[new logo]

Annual General Meeting
Saturday 7th February 2026
Malmsbury Town Hall

Minutes

Key points:

1. Full Reports (copies below).
    1. Chair's Report (Shirley Sharp)
    2. Treasurer's Report (Sarah Cushing)
    3. Membership & Hubs (Jane Yarnall)
    4. Marketing Report (Jenny Baddeley) - attached separately
    5. Website Report (Ange Williams)
    6. Outdoor Curation (Ange Williams & Lynda Knott)
    7. Indoor Curation (Anna Simson & Juli Bharucha)

2. Shirley Sharp gave thanks to the Committee and especially Lynda Knott who is stepping down but will remain on the outdoor curation committee, and to Sarah Cushing whose contribution has been invaluable after 6 years as Treasurer. Shirley went on to welcome Gina Baum as the new Chair and Zoe Hawkins as new Treasurer.

3. Gina Baum gave special thanks to Shirley Sharp for her contribution as committee member and Chair over the last 6 years. Gina also gave gifts to Shirley, Sarah and Lynda as a thank you from the Association.

4. Martin Elphick gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the members to the committee members.

5. Voting in Committee members:

    CHAIR : Gina Baum
    Proposer: Anna Simson
    Seconder: Kim Pethybridge
    All in favour: AGREED

    TREASURER: Zoe Hawkins
    Proposer: Angela Williams
    Seconder: Andrew Stevens
    All in favour: AGREED

    SECRETARY: Anna Simson
    Proposer: Clare Mahoney
    Seconder: Debs Harrison
    All in Favour: AGREED

    Membership Secretary: Jane Yarnall
    Proposer: Gina Baum
    Seconder: Martin Elphick

All in Favour: AGREED

Additional Committee members:
Jenny Baddeley - Marketing
Juli Bharucha - Open Forums
Jan Bruce - Sculpture Loop
Ange Williams - Website

6. Andrew Stevens requested that better signage was created from the outdoor exhibition for the indoor at Miserden 2026. GB explained that Miserden had been approached for signage possibilities and was waiting to hear back. In addition, the stewarding tent would be located again outside the garden for 2026 and stewards will be able to prompt and direct visitors to the indoor exhibition.

7. Ian Knight suggested a sustainability group for all sculptors on WhatsApp and volunteered to set it up.

8. Jeremy Haslam reminded the committee about possible exhibition opportunities at Prior Park College near Bath. SS to discuss with GB.

9. Martin Elphick took on the co-ordination of the Bath Hub as Sarah King has stepped down. More hub co-ordinators would be welcome for other areas, please contact Jane Yarnall if interested to find out more.

10. Thank you to the members who came forward to shadow particular roles:
    1. Ian Knight - Website
    2. Clare Stephens & Ian Knight & (previously) Rachel Demuth - Indoor Curation
    3. Graham Hawkins - Outdoor Curation
    4. Martin Clarke – where needed, fitting in with other commitments

11. Presentations were given:

    - **Gina Baum - New Chair**. Gina talked about her working background and move into ceramics as well as her current practice and vision for the Association. Gina encouraged members to step up and become actively involved in “ONE THING A YEAR” and it all adds up:
      - 1 x Extra Stewarding slot at Exhibitions
      - Hosting the Bar at a Private View
      - Private View Car Parking attendant
      - Writing a short article or report for SLOOP
      - Organising a Hub meeting to share knowledge or skills
      - Support other members with the completion of submission forms
      - Support other members with digital skills
      - Seeking New Exhibition and Outreach Opportunities
      - Support the Curating Team
      - Shadowing Committee Members
      - Become a Hub Leader on Whatsapp
      - Join a Committee Meeting - All members are welcome to attend monthly (mostly zoom) committee meetings held the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Gina (ginab0707@gmail.com) for login link.

- **Jenny Baddeley, Jan Bruce and Ange Williams - marketing.** The team discussed the new branding and explained the guidelines which will be available for all members to use at main and hub exhibitions with the marketing team's support. The "association" bit of the branding is being removed from the logo but explanation of the inclusive structure and membership-led opportunities will continue to be explained clearly. A copy can be found in SLOOP #67 due out shortly.

- **Ian Knight - member**. Ian gave a fascinating presentation about sustainability in his practice.

- **Juli Bharucha - member & committee**. Juli gave an enlightening insight into her early ceramic career, inspiration and current practice. Juli ended her presentation with an appropriate quote shared here:

> '*Meaningful craft is like a constellation carrying old rays of Light – conversations with people now dead, previous encounters and sensations – and illuminates the present moment by informing it with previous experiences*'. Ezra Shales

1. Chairs Report - Shirley Sharp

It has been a good and very busy year organising new projects, meeting up for Open forums and artist talks. The committee have worked so hard and we meet up once a month mostly by zoom but sometimes in person. We have new members joining us all the time which is lovely. WELCOME. As always we also lose members which is very sad but not unexpected as peoples lives move on.

I will briefly go through the year as each committee member has written a report on their own roles so I don't intend to double up.

CONSTITUTION
We have been looking at the Constitution which you can find on your members page (website). We think we need to make a few changes to it as the organisation has moved on in last few years. This can only be done either at an AGM or at a Special General Meeting. We felt it may take too long at the AGM so are proposing to hold a special meeting for this. Members will be invited to vote on any proposed changes and are welcome to join the meeting.

HUBS are continuing to grow. Jane Yarnall has now taken on as Co-ordinator. Some Hubs still need coordinators, and some are more active than others. There is a HUB table set up for you to go and meet your coordinators during our lunch break although not all can be here today. We have Stroud Hub - myself; Glos Hub - Debs H & Ben ; Swindon Hub is Kim is there anyone from Bath Hub - Martin Elphick volunteered. We need coordinators for Bristol & Cirencester.

COMMUNICATIONS
(Marketing team have worked particularly well this year and will give a presentation later). WhatsApp community is very lively. Especially the Clay Group who are organising different meet ups.

EXHIBITIONS
Miserden is a very beautiful estate in the Cotswolds. Last year we tried a new tack by not holding the Indoor at Miserden with mixed reactions at first. Outdoor worked well - there were less sculptures but the ones we had were high standard and extremely well curated. If you are a new member and have questions about Miserden please go to the Ctee table at lunchtime.

The Long Table Indoor Exhibition
We had very good feedback after this exhibition. It was a lot of work for Anna and Juli setting up with several meetings and emails over a year. Curation was complimented and was noted that the space around sculptures added to the professionalism.

SURVEY: A survey was sent to all members. Results are on the c'tee table and make interesting reading.

OPEN FORUMS
We have had some marvellous talks and visits organised by Juli this year. You must read her report. People have asked us to arrange visits at weekends which we agree would be best but it is not always possible to do that. But will try. Make sure you catch up on recorded talks on members page.

IN THE PIPELINE

Laskett Gardens
We were looking forward to sharing with you the possibility of holding an exhibition in Hereford but unfortunately this has fallen through as the Gardens are going through changes and won't be able to accommodate us.

National Trust (Newark Park)
We have been in several talks with National Trust about working with them. Our first gentle step will be as a residency at Newark Park which you will be hearing more about soon.

Clay Residency, Hungary
There is an opportunity for members to take part in a Clay residency next Easter (2027) in Hungary. If you haven't heard about this and think you may be interested please see me or see information on the committee table and write your email down on the list.

So I will now introduce you to the team who will stand up and say a few words about their role. Feel free to ask questions as we go along.

Gina: Vice Chair
Sarah: Treasurer
Zoe: Vice Treasurer
Anna: Secretary
Juli: Open Forums
Jenny: Marketing
Jan: Sloop
Ange: Website
Ange & Lynda: Outdoor Curation
Anna & Juli: Indoor Curation

COMMITTEE
We have a few stepping down and are being replaced but it is vital that we keep the committee healthy so will be encouraging you to get involved. We need people to shadow certain roles and/or play a general supportive role.

Stepping down:
Linda Knott Curator
Sarah Cushing Treasurer
Shirley Sharp - Chair

Committee members were then voted in.

2. Treasurer's Report - Sarah Cushing

Cotswold Sculptors Association accounts for 2025	
Currrent number of members	136
Needing to renew	13
Income and expenditure from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	
Final assets brought forward from 2024	£16,120.74
Income	
Membership	£6,360.00
Exhibition Income - Miserden/Long Table 2025	£7,909.50
Total Sales - £42,610	
	£14,269.50
Expenditure	
AGM/Meetings	£543.79
Captial Expenditure	£525.38
General Expenses	£255.99
Technology	£1,393.61
Open forum expenses inc AGM speaker	£900.50
PIL insurance	£295.00
Education	-£156.72
Exhibition Expenditure - Miserden 2024	£147.76
Exhibition Expenditure - Miserden/LongTable 2025	£9,505.38
Total Paid to Artists - £30,048.50	
	£13,410.69
Final assets	**£16,979.55**
Bank account as at 31/12/25	£16,979.55

Cotswold Sculptors Association Income and Expenditure Breakdown

Financial Year	2017 - 18	2018 - 19	2019 - 20	2020 - 21	2021 - 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	Current 2025	Total
Membership	1,746.30	2,280.00	3,005.00	3,090.00	3,790.00	3,880.00	4,170.08	6,360.00	28,321.38
Exhibitions	507.70	(527.05)	7,037.46	2,385.80	546.98	495.36	(1,229.52)	(1,743.64)	7,473.09
CAPEX	(620.92)			(651.56)		(1,302.98)	(1,004.78)	(525.38)	(4,105.62)
AGM/Meetings	(176.50)			(942.50)	(135.00)	(370.50)	(601.68)	(543.79)	(2,769.97)
General Expenses	(100.00)	(184.64)	(172.41)	(316.03)	(7.60)		(52.00)	(255.99)	(1,088.67)
Open Forum	(128.30)	(232.00)	(126.50)	(120.00)	(75.39)	(524.34)	(386.34)	(900.50)	(2,493.37)
Technology	(116.30)	(1,201.00)	(738.08)	(541.52)	(239.76)	(756.29)	(1,209.44)	(1,393.61)	(6,196.00)
Bursary					105.00	(1,000.00)	0.00		(895.00)
Education								156.72	156.72
Lost Wax Project					(300.33)	156.00	0.00		(144.33)
Public Liability Insurance					(222.36)	(270.09)	(280.53)	(295.00)	(1,067.98)
Unidentified	25.00		(235.70)				0.00		(210.70)
relates to next year									16,979.55
Year Spend	1,136.98	135.31	8,769.77	2,904.19	3,461.54	307.16	(594.21)	858.81	16,979.55
Running Total	1,136.98	1,272.29	10,042.06	12,946.25	16,407.79	16,714.95	16,120.74	16,979.55	16,979.55
Annual Income	2,254.00	1,752.95	10,042.46	5,475.80	4,336.98	4,375.36	2,940.56	4,616.36	35,794.47
Annual Expenditure	(1,117.02)	(1,617.64)	(1,272.69)	(2,571.61)	(875.44)	(4,068.20)	(3,534.77)	(3,757.55)	(18,814.92)
Annual Total	1,136.98	135.31	8,769.77	2,904.19	3,461.54	307.16	594.21	858.81	16,979.55

Overall Surplus & Loss - Creating Spaces Exhibitions

Year	Venue	Duration	Exhibition Income	Total Expenditure	Surplus or loss	Total Sales	Running Surplus
2018	DM	1 day	£ 1,111.58	£ 603.88	£ 507.70	£ 4,500.00	£ 507.70
2019	AHG	2 months	£ 1,645.00	£ 2,172.05	-£ 527.05	£13,215.00	-£ 19.35
2020	AHG	5 months	£ 11,194.50	£ 3,996.54	£ 7,197.96	£41,470.00	£ 7,178.61
2021	AHG	3 months	£ 7,564.60	£ 5,561.26	£ 2,003.34	£32,511.00	£ 9,181.95
2021	BC	2 months	£ 1,831.00	£ 1,189.54	£ 641.46	£ 5,910.00	£ 9,823.41
2022	MN	2 months	£ 8,876.22	£ 8,716.24	£ 159.98	£44,709.00	£ 9,983.39
2023	MN	2 months	£ 8,732.00	£ 8,269.14	£ 462.86	£48,110.00	£10,446.25
2024	MN	3 months	£ 8,053.95	£ 9,431.23	-£ 1,377.28	£46,023.00	£ 9,068.97
2025	MN	2 months	£ 5,833.50	£ 7,950.58	-£ 2,117.08	£39,650.00	£ 6,951.89
2025	LT	2 weeks	£ 2,076.00	£ 1,554.80	£ 521.20	£ 2,960.00	£ 7,473.09
		TOTAL EXHIBITION SURPLUS				£ 7,473.09	

3. Membership and regional Hub Co-ordinator report - Jane Yarnall

We currently have 134 members, which includes 6 with friend membership and 2 with student membership. This is a healthy increase on last year when we had around 120 members.

As well as increasing our numbers, we have also increased our geographical spread. The regional hub groups were initially established around the time of covid and have now been running for 5 years. Some of the regional hubs are now quite large and are creating great networks for artists. As well as meeting up to have interesting discussions, 2025 saw a regional hub event at the Jenner Museum, with experimental work being created to link to Jenner's life and works. The year was also bookended by some of the Bath hub jointly exhibiting at the Q Gallery in Lacock in January, and other artists coming together for a pit firing in the latter months.

We now have a membership "map" which shows where members are located. The largest clusters fall into the Chalford/Stroud/Dursley and Bath hubs. Moving forward in 2026, this will be useful in helping us to look at whether we have the right distribution and we want to look at how the CSA can support the regional hubs to put on their own exhibitions if that is their desire.

We are always looking for people to help in hubs and currently have a vacancy for a regional hub co-ordinator in the Cirencester area and Bristol and Weston Super Mare, as well as someone to help out in the Chipping Norton/Burford area.

4. Marketing Report - Jenny Baddeley

Please see separate attachment.

5. Website - Ange Williams

I have been on the committee for 3 years now and as well as being responsible for maintaining the website I am involved with the outdoor curation at Miserden (Lynda Knott will be reporting on this), and also I have been on the branding and marketing team with Jenny Baddeley and Jan Bruce.

Website Report:

I have continued to maintain the Cotswold Sculptors Association website over the last year and have gradually been making changes and I hope improvements so that it is a valuable resource for members and sculpture lovers alike.

Recently I have been updating the design and look of the website to reflect the new branding which is being launched at the AGM. The new logo and colour palette creates a more professional and visually modern identity which will be consistent across all digital and printed material produced by the association. This will be an ongoing process and there is still work to be done.

The website showcases over one hundred of our members in the Sculptors Gallery who have a page with links to their websites and social media. Again this year there will be a gallery of all the exhibits for Miserden alongside the existing archive of previous exhibitions.

The website has a page dedicated to courses run by members and an Open Forum Page telling members what's coming up. The Newsletter page gives a link to the new Flip Book Sculpture Loop – this will eventually become a gallery of all future editions. The Members Page features 'Dates For Your Diary', the new interactive 'Membership Map', links to previous open forums, advice pdfs, contact details for hubs, joining details for the WhatsApp community and links to members discounts. And finally on the 'About us' and 'Join us' page new members or anyone curious can find out all they need to know about the Association.

6. Open Forum Report – Juli Bharucha

We started the year with a wonderful talk via zoom on photography from our CSA member Andrew Stevens.

Andrew generously imparted his knowledge and experience giving us lots of hints and help to improve how we photograph our work, reiterating how important a good image is when submitting to shows and exhibitions.

Puppet Place in Bristol and the Stone Masons workshop attached to Gloucester Cathedral were two other inspirational visits, giving members the opportunity to connect and discuss ideas. Delving into other creative avenues often serve as the nuggets for future projects, we are hoping to do a project around the green man and gargoyles inspired by our Cathedral visit.

"Meet the artist" is becoming an embedded component of our Miserden exhibition. We would like this to expand and be an added attraction for visitors. It is so interesting discussing work directly with the maker, and often helps you consider their sculpture in new ways.

Amidst our other activities, we finished the year with a zoom talk from Ben Broadbent describing his journey as an artist. If you didn't see it live, please watch it through the CSA website. It offers inspiration and such beautiful words to all of us.

I am slowly putting this year's programme together and would welcome ideas from members. It would be really helpful to recruit another CSA member to assist with writing up a report to go in our newly formatted newsletter SLOOP.

7. **Outdoor Curation - Lynda Knott & Ange Williams**

2025 was the 2nd year Ange Williams and Lynda Knott led the outdoor curation for Creating Spaces at Miserden, with the invaluable support and input of Kim Pethybridge and Jane Yarnall - The Dream Team! We all work so well together, playing to our strengths, both from a curation point of view as well as the considerable organisation and communication involved. Thanks also too to Shirley Sharp and Sarah Cushing for vital installation day help - so much fun!

We had 124 sculptures from 38 sculptors, and an invited artist for the first time, Ian Gill whose large corten steel sculptures made a great statement on the difficult to fill large lawn. Ian was very pleased with the exhibition, but sadly could not be persuaded to join CSA and exhibit again - just a tad too far.

The main change to the outdoor exhibition in 2025 was the tent at the garden entrance, providing a base for the stewards to administer sales and engage with the public. This engagement with the public was invaluable and enabled us to introduce a children's trail to encourage engagement with the sculptures which was much appreciated by families, and also a Visitors Choice vote which was won by Malcolm West for his sculpture Tango Appacionata. Malcolm won a voucher kindly donated by Pegasus Arts.

We are very much looking forward to Miserden again this year and working with member's fabulous sculptures in such a gorgeous setting. Crucially we have an excellent relationship with Alex McHallam the Head Gardener, who goes above and beyond in terms of support for the exhibition, especially on installation day.

Sadly we are losing Jane from the team as she has taken up the Membership administration, but we are very pleased to welcome Graham Hawkins. We welcome further offers of help so please do let us know if you want to get involved.

8. Creating Indoor Spaces 2025 - Anna Simson & Juli Bharucha

Location: The Sanctuary Space, Brimscombe Mill, Stroud.
Dates: 18th October - 26th October 2025. Linked with Autumn Trail 2025
Beneficiary: Shared commission with Long Table

- Juli Bharucha and Anna Simson worked closely together to curate the space and liaise with the Long Table and The Autumn Trail. Many cups of tea and the odd cake sustained us as we went along!
- We linked the exhibition to the annual Autumn Trail that takes place across the Stroud Valleys over 2 weekends. We opened mid-week as well as the two weekends.
- We had a diverse range of mediums and themes with 124 sculptures displayed from 42 members.
- The space was lovely and big and despite having 124 sculptures on display it felt really spacious. Feedback was very positive.
- PV/Open evening went well with a lovely atmosphere and a bar and food organised by the Long Table. Music was also organised. The effort required by CSA was lessened with LT taking on the hospitality. They also charged for food and drink and earnt additional funds from it.
- The Long Table/Brimscombe Mill were pleased as they saw many new faces and first timers to the site, brought there by CSA promotion (thank you Jenny Baddeley) and Autumn Trail.
- Acorn School group - 11 lower sixth students, accompanied by their tutors, visited for about 1-1.5 hours. They looked, sketched and were given an overview of work by Anna Simson & Jane Yarnall. It was nice to have the enthusiasm and encouragement of the visiting youngsters.
- Demo day. Organised by Shirley Sharp and Ange Williams (thank you!), the demo day was a great success with over 6 artists demoing inside and out to a wide range of visitors and ages. Thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Footfall
We estimate over 1,000 visitors to the site over the 10 days. The demo day became too busy to count so we made a conservative estimate that it was the same as the previous Saturday. The reality is it was probably more.

Sales
See Treasurer's report.

2026
Although a very successful exhibition which both extended our audience and footfall, the extra workload for the committee was rather too much and we felt a return to Miserden, sitting alongside the outdoor, was a better use of our time. We expect some of the new audience to hopefully follow us and we continue to explore other ad-hoc opportunities from time to time.

2026 will see the indoor exhibition back in the Club Room for the same duration as the Outdoor exhibition at Miserden and this year we have additional curating help from CSA member Rachel Demuth - looking forward to it! [and since the AGM also help offered from Clare Stephens and Ian Knight - thank you!].