

DCRA meeting minutes for 14th June 2022

DCRA AGM Meeting Minutes 14th June 2022

Agenda

- **Chairman's Welcome**
 - **Apologies**
 - **Bereavements**
 - **Treasurers Report**
 - **Membership Report**
 - **Secretaries report**
 - **Walking Group Report**
 - **Brewing Group Report**
 - **AOB and future meeting dates**
 - **Tea, coffee Mini Home brewed Beer tasting and Mocktail tasting**
- There were 11 people at the meeting.

Apologies

Graham Pugh
Gloria Surridge
Mike Dams
Sue Taylor

Mary Currie
Brenda Dowdell
Dave Townsend
Steve Kraus

Diane Baker
Robin Pitcher
Linda Jones

Bereavements

Bob Rouse

Gilly Powel

Rosemary Evens

We discussed memories that people had of the people above and we still feel that a memorabilia afternoon/evening would be a good idea. Things like photographs, items from their time at DC and anecdotes about things that happened. Anyone interested in this should get in touch with Don Surridge or Richard.

Treasurers Report

Margaret went through the accounts.

We have received £392.07 from subs and £12 from beer sales!

There is a total of £5010 in the account and we have spent £138 to date.

Don thanks Margaret for her continued support and contributions to the DCRA.

Membership Report

We have lost 18 people from the membership this year and have a total of 230 with 7 new people joining.

Secretaries Report

There were no matters arising or comments from the last meeting minutes.

Walking group Report

Stuart went through the walking group report.

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DOW CORNING RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION WALKING GROUP

REPORT TO 14th JUNE 2022 MEETING

The walk scheduled for 6th April was deferred at short notice owing to an adverse weather forecast (high wind and heavy rain in our faces) until the 13th which at least started out with better weather from Llantrisant Forest car park. Unfortunately, it wasn't too long before it started to spot with rain and ultimately provide steady rain as we broached out of the woods and out onto the ridge going westward together with visibility steadily reducing to less than 50 metres. The walk leader Simon Acey had two options when we reached the decision point and the group decided to take the shorter option straight down into Llanharan, where it was dry and as we turned eastward and upwards the sun came out so we stopped for lunch. After a delightful walk up through up through the meadows and down the forest track the 14 walkers arrived back at the car park for a slice of cake provided by Philippa.

George Sawicki was the key actor and leader for the May walk which was centred on the hills above Crickhowell. Thirteen walkers set off up the Beacons Way, turning off up a valley towards Pen Cerrig-calch where the 5 most energetic walkers led by George set out for Pen Gloch-y-pibwr and Pen Allt-mawr, returning via Pen Cerrig-calch and Table Mountain, whilst Stuart led the older more sensible walkers up to the last two mentioned points, all returning to Crickhowell. The weather was kind with some sunshine and a cooling breeze. The long walk was 10 miles, the shorter was 7 miles, with climbs of 750 and 650 metres. It was a tough, enjoyable, good days walking. The views were stunning.

The June walk was part one of a two part 'Penrhys Pilgrimage Way' walk that starts at Llandaff Cathedral and finishes in Penrhys, a pilgrimage walk of 20 miles. This month's walk was 10 miles linear route from Llandaff to Llantrisant, via Radyr, Creigiau, Greosfaen across farmland and along lanes. Only 4 walkers turned out but they had an invite to have coffee and cake at the Dam's house in Radyr. Sue Taylor joined us for coffee but declined the walk, which was unexpectedly delightful with sunken lanes, grass paths and superb views all in rain free, sunny day. We had a brief look around the older, higher areas of Llantrisant before walking down a steep cobbled street to catch the bus back to Llandaff. A good day out. Part 2 of the walk is scheduled for September. NB: Only one stile!

Upcoming walks are;

6 July

Redbrook, Newlands, Offas Dyke, Kymin, Monmouth, Redbrook

8

M

Meet 1030 at Redbrook Rugby Club car park on A466

3 Aug

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The Bloreng, Llanfoist and Monmouth and Brecon Canal

7

M/C

Meet 1030 at roadside car park off A4042 and B4269 (SO 284 109)

7 Sept

Penrhys Pilgrimage Pt 2: Llantrisant to Penrhys (linear walk)

10

M/C

Meet 1000 at Llantrisant

It is our plan for 10 walkers to visit the Minho area north of Porto in Portugal in June 2022 for a week's walking. Because of Covid restrictions this holiday had been twice deferred from June 2020. Fingers crossed that Covid stays away this year.

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>).

Stuart thanked the committee for their support for the group.

Brewing and Fermentation group Report

Richard ran through the activities of the brewing group which consisted of a beer brew off and tasting at the end of May. The beer we decided to try to brew was a Wye Valley Bitter Clone. The general recipe was that it should have an original gravity of around 1036 (ABV at 3 to 3.5%), colour of 6 SRM, mid brown, and a bitterness of 30 to 40 IBU. Paul's was called Wye Not! and Richard's was called Wye's Crack. Full recipes can be obtained on request.

There were 3 people at this tasting and apart from the 2 Wye Valley bitter look-alike's we tried 5 other beers listed below

Beer

Beer type and comments

Score

Sundon Brewery, Paul H

Wye Valley Bitter Clone, Wye Not

Bitter, good colour, floral aroma, slight bitterness, yeast flavour.

7

Whispering Knight

Bitter, Liqueurice, floral aroma, some initial bitterness and good after taste.

8.3

Beach Hut Brewery, Richard T

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Wye Valley Bitter Clone, Wye's Crack

Bitter, slightly hazy. Floral aroma some grassy notes, good initial bitterness and bitter after taste, not very malty,

6.7

Sour Dohhhh (Experimental)

Bitter, made using sour dough bread. Cloudy. Caramel and dark malt flavours, malt loaf and brown bread. Some bitterness with a sharp bitter aftertaste. Needs more work.

5

Bamber's starter for 10 (Experimental)

Pale Bitter, made with sour dough bread and fermented with sour dough starter but no brewer's yeast. Cloudy. Acidic, floral, pear drops aroma. Odd. Some bitterness, Listerine, antiseptic after taste. Not good.

4.7

Buzz Wheat Beer

Wheat Beer. Very pale. Some banana and clove aromas, not very much bitterness. Good fizz.

7.2

Black Hole IPA, Bottled

Black IPA. Little or no aroma slight chocolate. Burned malt, not stout, bitter back note good bitter aftertaste.

7.4

Our next challenge is to make a Bellhaven 80 shilling Scottish ale and a random wild card brew. If you want to have a go then contact Richard on 07814 702589 or email rgtaylo1@gmail.com<<mailto:rgtaylo1@gmail.com>>. Next Beer tasting day to be announced, keep an eye out.

AOB

We will set a day for the memorabilia day and let the members know when it will be.

Beer tasting and mocktail.

We tried the Wye Valley bitters from the brewing group along with one of Richard's latest creations called Dead Donkey (based on a brewdog beer called dead pony club). Cheers!

The Mocktail was a mixture of Mango, orange and pineapple juices with orange and lemon slices, mint sprigs and halved strawberries made up with lemonade and ice. A bit like a Pimm's fruit cup. Bottoms up!

Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting is the AGM on 3rd Oct 2022 at 3PM at the highlight park community centre in Barry.

PLEASE COME ALONG TO THE MEETINGS IF YOU CAN AS THESE ARE SOCIAL EVENTS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO CATCH UP WITH OTHER PEOPLE OVER TEA OR COFFEE (AS WELL AS A SMALL BEER OR A MOCKTAIL!) AND BISCUITS.

Thanks to all of the committee for their continued work and support for the DCRA

Many thanks.

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Richard

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