

Secretary's Report to the 45th Annual General Meeting of the Basketmakers' Association 19 October, 2019

The committee has held six meetings during the past year at the Imperial Hotel on Russell Square. The Basketmakers' Association has been very fortunate to enjoy this facility free of charge for the past few years and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mr Alex Walduck and his father, Richard, for their generosity. The hotel is due to undergo refurbishment shortly and we will be moving to pastures new at the Arts' Society from November.

Erica Adams, Justine Burgess and Alison Dickens joined the committee in October and Sue Papworth was co-opted in July. We also welcomed David Emmett, who represents the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers.

Sue Andrews is retiring after having served her full 6 years on the committee. Over the last year she has co-chaired the committee with Geraldine Poore as well as looking after bursaries, enhanced membership and the insurance side of the BA. This is no mean feat and we will miss her calm and steady presence. Three committee members resigned during the year, Nadine Anderson, Justine Burgess and Ruth Glasheen, and we would like to thank them all very much for everything they have done for the Basketmakers' Association.

We are very fortunate to enjoy the help of many members, as off-committee members, without whom the BA would struggle to offer to the services it does: Louise Arthur, Bunty Ball, Mel Bastier, Mary Butcher, Iris Hawkes, and Jill Witham.

This year's Summer meeting was held at the St Fagan's in Wales and it was very inspiring to see how active Welsh basketry in all its forms is. The event was very well attended. The committee is very grateful to the South Wales Basketmakers and South Wales Fibre Group for organising such an interesting day.

At the end of August, membership numbers had risen to 718, with 168 members taking out Enhanced Membership. The price of this has risen to £15 per year and still represents very good value for money.

Bursary meetings have taken place throughout the year and the committee would like to thank the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers' Charitable Trust for their generous contribution towards the provision of bursaries to our members. Every year, some bursaries are not taken up and the committee would like to urge members to take advantage of this facility.

This year's bursaries were awarded as follows:

BA Bursaries awarded

Course Subsidies	Hertfordshire Basketry	£ 100
Barbara Maynard Bursary	Anne Thomas	£ 50
Study Bursaries	Angela Groombridge	£ 250
	Phi Evans	£ 250
Joy Viall Bursary	Dominic Parrette	£ 300
Fred Rogers Bursary (York)	Christine Llewellyn	£ 250
Special Award (Exhibition Event)	Basketeers /City Lit.	£ 500
Traditional Basketry Project	Selena Chandler	£ 250
	Stephanie Bunn	£ 250

Bursaries not awarded this year:

Special Award – (Exhibition Event) @ £500
Special Award – (Demonstration Event) x3 @ up to £150
Course Subsidy x4 @ £100

Worshipful Company of Basketmakers Charitable Trust Bursaries awarded:

York 2019	Harry Nutt	£ 250
	Jackie Boland	£ 250
	Rachael South	£ 250
	Sarah le Breton	£ 250

Westhope 2018	Abi Blackband	£ 150
	Jane Welsh	£ 150
	Sally Roach	£ 150