

Chairperson:  
Bob Connell  
97 Woodlands Road  
Barry  
CF62 8EB  
Tel: 07805 861428  
Email: bob\_connell@msn.com

Secretary:  
Robert N. Wardle  
Tel: 07762 126533  
Email: robert.n.wardle@tesco.net

Treasurer:  
Richard J. Thomas  
Tel: 01446 737218  
Email: rjthomas@maintop.co.uk

Membership Secretary:  
Val. T. Caple  
Tel: 01446 775794  
Email: val.t.caple@care4free.net

## Q2 Minutes

**Apologies:** Jane Wardle, Rob Wardle, (secretary) Diane Doble, Richard Thomas (treasurer), Mavis Crockett, Martin Jones, Robin Pitcher, Margaret McMillan, Kaye & Russ Incledon, Derek Butler, Gerry Goodman, Gloria Surridge.

### Chairman's Report

This has been an interesting quarter.



We had our first serious incident on a group activity. This has helped us focus on our insurance liabilities, something which I raised before taking up my current post. Our secretary has done an excellent job in putting us in contact with people who can help us and we will be legally compliant before the end of the year.

This may mean an increase in fees to cover the costs associated with our activities, or we can just stop doing stuff and try to get a shed load of Tesco vouchers for £3. **What do the membership want?** That's the big question.

Now we're looking forward to walking in the channel islands, cruising the Thames. Our annual meal hangs in the balance as nobody has come back to me with potential dates. Maybe we shouldn't bother as it's clear that "not enough is being done for the apathetic".

On the down-side, we went to some more funerals, but we also look forward to the active involvement of new members. It's a positive future if we can get them involved. What does the future hold? Whatever the membership decides.

Cheers, Bob

### Secretaries Report

Since our March meeting your committee has been active and have totally re-worked the application form turning it into a tri-fold leaflet which now gives potential members brief information of who we are and what we do. Your committee will distribute these leaflets to potential members as they walk into the site cafeteria at lunchtime on the same day as our quarterly meeting. The leaflet showing just one full side is reproduced over the page. The committee thank the walking group and in particular Mike and Ann Dams for allowing the use of the photograph used on the front cover of the leaflet.


We all decided our chairman should be the keeper of the leaflets so that they remain in one place.

□ □ □ □ □    □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Email [vallcap@care4themenet.com](mailto:vallcap@care4themenet.com)



**#1**  
For  
Training



June 01 2015

Rob Wardle - Secretary



### 1. Financial status year to-date:

Current account balance:	2440.65
Unpresented Cheques:	
DC Shop Takings	-575.00
Welfare	-50.00
Cheque in Lieu of Tesco Voucher (2014)	-10.00
Savings account balance	1661.67
Float totals	264.99
	=====
<b>Net Assets YTD =</b>	<b><u>£ 3732.31</u></b>

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2015 up to 31<sup>st</sup> May) for a summary of 2015 accounts year to-date.

A further breakdown is available during the meeting for those members wishing to see it. Any further queries please contact the treasurer.

### 2. DCRA accounts for 2014:

The 2014 accounts have been set to our auditor (Dave Edwards). I fully expect the audit to be completed well before the September AGM.

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2014) for a summary of the 2014 accounts.

A further breakdown is available during the meeting for those members wishing to see it. Any further queries please contact the treasurer.

### 3. Standing Order Trial for payment of 2015 Membership Subs:

No real progress on this since the last meeting but it is expected that the option of paying subscriptions by Standing Order will be available to all members from next year.

*Richard Thomas (DCRA Treasurer).*

Dow Corning Retirees Association					
Income and Expenditure Account for 2015 (31st May 2015)					
2015 Income YTD			2015 Expenditure YTD		
Members Subscriptions	588.00		Welfare	190.00	
Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions	0.00		Xmas cards/gifts	0.00	
Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning)	1065.68		Manning DC Shop	62.28	
DC Shop Takings	1725.00		DC Shop Takings	1725.00	
Admin	0.00		Admin	36.82	
Coach Trips	517.00		Coach Trips	589.87	
Annual Dinner/Lunch	0.00		Annual Dinner (2014)	0.00	
Interest earned (end July 2014).	0.27		Tesco Vouchers	0.00	
			Friendship Group	24.30	
			Nordic Walking Group	5.70	
			Skittles Group Expenses	0.00	
			Walking Group Expenses	53.40	
			Secretary's Expenses	0.00	
			Treasurers Expenses	0.00	
	Total Income	3895.95		Total Expense	2687.37
<b>Surplus for 2015</b>					<b>1208.58</b>
Balances -End of Dec. 2014			Balances - YTD 2015		
Current Account	819.62		Current Account	2440.65	
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2014	-275.68		Unpresented Cheques	-635.00	
Savings Account	1661.40		Savings Account	1661.67	
Treasurers Float	0.00		Treasurers Float	0.00	
Secretary's Float	0.00		Secretary's Float	0.00	
Skittles Float	18.39		Skittles Float	18.39	
Walking Group Float	0.00		Walking Group Float	-53.40	
Coach Trips Float	0.00		Coach Trips Float	0.00	
DC Shop Float	300.00		DC Shop Float	300.00	
			<b>Net Assets year to-date 2015</b>	<b>3732.31</b>	
			<b>Minus surplus year to-date 2015</b>	<b>-1208.58</b>	
	2523.73			2523.73	

## Dow Corning Retirees Association

### Income and Expenditure Account for 2014

2014 Income			2014 Expenditure		
Members Subscriptions	627.00		Welfare	460.00	
Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions	308.00		Xmas cards/gifts	103.97	
Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning)	4292.92		Manning DC Shop	152.92	
DC Shop Takings	4275.00		DC Shop Takings	4275.00	
Admin	154.50		Admin	1121.22	
Coach Trips	70.82		Coach Trips	974.35	
Annual Dinner/Lunch	1413.00		Annual Dinner (2014)	1402.24	
Interest earned	0.84		Tesco Vouchers (plus cheques)	3120.00	
			Friendship Group	36.00	
			Skittles Group Expenses	39.66	
			Walking Group Expenses	227.93	
			Secretary's Expenses	20.08	
			Treasurers Expenses	0.00	
	Total Income	11142.08		Total Expense	11933.37
<b>Deficit for 2014</b>					<b>-791.29</b>
Balances -End of Dec. 2013			Balances - End of Dec. 2014		
Current Account	2146.61		Current Account	819.62	
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2013	-790.00		Unpresented Cheques for 2014	-275.68	
Savings Account	1660.56		Savings Account	1661.40	
Treasurers Float	-7.34		Treasurers Float	0.00	
Secretary's Float	0.00		Secretary's Float	0.00	
Skittles Float	8.05		Skittles Float	18.39	
Walking Group Float	-13.68		Walking Group Float	0.00	
Coach Trips Float	10.82		Coach Trips Float	0.00	
DC Shop Float	300.00		DC Shop Float	300.00	
			<b>Net Assets year to-date 2014</b>	<b>2523.73</b>	
			<b>Plus deficit year to-date 2014</b>	<b>791.29</b>	
		3315.02			3315.02



## Site Shop Report

**The shop opening times are now 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

This will allow Dow Corning staff to visit the shop during lunch breaks.

If anyone find it difficult to make a Wednesday or the new times they can contact me and hopefully an alternative arrangement will be made.

As many of you know that has always been available to you.

Contact details are given at the end of this report.

The cost of purchasing sealants will now be £1.60. A rise of 20 pence.

The small sealants remain at £1.00

We have a comprehensive range of Pyrex goods, arguably the best in South Wales. There still have some promotional items at very competitive prices and we are always looking to purchase new lines.

I have introduced some new items namely;

Saucepans

Frying pans

Saute pans

With summer with us please note we have a stock of Bollé safety glasses in clear and dark lenses. Ideal for sporting activities e.g. cycling etc.



Sealants remain our best seller and are still a very good buy.

My thanks go to the Retirees committee for the support they are giving to the shop and hope to see many retired members in the near future.

Finally my thanks as always to Ruth Beasley and those that assist in shop duties.



Regards... Don Surridge.

## Day Trips / Short Tours



Photo Mike Cadman

Tuesday April 21, members plus their guests and friends enjoyed a good day out, the sun shone and was warm. We travelled to Toddington north Cotswolds climbing aboard a steam train. The trains and stations along this line are run by enthusiasts of the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway company who keep the stations and trains well maintained and very clean. Our journey ended at Cheltenham racecourse where we rejoined our coach before travelling into Cheltenham enjoying lunch and some shopping. Several members had spotted the **female living statue performer** (shown to the left) in the town centre being most impressed by her concentration to sit for so long before moving and startling passers by.

We have a day trip on June 17 travelling to Marlow where we will board a river boat for a two hour cruise to Henley on Thames. Deposits have now been paid to Edwards for the five day trip to Morecambe and the Lake district planned for October. The trip is now closed. Thanks to the members and guests who will be joining us on this very scenic journey.

[Ken and Rob](#)

## Walking Group

Our March walk was centred on Craig-y-nos and was eight miles and easy. Eight walkers turned out in unsettled



weather conditions. Our first climb took us above the snow line on Cribarth but the sun came out as we had a coffee stop before proceeding across the ridges with good views. Whilst walking towards Henrhyd Falls one of our walkers slipped on a rock whilst stepping up, fell and broke an arm. Whilst first aid was administered two walkers returned to the cars and brought two cars to evacuate the injured walker and the other seven back to Craig-y-nos before driving to hospital and our respective homes. The injured walker continues to make a good recovery.

Clydach Gorge near Abergavenny was the location for our April walk. We decided to include this walk early in the year before the dual-lining of the A465 (an engineering challenge in itself) started degradation of this beautiful wooded valley. The six walkers wandered around the 19<sup>th</sup> century ruins of the iron works and lime works walking up the tramway to cross a stunning railway viaduct above the fast tumbling river at the head of the wooded valley. After a bit more climbing it was a contour walk past disused limestone quarries around to another valley where we descended to cross meadows (with some muddy patches) to the banks of the Monmouth and Brecon canal. Interestingly we walked under the canal on two occasions, before walking up the beautiful wooded Clydach valley alongside the river to the car park.

The May walk was scheduled to be a ten mile walk from Llangynidr around Tor Y Foel but unfortunately the weather was not playing ball and we had to cancel the evening before. However, we plan to insert the walk in the 2016 programme.

<b>3 June</b>	<b>Brecon Beacons Northern Horseshoe (Cribyn, PYF, Corn Du)</b> Meet 1030 at Cwm Gwdi carpark (SO 025 248 )	<b>9.5</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>1 July</b>	<b>Grwyne Fawr Valley, Twmpa, Rhos Dirion, Grwyne Fawr Resv.</b> Meet 1030 at Forestry car park in Grwyne Fawr valley (SO 253 285)	<b>10.5</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>5 Aug</b>	<b>Carmarthen Fans (Fan Brycheiniog and Fan Foel)</b> Meet 1030 at Tafarn y Garreg on A4067 SN 849 171)	<b>10</b>	<b>C</b>

In June sixteen walkers are going to visit Guernsey for a week to walk around the coastline of the island (44 miles) plus take day visits to Herm and Sark. Lovely!

Anyone wishing to join, or wanting more information may contact Stuart McMillan (Tel 029 2070 5234, or e-mail mcmillan42H@talktalk.net).

We thank the Retiree's Association and the Executive for their continued support.

### Friendship

Volunteer activity:

Since the first trip carried out by a volunteer on 4<sup>th</sup> February this year, to-date we have completed 19 trips to and from either the Heath or Llandough hospitals.

Our 20<sup>th</sup> trip is booked for 8<sup>th</sup> June and is a return trip to the Heath. On this trip I plan to test the Heath Parking Permit (see below).

For reasons of data protection I have not included names or reasons for the trips.

We currently have 12 volunteers and as yet have not missed a requested trip, however, it has been close at times due to non-availability of volunteers. We had a small amount of interest for new volunteers following the appeal in the DCRA newsletter and membership subscription form towards the end of last year, but in the end no new volunteers were signed up. If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact me (Richard Thomas) on 01446 737218.

There is also a need for a Friendship Group Coordinator. For this position it is not necessary to undergo the DBS security checks that trip volunteers have to unless the person wants to be a trip volunteer as well. The tasks involve taking the calls from members in need, validating the need, entering details in a call database and liaising with volunteers to find someone to carryout the trip etc. The position requires someone with good telephone and email communication skills. If anyone is interested in this position, please contact me on the number above.

Heath Parking Permit:

Linda Pritchard from the Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS), formally the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services (VCVS), which DCRA is a member of, has been working with the Heath Health Board and the Company that runs the car parking services at the Heath (Vinci) to get free parking for volunteers. This effort has taken about a year to sort out, but we have now been sent our permits. Unfortunately, the expiry date on the permits has already passed, but I've been told by Linda that this will not be a problem and new ones will be issued at a later date. The process involves parking in 20 minute drop-off bays and then contacting VINCI to let them know that a car is being left there. I want to test the process before handing out the permits to the other volunteers, as mentioned above

I plan to do this on 8<sup>th</sup> June. If successful, I will arrange a volunteer meeting to go over the process and issue the permits.

Care and Repair in the Vale:

At the last meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> March), it was mentioned that more details of the above service would be obtained. A



leaflet of the services provided is available for those attending the meeting, but in brief, from the leaflet, the services provide are:

- Care & Repair in the Vale offers a free advice service for older homeowners in the Vale of Glamorgan and is tailored to individual needs.
- They support older people to repair, adapt and maintain their homes, enabling them to live as independently as possible with increased safety, security, warmth and comfort.
- They help people with work ranging from small items such as the installation of handrails to major jobs such as bathroom adaptations or replacing a roof.
- They do things such as:
  - Visit you at your home to discuss your concerns.
  - Provide telephone advice and details of reputable contractors.
  - Offer impartial advice on general repairs and home safety.
  - Assist with obtaining and evaluating no obligation quotations.
  - Discuss and assist with applying for grants to finance works, if eligible.
  - Oversee the work carried out.
  - Provide advice on the prevention of falls.
  - Provide advice on the energy efficiency and heating of your home.
  - Provide welfare benefits advice and support.

They can be contacted on:

01446 704308

There address is:

Care & Repair in the Vale

121 Broad Street

Barry

Vale of Glamorgan

CF62 7AL.

Website: [www.careandrepair.org.uk/vale-of-glamorgan](http://www.careandrepair.org.uk/vale-of-glamorgan)

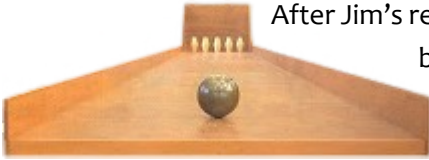
Please note DCRA does not have any experience of this company, but several of the Friendship Group Volunteers have heard good comments about them. If anyone does have experience of them (now or in the future) we would appreciate hearing about them.

First Aid Course for Volunteers:

The idea of making Basic First Aid courses available to the Friendship Group Volunteers has been put on hold until the issue of insurance cover of DCRA in general has been resolved.

*Richard Thomas (Friendship Group Coordinator / Secretary).*

## Skittles



After Jim's recent operation he now feels he is up to organising a skittles night. The alley has been booked for Saturday June 20. Sue and Jim would like to see some new faces amongst the regular members. Any member who has not yet received an invitation letter can contact Jim and Sue on 01446 739404.

## Jim and Sue Sugden

## AOB

Care and Repair have been very helpful and we can recommend them to all our members. Several positive comments about them.

Richard was congratulated on all he's doing, both as treasurer and with the friendship group.

Skittles may be cancelled on the 20th as there has been little response.

The cycling group has started, with 4 people on the inaugural event along the Taff trail between Penarth and Caerphilly. The next trip should involve Bath.

**The retirees dinner has been booked for October 30th. Invitations / menu choices will follow soon.**

## Guest Speaker

Gareth Baker gave a talk on cyber security and awareness, which was very favourably received. One item he was very keen to promote was the free firewall software from Barclays. All of our members should be making use of their "Barclays Digital Eagles" scheme where we can. His presentation will be sent to our members as a separate email.

## In Memoriam



**DONM**  
**7 Sept.**