

**Association of Librarians and Information
Professionals in the Social Sciences**
(an unincorporated association)

**Report & Statement of Account
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

Contents	Page
Report of the Committee	1
Statement of Account	5
Reconciliation of Funds	6
Note to the Accounts	7
Independent Examiner's Report	8

Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences

Report of the Committee For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. Objectives

The Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences (“ALISS”) is an unincorporated not-for-profit professional association established in April 2005.

The purpose of ALISS is to provide a forum for information professionals (in the UK or overseas) involved or interested in social sciences information. It offers the opportunity to network and exchange information with other members.

Membership of the Group is open to any individual or corporate body on payment of a membership fee (£25 for individuals, £15 for students and retired members and £40 for organisations), and all duly registered members of the association have the privilege of voting at association meetings.

In the event of a termination of its activities, any surplus funds would be distributed to existing members.

2. Governance

ALISS is governed by a Constitution adopted at its launch in April 2005. ALISS is managed by a committee consisting of elected members, comprising up to three officers: Chair, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, and up to six ordinary members of the committee, all of whom must be members of ALISS. Current office holders are:

Sue O’Sullivan	Chair
Claire Smith	Hon. Treasurer
Heather Dawson	Hon. Secretary

3. Membership & Attendance

	2023/24	2022/23
Membership		
Corporate membership	60	62
Individual	15	16
Student/Retired	1	1
Total	76	79
Attendance		
Attendance at ALISS Spring Showcase (April)	-	39
Attendance at AGM/Summer Showcase	55	45
Attendance at Christmas event	36	70
Attendance at ALISS Spring Showcase (March)	17	30
Attendance at July Disability Forum Meeting	60	85
Attendance at September Disability Forum Meeting	52	-
Attendance at November Disability Forum Meeting	58	cancelled
Attendance at January Disability Forum Meeting	44	-
Attendance at March Disability Forum Meeting	33	cancelled
Total	355	269

4. Activities

The AGM was held as part of the online Summer Showcase event in June 2023, and accounts were approved by members.

There were a number of events held across the year via Teams:

In June, a showcase called 'Innovative ways in which libraries/ information services are promoting inclusivity', featured the following:

[Decolonising Methods](#) . **John Barbrook, Faculty Librarian for Science and Technology and Health and Medicine at Lancaster University** John spoke about his work in decolonising systematic reviews and literature searching.

[Conversations of CARE: an engaging, interactive conversation programme for international staff at the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust](#). **Alison Horner Le Riche, Library and Knowledge Services Manager, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust**. Providing insight into a programme developed to provide international staff with English as a second language a chance to practice their English speaking skills in an informal setting, linked to the Trust's CARE values.

[LibraryOn A digital platform that aims to raise the profile of the UK's public libraries](#). **Tiina Hill, Head of delivery LibraryOn** Showcasing LibraryOn, which is part of Arts Council England's vision for public libraries and the British Library's "Everyone Engaged" portfolio, which aims to make our intellectual heritage available to everyone, regardless of their background or location.

[Improving our Training Thinking about Audio description](#) **Manda Laine, Open University**. A thought provoking and interactive session around how accessible training packages are to students with a visual impairment.

A further showcase was held in November, to celebrate Disability History Month:

[National Paralympic Trust Digital projects](#) **Vicky Hope-Walker, CEO, National Paralympic Heritage Trust** described the work of the organisation and its plans to create a virtual museum. preliminary work on 3d digital objects can be seen on the website. A key concept is the inclusion of the voices of lived experience of 'disability'.

[Collections on the go: A walking tour app for Paralympic heritage](#). **Samuel Brady, PhD student and volunteer at the National Paralympic Heritage Trust and Bethany Watrous, Director, Experience Heritage** This talk covered the background historical research around Stoke Mandeville and the design, development and testing of the app.

[Lucy: A Story from the Normansfield Archives](#) **Dr Sarah E Hayward** Sarah brought to life elements of the archives from Normansfield Hospital, a private residential home and school for people with learning disabilities. The case study focussed on the story of one resident, Lucy, using letters written father, mother, and grandmother.

["Be not denied access": improving Accessibility to Collections at Shakespeare's Globe](#) **Philip Milnes-Smith, Digital Archivist** This presentation focussed on a project in improving accessibility to the Globes resources - both physical and digital access. It covered areas such as

Report of the Committee For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

audio description and creating visual stories for performances, while also covering making disability more visible within the collections - disabled characters, actors, etc.

The final showcase of 2023-24 was in March 2024, to align with Women's History Month, focussing on Women in Sport:

[Women and Sport in The Women's Library: Introduction to treasures in the collection](#). **Gillian Murphy, Curator for Equality, Rights and Citizenship**. Gillian presented some of the key resources related to sport, within The Women's Library, LSE.

[Discussing the Work of Scottish Women in Sport](#) **Maureen McGonigle – Founder of Scottish Women in Sport** A discussion of the work being carried out by SWIS, in particular looking at a programme to encourage and support women into leadership roles within sport.

[Trends of Women's Sport: Looking at Women's Sport Trends in the UK](#) **Natalie Niederman, Inclusive Participation Officer at Northern Ireland Sports Forum**. Speaking about the trends in womens sport across the UK, with a particular focus on Northern Ireland and the work the Female Sports Forum are doing to encourage participation.

[Using the Archives at the Women's Library LSE](#) **Sophie Hurst, a Writing for Performance student from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama** This talk looked at how the archives had inspired Sophie's creative work. It included slides showing the presentation of sports women in the media using the research on Women in Sport, an uncatalogued archive in the Women's Library.

[Supporting Sports Development and Inclusion for Girls](#) **Ailsa Wyllie, Sport Scotland**. Reflecting on societal changes in more recent times, Ailsa highlighted some of the work being done at all levels from girls, teenage years, adults and athletes to try and buck the trend of less girls and women living active lives.

During 2023/2024 ALISS continued to support the disability forum for information professionals, and a regular schedule for these meetings has now been established. Five meetings were held and a bi-monthly bibliography indexing disability related articles was posted online via the website at: <https://alissnet.com/disability/>

ALISS continues to publish its journal ALISS Quarterly which offers short topical articles on recent professional developments. ALISS Quarterly is available in print (free to members) and online. The current online issues are password protected and available to members only. The online archive is freely available with the most recent year being password protected. Special Issues for 2023/24 included: Women's History; Inclusivity; and Disability History Month.

The ALISS Quarterly prize for the most innovative and inspiring article was awarded to:

First Prize: Wise, K. and Horner Le Riche, A. (2023) Conversations of CARE: an engaging, interactive conversation programme for international staff at the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust. *ALISS Quarterly*, 18(4), pp. 3-6.

Second Prize: Beesley, L. and Clarke, E. (2023) Stewarding Our Past, Adapting Our Present: The Disabled People's Archive, Manchester. *ALISS Quarterly*, 18(2), pp. 10-13.

Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences

Report of the Committee For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

5. Finances

There was a cash deficit of £501 (2023: deficit of £771) for the year.

Income

Corporate and personal membership fees and sale of ALISS Quarterly extra copies totalled £2,949 (2023: £3,064). This was slightly less than the cost of producing the journal £3,061 (2023: £3,011). There was no summer conference. Income of £nil (2023: £50) was received from the Publisher's Licencing Society.

Expenditure

Expenditure on the AGM totalled £75 (2023: £75) including £75 (2023: £75) in prizes for ALISS Quarterly best articles. Expenditure on other events consisted of £nil (2023: £nil) for catering, room hire and travel expenses.

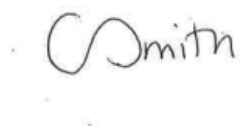
Office costs consisted of £250 (2023: £744) mainly for accountancy advice and assistance and £63 was spent on website costs.

Financial Position

Cash at bank at 31 March 2024 amounted to £15,882 (2023: £16,383).

6. Approval

This statement of account was approved by the members remotely on 11th July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Claire Smith
Honorary treasurer

Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences

Income & Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Income	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Membership fees			
Corporate		2,559	2,599
Personal		390	465
		<u>2,949</u>	<u>3,064</u>
Events, Conferences & Workshops			
Summer Conference		-	-
Other events		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other income			
Non-member attendance on tours		-	-
Non-member attendance at AGM		-	-
Publisher's licencing society			50
		<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>
Total Income		2,949	3,114
Expenditure			
Membership costs			
Printing of ALISS Quarterly		3,061	3,011
AGM		75	75
		<u></u>	<u>3,086</u>
Events, Conferences & Workshops			
Summer Conference		-	-
Other events		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other costs			
Website costs		63	55
Office costs		250	744
		<u></u>	<u>799</u>
Total Expenditure		3,450	3,885
Surplus of Income over Expenditure		(501)	(771)

Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences

Reconciliation of funds

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank at 31 March	15,882	16,383
<u>Represented by:</u>		
Retained surplus at 1 April	16,383	17,154
Surplus/(deficit) for the year ended 31 March	(501)	(771)
Total	15,882	16,383

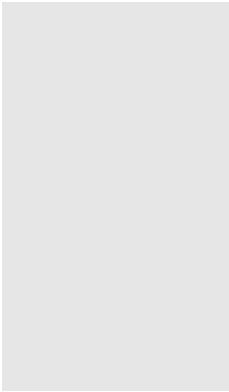
There were no other material assets or liabilities other than those stated above.

Association of Librarians and Information Professionals in the Social Sciences

Notes
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting Basis

The accounts have been drawn up on a receipts and payments basis.



**Independent Examiner's Report
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

I report on the accounts of the ALISS for the year ended 31 March 2024, set out on pages 5 to 7. This report is made solely to the Office Holders of ALISS.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

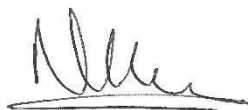
An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the association and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Office Holders concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nicole Gray MAAT
NG Community Accounting Services
Jubilee House
Lincoln Road
Doddington
Lincoln
LN6 4RS

20th April 2024