LMUG AGM Chairman Report 2014-15



Summary

The last year has been interesting for LMUG. We have moved to a different venue, one which gives us great scope for meetings and events, it makes it a lot easier to organise and set up but this new venue may challenge some.

Our membership number are generally static, but due to us sliming down our expenditure and the income growth from events our financial position is stronger.

The committee are central to making things happen in LMUG and we need more. I really appreciate the time and dedication they give to making this group work. The Members are the life

'LMUG is one of the World's most famous MUGS. It's also my favourite'

- Tom Cook 2015*



and soul of the reason why we do this and I just want to thank each of you for your continued support.

1) Committee

I would like to give high praise to two members of the committee who are moving on to new things.

Georgina, our previous head of finance, who has transformed the accounts and has been an absolute pleasure to work with in every aspect, the way she performed the role. Her professionalism will be missed, however Pietro has taken on this role and he has picked up everything effectively and efficiently:-)

Now we have completed the words of praise for georgina its time to move on to Andy, who unfortunately is stepping down from he technical officer role, it was andy (and paul) that recruited me into LMUG's committee so all I can say is 'Thanks!'. In all seriousness, andy you have built the technical and culture of this group up and I seriously want to say thank you to both of you!

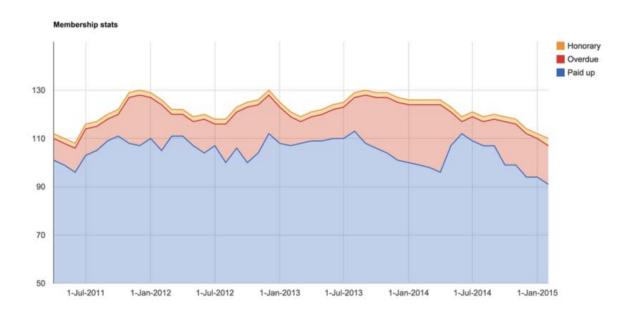
To say thank you to both of you we as a committee would like to take you, pending approval tonight, for a meal or similar to offer our thanks and best wishes for all the work you have put in.

Ok two down, but the committee is still standing. Please if you are a little tempted to join us to help shape the future of the worlds most talked about MUG then please come say hi and lets get it on.

* Tom cook is close friend of mine and is not related to Apple.

2) Members

For the traditional membership, it is generally static, we do have people leaving due to difficulty of getting into london for the meetings but we do have a similar amount of people joining.



Soundbyte is put together with great care by Maurice and we as a committee really want to say thank you to him for his continued support and tireless work in making this happen every month. Elizabeth is also key in picking up all the errors we miss.

This years Christmas party - the apple, london and tech pub quiz -, martin did us all proud!



It was a real success and I think this is so good as a format we could considered doing this more widely, to help encourage new attendees.

We also hosted a photo walk/ingress session over hampstead heath, the weather was glorious, the people lovely and beer we found at the end was perfect.



In terms of Meetup we now have 328 members! These do not pay a yearly subscription but do add to our total awareness, this becomes particularly apparent at the keynote events.

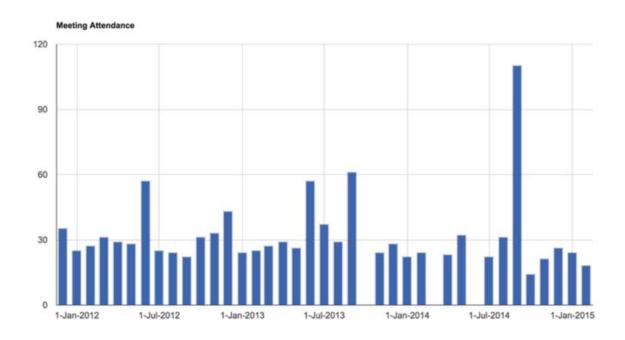


A press agency covered our summer event

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9rApAcyyuQ



We now host these in the large groovy wonderland room downstairs. We even have a video covering at event from the press.



The attendance of these meetings is obvious on the following graph of attendance.

Reviews for the events.



"The peoples from London Mac Users are such nice people, I met a lot of fun peoples like Steve the organiser and many others members that always talking to you, really great peoples to chat. Greetings to all :) *

Bruno Zub on Mar 10, 2015.

Remove from featured group reviews



"LMUG is always good"

- Alex Richendoller on Sep 11, 2014.

Remove from featured group reviews



" Good group of people. "

- Charlie on Jul 15, 2014.

Remove from featured group reviews



" A really friendly and helpful bunch of people with a large amount of pooled expertise. I've only just joined the meetings and don't know why I waited this long."

- David Nolan on Jun 4, 2014.

Remove from featured group reviews



well organised and friendly group "

- R Saam on Jun 3, 2014.



Jonathan Mundy

Brilliant event. My number one pick for any major Apple event. Great job, LMUG.

Like · Reply · March 10 · Mute



Martin Kelly

Thanks Jonathan. It's a great event in a unique setting. Room to watch, share, eat and drink with a lot of happy apple folk. See you at the next one.

Like · March 16



Bruno Zub

The reunion was really great, a nice place, awesome peoples, excellent environment, was my first time on a event like this and was fantastic experience. Thanks everybody.

Like · Reply · March 10 · Mute

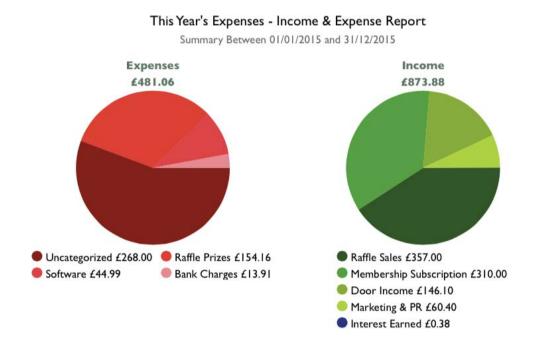


Thanks so much for taking the time to comment. It was great to meet you too. It would be great see you at future events. Steve

3) Finances

Two major things have happened to help finances this year. a)We have trimmed the expenses, meeting room hire is now zero, amazon prime has been cancelled as we are using individuals account, etc etc.

b) Income is generated from the events - we now charge the none LMUG paying attendees £5 entrance. but by the reviews this service we supply has had rave reviews.



Running of the group is still expensive with insurance, hardware and marketing all adding up.

I would like to return LMUG with the funds required to ensure it has the bed rock for continued growth. I think it would be

something to consider how we best do this.

3) Venue

This year we moved to Tiger Tiger, this makes the running of these event and meetings a lot easier, they set up, the staff are lovely and



professional and we get more room. I would be interested thou in how this has effected members.

4) The Future

Lmug has gone from strength to strength in running the events to cover the keynote event, I am confident this growth will continue. The challenge for the future of LMUG is in the monthly Meetings. These need to be kept to be interesting and imforative to the level of need of the audience.

The future of LMUG is in the members and the committees hands, and we need more skilled and willing hands to take LMUG on to the next high. This year we lost two members of the committee, this will happen, but we need to carry on the search and drive for fresh blood to continue to plan more great things for the future.