

LONDON ZEN GROUP

Report of Trustees for the year ending 31 December 2022

OUR AIMS

It is our aim to advance the Sōtō Zen Buddhism religion in London for the benefit of the public through the holding of

- regular classes and guided sessions of zazen meditation,
- ceremonies for sick or bereaved individuals,
- open lectures and workshops on Buddhist ethics and doctrines,
- and other open communal activities related to Zen practices and culture.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Easing of COVID restrictions

In parallel with the easing of COVID restrictions in the first half of 2022, LZG also gradually eased its restrictions on attendance in person at our dojo (practice space) at 486 Caledonian Road. Requirements to wear masks in the dojo were dropped in May. The requirement for visitors to be double vaccinated or recently tested was removed in October. LZG's Zoom channel for online participation at events remained open for those who struggled to come to the dojo in person.

Schedule and Activities

LZG maintained a daily schedule of zazen meditation with the exception of Saturdays, entirely staffed by its volunteers. Members of the public were welcome to join our daily morning sessions from Monday to Friday from 7.00 to 8.00 AM in person at our dojo or via our Zoom channel. Regular evening sessions of zazen have been held on Thursdays, Wednesdays (until September) and Mondays (from September) from 7.30 to 8.45 PM. Drop-in introductions to the practice of zazen-meditation were offered on Wednesday (until September), Monday (from September onwards) and Thursday evening sessions.

On Sunday mornings LZG offered a slightly extended period of zazen from 9.00 to 10.30 AM, followed by an extended ceremony, communal cleaning of the dojo space (*samu*) and socializing.

LZG continued its successful study group activity on Wednesday evenings (until September) and Monday evenings (from September onwards) following the regular evening zazen sessions on these days. Participants are discussing texts from the Buddhist and Zen traditions under the guidance of one of LZG's ordained priests.

From June 2022 onwards LZG offered public talks on Zen-Buddhist doctrine and philosophy on Friday evenings from 6.30 to 8.00 PM. The talks are preceded by a short session of zazen and followed by socializing.

Guided workshops for sewing Zen-Buddhist robes - *kesas* and *rakusus* - were offered on Tuesday evenings for those seeking to be formally ordained as Bodhisattvas or priests into the Sōtō Zen community.

LZG also offered Japanese calligraphy classes on selected Wednesday evenings at its premises.

LZG also held a half-day of zazen practice on the morning of December 10th to commemorate the Buddha's awakening.

Attendance

LZG started to track its offerings and attendance formally in June 2022.

From June to December 2022, LZG, hosted **256** events and meetings with a total of **1,274** attendees. This included:

- 196 regular zazen meditation sessions,
- 49 sessions of zazen combined with studies, talks and discussions,
- 9 sewing events,
- 2 calligraphy sessions.

A detailed statistical summary of activities is attached to this report.

OUR FINANCES

As a small, non-company charity, we prepare our annual accounts in the receipts and payments format according to the Charity Commission CC16a standard.

LZG received £12,676 worth of donations for the financial period of 1st January to 31st December 2022. LZG is entirely financed through voluntary donations and had no other sources of income.

During the same time, LZG made payments of £10,955 in order to run the operation of its venue (dojo).

As a result, LZG realized net receipts of £1,721.

LZG's funds increased to £30,111 by the end of the year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

LZG is governed by its board of trustees who are at the same time the caretakers of the group. Trustees meet several times per year and manage the current operations as well as events and plans for the future.

TRUSTEES

New trustees are co opted by the body of existing trustees. New trustees will typically be long-standing members of the community who are also responsible to run regular sessions of zazen.

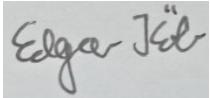
John Blythe was appointed as new trustee on 27th May 2022 for a period of three years.

Trustees of LZG in 2022

- Rev Alana Berrington - Treasurer
- Rev Edgar Koeb - Secretary
- John Blythe (since 27th May 2022)

- Rev Martin Landolt
- Rev Ryan Roberts
- William (Bill) Lamdin - Chair

SIGNATURES



Rev Edgar Koeb

7 October 2023



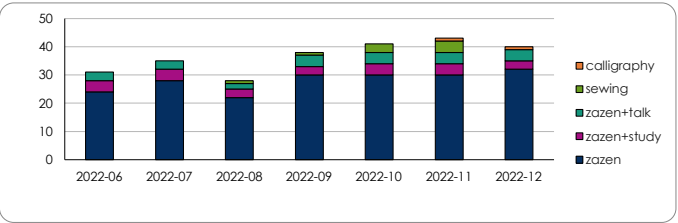
Rev. Alana Berrington

9 October 2023

London Zen Group - Attendance Report - June to December 2023

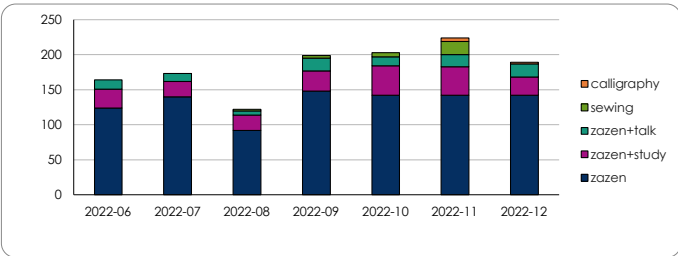
LZG - Number of Events - June to December 2022

Year-Month	Activity Types					Grand Total
	zazen	zazen+study	zazen+talk	sewing	calligraphy	
2022-06	24	4	3	0	0	31
2022-07	28	4	3	0	0	35
2022-08	22	3	2	1	0	28
2022-09	30	3	4	1	0	38
2022-10	30	4	4	3	0	41
2022-11	30	4	4	4	1	43
2022-12	32	3	4	0	1	40
Grand Total	196	25	24	9	2	256



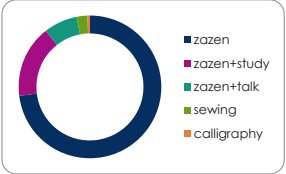
LZG - Event Attendance - June to December 2022

Year-Month	Activity Types					Grand Total
	zazen	zazen+study	zazen+talk	sewing	calligraphy	
2022-06	124	27	13	0	0	164
2022-07	140	22	11	0	0	173
2022-08	92	22	6	2	0	122
2022-09	148	29	18	4	0	199
2022-10	142	42	13	6	0	203
2022-11	142	41	17	19	5	224
2022-12	142	26	19	0	2	189
Grand Total	930	209	97	31	7	1274



LZG - Event Attendance by Type - June to December 2022

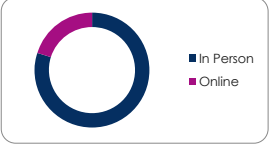
Event Type	Attendance
zazen	930
zazen+study	209
zazen+talk	97
sewing	31
calligraphy	7
Grand Total	1274



LZG - Event Attendance by Channel - June to December 2022

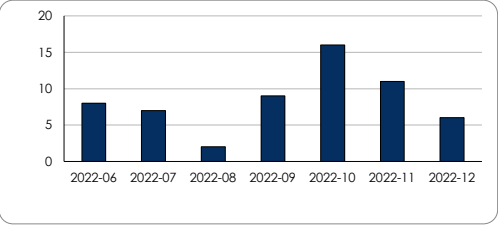
Attendance	
In Person	1017
Online	257

20.2 % online



LZG - Number of Introductions - June to December 2022

Year-Month	Introductions
2022-06	8
2022-07	7
2022-08	2
2022-09	9
2022-10	16
2022-11	11
2022-12	6
Grand Total	59





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

London Zen Group - CIO

1194847

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1-Jan-22

To

31-Dec-22

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations - online	5,266	-	-	5,266	-
Donations - direct deposits	6,106	-	-	6,106	-
Donations - cash	1,169	-	-	1,169	-
3rd party user groups	125	-	-	125	-
Book sales	10	-	-	10	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,676	-	-	12,676	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	12,676	-	-	12,676	-

A3 Payments

Rent	9,000	-	-	9,000	-
Gas and Electric	761	-	-	761	-
Internet	417	-	-	417	-
Council Tax	333	-	-	333	-
Boutique	42	-	-	42	-

Godo expenses	27	-	-	27	-
Supplies	130	-	-	130	-
Zoom	127	-	-	127	-
Miscellaneous expenses	118	-	-	118	-
Sub total	10,955	-	-	10,955	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	

Total payments	10,955	-	-	10,955	-
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Net of receipts/(payments)	1,721	-	-	1,721	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	28,390	-	-	28,390	-
Cash funds this year end	30,111	-	-	30,111	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cooperative account 652 142 99	30,111	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	30,111	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
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B5 Liabilities

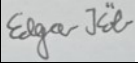
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf
of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

	Rev Edgar Koeb	7/10/2023
	Rev Alana Berrington	9/10/2023