

CRAFTS ALIVE

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www.crafts-alive.wales

INTRODUCTION

Crafts Alive is a not-for-profit marketing co-operative. Originally formed in 1992 (it became a co-operative in 1996) providing a local sales outlet for crafts people and artists living and working in the area round Llandeilo. Although it has since expanded to include crafts people living and working *anywhere* in Wales, the majority of our members are still based within 30 miles of Llandeilo.

Crafts Alive does not usually buy any stock. All items remain the property of the individual member until the point of sale.

Although we want to welcome as many craft producers as possible into the shop, space dictates that we have to be selective.

Our **Selection Criteria** are as follows:

1. The producer must live and work in Wales with priority given to those closest to Llandeilo.
2. The product must not conflict directly with another in the shop.
3. We look for a high standard of workmanship and finish and all items must comply with any requirements of the Sales of Goods Act which may apply, (e.g. the CE now UKCA standard for toys, Cosmetics and Food regulations etc.) It is the producer's responsibility to determine relevant requirements and produce proof of certification. (We can give advice on this)
4. The product (the craft/art) is substantially the original design and work of the submitting crafts person. We do not accept crafts made from kits
5. The producer is able to make enough items to replace sold stock regularly and promptly.
6. The shop runs entirely on the efforts of its members and the producer should be willing to work as part of a team in the promotion and running of the Crafts Alive co-operative.

We expect all members to assist in *some capacity* in the running of the shop.

This would preferably be working behind the counter in the shop (stewarding with the benefit of reduced rates and bonuses), or helping with shop, Gallery and window display or providing expertise and services from home e.g. running the rota, look after finance, organising publicity, IT skills, electrical, cleaning, maintenance, decorating etc.

If you are unable to steward please let us know of any skills that you could provide that would be of benefit to the co-operative.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

Please note that Crafts Alive has an annual monthly membership fee which must be set up as a bank transfer on acceptance.

Current Rates are:

Non-shop workers: £25 per month with 25% commission

Shop workers/stewards: (i.e. those on the rota) £5 a month with 15% commission

Cards only members: £2.50 a month with 25% commission.

We expect membership fees to be made monthly by standing order.

We record all sales and issue payments on a monthly basis direct to your bank account by BACS. The commission is deducted from each producer's sales and this goes towards the running of the shop. You will receive a list of all the items sold during the month to enable you to carry out stock control.

Stock

Crafts Alive relies on the individual producer to replenish stock regularly, clean their display unit and ensure that there is always a balanced and attractive display of goods.

Crafts Alive expects a high degree of exclusivity on sales within Llandeilo and ask that members do not sell their work through any other shop/gallery within the town.

(If you want to diversify your craft within the shop in the future and sell items which are substantially different from your original submission, we ask that you put these before the selection committee at the monthly meeting.)

Selection Process

If you are interested in placing goods for sale in Crafts Alive, please *complete an application form*, giving as much information as possible and *leave it in the shop with a representative sample/selection of your work* (we do need to see and handle actual items of work) in time for the next monthly meeting. Don't forget to *include retail prices for each item*.

The selection committee is made up of members who are actively involved in the management of the shop. The decisions are taken on an unbiased and democratic basis at a monthly meeting. We then inform you, by letter, phone, or email, of our decision as soon as possible after the meeting.

Exclusivity

One of the ways Crafts Alive tries to make itself stand out from the other craft shops in Llandeilo is by the originality of our stock. That means that if people are shopping in the town they will not find the same work by the same artist/craftsperson on sale anywhere else in town. We therefore insist on exclusivity of member's work and ask that they should not have their work for sale in other places/venues within Llandeilo.

The directors will treat each historic situation on an individual basis to encourage exclusivity if appropriate.

Application forms are available to download from our website. www.crafts-alive.wales

Note: all members are required to hold their own Product and Public Liability Insurance and to provide evidence of this on an annual basis

Any Trading Standards and Government Regulations MUST be followed