

Art Shape would like to thank all its funders, customers and partners for their invaluable support, involvement and validation throughout the year:

ACET in Gloucestershire

**Alliance for Communities
and Enterprise**

Barnwood House Trust

Business Link

Cheltenham Borough Council

CHK Charities

Cirencester College

Cotswold District Council

ESF Equals Fund

Fosseway Housing Association

Gloucester City Council

**Gloucestershire County Council,
Libraries, Arts and Museums**

**Gloucestershire County Council,
Social Services**

**Gloucestershire NHS Partnership
Trust**

Learning and Skills Council

NIACE

PPP

**Arts Council England,
South West**

Stroud District Council

Tewkesbury Borough Council

University of Gloucestershire



ART SHape
LIMITED

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ART SHape
LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT
2002/2003



'Art Shape is committed to being a good employer and to investing in the local economy.'



About Art Shape

Art Shape is an arts organisation enabling equality of access to creative experiences for adults who face barriers.

Since its establishment in 1993, Art Shape has raised funds to invest heavily into researching gaps in provision of creative opportunities, and developing and running projects that inspire, encourage and enable creativity.

This often ground breaking work has established Art Shape as a leading authority in the field of arts and social inclusion, whilst enabling the development of best practice and programme models for use by arts and non-arts sector groups and organisations throughout the country.

This annual report reviews how Art Shape has worked towards its mission over the past year. We hope you will find reading it as enjoyable and inspiring as we have found accomplishing the work.

Vision

Art Shape's vision is that everyone can choose to engage with the arts as equals.

Mission

Art Shape works with individuals, communities and organisations to combat exclusion from the arts, with a particular focus on working with adults facing barriers.

Art Shape is driving social change by informing policy, identifying gaps in arts provision and stimulating the development of new possibilities in the arts.

Values

Art Shape believes in the power of the arts to change lives and improve health and well being. It is committed to creativity and imagination, equality and access. Art Shape recognises individual value and worth built upon mutual respect, warmth and integrity.

Top: Tutor helping student
Middle: ??? with felt artwork
Bottom: Visitors looking round exhibition

Chair's Report

Art Shape believes that art opens up opportunities for those participating in it, and that this participation builds skills and confidence. Through Art Shape activities we seek to give people previously excluded from arts participation a new and tangible presence in their communities.

Many have already benefited from the diverse programme of opportunities we offer; a programme largely resourced by the voluntary and community sector learning contract awarded to Art Shape by the County Council's Adult Continuing Education and Training (ACET) Department.

Many more will benefit from a new advice and guidance service we have set in place for established and emerging artists. In addition, we hope that our research on New Audiences – looking at how older people interact with the arts – will lead to new ways of enabling the active participation of older people in the arts, supporting their individual health and well-being, and giving a presence in the community to this fast-growing age group. And this theme of giving a 'tangible presence' in the community has been further underlined by a number of other innovative projects.

In a groundbreaking partnership between the University of Gloucestershire and Art Shape, a Pre-Access Printmaking course brought people into the University who would otherwise never have entered it. The course culminated in a highly praised exhibition, which showed and sold the work of the students. And, in collaboration with a new partnership to support social enterprise in Gloucestershire (the Alliance for Communities and Enterprise), we have completed a project exploring local opportunities for learning-disabled adults to run and participate in businesses and ensuring appropriate support from the local business advice and support sector. We are also aiming to take *On The Level*, an exhibition of artists exhibiting together as equals, to the *Next Level*, a touring exhibition for the South West.

But Art Shape is fundamentally an organisation of people; and it's these people who make it work. So, my thanks go to the participants, assistants, tutors, project workers, management team and board members who give of their time and talent. I would particularly like to say thank you and good luck to Jay Haigh who gave so much of herself over so many years and has now moved to Cumbria to work with Welfare State International.

Elizabeth Ball
Chair

This apprenticeship with Art Shape and the Arts Council was exactly what I needed. I had resigned myself to study and put off work until some time in the future when I hoped that something would change.

I had tried to re-enter the workforce in 2001 when my youngest child had gone to school, having never really found a satisfying niche since I'd left school. I tried two jobs, but I just could not stand the pace emotionally. I was having counselling but still wanted to get back out amongst people and find my feet.

Working with Art Shape, supported by my Associates and knowing that I was not expected to be fully functional at the start just gave me the chance I needed. I was able to take on new knowledge but, most surprisingly, find value for the skills I already had. Now that I've tried working in the Arts and charity sector, I'll never look back.

statement from apprentice
Nicky Harris

2002/03 – The Challenge of Change

There have been three focal points for Art Shape's work throughout 2002/03 – research, developing a curriculum of classes and courses and company capacity building.

Researching Options

The research projects develop either because Art Shape is seen as an imaginative resource that is best placed to explore and investigate new ideas or from our projects spawning next step ideas and we check whether it is possible to do them or not.

During the year the variety of research has been interesting and varied but however varied it all links to the people choosing their own routes through life, in learning, in the arts or in enterprise.

Six older volunteers joined Art Shape for nine months and worked across the county exploring the availability of arts events and then asking older people what they wanted to go to and taking them to six test events. The results have been published by the Arts Council as part of their national New Audiences research. This was a project where Art Shape's approach and working practices were the resource for the Arts Council.

Internally there have been major research projects – working with a network of 17 emerging enterprises working with learning disabled members finishing in a forum day where enterprises and the business community came together; looking across the region for opportunities and partners for another On The Level exhibition; training older volunteers to become sessional workers; consulting users of our community kiln; setting up a new performance course in the North Cotswolds. All these projects build opportunities, and set new targets and approaches for Art Shape's business plan – research is part of the crucible of project development.

Below: Artist Katie Ordonez with Stanley, Helen, Julia and Rosina squeezing out the felt



'For people with a learning disability to perform in public is a big challenge and I feel that this situation gives group members the opportunity to have a more visible profile within the wider community. We have carried out a group evaluation to all students the opportunity to comment on the course.' tutor

We are particularly happy that most of the research has been done by artists and new volunteers. All of these people are a valuable resource to the organisation and have learned new skills and had new opportunities.

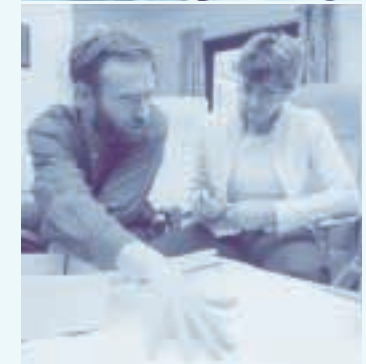
The Classes and Courses Programme

Art Shape has run classes for some years but this year was the first to access further education funds now administered by Adult and Community Education and Training – ACET. Art Shape's contract with ACET has allowed for 16 courses to be run through the year delivering over 9,000 learning hours with 504 enrolled learners. We were able to support courses which ran through the whole year as well as two day banner making tasters. We looked at progression as a key theme and developed accreditation for some of the courses. We were able to promote the courses as a whole in a single brochure and we began to think about options for all the learners, where next, what progression course could we develop, how can advice and guidance really support the learners and what opportunities are there for developing around the class structure and moving into more experimental arts programmes, enterprises and exhibitions. In the midst of growth, bundles of new paperwork, new monitoring systems and a new artist co-ordinator for the ACET contract we continue to work on next steps, new ideas and how Art Shape can continue to offer something innovative and unusual and arts based.

And the organisation continues to grow and develop. Much of the year has been spent in training and partnership around Art Shape becoming a central resource for established and emerging artists progression. The organisation will become accredited as a guidance centre and will host new workers to put formalise and publicise the informal information and advice service that the company has offered for many years.

Art Shape has joined the Open College Network local region (WROCN) and has successfully had two programmes of work accepted. We can now offer accredited courses where appropriate for learners. There has been more staff training this year than before and a new staff handbook developed, the apprentice scheme has been an important part of our development as well as theirs and many new artists have worked with us and added their skills to the whole approach of inclusivity, arts and creativity.

Art Shape's work has been the focus of two national studies – Bigger Pictures, Broader Horizons, Widening Access to Adult Learning in the Arts and Cultural Sectors (published by DFES) and Creativity, Imagination and Learning – Impact of the Adult Community Learning Fund published by NIACE.



**Top: Painting by ???
Above: Teachers discussing ideas and solutions
Below: A plastercast hand made by ???**

'It's a model for other groups, people should be encouraged by our success.' student



Creative Futures

All through its history Art Shape artists have been working in residential and day centres across Gloucestershire. We have always shared skills with care workers and run one day training programmes but this artist input is only a short term way for participants who are in care to interact in a dynamic and creative way with arts, reminiscence, music and life.

To invest creativity in care settings in a more sustainable way, Art Shape artists over this past year, have been pooling their knowledge and expertise to develop a formally recognised accredited course for staff and care workers in creative approaches to their day to day work. Training pilots have been run and feedback gathered as well as a large amount of teaching notes, ideas and creative energy for this course.

This innovative course is unique for the country and will form a platform training on which care workers can ensure a sustainable culture change to current practice.

Creative Futures OCN Trial sessions have offered care workers an opportunity to receive training provided by Art Shape artists; and time away from their workplace to reflect and think about their own creativity, as well as the creative work they are doing in their centres.

The trial participants come from a range of professional backgrounds – health and social services, private and statutory, residential homes and sheltered accommodation. This variety in a group has been stimulating and beneficial to all – both tutors and care staff.

'It is good to see serious work done and treated with respect. It just goes to show how we underestimate some people.'

audience member

Left: Tissue paper collage by ???
Bottom: ??? and ??? painting



'What a wonderful exhibition, refreshing and joyful – a real sense of celebration.'

Congratulations!' audience member

One of the obstacles Art Shape had to face was the request for a skills only training course – not a broadly reflective Creativity awareness course. However, once the care staff engaged on the training they discovered that the mix of group discussion, personal awareness combined with, and firmly rooted in, practical skills gave them a much broader approach to their learning and their work. The benefits were reflected in their enthusiasm and involvement in the Evaluation session at the end of the 6 weeks.

The Tutors have journeyed on a voyage of discovery too, and through extensive preparation and planning their sessions have expanded their skills and abilities. The outcome is a set of training materials which encapsulate the ethos of the Art Shape way of working as an artist/tutor and a clear description of the learning experiences and outcomes that the participant might expect.

The full course will be run from September 2003.

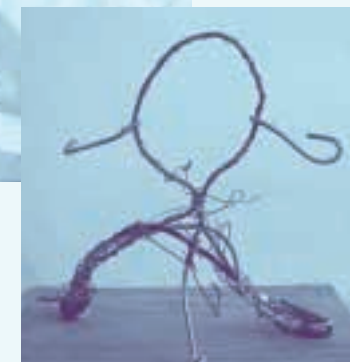


'An absolutely inclusive, barrier breaking event, a joy to be there.'

audience member



Top to Bottom: Wirework by ???, Amanda Lowery (course tutor) with Sheila Blakemore (exhibition apprentice), Lyn Barnard working on paper collage during Matisse workshop, Wirework man by ???



ACET Funded Education Programme

For many years Art Shape has run classes and courses at The Guildhall and Smartworks and linked to specific projects. This year we put all the work together in a classes and courses programme, promoted three times over the academic year with a new brochure. We added into the whole programme a co-ordinator, building accreditation for some of the courses, student support funds and assistants at all the classes. We have also added a considerable amount of paperwork to the office routine!

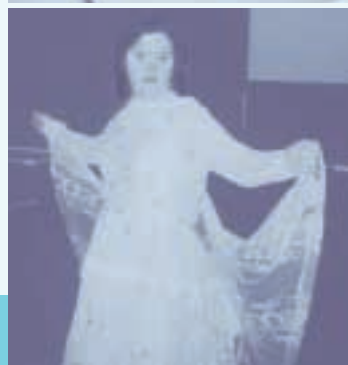


The programme reads as a lot of numbers – over 500 learners, over 9000 learning hours and 16 courses. What is much more important than these numbers, which show an impressive set of targets, is that the courses have formed a central part of Art Shape's work. Learners have explored many different art forms, new people have joined us, new contacts have been made and ideas are forming for next year. The courses are increasingly developing as progression routes for people – learning new skills and moving on as practising artists. This is a route that Art Shape will continue – a commitment to next step progression and innovation.

Artforms included in this programme:

Drama, story telling, music, performance, print, crafts, mosaic, ceramics, fine art, exhibition skills, interior design, furniture decoration, organic gardening.

Above: ??? playing a musical instrument
 Above Left: Susan Vines working with pastels
 Bottom: ??? in costume



Print at the University

Art Shape's Major Exhibition for 2002/3

The Print at the University exhibition set out to actively challenge these barriers and assumptions by showcasing the work of learning disabled artists who had undertaken Art Shape's Pre-Access Printmaking course at the University of Gloucestershire over the previous year. In addition, the project gave the artists opportunities to get actively involved with all aspects of preparing and hanging the exhibition – selecting their favourite pieces for the show, learning how to mount and frame their work to professional standards, producing personal statements to complement their work.

It was of particular value to the exhibition, and its aims, that it was programmed to coincide with the Jerwood Drawing Prize at the University. The audience for Print at the University was significantly increased in terms of visitor numbers as a result and were able to compare and contrast the work in both shows. The audience profile was far more varied than usual, the Jerwood attracting a more mainstream arts viewer than Print at the University might have attracted on its own merits. As a result, The Jerwood helped Art Shape and the Print artists to meet the challenges we set for the exhibition.

A number of the Print artists have decided to submit work for the Jerwood drawing prize next year.



Above: Students with their certificates at end of term exhibition

'The best thing was everyone coming to see my pictures, it made me feel proud.'

student

'Other people thought it was very good, people liked the exhibition and I would like to do it again.'

student

'I love everything in this show! All the hard work and dedication of the past year has come together in a wonderful exhibition.'

audience member

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2003 (Including Income & Expenditure Account)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	DESIGNATED FUNDS £	TOTAL 2002 FUNDS £	TOTAL 2001 FUNDS £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Donations	93,134	-	-	93,134	67,194
Activities in furtherance of the Charity's objectives: Grants	5,323	110,725	-	116,048	125,291
Interest receivable	3,047	14	-	3,061	2,446
Investment Income	3,515	-	-	3,515	-
Total Incoming Resources	105,019	110,739	-	215,758	194,931
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Cost of generating funds	9,358	-	-	9,358	16,283
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE					
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	20,581	116,687	-	137,268	116,226
Support costs	29,523	8,232	-	37,755	45,766
Management administration	15,874	-	-	15,874	20,322
Total Resources Expended	75,336	124,919	-	200,255	198,597
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS					
Net income for year	29,683	(14,180)	-	15,503	(3,666)
Transfer between funds	(2,240)	-	2,240	-	-
Net movement in Funds for the Year	27,443	(14,180)	2,240	15,503	(3,666)
BALANCE AT 1ST APRIL 2002	24,925	53,263	16,743	94,931	98,597
BALANCE AT 31ST MARCH 2003	52,368	39,083	18,983	110,434	94,931

(This is an extract from the full audited accounts approved by the Board of Directors).

DEFINITIONS

Unrestricted – Funds with flexibility within defined terms and conditions
Restricted – Funds for a specific pre-defined purpose
Designated – Funds for a specific purpose as defined by the Board of Directors

The Art Shape Team

Art Shape acknowledges that its work could not and would not be as successful within the support and involvement of many people, and would like to thank everyone associated with the organisation for their enthusiasm and dedication, including:

The Management Team

Elaine Albrow
 Jay Haigh
 Margaret Sloan
 Camilla Hale
 Sue Roberts

Apprentices

Nicky Harris
 And Associates Gretel Watson and Nic Roberts
 Sheila Blakemore

Board of Directors 2002/2003

Elizabeth Ball – Chair
 Chris Burke – Treasurer
 Anne Marie Cuffe
 Chris Pilditch
 Vicki Warwood
 Helen Owen – Observer
 Max Bullingham – Vice-Chair
 Sue Chadd
 Fiona O'Neill
 Diana Rosewell
 Margaret Whalley

Volunteers & Co-workers

Sheila Blakemore
 Sarah Francis
 Liz Mosely
 Angela Spencer
 The Arts Pioneers
 The core team and artists at Smartworks
 Everyone involved with the Creative Futures OCN pilot programme
 Anne Marie Cuffe
 Jude McLean
 Viola Rank Broadley
 Peter Stone
 New Audiences researchers

If you are interested in finding out more about Art Shape's work, if you want to support the organisation with your time, or if you are interested in offering financial support to the organisation, contact the management team at the Art Shape office in Gloucester (details on back page).

Artists; Assistors, & Tutors

Chris Bingle
 Ruth Bowers
 Maureen Brodie
 Lynette Burgess
 Mark Clifford
 Daniel Coleman
 Frances Cook
 Francis Gobey
 Nicky Harris
 Ali Heywood
 Debbie Hill
 Kim Hill
 Sarah Hughes
 Lynda Jenkins Jones
 Gillian Lever
 Amanda Lowery
 Jo Marsden
 Jude McLean
 Sue Nichols
 Peter Morris
 Katie Ordonez
 Ray Paul
 Lis Parker
 Lucinda Pearce-Higgins
 Gary Pierpoint
 Penny Prince
 Helen Rimmer
 Emma Robertson
 Claire Robinson
 Richard Straley
 Rachel Thomas
 Craig Trafford
 Liz Wade
 Susie Walker
 Simon Watkins

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