62 Group AGM

Saturday, 9th December 2023 11.00am - Zoom

Hello & Apologies

Apologies received:

Jane Walkley Gladys Paulus Louise Baldwin James Hunting Imogen Aust Debbie Lyddon Caron Penney Hazel Bruce Caroline Bartlett Woo Jin Joo Hannah White Sumi Perera Michelle House Caren Garfen Jennifer Smith-Windsor



Who was there

Alison Aye Claire Barber Jan Beaney Eszter Bornemisza Lucy Brown Isobel Currie Helen Davies Catherine Dormer **Isabel Fletcher** Gavin Fry Emily Jo Gibbs Ann Goddard Maggie Henton Christina Hesforth Paddy Killer

Joanna Kinnersly-Taylor Hannah Lamb Jean Littlejohn Weronika Magrini Jae Maries Siân Martin Jane McKeating Mark McLeish **Richard McVetis** Vanessa Rolf Lynn Setterington Sally Spinks Sue Stone Theresa Whitfield Ealish Wilson

Minutes

and matters arising

Just a reminder of workshop rates policy that were circulated and agreed post AGM 2022:

Standard Workshop/Mentoring/Talks £250 - £300 per day £200 per day or £50 per hour £150 - £200

Materials and travel will always be charged on top of fee. By car @ 45per mile or standard train fare.

We would make it clear that these fees are for 'standard' workshops. If any preparation or research is needed for bespoke workshops, the fee will be higher and negotiated at the time. This gives us flexibility to charge more if needed.

We would also negotiate separately for workshops with groups in financial hardship (joint applications for funding etc)

Galleries will need to agree with us any of their own workshop providers with us as it's our reputation at stake.

The previous AGM minutes were approved.

Catherine/Sally to clarify figures relating to workshop rates

Hello New Members ;)

A BIG 62 GROUP WELCOME ;)

Associate Member:

Weronika Magrini

New Members:

Alison Aye





Isabel Fletcher



Chair's Report

Catherine spoke about the following topics:

 Success of Tailored at Sunny Bank Mills – so good it's being repeated at the Sleaford Hub

 The networking evenings continuing to prove popular – one good thing to come out of Covid!

- We're now in our second year of recruiting Associate members which has been working well. We've a way to go on diversity, inclusion but the Associate scheme has been a great leap forward.

- "All members ever" list – thanks to Isobel and all her hard work for pulling together all the information from the archives. So great to see all the names in one place – including some illustrious artists ;)

Treasurer's Report

Resources at 31/8/23		Income breakdown:		
Natwest balance	14,133.48	Membership	3,131.99	
PayPal balance	744.86	Hanging	994.89	
Owed to overseas members	-298.84	Submission	289.47	
	14,579.50	Sales/comms	671.17	
		Funding	0.00	
		Misc income	984.50	
		Expenses breakdown:		
		Exhibitions	4,788.80	
		Travel/accom	964.92	
		Meetings	0.00	
		Website/comm	2,199.02	
		SocMed/advert	0.00	
		Misc expense	3,419.12	

Treasurer's report

Looking back:

Main income - membership, submission and hanging fees Main expenses - website and online communications, and exhibitions

Reminders:

Payment options available on the members area of the website

Looking forward:

Associate membership in its second year Exhibitions: Tailored and Making as Learning 2024 fees New treasurer?

Personal note:

Thanks!

2024 fees - Members voted for a voluntary tiered system of submission and hanging fees. Submission fees increase from £7 to £10 and hanging fees from £15 to £20 BUT each member chooses which fee to pay. If people can afford it and wish to pay the higher fee, then they do so but no questions will be asked if people choose to pay the lower fee. It's purely voluntary. Membership fees will remain at £50pa

New Treasurer – as nobody from the group has come forward in the past year, we need to find an external accountant to manage our books. It's a function we can't do without, so members voted to start the search for an accountant. Any contacts, let Sally know.

Membership

We now have 54 Exhibiting Members (3 of whom are currently taking sabbaticals), 8 Honorary Exhibiting Members, 3 Associate Members, 18 Honorary Non-Exhibiting Members, and 11 Friends.

As three Exhibiting Members have left this year, and three have joined, our numbers remain steady.

After a lot of archive research, and some feedback from members, I have now established an ongoing 'All Members Ever' list, which currently stands at 438 members. I hope this will be an interesting and useful record to honour all the many prestigious members who have been part of the 62 Group.

As always, please make sure you keep all contact information up-to-date so that you receive newsletters and reminders about exhibition deadlines and subs payments.

Associate Members

Our Associate Membership Scheme is in it's second year. This scheme aims to widen the reach of our membership.

We received 26 applications this year. A considerable drop from the 85 in the first year but as we had just 1 available award this year it was a feasible number to review. Possibly we were clearer in our promotion about the kind of work we were hoping for submission.

Online submissions were reviewed by a panel in June that included members, associate member Woo Jin Joo and external panelist Yemi Awosile.

4 applicants were invited to apply for full membership due to the established nature of their practice. All 4 took this option and applied to full membership.

6 shortlisted applicants were contacted and invited to send work for second selection on 8th September. 5 sent work and one applicant didn't respond despite follow up contact.

Associate Members

Vanessa agreed to work further on clarifying the criteria for applying for Associate Membership. 1 associate member was selected unanimously by the panel. We are delighted to welcome Weronika Magrini to the group as our associate member for 2023-25.

Wera will receive £500 this year and £500 next year to support with expenses connected to her practice.

Our 2022-24 associate artists, Helen Davies and Woo Jin Joo, are now in their 2nd year and due to receive their 2nd £500 payment. Both members submitted works for Tailored, which were accepted for exhibition under the same criteria as full members.

All 3 associate members have a page on our artist directory and have had their profile shared via our social media channels.

Thank you to those members who contributed their time to support our associate members in 2023. We are exploring the best routes to providing support around developing their practice with all of our associate members for the upcoming year.

New Members

Agreed to continue to recruit new members annually but to be kept under review depending on total membership numbers

Looking back:

We had 23 applications for full membership this year. The first selection panel convened via zoom to choose artists for stage two. 5 artists were selected to move forward. A different selection panel convened to select for full membership.

We are very happy to welcome Alison Aye and Isabel Fletcher. Both of whom have distinct textile practice and are a wonderful addition to our Group.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be on the selection panels and of course to Catherine for kindly hosting us for Stage 2 selection.

Looking forward:

Ealish is delighted to be handing over New Members applications process to Helen Yardley and Hannah White who will provide more information on next year's process soon.

Exhibitions

Looking back – Sunny Bank Mills

32 Members were part of 'Tailored' at SBM

Very successful and well received the audience was varied - school and collage groups to regular textile admirers.

The opening was well attended and many visited on multiple occasions.

Speed Date the artist closing event. Thank you to all the artists who participated in this. The feedback was excellent and visitors found the personal insights of the artist brought the work to life.

There were many comments on the standard of the Groups work, visitors appreciated the variety of techniques and responses to the theme.

Visitor numbers approx 1500

62@62 2024

Private view date: - 29 March Send in work – 14/15 March

Looking forward – Tailored, Sleaford Hub

Exciting opportunity to exhibit 'Tailored' again. This came about through Lesley Farrell exhibitions co-ordinator at the Hub.

We will receive a fee of £2000 for Group funds

This has been an extra in the calendar and we are very grateful for the enthusiasm members have shown in this opportunity.

The Digital submission went out Thursday 7th December 2023 for **new** submissions

Exhibition Dates 30th March - 7th July

Claire, Ealish & Isobel visiting Salts Mill to take measurements/video to give members more info on the space

62@62 2024

Looking forward – 'Making as Learning' - Salts Mill – Celebrating 62@62

The Brief was sent out in June 2023

Digital Submission will open 22 April and close 20 May 2024

Exhibition Dates September 7th - Nov 1st

Venue is the top floor spinning room

As stated in the information we sent out the venue is very basic and all artists will be responsible for installation.

Events to support the exhibition and utilise the Audrey Walker Legacy can be proposed by members. Please contact Claire and Ealish if you have ideas you would like to submit

Claire is applying for funding for a sound installation which will broaden the diversity of our audience. She is also applying for funding for student invigilators.

Equity & Inclusion

James Hunting and Woo Jin Joo kindly offered to contribute to the development of the equity and inclusion agenda.

We met in March 2023 and discussed the potential for broadening the reach of the group's conversations and desire to ensure the relevance of the group in contemporary debate around our field. This focus mainly connected to education opportunities and it was felt the next exhibition in the group's 62 year would be key.

We will continue conversations with the exhibitions team about how to develop opportunities alongside Making as Learning to engage with the widest possible audience.

Education & Engagement

Hannah Lamb led workshops 17/18 June as part of the Tailored exhibition at Sunny Bank Mills.

We encourage venues and members to let us know about events alongside our exhibitions to allow us to promote it via our channels too. Thanks to our committee members focusing on social media who are promoting workshops and talks hosted by members in other venues.

The opportunities around the next exhibition alongside seminars, workshops and education are to be discussed alongside the exhibitions team and member responsible for the handling collection.

Resources for use independently by gallery visitors have been discussed - to explore developing the resources produced by Vanessa for 'Conversations'.

Publicity (Hannah Lamb)

I've not had as much time as I'd like to spend on publicity this year, which is why I am stepping down from the role. I also think it will be good to have someone with fresh ideas. I think it would be useful for the committee to consider how the role is used in he future and which tasks fall under the remit, as a lot has changed while I've been doing the role.

This year, publicity for Tailored was mainly handled by Sunny Bank Mills. They have a strong publicity team who were focussed on promoting the Threads Festival, which helped with our promotion.

Handover will include all 62 Group logos and branding guide. I also have access to digital images from previous exhibitions that I can pass on to Jane Walkley and Helen Davies who are taking the lead on Publicity alongside Social Media.



Platform	23 May 2023	4 September 2023	29 November 2023
Instagram	6773	7135	7502
Facebook	7497	7572	7700
X (Twitter)	1976	1976	1973
Threads	No	Account	

31 Aug - 28 Nov

Overview

You gained 334 more followers compared to 2 Jun - 30 Aug.

Accounts reached	14.6K -12.6%	>
Accounts engaged	2,328 +4.6%	>
Total followers	7,502 +4.6%	>

Looking back:

All three accounts are looking healthy with engagement and increase in followers.

We've tried to engage more with followers and this continues to be a work in progress.

Looking forward:

We will be working closely with Publicity and the venue's social media team in the run-up to the next exhibition.

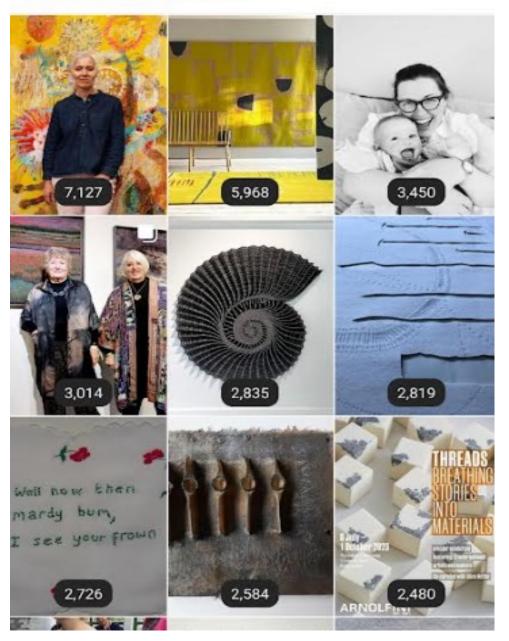
Is it worth running paid ads in Instagram for 62 Group membership to expand our reach beyond our followers?

Would any members be interested in doing a weeks 'take over' of the Instagram account? Intention would be for followers to see what a named 62 Group member is interested in, what exhibitions they're planning on seeing, sharing photos of textiles that excite them etc

The following screenshot shows posts which reached the most number of accounts in the last 6 months.

Sorted by highest.

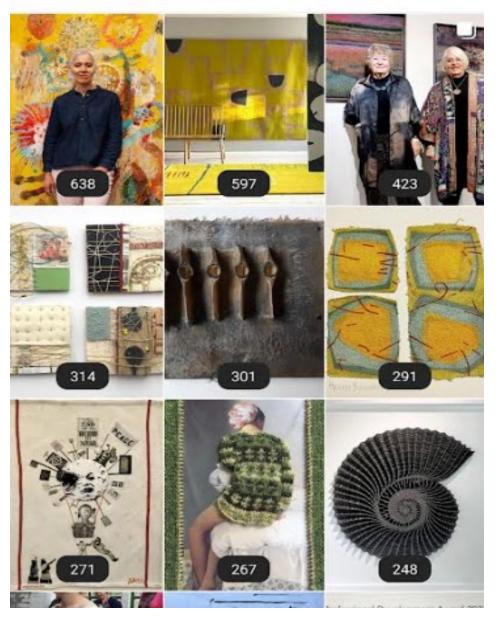
Accounts reached



The following screenshot shows the posts which had the **most engagement (likes)** in the last 6 months.

Sorted by highest.

Accounts engaged



Public Newsletter

Our newsletter goes to over 2000 subscribers on the 1st of March, June, September and December.

Emily creates a members news section where you can publicise exhibitions and workshops or share press coverage etc.

To be included please provide an image (landscape or square please) and short text in 3rd person.

Stats Subscribers 2264 Average open rate 65.1% Average click rate 11.4% Group discussions 'Making as learning'

- Divide into small groups zoom breakout rooms plus group in person
- Discuss the theme of Making as Learning and share ideas on approaches, inspire each other!

Group discussions ranged from the practicalities of the space, to concepts and ideas.

More group discussions will be held at the networking sessions in early 2024.

62 Group Future Focus

Time got the better of us so these discussions will be picked up at the networking sessions in 2024.

New Committee Members

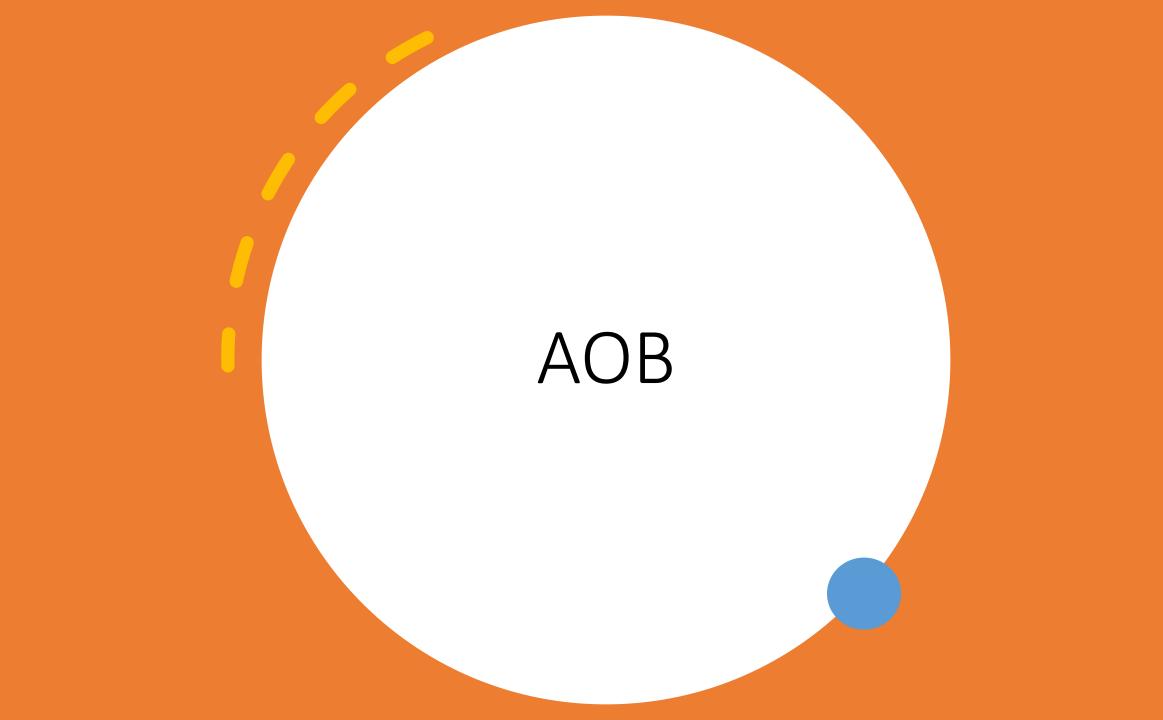
Social Media and Publicity: Helen Davies & Jane Walkley

New Members Process: Hannah White & Helen Yardley

Treasurer:

XXX





Celebrating 60 years in the 62 group

Congratulations!

Jan Beaney

Wow – let's give Jan a big 62 Group virtual hug for being a member for 60 years in 2023!

Huge thanks to Jan for everything she has done for the group

Honorary Exhibiting Members

Congratulations!

The following members are now Honorary Exhibiting Members:

Siân Martin

In recognition of 50 years as a member

Sue Stone and Debbie Lyddon

As per the agreement at the last AGM, in recognition of serving more than a year as Chair

Date of next AGM Saturday 7 Dec 2024 11am

Anything else?

Sally to look at varying the time of the networking meetings. Potential day meetings? Thank you!