

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE EAST OF
SCOTLAND BRANCH OF ATAXIA UK
LASSWADE HIGH SCHOOL CENTRE,
SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2007**
<http://www.ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk>



Present: Liz & Pete Dalby, Penny Gardner, Andrew Hogg, Sandra Rae, John Reid & Maria, Jim Shepherd, Richard & Anne-Marie Thomson & Frances Wright

Apologies: Sheree & Michael Allan, Andrea Bothwell, Ronnie Browne, Anne Green, Liz Griffin, Faye Hogg, John Hunter, Janice Heath, Derek Main (Chairman) Jessie & James Quin, Peter Smeaton, Alan Smith.

1. Welcome and Minutes of last Meeting

Penny was acting as Chairman in Derek's absence. The report of the September meeting hasn't been completed yet so will be approved at the January 2008 meeting. Penny welcomed the members especially Sandra Rae who is a returning member who lives nearby.

2. Mini Conference in Scotland in 2008?

We need to email Head Office about this to find out what we need to do. We hope to organise it jointly, including the West of Scotland Branch.

3. Treasurer's Report

Frances reported the changes since the November meeting. Ronnie and Jim Shepherd sent donations totalling £15, and the usual standing orders of £10 per month were continued by Mr & Mrs Smith and Jim's daughter Claire. Andrea sent £500 donation from the sale of her Dad's property which she wishes to go to Friedreich's Ataxia Research – we will ensure that this is actioned. Derek reported that the final donation from the Lasswade and Bonnyrigg Masonic Lodge came to £1,457.20.

Expenses included November meeting refreshments £8.80 which Head Office will pay and travel expenses of £12.00. The balance at the bank on 16 November was £2,957.28.

4. Water

At this point in the meeting (just after we had our tea & coffee) we were informed that a water main had burst and the Centre had no water at all. We therefore had to cut the meeting short, which at least enabled us to make an early start on our social event at the Laird and Dog in Lasswade.

5. Branch Meal at Laird & Dog 17 November 2007

This was excellent and photos will be added to the website. Jim Shepherd, Penny & husband Gus, John Reid & Maria, Richard and Anne-Marie, Andy Hogg, Frances, Sandra Rae & her friend came and we had a very nice meal which was excellent value. Pete and Liz were sorry not to attend as they had prior commitments at home.

6. AOCB

- We are sorry to report that Ali Knox passed away on Thursday 11 October. Some of you may remember the presentation given by him and his brother Patrick at our conference in 2004. Their website is <http://www.wickedworldtour.com> and they wrote many reports on their travels and the access problems encountered along the way.







7. Date of Next Meetings

The next Branch meeting will be held in March 2008 at Lasswade but we have finalised a date yet. We'll let you know this as soon as we can.

BRANCH MAILING ADDRESS

Penny Gardner, Branch Secretary
East of Scotland Branch of Ataxia UK,
3 Craigleith Gardens,
Edinburgh EH4 3JW

YOUR BRANCH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Derek Main		0131 477 4371 derek@ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk
Secretary and Vice-Chair: Penny Gardner		0131 332 5218 penny@ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk
Treasurer: Frances Wright		0131 555 5665 frances@ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk
Committee Member: John Reid		johnreid@ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk
Committee Member: Liz Dalby		Email committee Member: Susan McPheat
		

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E MAILED REPORTS

If you would prefer an e mail instead of a hard copy, please let us know your e mail address:

Name _____ Telephone No. (optional) _____

E Mail address _____

Please post to the Secretary, Penny Gardner, at 3 Craigleith Gardens, Edinburgh EH4 3JW or e mail penny@ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk

USEFUL WEB LINKS

If there are any suggested additions to this list please let us know

www.ataxia-east-scotland.org.uk: our Branch website

www.ataxia.org.uk the Ataxia UK website, it has many good links.

www.ohbother.co.uk: by an Ataxian and full of very useful information.

www.bbc.co.uk/ouch for an inside view on disability news.

www.evoc.org.uk: for local disability information in Edinburgh.

www.digg.org.uk: Glasgow's online resource for disability information.

www.gig.org.uk Genetic Interest Group

www.matchinghouses.com: re: accessible holiday house swaps.

www.skill.org.uk information & advice for disabled students

www.simr.org.uk/pages/news/index.html seriously ill for medical research

<http://www.brainandspine.org.uk/helpline/index.html> Brain and Spine Foundation online Helpline.



MEMBERS VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Please send a contribution if you can - £5 per household is suggested,

Please send a cheque, payable to East of Scotland Branch of Ataxia UK to:
Frances Wright, Flat 8, 25 Queen Charlotte Street, Edinburgh EH6 6AX