

## MINUTES OF THE EXETER AND EAST DEVON COELIAC UK GROUP AGM 11.06.2024



**Location:** St David's Parish Room, Queen's Terrace Exeter.

**Notification of AGM** sent to over 550 members (+17 new members since 2023).

**Present:** 7 members: MD, LH, AC, RJ, MC, SM, DG-J.

**Apologies:** Margaret Chave Group Organiser, CC, NH, AF and visiting speaker Simon Bryan-Edmond of Baked-to-Taste, who had to cancel his talk on Gluten Free Baking.

**Current Committee:** Group Organiser Margaret Chave (standing down), Patsy May (resigned), Treasurer Alan Clark (AC), Committee members :Micky Cox (MC), Laurence Halliwell (LH), Roger Jones (RH), Susan Mitchell (SM).

In the absence of the Group Organiser, LH chaired the meeting and prepared an annual report.

**Minutes from AGM 2023:** Circulated to the membership and approved at the AGM.

**Matters arising:** None

### Chairpersons report

LH reminded us of 3 key Coeliac UK objectives, whilst supporting the regional membership.

1. Educate and publicise information about Coeliac disease (and related conditions)
2. Research (fund-raising needed)
3. Support the well-being of members, enhanced by purposeful and engaging activities bringing us together - organised by an active regional committee.

### Summary of events of the past 12 months:

**Monthly:** Self-funding coffee mornings held in Exmouth and Honiton.

**August 2023:** sponsored swim around Brownsea Island (SM) to raise money for the children's party. Over £1200 + gift aid raised for local group. £250 donation to Coeliac UK fundraising.

**October 2023:** Dietitian talk cancelled due to unavailability.

**November 2023:** Devon Philharmonic Orchestra concert at Exeter cathedral nominated charity. Interval talk by Hilary Croft CEO of Coeliac UK, attended by Aishah Farooq, Trustee. Post-concert bucket collection raised over £500 for Coeliac UK research.

**December 2023:** Children's Christmas Party attended by 7 children, parents, 2 committee members

**Ongoing to Nov 24:** Dartmoor Letter-boxing trail which has raised £217, organised by RJ.

**New members:** Continue to receive a welcome from a member of the committee.

### Treasurers report (round to nearest £1)

AC reported a total income of £ 2110, expenditure £558, current balance of just over £1550.

Over £750 has been raised/donated for Head Office this year. Thanks to Alan for all his hard work.

### Election of Officers:

Group Organiser: Roger Jones

Proposed: MD

Seconded: MC

Secretary: Susan Mitchell

Proposed: LH

Seconded: MC

Treasurer: Alan agreed to continue

Proposed: MD

Seconded: SM

Committee: MC and LH agreed to continue, Dilys G-J was welcomed as a new committee member.

Proposed by MD

Seconded: LH

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Newsletter:** A committee will prepare a newsletter in the near future and post it on the group site.

**Discussion re engagement with group:** With such a wide membership, we would welcome more people to join us on the committee, bringing ideas with you. Those willing to contribute, please contact the group on [Exmouth@coeliac.co.uk](mailto:Exmouth@coeliac.co.uk).

- New coffee group to be set up in Exeter – to be discussed at first full committee meeting.
- Meals out and other activities – to be discussed at first committee meeting.

**Letter to ICB:** A letter, to be sent to the Integrated Care Board, re re-instating prescriptions, was circulated to the committee for approval. Final approval to be discussed at first committee meeting.

**Dietetic talk:** SM had made contact with the Head dietitian (Catherine Tancock) at the RD&E. Discussions underway to organise a talk for the group later in the year.

**Plea for support for gluten-free baker:** SM had been in contact with Laszlo Lenner who ran a company Gluten Escape. He is looking for business sponsorship of £15K to buy ovens. Please contact a member of the committee for further details [Exmouth@coeliac.co.uk](mailto:Exmouth@coeliac.co.uk) if you can help.

**Sample Products from Baked-to-Taste.** A generous box of samples was provided for us – sausage rolls, quiche, pasties. Thank you to Simon, Suzy and Mel for their generosity. They are also offering 10% off first orders on QR codes on leaflets held by secretary.

**Schar:** Provided us with excellent booklets on Coeliac disease. Spares held by secretary.

**Presentation:** SM did a Powerpoint presentation, telling the story of the planning and execution of the Brownsea swim which raised money (£1200+) for our local Coeliac children's Christmas party.

## **End of meeting:**

The business finished at 8.10, the full meeting +refreshments and tasting samples closed at 8.55.

## **Next meeting:**

Date for first new committee meeting: July 2024 tbc

## **Signed:**

Susan Mitchell

New Secretary for the group.

**Date:** 12.06.2024

## **Post meeting note:**

First new committee meeting: Wed 10<sup>th</sup> July @ St David's parish room Exeter at 7.00 pm.

PM is willing to help with events requiring catering.

## **Post – Post meeting Note:**

Committee meeting confirmed for **TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> July** at 7.00 (room is unavailable on 10th)