

IBM RETIRED EMPLOYEES CLUB (SOUTH HANTS) MINUTES OF THE AGM – 5th March 2015

Meeting Opened at 2:15pm

Barbara welcomed everyone and introduced the guest speaker Richard Swaine

Richard gave a very interesting talk about 'The Man Who Never Was'

Barbara introduced Victoria Lovell, the IBM Clubs' new Oversight Manager. Her job is to ensure that the clubs are run properly.

Barbara spoke about the events in 2014. 33 events were run and 7 were cancelled. Barbara asked the members if they had any idea why these events were not supported by the members. So far in 2015 we have had to cancel 2 trips, Bruges and Woman in Black.

Barbara told the members that the subsidy had been reduced again and is now £17:50. The cost of the coach alone is £12:50 per head so she asked if we should reduce the number of trips and continue charging the same price or keep the numbers as they are and charge a little more. John Hadley suggested we should all pay a little more and a show of hands supported this proposal.

Barbara informed the members that we would no longer send out hardcopy newsletters. We are also going to update the trip booking system.

Members will send in just a booking form and a cheque. The successful members will receive an email informing them of this. The unsuccessful email will inform the member that their cheque will be destroyed. If members are not happy with this then they will have to continue to send a stamped addressed envelope.

The purpose of this change is to try and save members money.

One member suggested that we move to paying for trips by Paypal. This view was not supported.

Everyone agreed that this was the way forward.

Barbara asked that members ensure that their application forms are legible and Ann will re-design the form to make it bigger.

We will start this in April. Members should continue as normal until otherwise advised

Financial Report

Richard Munday presented the financial charts on behalf of the Treasurer who is on holiday

The 1st chart showed the 2014 accounts which have been signed off by the accountants

The 2nd chart showed the committee expenses

The 3rd chart compared the 2013 and 2014 accounts and these showed a very similar pattern. There were fewer events in 2014 due to 7 being cancelled so the income was reduced. The yearend balances were very similar.

A member asked if the charts could be displayed on the website, but Barbara explained that some of the information is too sensitive.

The acceptance of the financial report was proposed by Richard Swaine and seconded by John Hadley.

Committee

Barbara spoke about the current committee and how the 5 new members have fitted in seamlessly with the original members. Everyone works well together. She also mentioned

that most events that Keith has organised have had to be cancelled due to lack of support. However, Keith had still put a lot of work into the organising. Barbara asked if anyone knew why these events were unsupported.

The current committee was voted in. Proposed by Yvonne Davis and seconded by Derek Parker

AOB

A member asked how they would know if an event had been cancelled. Barbara explained that this information is posted on the website.

John Hadley asked about matinee shows. Sue informed everyone that we have booked a matinee performance of 'There'll Always Be An England' at the Brick Lane Music Hall in London for November. This will also include a lunch.

A member had previously asked Barbara why we don't use the Mayflower and she explained that the tickets are too expensive.

Barbara asked how many people would be interested in us getting tickets only for shows at the Chichester theatre and members making their own way there. A show of hands showed only one third of the audience supported this idea.

Barbara asked how many members would be interested in doing the Bruges trip next year but a show of hands showed not much interest.

Kate Cottee thanked the committee for all their hard work. She suggested we put a questionnaire on the website to ask members for their views on why trips are cancelled

A question was asked about IBM's position on retirees joining other club's trips. Barbara explained that the Constitution says you are eligible to go on any club's trips, but the subsidy only goes to the club where you are a member. South Hants Club's position on this is as follows:

A member of another IBM club can go on a trip if there is a vacancy (priority will be given to Shrets members), but will be charged the full ticket price.

Barbara explained that we have a list of Shrets members and this is checked on every event. Shrets members will always take priority. Retirees can join which ever club they choose and are free to change.

Barbara explained what an associate members was and how much it cost.

Victoria Lovell thanked Barbara and the rest of the committee on behalf of IBM for all the support she has been given. She also explained that our audit rating of 'satisfactory' is the top possible rating.

Barbara thanked everyone for attending

Shirley presented Barbara with a bouquet of flowers to recognise all her hard work as Chairman

Meeting closed at approx. 4pm and was minuted by Sue Clark