



Eastern Region Textiles Forum Constitution

The primary aim of the ERTF is to promote textile art in all its forms. ERTF is a non-profit making organisation which will be funded by membership fees, events, exhibitions, sale of work and any other business relating to the members of ERTF.

The purpose of ERTF is:

- To act as a central coordinating body for textile artists, craftspeople, designers and exhibiting groups
- To create networking opportunities
- To encourage and arrange debate, research and events that will benefit the promotion of textile arts and crafts
- To encourage and promote collaboration between members and educational establishments, museums, galleries, art organisation and other relevant bodies.

ERTF proposes to achieve its aims by:

- Organising regular seminars
- Organising exhibitions
- Organising a regular newsletter
- Organising a membership register available to all members
- Organising a mentoring list
- Organising to work with educational establishments
- Organising contacts with museums, galleries and art organisations
- Organising activities that will assist members' study and future learning

Membership

Membership of ERTF is open to anyone over the age of 18 with professional or personal interest in textiles and is not limited to people living in the defined 'Eastern Region'. An annual membership charge will be levied together with appropriate charges for meetings, events and listings.

Aims

- To attract a wider audience of participants outside the textile arts
- To document the region's textile heritage
- To encourage collaboration between textiles and other arts and crafts
- To liaise and work with other textile forums
- To liaise and work with educational establishments
- To liaise and work with museums, galleries and other appropriate organisations and establishments

Events

All events organised must have an action plan and budget drawn up and approved by The Committee. Any member can submit a budget and plan for an event for approval by The Committee.

Marion Curtis April 2016

The Committee

The Committee will consist of The Honorary Officers, namely

A Chairman

A Treasurer

A Secretary

At least four additional members will be elected to The Committee representing, if possible, the various textile arts and regions. Officers and Committee Members will be elected for a term of three years and may serve in any capacity for no more than two terms (i.e. six years).

The Committee may co-opt up to two additional members for periods to be specified at the time of co-option, but may serve in that capacity for no more than two periods of two years. Sub-Committees will be established from the membership when The Committee deem it necessary to deal with specific activities of ERTF and the sub-committees will run for the term of the activity. The sub-committee will report to The Committee and will gain approval from The Committee for all expenditure prior to any monies being expended or pledged. The sub-committee will submit to The Committee for approval a written plan of action for the activity that the sub-committee has been formed to undertake and will provide regular written budget and activity updates to The Committee for the duration of the sub-committee activities.

Main Committee meetings will take place at regular intervals throughout the year:

- To approve expenditure
- To consider the accounts
- To develop the business of the group
- To consider proposals for future activity

The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the group will take place in April. Notice of the meeting will be sent to members four weeks in advance. A quorum will be three Committee Members and six members.

Policies

ERTF aims to ensure issues of gender, multi-culture, equality of opportunity and good environmental practices are incorporated. The following Policies have been adopted by the Committee and are available on request. These are

Child Protection Policy

Child Protection Procedures

Equality and Diversity Policy

Protection of Vulnerable Adults Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Closure of ERTF

The closure of ERTF can only occur at the AGM or an extraordinary meeting convened for the purpose. A quorum, as defined above, must be present. The assets of ERTF will be disposed of as follows:

- Pro-rata membership fees will be returned to individual members

- Remaining financial assets will be distributed to other voluntary/charity/organisations within textile arts. Exact distribution will be voted on by The Committee.

Amending the Constitution

Such proposals should be submitted to The Chair, in writing, at least one month prior to the AGM or as an advance notice to call an extraordinary meeting where a quorum, as defined above, must be present and where a majority vote approval of the amendment will be necessary to effect the amendment.

Geographical Area Covered

Eastern Region is defined as London post codes from W1 eastwards, north side of the Thames, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.