

AGM Agenda

- * Welcome
- * Apologies for absence
- * Annual report
- * Treasurer's report
- * Election of trustees
- * What has been happening over past 6 months
- * Results of members survey
- * AOB

Annual Report

2022/2023 Review

- * This year proved to be a significant one for LSA. It was the first year of operating as a CIO, and an opportunity was given to LSA to significantly expand its activities. The Coal Board Pension Property Services offered LSA the use of the ex-Cath Kidston shop within the Royal Priors shopping centre as an Art Gallery which was named the LSA Art Room.
- * The initial contract was for 3 months but it continues to run. LSA has no security of tenure and so we must still regard this facility as a 'popup' but it is now well established as a gallery within the town.
- * The Art Room opened with its first exhibition at the end of September 2022. Exhibitions have been based on an open call to all members to submit a piece of original art and have changed monthly. Around 120 artworks have been exhibited each month. From September to the end of March, 205 artworks were sold at the Art Room, with a total sales value of almost £48,000.
- * The Art Room volunteer managers are Maddie Webb and Cassie Needham and the trustees would like to thank them for their hard work in establishing the Art Room and building and supporting a large group of almost 200 volunteers who steward each exhibition.

- In addition to exhibitions, the Art Room has hosted a programme of artists in residence, who are present and working in the gallery, as well as courses open to members and the wider public.
- * East Lodge remains the main base of the LSA and continued to provide studio space for four artists during the year. Exhibitions continued in the two gallery spaces and artworks totaling £25,000 were sold during the course of the year. The gallery spaces are hired by members for a month and so the spaces offer regular change for visitors coming to view work. This is all made possible by a group of about 75 volunteers who curate, hang and steward the exhibitions.
- LSA again had a presence at Art in the Park, a free, curated arts festival that runs over two days in August. The festival was initiated by LSA but is now run by another CIC. In August 2022, LSA had a marquee which provided space for six LSA members to exhibit work and offered a chance for visitors to see artists at work.

Annual Report

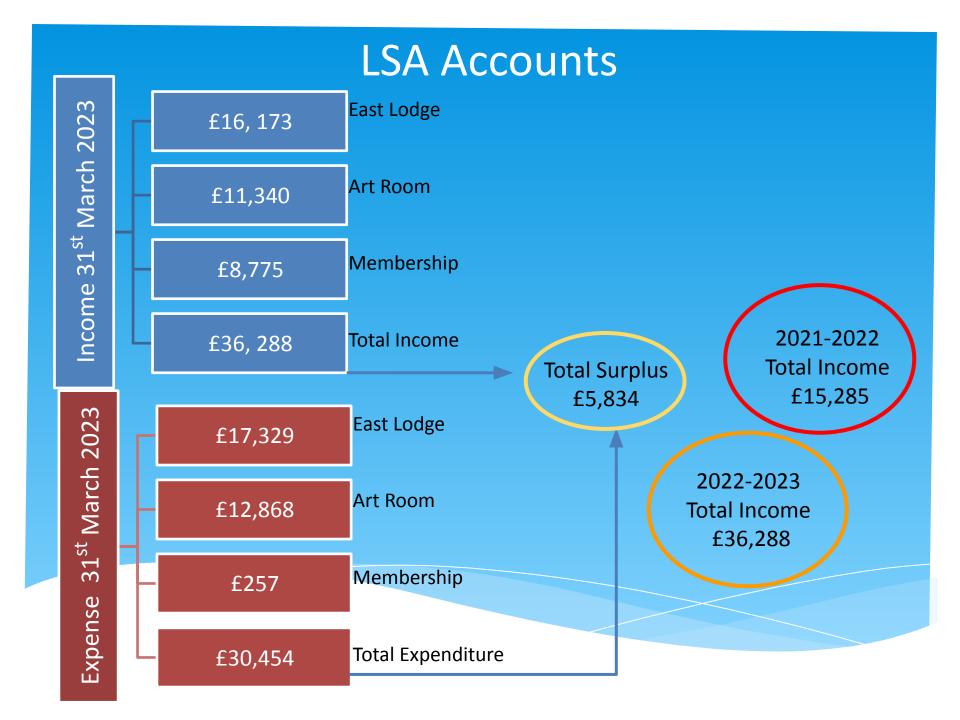
2023 Looking Forwards

We're seeking to build stability

- * Much work is being undertaken on items that are largely invisible to members. We have a working group on communications which is initially focusing its attention into improving our website. It will take some time, but we hope to have a much more functional website some time next year.
- * As well as reviewing many of our internal policies and procedures, we're seeking to make links and build partnerships outside the LSA.
- * We're aiming to do more 'pop up' exhibitions, starting with one at the official opening of The Fold, a creative work-share space. We're also starting to explore partnerships that will allow us to reach into communities of socially disadvantaged people and find ways of nurturing their engagement with visual arts.

A thank you note

- The current trustees would like to thank the members of the previous board for everything they did to build on the foundations of the LSA and expand its activities and it's reach during the last year. Particular thanks go to Kay Matthews who resigned as treasurer during the last year, but has undertaken many roles for the LSA over a number of years and kept it going during times of difficulty.
- * The LSA is run entirely by volunteers. A huge thank you from the Trustees to those members who have helped during this year and have stepped forward to steward exhibitions at East Lodge as well as at the Art Room. The dedication of our volunteers has allowed the Art Room to be open 7 days a week for a whole year, as well as being open for viewing exhibitions at East Lodge 5 days per week a massive achievement



Sale of Art Work



East Lodge 2022-2023 April –March

£25,199

2023-2024 April – Sept

£14,054

Art Room 2022-2023 Oct – March

£47,865

2023-2024 April – Sept

£33,965

Total for Both Periods

£121,083

Treasurer's Report

Year ending 31st March 2023

- The 2022/23 year began with LSA operating from East Lodge only. In July 2022 the board identified an opportunity to open a pop-up shop in the Royal Priors and the LSA Art Room started operating in late September. I have tried to separate the accounts for each of our two operations. You will see that both made a small operating deficit in the year, but that overall a healthy surplus was produced when membership income (which I have not attempted to allocate to the two venues) is included.
- LSA is 25 years old this year and East Lodge in Jephson Gardens has been the home of LSA since 2015. We have a lease on the property from WDC which is due to be renewed this year. The rental for the lease of £5,600 per annum is East Lodge's biggest expense. This is easily covered by the income earned from exhibition hire for individual exhibitions in the two gallery rooms, for which we charge £220 per room per month, and by income from four studio spaces which we let out at £200 per month.

- * After this rental cost and other overheads East Lodge normally makes a surplus before membership income is taken into account. In the year to 31st March 2023 Covid costs incurred in the early months led to the small deficit shown.
- * The Art Room has the benefit of zero rental, but we occupy as a pop-up shop only and have no security of tenure. We can be evicted if the Royal Priors can find a tenant to pay their full required rental. During the year to 31st March 2023 the Art Room was only operating for six months. Income comes from hanging fees of £10 per artwork accepted per exhibition and commission charged on items sold. For the first four exhibitions we charged commission of 10%, but the income generated failed to cover very high electricity costs amounting to over £6,000 through the winter. It was therefore decided to increase the commission charge to 20% from the fifth exhibition. Overall the Art Room more than covered its set up costs of £2,300 in its first six months.

Treasurer's Report

Year ending 31st March 2023

- * The third item in the accounts is membership. At the start of the year the membership stood at 148 having recovered from a low point of about 50 during the Covid epidemic. However membership was already increasing towards its historic level of 200 plus before the Art Room opened in late September. From then onward membership increased rapidly and was over 300 by the year end.
- * In the six months since the year end of 31st March 2023 the finances of LSA have been very healthy. I have not finalised the detailed figures for the first six months of year ending 31st March 2024, but provisional figures show the following;

East Lodge £1,100 surplus Art Room £6,200 surplus Membership £4,300 surplus TOTAL £11,600 surplus

John Boden Treasurer

Election of Trustees

Current Trustees

Sue Bent

Alessia Sissa

John Boden

Sue Southorn

Mike Patrick

Rachel David

Linda John

A few things that have been happening over last 6 months?



David Bradley

A few things that have been happening over last 6 months?



"The Fold"



3 to 7 **Trustees**



472 **Members**



Trip Advisor



New Website



Group





Muddy Stilettos Award



Grown Considerably



Casilda and Andi



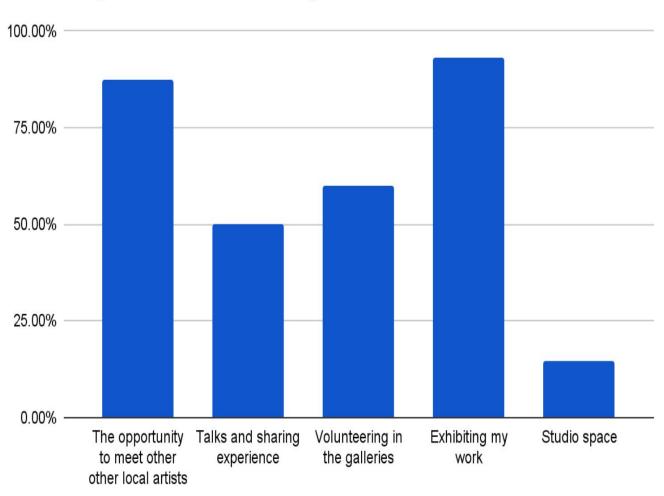
Members' Survey 2023



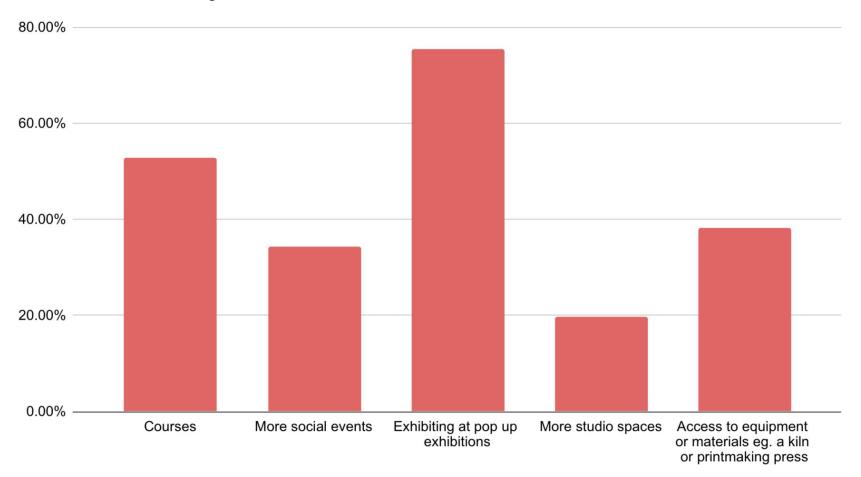
Overview

- 9 QUESTIONS
- 100 MEMBERS RESPONDED

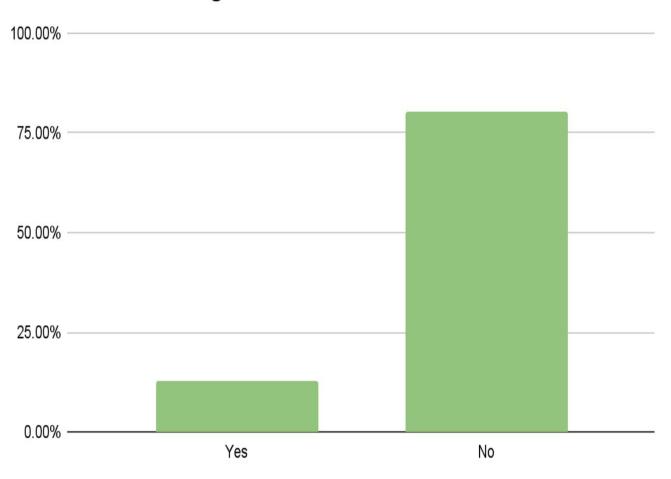
What do you value about being a member of the LSA



What else would you like the LSA to offer to members?



If we were to support members to offer courses, would you be interested in running some?



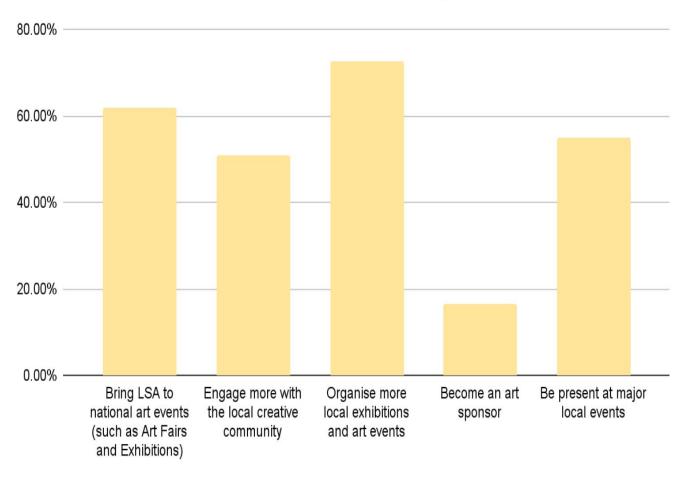
What courses could you offer?



- Pet Portraits
- Still life
- Printmaking
- Textiles
- Acrylic painting
- Charcoal drawing
- Needle felting

- Drawing for beginners
- Life drawing
- Lino printing
- Watercolour painting

Thinking of things we might do to broaden our efforts to promote visual arts and the work of our members, do you think we should...



Anything else? If so, what?



Build the profile of LSA and its members locally, with more publicity, use of connections and improved website and social media presence



More forward planning with a calendar of events



More involvement with young people. Perhaps young and emerging artist meet-ups to support networking



Mentorship and support of emerging artists

Broaden the range of art forms supported.

Anything else? If so, what?

(...continue)



We are a charity so more emphasis on public benefit, widening participation and opening access. Collaborate with other charities and support them



Collaborate with other local art organisations and hold joint events

Have a presence in the Creative Quarter



Skill sharing and talks by artists about their processes



Discount on art materials and framing

What could be improved about the way the LSA operates?

Clear

Structure

Volunteers

Improved,

informative

website

more

Review hanging fees, Active membership commission and charges to make it as enrolment, accessible as possible to everyone

Increase membership fee to £50 – concessions for young, students and artists on benefits

Make volunteering a condition of membership

management: activation, retention, loyalty Support for

Regular volunteers meetings and more formal training

Publish information about who does what and who is responsible for what within the LSA

Ahandon themes for exhibitions. Incentivise members to improve quality

Promote East Lodge

more

Build a buyers' mailing list and consider offering exhibition catalogues

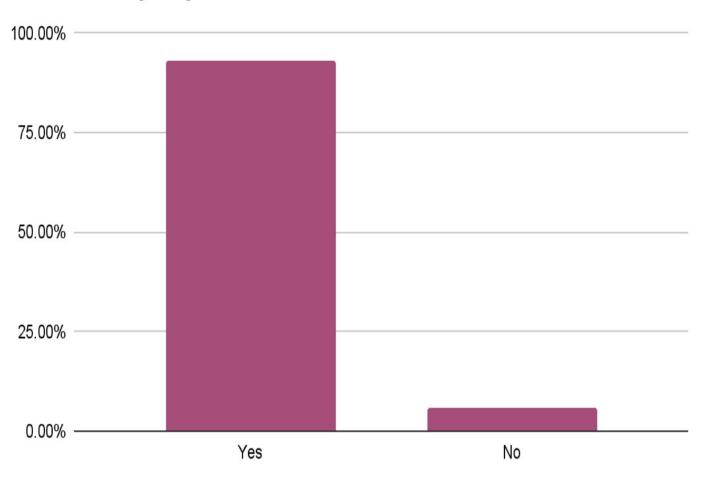
Share information about plans and decisions taken by the committee and working groups

WhatsApp Groups very confusing



Communication

Will you continue being an LSA member when your annual membership expires?



If not, please say why

Moving out of Warwickshire

Poor experience.
Not for me

I used to take part in the open call exhibitions at East Lodge, but they seem to have disappeared

Not very welcoming and cliquey

Communication only by WhatsApp despite providing other means of contact

Exhibiting at galleries but not selling my work

Thank you

We will use your feedback for future planning



New Logo

