

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST OF
SCOTLAND BRANCH OF ATAXIA UK
LASSWADE HIGH SCHOOL CENTRE,
SATURDAY 21 JANUARY 2012**
<http://www.ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk>



Present: Pete Dalby (Chairman), Penny Gardner, Liz Dalby, John Hunter, Derek Main, John Reid, Doreen Vandeppear, Berta Scott and Frances Wright,

Apologies: Ronnie Browne, Dr Richard Davenport, Richard & Anne-Marie Thomson, Tom Vandeppear

1. Welcome and Minutes of last Meeting

Pete welcomed everyone. We all introduced ourselves: Penny is secretary (does not have ataxia), Derek has CA, John Hunter was diagnosed with CA in 1994 & SCA 2 was identified in 1997. Doreen said Tom was sorry not to come but he's just out of hospital and not well enough – her sister Berta chummed her to the meeting, Liz has CA (SCA8), John Reid has FA and is from Hawick, Frances is the Branch Treasurer & Pete is Chairman.

Pete asked about the speaker. Derek had been in touch Dr Davenport who said he could not make the November meeting, put it in his diary for Jan but may have forgotten. We probably should have confirmed it with him.

Pete a bit upset new member has not come back (has borrowed one of our circulation booster machines) he'll go round there to get it back. Ataxia magazine came out recently. There's a Branch officer's meeting in April – is anyone going?

The one-off Christmas mailing to members was very successful; people appreciated getting a card.

3. Treasurer's Report

Since the last meeting in November income has been minimal but very welcome nevertheless: £30 in donations, £20 in subs, regular Standing Orders of £10 and £15 plus 31p interest. Total £75.31 in up to yesterday.

Expenses were teas & coffees at the last meeting, £15.60 and payment for speaker's meal £15. Balance as of yesterday was £1221.21. Doreen brought along another £10 from the Robinson's. Penny also has a collecting tin from the house; will pay it in later.

4. Update on Tom

Tom is a lot better and is just back home but was given so many painkillers they had an adverse effect; he's still a bit confused & agitated. Care package is just mornings but they are often late & it is difficult to stay organised. Getting an alarm organised. Doreen has had some expenses getting house organised & new bed etc.

5. Ideas for 21012

Maybe we could hold a BBQ or visit s Safari Park? We could organise a get together & invite West of Scotland Branch, Dundee, Aberdeen etc. Maybe hold this somewhere to the West – perhaps the Alona Hotel in Strathclyde Country Park? Maybe in June some time? Pete agreed to contact Janice Heath to find out if they are planning anything first. If so, maybe we can share the costs. If not we can organise one and invite them. Other possibilities are a cruise at Ratho or the Falkirk Wheel with the Seagull Trust in August. Frances will ring the organiser.

We could have a meal out together - after the May AGM 5 May was suggested. Pete will ring the Polton Inn.

Derek is to ask Dr Davenport if he can talk at the March meeting.

There's also a Branch officers meeting Leicester University in April some time – not sure if anyone is planning to attend.

6. Haggis, Neeps & Tatties

We had a nice meal of haggis, neeps & tatties in celebration of Burns (in advance for next week).

7. Dates of next Meetings

These will take place on 24 March 2012 at Lasswade High School centre and Saturday 5 May 2012 (the AGM). We hope Dr Davenport may be able to speak in March. We're planning to have another meal at the Polton Inn after the May AGM.