response. They say it's the "best one they've had" at SBM. People have been thrilled to see the creativity of members and the diversity taken for the theme. There will be a closing event with artist talks. Details to follow soon.

Ealish and Claire are now working on the 2024 exhibition and Audrey Walker

Future focus

Catherine is continuing to pull together some thoughts on how the 62 Group can stay relevant and ahead in the textile world.

Watch this space - more to come ;)

Online Networking meetings

We'll be having a break from our networking meetings over the summer and we'll schedule some new dates from September.

As ever, Sally will send around a zoom link a few days in advance of each session and set up the meeting,

Anybody who is up for hosting a *future* networking session, or has anything interesting they want to share, please email Sally on secretary@62group.co.uk



Important info

Your Committee 2023

Officers

Catherine Dormor - Chair chair@62group.co.uk

Sally Spinks - Secretary secretary@62group.co.uk

Christina Hesford - Treasurer treasurer@62group.co.uk

Committee Members

Vanessa Rolf - Education & Diversity vanessa.rolf@network.rca.ac.uk

Ealish Wilson - Exhibitions ealish@ealishwilson.com

Claire Barber - Exhibitions C.L.Barber@hud.ac.uk

Hannah Lamb - Publicity hannahjlamb@hotmail.com

Emily Jo Gibbs - Public Newsletter Editor emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com

Ealish Wilson - New Members Selection ealish@ealishwilson.com

Isobel Currie - Membership i.currie@myphone.coop

Helen Davies - Social Media hanselmeek@gmail.com

James Hunting - Diversity james.hunting@btinternet.com

Contacts

Sally Spinks secretary@62group.co.uk to send information to all members

Isobel Currie i.currie@myphone.coop to update contact details

David Pitcher davidpitcher@me.com to update your personal page info or to login into the members area of our website

Newsletters

We have 2 newsletters.

A Members newsletter which contains a letter from the chair, important news about 62 group events, membership news and committee reports. This is sent out quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter

The Public Newsletter is mailed out to subscribers on 1st of March, June, September and December. It includes 62 Group news and events and individual members' news. To share your news with the public, please send details to Emily Jo Gibbs or add emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com to your own newsletter mailing list so she can share your news.

Social Media

Contact Helen Davies hanselmeek@gmail.com

Facebook @62groupoftextileartists

Twitter @62group

Instagram @the62group

62group website - Members area

Here you can find information and documents for exhibitions, newsletters and the full minutes of committee meetings.

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