



LEO Computers Society
Registered Charity 1182253
Annual Report: 2024-25

This report covers the period from May 2024 to April 2025.

Following approval at our last AGM, the Society this year introduced an annual members' subscription. Many on our lists have become full members with the right to vote at the AGM and other formal meetings, while others remain as associate members. We would like to encourage full membership. We have of course had to report the passing of several members this year. They are sadly missed by the Society and where we have sufficient information, we have listed their names with a short tribute on our website.

We continue to attract **new members** including some who did not work on LEO machines but are interested in discovering more about the LEO story. To help us with the membership activities we have appointed Mike Storey to fill the newly created membership secretary post.

Land archivist post: As members are probably aware, our major project run jointly with the Centre for Computing History, Cambridge and funded by the National Heritage Lottery finished in 2023. This project included archiving work on the LEO documentation and artefacts, but left many documents and artefacts still to be catalogued and digitised. We were successful in our application for funding from The AIT trust which has allowed us to appoint an archivist for 2 years working three days a week. The post has been called the Land archivist in honour of Frank and Ralph Land, both LEO pioneers, who will be well known to our members. We have appointed Kate Stockwell who started work in April at the CCH and is now very involved in the cataloguing work.

A start has been made on our **Museums project** aimed at locating LEO holdings and where appropriate helping improve their displays. Vince Bodsworth has been working with staff at TNMoC to enhance their LEO display. Graham Briscoe is contacting museums and repositories to research their LEO material. He first contacted those abroad in countries where LEO machines were sold and will follow this by contacting those in the UK.

An **Education project** will be starting soon, under John Paschoud's stewardship. We have identified several academics who are willing to help us. We would like to ensure that the story of LEO is better known both at school level and in higher education.

We have continued **zoom forums on roughly two monthly intervals**. In October Eric Dickens gave us a presentation on a project he had led working with a group of volunteers. The project demonstrates how CLEO, one of LEO III's programming languages, was used by the Post Office to run its Premium Bond operations. We were privileged to have a talk from Ruth Bourne in December. This 99 year old lady spoke about her work during WW2 at Bletchley Park to break the German Enigma code. Most recently, we had an introduction to Archives of IT from their CEO, Tola Sargeant. We are planning to have better links with the AIT.

The Society has this year run **two face to face events for members**. **The first, in October 2024** was held at TNMoC. Around 30 members attended as well as Simon Allen & Anna Ryten who are the Big Yellow Self Storage (BYSS) developer and architect. They showed us the plans for the redevelopment of the site in Hammersmith where Cadby Hall once stood. Vince Bosworth and Sheridan Williams, our members who are TNMoC guides, took the attendees on tours around the museum. TMNoC provided a good buffet. We had the usual raffle with some great prizes. **Our second face to face event is to be held on 20th May** at The Queens Head, Brook Green, Hammersmith. (This report had to be done ahead of the event). This is familiar to us as the Lyons and LEO pub and displays various pictures and artefacts about Lyons and LEO. 40 members and guests are due to attend. This

event coincides with the start of the building development by Big Yellow Self Storage Company on what was the Cadby Hall site. BYSS representatives are to give an update on progress of the development and show photos of the Hoardings surrounding it which are decorated with photos and time lines relating to LEO and Lyons. As well as a buffet lunch there is to be a raffle with some interesting prizes. Vince Bodsworth plans to show a video clip of the Virtual LEO I depicting LEO in its computer room in Cadby Hall.

Publicity for the LEO story is one of the Society's most important activities. I must again thank our trustee, Neville Lyons, for continuing to publicise the LEO story through his talks to a variety of organisations, including several u3a branches and he also encourages other members to use his "packaged" talks to other audiences. These talks have led to new members joining us. I must thank Dr. Elisabetta Mori for the presentations she is giving all over the world. These lectures are given at various IT themed academic conferences and nearly always include something about LEO. As I have mentioned before, we have also been working with the IEEE to provide **a plaque commemorating LEO I**. If our ongoing submission is successful, the plaque will be provided by the IEEE in the USA and will be installed in The Queen's Head, mentioned earlier.

Since the last AGM there have **been two editions of LEO Matters** our newsletter. We are still collecting reminiscences for inclusion. One item we covered in our October edition was the exciting news that there is a LEO connection in the alphabetical storm names chosen by the Met Office for 2024-2025. The one that interested us was **Storm Mavis**. This is named after Mavis Hinds who, with a colleague, worked on weather forecasting on LEO I as early as 1951. The latest storm - in January - was called Eowyn so there are 7 more to go before we get to Mavis. If we get there we will publicise Mavis's work on LEO 1.

After a delay of some months we are also moving ahead with **oral histories**. We are working to identify those people we still need to interview and to make existing histories easier to access. **Another historical initiative** is being undertaken by member Simon Lavington who is researching female programmers working in the 1950s. He is trying to identify them all. We believe that LEO had the most at that time. If you know of any please let us know.

I would like to thank all our **trustees and other volunteers for their work this year**. Sadly Hilary Caminer our Honorary Secretary/newsletter editor/minutes secretary etc. gave the Society a year's notice of retiring from her secretarial etc. role. Her retirement will take place at this year's AGM in June. Hilary has done a brilliant job and has expanded the original role of secretary making it difficult to find a replacement. Indeed we have recruited two people to take on the work but still need somebody else. We welcomed Ron Condon into the Society, a retired computer journalist, who worked with the Society briefly in its early days. Ron Condon is taking over the role of newsletter editor. Eric Dickens has taken the Minutes secretary role. We will need somebody to take on the general secretarial duties.

Looking to the future, 2026 will mark the **75th anniversary of LEO I** and hence of business computing. We were prevented from honouring the 70th anniversary in a major way as it fell during the pandemic, but we are now starting to consider how to celebrate this significant occasion which will fall on the 29th-30th November 2026.

We continue to be **a busy Society so we need more help to cover all of our many activities**. If you think you might have some time to help please let me know.

Peter Byford, Chair (peter.byford@leo-computers.org.uk)

Charity Registration No. 1182253

LEO COMPUTERS SOCIETY

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

LEO COMPUTERS SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure

For the Year 1st Jan to 31 Dec. 2024

Charity No. 1182253

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Bank Interest Received LLOYds	265.19
Donations & Grants	
Donations - Easy Fundraising	106.98
Donations - General	20.00
Donations - Gift Aid HMRC	123.75
Donations - Subscription Appeal	625.00
Grant - AITT	42,936.00
Total Donations & Grants	43,811.73
Reunion Income	
Attendance Fee	1,520.00
Raffle	175.00
Total Reunion Income	1,695.00
Sales	
Book Sales & Publishing	
Book Sales	36.00
Postage for Members a/c	14.95
Total Book Sales & Publishing	50.95
LEO Tote Bag	18.00
Total Sales	68.95
Total Income	45,840.87
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold	12.39
Total COGS	12.39
Gross Income	45,828.48
Expense	
Bank Charges	
PayPal Service Charges	0.68
Zettle/Paypal Charges	0.71
Total Bank Charges	1.39
Committee Meeting Expenses	
Travel - Committee Meetings	0.00
Total Committee Meeting Expenses	0.00
Computer & Web Expenses	
Domain Name Renewal	0.00
Email - additional	48.52
Web Hosting	259.06
Total Computer & Web Expenses	307.58
LEO Plaque	
Cleaning Plaque	16.00
Total LEO Plaque	16.00
Newsletter/LEO Matters	
Postage	5.49
Total Newsletter/LEO Matters	5.49
Office Expense	
Computer Equipment	104.99
Postage & Stamps	18.14
Total Office Expense	123.13
Oral History & Heritage Project	
Land Archivist	42,936.00

LEO COMPUTERS SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure **For the Year 1st Jan to 31 Dec. 2024**

Charity No. 1182253

	Jan - Dec 24
Oral History	
OH Travel-Meetings/Sustenance	163.44
Total Oral History	163.44
Total Oral History & Heritage Project	43,099.44
Publishing	
Postage & Carriage	
Postage	5.85
Total Postage & Carriage	5.85
Total Publishing	5.85
Reunion Expenses	
Reunion Expenses	1,920.00
Total Reunion Expenses	1,920.00
Uncategorized Expenses	
Postage & Stamps - Merchandise	1.90
Travel - General	88.80
Total Uncategorized Expenses	90.70
Total Expense	45,569.58
Net Ordinary Income	258.90
Income for the Year	258.90

LEO COMPUTERS SOCIETY

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2024

Charity No. 1182253

	31 Dec 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Other Current Assets	
Accrued Income	123.75
Stock	
LEO Remembered 2nd Edition	148.67
Total Stock	148.67
Total Other Current Assets	272.42
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	9.10
Total Accounts Receivable	9.10
Cash at bank and in hand	
Lloyds Bank - Current a/c	648.39
Lloyds Bank - Savings a/c	64,720.08
Total Cash at bank and in hand	65,368.47
Total Current Assets	65,649.99
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	42,936.00
Total Accounts Payable	42,936.00
Total Current Liabilities	42,936.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	22,713.99
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILI...	22,713.99
NET ASSETS	22,713.99
Capital and Reserves	
Accumulated Funds	
Restricted Funds	
Restricted Fund - LEO Plaque	1,148.32 ¹
Restricted Funds-Preservation	
Heritage Project	4,014.07
Oral History	5,992.24 ²
Total Restricted Funds-Preservat...	10,006.31
Total Restricted Funds	11,154.63
Unrestricted Funds	11,559.36 ³
Total Accumulated Funds	22,713.99
Retained Income	-258.90 ⁴
Income for the Year	258.90
Available funds	22,713.99

LEO COMPUTERS SOCIETY

Balance Sheet **At 31 December 2024**

Charity No. 1182253

	Notes	DR	CR
1.	LEO Plaque Expenses	16.00	
2.	Oral History Expenses	163.44	
3.	Unrestricted Fund - Increase		438.34
4.	Retained Income Allocated	258.90	
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		438.34	438.34
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