

Annual Report: 2022-3

1. Review of the year

November 2022

Meeting at Woking High School

Topic: Diversity and inclusion in the school library

Speaker: Barbara Band

Barbara's talk was packed with information and ideas, including practical tips on how to find out information about the school community which can feed into library stock, promotion and activities.

Thanks to Claire Carlton for hosting the meeting in her library and making us most welcome – the first time we have been to the school.

(The meeting started with our AGM – see below.)

March 2023

Meeting at Richard Challoner School, New Malden

Topic: Meet the Booksellers – how the book trade can help your library.

Speakers: Elizabeth Perry from Daunt's, Oxford, and Pat Freestone-Bayes from Regency Bookshop, Surbiton.

Our speakers shared with us ways in which they promote books and reading to children and teenagers, ranging from quizzes and writing competitions to book fairs, reading clubs and author visits. All of these activities can be linked with schools. In addition, help is offered with stock weeding and ordering new books.

Thanks to Fiona Glassett for hosting the meeting and letting us have a look at her library.

June 2023

Meeting at RHS Wisley

Topic: Inspiring learning – how the Wisley team works with schools

Speaker: Simon Hart, Librarian

A most interesting and useful visit in which Simon gave us a fascinating overview of services and support available to schools, for which the RHS makes no charge as it's a charity.

Students are given the chance to get involved in practical horticulture, art and science, bringing the curriculum to life in a stimulating setting. With increasing interest in growing food and careers in horticulture blossoming, members were able to take information back to share with colleagues.

2. Statement of accounts

In April 2020, the SLA Office resumed responsibility for all branch funds. Payments are centralised and receipts/ invoices are submitted for payment. SLA Branches no longer have to publish annual statements.

Each year your committee makes plans for the year to include costs, outcomes and evaluation.

This is sent to SLA Office and our request for a grant and the budget available is the value of 5% of our members' subscription – about £500 for our branch.

The balance at the end of March was £194.

3. Officers and committee for 2022/23

Chair	Anne Thompson
Secretary	Frances Stanbury
Treasurer	Irene Marillat (until March)
Committee	Cathi Woods
	Heather Wahl
	Sally Perry
	Ruth Cornish

Irene, our Treasurer, retired in March and was thanked for her work in supervising the branch finances and helping to organise meetings.

Heather is retiring from today and was thanked for her contribution to the group.

Anne, our Chair, is also standing down today and was thanked for all her work for our branch and representing Surrey at branch meetings.

Ruth was welcomed onto the committee during the year.

Many thanks to all the committee for their input and support during the year and to members for coming to meetings.

We do need people to join our committee; it is enjoyable and we work as a team to plan and organise termly meetings for members.

Anyone interested should please contact Frances Stanbury.

4. Membership

Good news - membership has increased slightly and is about 112 members.

As always, do let us know if there are any topics you would like covered in future meetings, or if you have heard an author or speaker who you would recommend.

Frances Stanbury
Secretary

21st November 2023