



04 minutes

Chairperson:
Trevor Rees
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Secretary:
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Treasurer:
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Membership Secretary:
Val. T. Caple
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DECEMBER 05 2016

APOLOGIES:

Frank Maltby, Brian Rich, Nora Lindop, Mavis Crockett, Val Caple, Margaret McMillan, Russ & Kaye Incledon, Diane Doble, Joan Lake, Bert & Brenda Dowdell, Mary & Brian Currie, Gerry Goodman, Paul Price, Gloria Surridge.

Attendees: 12

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

I would like to thank everyone here this afternoon for attending.

May I also thank Don the outgoing chairman for all his support.

For people who have not met me before, I am Trevor, and consider it a privilege to be elected as your new chairman. Being new to the position, I will try to attend as many events as possible and would like to see more members attending meetings.

My thanks to Rob and Ken for the excellent lunch with many members at the Bear Hotel, Crickhowell on October 31st.

I look forward to working with Richard our treasurer and the excellent and committed members to ensure we continue to build upon the improvements we've already made and meet the challenges of the future.

The committee would like to hear from members interested in serving DCRA. Anyone who would like to know more is most welcome to contact the secretary.

Could I request a minute's silence for those members who have sadly passed away this year:

Dilys Smith, Joe Mulcock, Fred Saunders, Emlyn Williams, Des Kemp, Anthony Beasley, Bill Kohnstamm, Maude Houston, Dilys Javes, Eddie Harding, Karen Grigg, Milton Eskins, Kathleen (Robbie) Kohnstamm.

Finally, may I wish you all a very Happy, Healthy Christmas and New Year.

Best Wishes..... Trevor Rees.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Two special thank you's firstly to Catherine Lewis (education officer) for staging the pond dipping events and latterly on December 01 the Brass Band and Mince Pie Carol Concert. Secondly to those members and guests who attended the above events. Finally thanks to the 51 members and guests who supported and attended the lunchtime meal at the Bear Hotel in Crickhowell it was rather unfortunate due to illnesses that six members and guests had to withdraw at the last minute. So far, Ken and I have only received positive reports about the food, venue and the steady driver employed by Mainline Coaches.

New to Windows 10? Whether you've bought a brand new laptop or you're upgrading, there is a FREE guide available to help you get up and running. The guide will help you find your way around Windows 10, discover great new features to get the most from your computer, manage your privacy and data settings.

Call for your FREE guide 0800 221 8787 or text AG11 for free to 80057 quote reference PC1157F.

Windows 10 has plenty of tools to make your life easier. Like Cortana, which lets you talk to your computer to get things done, including searching the internet or setting an alarm.

The UK for the last few years is being hit by extreme weather e.g. flooding etc. Below are just a few tips passed on to me as secretary to share with you. They may be worth jotting down and keeping safe if your property is vulnerable. If a flooding is imminent, it is vitally important to act swiftly to protect your property and mitigate damage.

Unplug electrical items and sensitive equipment and store on upper floors

Turn off gas, electricity and water mains.

Move vehicles if you can to higher ground

Place important documentation and photographs in watertight container and move to upper floors

If you own a mobile phone with a camera, and if possible take photographs of your property to assist in the event of a claim

Do not attempt to walk or drive through flooded roadways or cross streams etc.

If water rises in your home before you evacuate, move to the top floor

If you own a battery-operated radio, listen for the latest local storm information

If you have come in contact with floodwaters, wash your hands with soap and disinfected water

Cadoxton Ponds Request: Catherine Lewis (Education Officer) will be setting up a volunteer work group for the ponds next year. Volunteers will meet once a month and carry out projects around the nature reserve such as;

- Bramble/Reed control – there will be lots of this!!!!
- Maintenance of benches and path edging??
- Painting sheds
- Building a super bug hotel as a demonstration model for visiting schools

Is this something you would be interested in?

The first session will be early February, contact Catherine Monday through Wednesday on 01446 723173 or mobile 07972 176963 or via the Wild Life Trust : 01656 724100

Members attending today's meeting will have noticed a change in security. In future, we will be asked to sign in / out to include your vehicle registration. This is now in line with their Emergency Procedures. We have discussed the possibility of tweaking the sheet to just a box tick for in/out alongside a list of names for future meetings.

Regards - Rob

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Financial status year to-date:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Current account balance: | 5300.10 |
| Unpresented Cheques: | |
| Welfare | -80.00 |
| Annual lunch (refunds) | -60.00 |
| Dow Corning (Shop Takings) | -635.00 |
| Savings account balance | 1662.94 |
| Float totals | 402.59 |
| | ===== |

Net Assets YTD = £ 6590.63

Addition costs to be incurred during December will be in the order of £3100.00, this will cover Tesco Gift Cards (plus cheques for overseas members), Christmas cards and Honorariums. This should leave us with a surplus for the year of around £700.

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2016 up to 1st Dec) for a summary of 2016 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 2015:

The 2015 accounts were approved by the membership during the September AGM meeting
See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2015) for a summary of 2015 accounts.
The audit file is available for review during the meeting.

Richard Thomas (DCRA Treasurer)

| Dow Corning Retirees Association | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Income and Expenditure Account for 2016 | | | |
| 2016 Income YTD (1st December) | | 2016 Expenditure YTD (1st December) | |
| Welfare | 0.00 | Welfare | 280.00 |
| Members Subscriptions | 583.00 | Xmas cards/gifts | 81.50 |
| Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions | 289.00 | Tesco Vouchers | 0.00 |
| Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning) | 4432.40 | Manning DC Shop | 201.20 |
| DC Shop Takings | 3875.00 | DC Shop Takings | 3875.00 |
| Admin | 0.00 | Admin | 492.19 |
| Coach Trips | 942.00 | Coach Trips | 1064.44 |
| Annual Dinner/Lunch | 1258.00 | Annual Dinner | 1436.18 |
| Friendship Group | 40.00 | Friendship Group | 48.00 |
| Interest earned (end July 2014). | 0.71 | Nordic Walking Group | 0.00 |
| | | Skittles Group Expenses | 0.00 |
| | | Walking Group Expenses | 101.59 |
| | | Secretary's Expenses | 0.00 |
| | | Treasurers Expenses | 0.00 |
| | Total Income | Total Expense | 7580.10 |
| | 11420.11 | | |
| Surplus for 2016 | | | 3840.01 |
| Balances -End of Dec. 2015 | | Balances - 1st Dec. 2016 | |
| Current Account | 1565.71 | Current Account | 5300.10 |
| Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2015 | -780.00 | Unpresented Cheques | -775.00 |
| Savings Account | 1662.23 | Savings Account | 1662.94 |
| Treasurers Float | 0.00 | Treasurers Float | 0.00 |
| Secretary's Float | 0.00 | Secretary's Float | 0.00 |
| Skittles Float | 4.18 | Skittles Float | 4.18 |
| Walking Group Float | -1.50 | Walking Group Float | 98.41 |
| Coach Trips Float | 0.00 | Coach Trips Float | 0.00 |
| DC Shop Float | 300.00 | DC Shop Float | 300.00 |
| | | Net Assets year to-date | 6590.63 |
| | | Minus surplus year to-date | -3840.01 |
| | 2750.62 | | 2750.62 |

| Dow Corning Retirees Association | | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Income and Expenditure Account for 2015 | | | | | |
| 2015 Income | | | 2015 Expenditure | | |
| Welfare | | 20.00 | Welfare | | 370.00 |
| Members Subscriptions | | 605.00 | Xmas cards/gifts | | 98.00 |
| Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions | | 298.50 | Tesco Vouchers | | 3010.00 |
| Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning) | | 4487.68 | Manning DC Shop | | 242.48 |
| DC Shop Takings | | 4125.00 | DC Shop Takings | | 4125.00 |
| Admin | | 0.00 | Admin | | 698.44 |
| Coach Trips | | 1119.50 | Coach Trips | | 1681.67 |
| Annual Dinner/Lunch | | 1386.00 | Annual Dinner (2014) | | 1323.82 |
| Friendship Group | | 70.00 | Friendship Group | | 64.80 |
| Interest earned (end July 2014). | | 0.83 | Nordic Walking Group | | 5.70 |
| | | | Skittles Group Expenses | | 14.21 |
| | | | Walking Group Expenses | | 251.50 |
| | | | Secretary's Expenses | | 0.00 |
| | | | Treasurers Expenses | | 0.00 |
| | | | | | |
| | Total Income | 12112.51 | | Total Expense | 11885.62 |
| | | | | | |
| Surplus for 2015 | | | | | 226.89 |
| Balances -End of Dec. 2014 | | | Balances - End of Dec. 2015 | | |
| Current Account | | 819.62 | Current Account | | 1565.71 |
| Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2014 | | -275.68 | Unpresented Cheques | | -780.00 |
| Savings Account | | 1661.40 | Savings Account | | 1662.23 |
| Treasurers Float | | 0.00 | Treasurers Float | | 0.00 |
| Secretary's Float | | 0.00 | Secretary's Float | | 0.00 |
| Skittles Float | | 18.39 | Skittles Float | | 4.18 |
| Walking Group Float | | 0.00 | Walking Group Float | | -1.50 |
| Coach Trips Float | | 0.00 | Coach Trips Float | | 0.00 |
| DC Shop Float | | 300.00 | DC Shop Float | | 300.00 |
| | | | Net Assets end of 2015 | | 2750.62 |
| | | | Minus surplus end of 2015 | | -226.89 |
| | | 2523.73 | | | 2523.73 |
| | | | | | |

SHOP REPORT:

The shop opening times 1130 a.m. To 1.30 p.m. every Wednesday.

The cost of purchasing sealants is £1.60.

The small sealants remain at £1.00

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

I have introduced some new items namely; Sauce pans, Frying pans and Saute pans. We also have a new range of Ceramic Fry Pans at very competitive prices.

We have a stock of “Bolle” safety glasses in clear and dark lenses. Ideal for sporting activities e.g. cycling etc.

Christmas is nearly here and Pyrex goods make ideal presents. The shop is open for only three more days and 21st December will our last day before Christmas. Reopens January 04 2017.

Sealants continue to be our best seller and are still a very good buy.

Finally my thanks as always to Ruth Beasley, Gloria, Dianne and Ken Doble.

Contact details.

Don Surridge Home Number. 01446 735437.

Mobile Number. 07811076015.

Dow Corning Shop. 01446 746619.

Regards... Don Surridge.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP REPORT:

Volunteer activity:

No trip activity over the last three months.

One volunteer has stepped down, further reducing volunteer availability.

If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer or Group Coordinator please contact me (Richard Thomas) on 01446 737218, email rjthomas@maintop.co.uk.

Friendship Group Expenses:

No costs were incurred over the last three months.

WCVA STOPPING SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEER CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS:

The processing of the above checks by the WCVA has now stopped, they have provided a list of trusted organizations for us to consider. We have not had any new volunteers since the WCVA service stopped so to-date no organization has been considered.

With the low take-up of the service and diminishing volunteer availability, the viability of the group will be reviewed in the new year.

[Richard Thomas \(Friendship Group Coordinator / Secretary\).](#)

WALKING GROUP REPORT:

In September nine members assembled at Skenfrith Castle to undertake a tough 12 mile walk in humid conditions up to Grosmont Castle, where a well-earned lunch was taken within the castle walls. The return route circumnavigated Edmunds Tump along the scenic Blackbrook Valley back to Skenfrith, where thirsts were quenched in the Bell Inn garden in warm sunshine. A pretty walk.

As the walking group is now in its 14th year, it is inevitable that we repeat some walks, especially at member's request. The October walk was a repeat, the 8 mile walk started at Llanthony Priory and followed down the Eywas valley to Cwmyoy church before climbing up onto Hatterrall Hill and Offa's Dyke. The views from the ridge were stupendous, looking across the Welsh and English countryside, The descent obliquely along the shoulder of the hill portrayed Llanthony Priory in the sunshine before us. Stunning and memorable for the seven walkers.

It was down to the Gower for the November walk based on Penmaen, Cefn Bryn, Penrice and Reynoldston, to make a very pleasant walk of eight miles. The weather was kind with a cold northerly breeze as the seven walkers walked over Cefn Bryn, but warm sunshine as we ate our lunch outside Penrice church with fabulous views over Oxwich Bay. Another repeat, but last done in 2004. Was it really that long ago?

Upcoming walks are;

| | | | |
|-------|---|-------------|------|
| 7 Dec | Ogmore Coast walk (weather permitting) followed by Christmas Lunch in Corntown Country Inn. (Pelican in her Piety has closed) <i>Meeting instructions will be posted the weekend before the walk, depending on the weather forecast and route chosen</i> | 3 - 4 miles | Easy |
|-------|---|-------------|------|

During 2016 the group have walked 152 miles, climbed over 22,000 feet, taking some 83 hours with 164 turnouts. That is under 2 miles per hour! We must be getting old.

The 2017 Walking Programme will be published and distributed in December. The members have proposed many superb walks for inclusion in the programme. Great!

In June 2017 eleven members will be taking a seven day walking holiday on the island of Gozo, off the north coast of Malta. Hopefully it should be hot and dry.

Membership has increased to 41 persons, with circa 20 active walkers. We would be very pleased to see a number of the non-active members come and join us soon. We do have fun and enjoy ourselves, whilst helping to keep fit and healthy.

A New Year's resolution for 2017?

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.

[Regards - Stuart McMillan](#)

NORDIC WALKING GROUP:

Members from the association who participate remain stable and continue to meet weekly.

DAY TRIPS/SHORT BREAKS:

I will be sending out reminders to members and their guests booked for the five day Bournemouth trip. The outstanding balance is due no later than January 10 2017.

[Regards Ken](#)

GUEST SPEAKER - Patricia Stewart author of the book 'The girl in the spotty dress' memoirs of the 1950's and the photo that changed her life.



Pat gave a very interesting talk on her life in show business. Her Yorkshire parents helped her at a very young age with dancing lessons. As a teenager, Pat became a member for those of you who can remember the 'Tiller Girls' in Blackpool. Dancing eventually caused problems with her hips so she became an agent in South Wales. With her husband, they put on money raising shows for the Aberfan disaster and it was after one of these shows staged in the New Theatre in Cardiff, that she unexpectedly got to meet the 'Kray' brothers who had turned up at the hotel. Not long after this meeting, the notorious 'Krays' were arrested for

murder which was fortunate for Pat and her husband because she never had to stage a show for the 'Kray' family. Members thanked Pat for her attendance here today.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

None - Meeting closed 15:50 hours

Dates for your 2017 diary / calendars

Quarterly meetings are planned for:

Monday March 13

Monday June 5

Monday September 4 (AGM)

Monday December 4

Meetings take place at Dow Corning commencing at 2:00 p.m. In the training centre Train Co2

