



## DCRA Quarterly Meeting Minutes 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Agenda

- Chairman's Welcome
- Apologies
- Bereavements
- Treasurers Report
- Membership Report
- Walking Group Report
- Brewing Group Report
- Secretaries Report
- AOB
- Tea/Coffee and Mini Beer tasting and mocktail.

### Apologies

Mike Dams  
 Graham Pugh

Gloria Surridge  
 Steve Kraus

Breda Dowdell

### Bereavements

Brian Trego  
 Hugh Winnan  
 Dave Thomas  
 Mike Bullows

Vicky Edwards  
 Gareth Jones  
 Tom Easton

Brin John  
 Terry Corrigan  
 Alison Mitchael

### Treasurers Report

Margaret Ran through the treasures report.

Income Year to date £343.59

Expenditure to date £269.67

Assets Year to date £4695.12

Total gain for the year-to-date £73.92

The decision was taken at the 2022 AGM to no longer issue £20 cheques when a member has passed away. Instead every year a charity will be selected by the members and a £100 donation will be issued to that charity in memory of all those who have passed away. The charity selected at the meeting for the 2023 donation was Alzheimer's Society, thank you letter received. The charity for 2023 will be agreed at the AGM.

The walking group no longer receives financial support from DCRA as we no longer receive funding from Dow. The balance of £16.17 has been returned to the DCRA account.

Liability Insurance costs are increasing each year. Alternative policies were investigated to try to reduce the cost in 2022 but no suitable alternative was found. The renewal notice for 2023 has not yet been received.

Dow Corning Retirees Association					
Income and Expenditure Account for June 2023					
2023 Income			2023 Expenditure		
Welfare		0.00	Welfare		100.00
Members Subscriptions		322.00	Xmas cards/gifts		0.00
Admin		0.00	Admin		57.40
Coach Trips		0.00	Coach Trips		0.00
Annual Dinner/Lunch		0.00	Annual Dinner /Lunch		0.00
Interest earned		5.42	Nordic Walking Group		0.00
Walking Group Bal. Returned		16.17	Walking Group Expenses		16.17
			Secretary's Expenses		81.50
			Treasurers Expenses		14.60
			Subs		0.00
	Total Income	343.59		Total Expense	269.67
Surplus for June 2023					73.92
Balances -End of Dec. 2022			Balances -		
Current Account		2937.90	Current Account		3022.57
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2022		0.00	Unpresented Cheques		0.00
Savings Account		1667.13	Savings Account		1672.55
Treasurers Float		0.00	Treasurers Float		0.00
Secretary's Float		0.00	Secretary's Float		0.00
Walking Group Float		16.17	Walking Group Float		0.00
Coach Trips Float		0.00	Coach Trips Float		0.00
Adjustmnt to year-end balance		0.00			0.00
			Net Assets year to-date		4695.12
			Add Loss in Year		-73.92
		4621.20			4621.20

### Membership Report

Val ran through the membership report.

We now have 215 members, 11 didn't renew and we have 4 new members.

### Secretaries Report

No new matters arising from the previous Minutes.

### Walking group Report

Stuart ran through the walking group report.

The May walk saw seven walkers gather in the car park of the delightful Coach and Horses Inn in Llangynidr, Powys, where we had to register our cars in the pub and purchase something to allow us to park for free all day or receive a hefty fine from the car park company. The walk started with a short section along the Monmouth and Brecon canal before crossing a bridge and undertaking a fairly long slow climb up onto Tor y Foel (551 metres) to enjoy some splendid views. We descended to a favourable spot with large stones to sit on to have our lunch with another set of great views overlooking Talybont Reservoir accompanied by the smell of sheep pooh. The descent continued in a wide sweep along a track and grass paths until we rejoined the canal for a nice level walk in shaded conditions. After we returned to the pub, checked how long the walk had been (always different values from different devices) it was 10 miles, some of the walkers imbibed in a pint of Jemimah's Pitchfork. Subsequently one member did however receive notice of a car park fine – outcome unknown.

Simon Acey proposed an interesting 9 mile walk starting from the Brecon Beacons Mountain Centre (above Libanus) for our June walk taking in Mynydd Illtud and Cefn Llechid and dutifully guided us around the open grassland, through a nature reserve, down steep stoney paths, past a small lake for a gentle hill up to the trig point of Cefn Llechid at 400 metres, where we had lunch in fine weather and good views across towards Brecon before descending into a delightfully shaded valley with a stream before climbing back up onto Cefn Llechid crossing Sarn Helen (Roman Road) for a second time then returning to the Mountain Centre where some partook of cream teas and refreshments. A nice walk enjoyed by 13 walkers. Interestingly, no stiles to clamber over, but plenty of kissing gates.

Upcoming walks are;

<b>5 July</b>	<b>Llangattock Escarpment and Waun Ddu (choice of 2 walks)</b>	<b>5/4</b>	<b>E</b>
	Meet 1030 at roadside car park near Darren		
<b>2 Aug</b>	<b>Carmarthen Fans (Fan Brycheiniog and Fan Foel)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>C</b>
	Meet 1030 at Tafarn y Garreg on A4067 SN 849 171)		
<b>6 Sept</b>	<b>Fan Y Big and Tef Fachan Forest (OS Walk 26)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>M</b>
	Meet at 1030 Torpantau Car Park (SO 056 175) on Pontsticill to Talybont Road		

The 2023 week long walking holiday has been booked for the Isle of Man in late June, thanks to the perseverance and determination of Mike Dams. Thanks Mike!

Anyone wishing to join the walking group, or wanting more information may contact Stuart McMillan, Tel 029 2070 5234, or e-mail [mcmillan42H@talktalk.net](mailto:mcmillan42H@talktalk.net).

#### **Brewing and Fermentation group Report**

Richard ran through the DCRA beer tasting day on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Six people attended the day. We have acquired an associate brewer (not a DCRA member) to the group to expand the brewers and give more variation in the beers we taste and critique. We tried 9 beers at the meeting.

The challenge beers were a Grey Trees Mosaic clone and a random beer generated by throwing 3 dice to determine, strength, bitterness and colour.

Of the 3 mosaic beers Paul's scored the highest with a 7.8.

The random beers were Paul's 462 ruby mild and Richard's 634 milk chocolate stout.

Again, Paul's scored highest with 8.3 and was a very malty mild bitter.

Other beers included an all British hop IPA from Richard which scored an 8.2 and a red IPA from Steve.

Others were a bitter called Aldgate from Paul and wheat beer from Steve.

Our overall winner this time was Paul's random 462 beer.

The challenge beers next time are a bitter called royal oak originally brewed by Eldridge Pope brewery in Dorset and a random challenge beer 322, a good British bitter.

The next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> August at 11am. Call Richard on 07814 702589 or email [rgtaylo1@gmail.com](mailto:rgtaylo1@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **AOB**

The memorabilia evening went well in February, we discussed whether we could do another one to get more of the DCRA membership involved. It might be better to do it as an afternoon meeting rather than an evening.

We would also like to try to organise a lunch for the association, the committee will decide on a venue and a date and let the membership know.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

Next Meeting will be the AGM.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023, 2:30pm at Highlight Park Community centre Barry.

Any feedback to Richard on [rgtaylor1@gmail.com](mailto:rgtaylor1@gmail.com) or phone 07814 702589 or 02920 530524.

All the best,  
Richard

07814 702589