

Manchester Section of



OCCA
The Oil & Colour Chemists' Association

Minutes of the 94th Annual General Meeting held on Friday 27th April 2017 at Tiger, Tiger – The Printworks, Manchester.

PRESENT

Phil Knowles – Hon Chairman
Paul Sheppard – Hon Secretary
Lee Sheridan – Hon Technical Liaison Committee Chairman
Ann-Marie Etherington – Hon Recruitment and Membership Officer
Jim Bury – Golf Secretary
Mike Serene
Helen Barker
Debbie Coombes
Lynda Harrison
Nikki Cosgrove
Alex Bullock
Cathy Nixon
Mike Nixon
Anthony Kershaw
Paul (Aquatec)
Roger Brown
Phil Cooper

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Brenda Peters – Hon Treasurer
John Calderbank – Hon Auditor
Rebecca Falder
David Clayton
Malcolm Morris

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Phil Knowles presented the report.

My first year in office has passed very quickly and the highlight for me personally has been the arrival of new members to both of the Committees bringing new and different ideas and, frankly speaking, a breath of fresh air.

We have had another successful year with some first rate lectures. I particularly enjoyed the Social Media lecture which made a change from the technically based presentations.

We had another excellent Seminar in terms of the quality and variety of the Speakers and Presentations. The change of venue to The University of Salford was also a good decision.

It is unfortunate that the attendance numbers were down on previous years and the TLC will be considering the way forward for the future of what is our main educational event.

Section Members attended two social events - the dinner at the Old Swan in Harrogate and the Burns Supper at the Erskine Bridge Hotel in Glasgow. Again, disappointingly, the numbers attending both events were lower than in previous years.

I would like to thank all officers and members of the committee for all their efforts and hard work on behalf of Manchester Section.

On behalf of the Section I would like to thank John Calderbank for his many years of service as Section Auditor.

I would also give a special thanks to Brenda Peters for her many years' service as Honorary Treasurer and for her support on a personal level during 2011/12.

Finally my thanks to everyone else who has supported Manchester Section during the past year including the lecturers and sponsors for supporting us in what are difficult times when more people are choosing not to support OCCA.

P Knowles

Manchester Section Chairman

4. PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

<p>FINANCIAL REPORT</p> <p>OIL AND COLOUR CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION</p> <p>MANCHESTER SECTION</p> <p>FINANCIAL REPORT 2017</p>
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In 2017 the committee decided that we should spend some of the surplus money we had in the accounts on the core aims of the association- education and training. This meant that we felt able to hold the Monday night lectures without worrying about sponsorship.

MEETINGS

The Monday night meetings were subsidised from section funds to as only one of the meetings were sponsored.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

The golf day was again held at Birchwood this year and was well attended.

There was no Winter Committee Meeting and the Summer Committee Meeting was self-financing. The AGM was held in conjunction with a quiz night, and was subsidised by the section.

SYMPOSIA

The March symposium was not as well attended as previously however it did make a surplus.

BANK ACCOUNTS

Section funds were transferred to Central accounts in December except for £40 to cover a cheque issued to North West air Ambulance in honour of Bill Holden. The money is now held in a ring fenced account within central bank account. The balance of Manchester Section Bank account is now zero.

I would like to thank all the committee for their support.

I would also like to thank John Calderbank for auditing the books on behalf of the section.

Brenda Peters

Hon Treasurer

5. TECHNICAL LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT

Technical Liaison Committee Report 2017/2018 (Winter program and seminar)

A very good and reasonably well attended winter lecture program, the subject matters have been very interesting and in keeping with industry OCCA represents. Attendance numbers were comparable to 2017.

The Monday night lecture programme has been modified slightly in the recent years to offer a mixture of social, semi social, visits and presentations. Higher attendance at visits would be welcomed.

The attendance numbers for the seminar were closely comparable to 2017. The seminar content was excellent, with a good balance of different industries and suppliers presenting.

11th September 2017 - Presentation at HMG

We were treated to a presentation by Paddy of HMG on social media in your business. This was well attended and presented on HMGs site. The presentation was followed by a Chinese meal at Glamorous in Manchester.

9th October 2017 – Presentation/Tour of Salford University

A tour and presentation of Salford University's facilities. This included presentations on the acoustics department and tours of analytical and the energy house. This was followed by a social meal at a Media city.

6th November 2017 - Presentation at Whitefield Golf Club

Evonik treated us to a presentation on defoamers for Eco label compliance. This was well attended and preceded by our traditional hot food selection.

15th December 2017 - Social event in Manchester - Cancelled

Unfortunately the mixology class social event for our traditional festive gathering was cancelled due to very poor booking number, although we paid a deposit this has been rolled over and we will use the facility for our AGM.

8th January 2018 - Presentation at Whitefield Golf Club

Momentive performance materials gave a paper on adhesion promotion into water based systems and how to effectively use silane technology. This was well attended.

12th February 2018 - Factory Visit at Elcometer

A fascinating tour of the production facility of Elcometer along with a presentation on one of their thickness gauge technologies for continuous measurements on metal substrates. Attendance was low unfortunately.

The presentation was followed by a social meal at Frankie and Benny's

March 6th 2018 - Manchester Section OCCA Seminar – 100 years of innovation Past, Present and Future

We were able to use the Salford university's facility as part of a new partnership. The venue facilities were excellent and parking was available onsite.

The presentations and speakers were excellent, we covered all areas of the industry from aerospace to architectural and from brush application to drone application. All the papers had great content and we pulled together a very well balanced event.

This was followed by a guided tour of some of the university's facilities.

Attendance was lower than previous years, some negative comments regarding the relevance of content were received.

Special thanks to Mark Hutton and Ann-Marie Etherington for all their efforts, and the University of Salford for their excellent service before and during the event.

Thank you to all the members of the Committees and the member that have attended the lectures, these events would not be possible without your participation.

Lee Sheridan

Technical Liaison Committee Chairman

6. SOCIAL REPORT

MANCHESTER OCCA GOLF DAY

The annual Manchester section golf day was held at Birchwood Golf Club on Thursday 21st September. Numbers were a little depleted due to some late withdrawals but still an excellent day was had by all. My thanks to Birchwood Golf Club and in particular David Thomas for hosting us and to David Clayton for the excellent playing conditions.

Hopefully those who missed out last year will be with us again this year; an afternoon on the golf course is much more enjoyable than working.

Jim Bury

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As all officers are now in their second year of office, the attending members agreed no elections were required and all officers will retain their current positions as detailed below. Due to section funds now being held in a Central bank account and controlled and audited by Council (and appointed representatives) there is no requirement to have Honorary Treasurer or Honorary Auditor positions on the Committee. These officers are most welcome to stay on the Technical Liaison Committee as their invaluable input will be very much appreciated.

CHAIRMAN

Phil Knowles

VICE CHAIRMAN

Paul Sheppard

HONORARY SECRETARY

Paul Sheppard

HONORARY RECRUITMENT AND MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Ann-Marie Etherington

HONORARY TECHNICAL LIAISON AND PROGRAMMES OFFICER

Lee Sheridan

GOLF SECRETARY

Jim Bury

8. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

None

9. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

The 2018 AGM was a pleasant departure to previous meetings as numerous subjects were discussed by all attendees, as detailed briefly below.

It has been decided by Committee to continue using Whitefield Golf Club as a meeting and lecture venue and the Chairman has managed to negotiate better room hire process for 2018/2019, the small meeting room rate has been reduced from £160 to £120 and the main room rate has been reduced from £250 to £200. A-M Etherington suggested the golf club is a good base for meetings, but the committee should also explore other venues for meetings throughout the year as we have done throughout 2017/2018, especially with new partnerships and links with academic organisations, as we may have the use of meeting room facilities free of charge. The University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN) will soon become the next educational

sponsor of OCCA, so the committee could possibly organise a Monday night lecture to be held at UCLAN.

A-M Etherington reported the Manchester Section has 155 active members, and 20 lapsed members (not paid subscriptions for the last year), of these members there are 111 ordinary members, 6 students and 37 with professional membership. The section already has one educational sponsor (University of Salford) with UCLAN signing up soon, the sponsorship fee is £800 and this grants two lecturers/professors membership and also allows up to 20 student members that will receive digital copies of SCI. OCCA and the Manchester section should nurture and encourage the student members to become full members in time and one way could be to tailor some Monday Night Lectures for students and apprentices.

The two current OCCA Educational sponsors (Leeds University and the University of Salford) will be exhibiting on the OCCA stand at Surfex this year; however they will be at either end of the stand and are not actually in competition for degree courses. Other ideas to encourage student members to play a more active role within OCCA would be for students to present papers or take placements within companies aligned with OCCA, such as corporate sponsors. Some other ideas were discussed to help increase membership such as an offer to sign up at Surfex and receive seven months membership for half price (the cost of six months membership).

The Manchester Section Seminar saw three new members sign up and also helped forge links with University of Salford students as several committee members and OCCA members (A-M Etherington, Mike Serene, Lee Sheridan, and Nikki Cosgrove) attended a lecture for final year students to discuss their experience within industry. Links with the University of Salford were further strengthened as two committee members (Mike Serene and Paul Sheppard) judged a chemistry competition held at the University. A-M Etherington sees the potential for future academic collaborations, especially with UCLAN as our contact at the university and previous seminar presenter (Claire Holt) is championing a centre of excellence for nano technologies, this could see even closer links within our industry and academia. OCCA should be pro-active in forging links with students, and not just at degree level but possibly helping schools and colleges with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Ambassadors.

The meeting also agreed there should be more focus on increasing the number of professional members, and also questioning what professional membership means to members within the industry. It was suggested the committee should help educate and members regarding professional membership and actively promote the benefits, or advertise to non-members and students at events such as job fairs.

The past year has seen the committee trying different ideas for the Winter Lecture Programme, with social events, factory tours and less technical subjects, whilst still trying to provide several technical presentations. The committee find it can be difficult to strike a balance between a sales or technical presentation, and it can also

be difficult to provide enough representatives from industry manufacturers to ensure presenters find their target audience.

The seminar feedback and general opinion of the meeting felt the 2018 seminar was not technical enough, and it was agreed that the committee should use the Winter Lectures to provide variety in terms of social and technical/non-technical presentations, whilst ensuring the seminar in March contains a predominantly technical content.

Other ideas regarding the Winter Lecture Programme were discussed including changing from the traditional Monday night to another day of the week for some lectures, or also try to arrange lectures during working hours. Some meeting attendees also had their own “wish list” of subjects they wanted to see during the lecture programme, so the committee should try and canvas the Manchester Section members to find the presentations our members would like to see. Finally it was suggested that the Manchester Section should not just restrict themselves to holding meetings and lectures close to Manchester as several attendees of the meeting would welcome events to be held in other areas such as Warrington, Preston or South Manchester.

All the comments and discussion have been welcomed by the attending committee members and they look forward to delivering some of the items discussed today.

10. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

None

There being no other business, the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 3.23 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....