

London District Association – Weekend 22nd to 24th April 2016

Hello, my name is Jilly George and I recently transferred to LDA from WKDA. I just thought I would write to everyone about the nice weekend I had.



I went early to Sissinghurst for a weekend of camping and to attend my new DA's AGM. I had never been to a LDA AGM before, although I have camped with them several times over the years.

Picture - Some of the vans when I first arrived

I was welcomed on my arrival by Derek and I was pleased to hear that rain was only expected over Friday night and then the sun would shine although it would be cold. Considering the weather forecast earlier in the week, there was quite a few of us camping. Nice to be part of a hardy bunch!

Saturday morning arrived and off I went to the Pavilion for the AGM. A lovely welcome from Marie on the sign in desk and I saw that more members had arrived by car just for the AGM.

Also attending from the South Eastern Region was Vice President Darrell Stubbs and his wife Irene, Chairman Alan Armstrong and his wife Chris and Trevor Wilson and his wife Pauline.

Derek also mentioned President Trevor Goodwin, but then he really had to go anyway as his dear, and long suffering wife Pearl, is the LDA Secretary!



You could have blown me over with a feather when Derek mentioned me as Secretary of the SER; I was not there representing the Region – I was there as a LDA member in my own right. Very nice of him though.



All the established members had sat themselves down at the back of the meeting, so there was I with Peter and Wendy Smith sitting in the front row. Obviously the spot for new members.

It was lovely to see everyone chatting before the meeting. I can say that I have been to some AGMs where there is not a lot of talking between members before or after the AGM.

Like being with friends as they included all.

The AGM was held and the Treasurer's accounts were so easy to understand; he showed just income and expenditure, what was owed, what was in the bank and the final total – none of the double entry booking keeping malarkey for Phil!

It a shame that members had not been nominated to join the Committee (I am already elected to Kent MCS and the Region) but thank goodness, the current Committee were willing to stand for another year – so more camping for us all.



Picture – nattering members before the meeting.

I must tell you that I have been to DA and Section AGMs as a representative of the Region many times, but I have never sat in front of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasure with a back drop of beer pumps before – very suitable for Derek!



Picture – Pearl - Secretary, Derek – Chairman, and Phil – Treasurer; speaking words of wisdom to us all.

The AGM finished and then came the Forum (well, the water wasn't boiling yet for coffee, so we had to do something).

I think that Pearl must have got quite excited in the Forum when speaking about the lack and missing Administration Grant to DAs when costs had increased to DAs due to everything the Club sent through was now by email and needed to be printed off, as her chair ended up with a bent leg! Although thanks to Darrell Stubbs, I seemed to have a job out of all of this discussion as I would be writing to the Club to see if the Administration Grant could be re-instated!

Pearl had mentioned in her SER report about volunteers needed for the NFOL 2017 and Alan Armstrong asked members again for volunteers as they were needed to make the event successful.

The tea, coffee and biscuits after the meeting were super and much needed and yet more nattering by all.

Members, who had only come for the meeting missed the cricket match in the afternoon. Goodness knows who were playing or what the score was (not a cricket fan myself) but the many cricket visitors seemed to enjoy it.



Unfortunately, I could not stay for the coffee morning as I had to get home to park my van before all the families up and down my road came to Mum and Dads for Sunday lunch.

All in all a very nice weekend and thank you to my new DA for making me welcome. See you all soon somewhere on a field sometime.

Jilly George.