

Midlands IBM Retirees Club - 2024 Annual General Meeting

The meeting was held at The Gaydon Village Hall on Monday 12 August 2024

Starting at 10.30 with coffee or tea for meeting to begin at 11 a.m.

Present

John & Julie Rickman, Paul Gover, Ray & Chris Bradshaw, Terry & Paula King, Gary & Sheila Wooding, Mike Holden, David & Gillian Williams, Bill Jabelman, Alan Palmer, Brian & Jane Long, Peter Monaghan, Tony Pantling, Christine Williams, Dave Compton, Pat & Fred Edger, Geoff Hope, Hugh Gallagher and Bernard Cadogan

Apologies received from Michael Fabianski, John Milton, Anthony Phillips, Janice Kirkwood

Approval of 2023 AGM minutes

The minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report - John Rickman

Welcome

Good morning, everyone. Welcome to our first "live, in-person" club AGM since the start of the pandemic.

Last year, although Covid was no longer a major factor we chose to hold the AGM on Zoom in recognition that our members are geographically widely scattered, and also that our demographic results in an increasing reluctance to drive,

This year, although we are older and still widely scattered, we decided to go for a live event with a free lunch.

Thank you for caring enough and making the effort to drive out to Gaydon. I really appreciate it, and hope you will find the meeting interesting and enjoy the lunch which has been prepared by Julie Rickman and Chris Bradshaw.

The Committee

I would like to thank to the committee all of whom has served for close on 6 years.

Ray Bradshaw secretary

Paul Gover treasurer

Gary Wooding membership

Michael Fabianski newsletter and website

Terry King rambles

Membership

This time last year we had 149 members.

In 2022 under the old constitution, we had of 443 members.

To form the new club, we started from scratch and asked people to join

anew. The results were encouraging and closure of the Warwick club boosted our numbers.

As of yesterday, we have 158 members

Activities

Events

We have run a number of live events over the past year which Ray will be describing later on in the agenda. He will also talk about events in the future.

Weekly social Zoom open to all members.

The Midlands Retirees Committee continued to meet every Monday morning at 10.30 a.m. on Zoom, once a month formally, and in between for a social chat. Any member who wishes is encouraged to join us, just "drop in" to the meeting where you will be made welcome.

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6719563722?pwd=eGNwMllsRTkzZ2lnQnVyYXI1ZlJHUT09>

UT09

Monthly Newsletter sent to all members

Thanks to Michael Fabianski for putting together our premiere means of communication the monthly online newsletter

PC Technology Group

The Tech Club continued to meet throughout the year, but not as frequently as before. At the moment the tech club is having a "holiday", as we seem to have run out of things to discuss and of volunteer speakers. I hope we can start up again but it will only happen if we can tap into a new source of enthusiasm

Topics we discussed included: "How to make a Gimmell ring", "automating home equipment", "experiences of a new electric Jaguar car owner", "Diagnosing faults on a Jaguar" and an update on "what has happened in the world of AI"

Thanks to Charles Barnwell, Gary Wooding, and Paul Gover

Treasurer's Report - Paul Gover

Financial year ending 5th April 2024

Club funds have mostly been used for administrative expenses: running the club's web site and the licence to use Zoom (used by the tech club, last year's AGM, committee meetings and the club's regular Monday morning open session). The remaining expenditure covered rounding errors on meal prices and unsold places on the canal trip.

Like last year, we were able to reclaim the cost of the club's indemnity insurance

from the money remaining in the IBM National Tournaments fund.

We also benefited by a little under £25 from the funds remaining after the closure of IBM Club Warwick.

At the current nett rate of expenditure, the club funds will cover our expenses for about a further 10 years.

Several events this year were self-funded. For these, money neither entered nor left the club account, and therefore the income and expenditure report omits their data.

The club's account balance at 5th April 2024 was £3,269.41. This follows a reduction of £271.16 from the previous year's balance of £3,540.57.

The full **Balance Sheet** and **Income & Expenditure** details for the year ending 5th April 2024 are available using this link:

- [MIRC Balance Sheet 2023-24](#)

Election of Officers

The existing committee were willing to serve another year and were duly elected by the members at the meeting. Attendees were invited to join the committee but there were no acceptances.

The committee is as follows:

John Rickman.	(Chair)
Ray Bradshaw.	(Secretary)
Paul Gover	(Treasurer)
Michael Fabianski.	(Newsletter Producer)
Gary Wooding.	(Membership Secretary)
Terry King	(Ramble Organiser)

Summary of 2024 Events - Ray Bradshaw

The following events have been held so far this year:

January - Johnsons Short London Break - Kensington Hotel

February - Lunch at The Emperors in Leamington Spa

March - Theatre trip cancelled due to poor response

April - Charlecote Mill then Spring lunch at Hampton Lucy pub

May - Pete's Place

June - Chedhams Yard then lunch at Kings Head

July - Johnsons Coaches - 3 day break - Llandudno & Snowdonia

August - AGM in Gaydon with buffet lunch

Future events for this year are:

September - London IBM Club Events:

9th Sept - Black Country Living Museum

10th Sept - Morgan Car Company Tour

October - National Memorial Arboretum visit and tour

November - to be decided

December - Christmas lunch - 11th December

Subscription Discussion

At present we do not have member subscriptions and we do not subsidise most events.

As Paul stated we have enough funds to cover our club running expenses to last for approximately 10 years. There was a discussion among members present whether to have subscriptions and use these to subsidise events. However the conclusion was to continue our present funding model and reconsider subscriptions when our club account balance reaches a lower level.

End of Meeting Buffet

The meeting ended at 12 noon and was followed by a two course buffet created by Julie Rickman with help from Christine Bradshaw

Members also had a chance to stroll around John & Julie's lovely garden which is located next to the hall.