



# **2023-24 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION**  
(COMPANY NUMBER: 05920055 ENGLAND AND WALES)

## 2023-24 Annual General Meeting – Annual Report

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## Chair's Introduction

Audax UK is the long-distance cycling association for the UK and is the regulating body for cycling events held under the rules developed by Audax Club Parisien and developed further in the UK by Audax UK itself. It is at the same time a membership club for cyclists enthused by the concept of long-distance cycling.

Audax UK (AUK) is a company limited by guarantee under UK company law, governed by a Board of Directors elected by and from the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The Board reports back to the membership at the AGM, and this is their report for 2023-24. This period corresponds to AUK's financial year which ran from 1 September 2023 - 31 August 2024, although some officer reports refer to activities and figures relating to the UK Randonneur season which now runs from November to October.

With a number of changes to board membership at the previous AGM, we have been working to strengthen foundations for our onward work programmes. This has been achieved by augmenting quarterly face-to-face meetings with monthly online calls and an associated drive to regularly review and progress outstanding actions. This approach has been well received by board members and we are beginning to make significant progress on a number of long standing issues. We also dedicated one of our face-to-face meetings as a deep dive around events with attendance from calendar events delegates, the validations secretary, the AAA secretary and our new mapping delegate. This provided valuable insight and an opportunity to examine a range of related topics. We are planning a similar session focussed on the annual re-union and awards events in the near future.

With the next edition of London Edinburgh London taking place in the summer of 2025, we have taken the opportunity to reset and re-invigorate the relationship between the board and the organising team. There have been a number of significant developments, and we are confident that this LEL will be the biggest and best yet thanks to the efforts of Danial Webb and his team.

### **Governance and People**

Since the last AGM:

- Tom Jackson has succeeded Adam Young as Calendar Events delegate covering the SE of England.
- Steve Ogden has succeeded Grant Huggins as Calendar Events delegate covering the Midlands & E of England.
- Mike Kear has taken up a new role of mapping delegate developing our use of RideWithGPS
- Graham Brodie is in the process of succeeding Chris Crossland as Mileater Secretary
- Sarah Britton has succeeded Grant Huggins as RRTY Secretary
- The role of ACP/LRM delegate has been transferred from the Chair to the Director and Calendar Events Secretary under Ian Hennessey.

## Merit and Services Awards

We are delighted to announce the following recipients of 2024 Merit and Service awards as follows:

- **Merit Award – Female: Sarah Britton**  
Sarah has been an enthusiastic rider of AUK events for about a quarter of a century. In 2003 she moved to Exeter with her family and joined Exeter Wheelers, She involved herself with both helping and riding events. In 2016 she took over organising the Mad March events, She also started on a RRtY series and is now on her 7th. She has also recently taken on the role of RRtY administrator. All this is in addition to a demanding teaching career.
- **Merit Award – Male: Tom Deakins**  
Tom has been a member of Audax UK since 2000. In that time Tom has completed several PBP and LEL events, 8 RRtY series and 21 SR's as a rider. He is also a prolific Organiser of numerous events including the Audax Club Mid-Essex SR running for its 10th consecutive year in 2025, mentor to new Organisers and LEL Controller at Great Easton. Tom will lead the ACME team in hosting the National 400 event in 2025, the first time the National will have been run for some time. For all of Tom's extensive Randonneur achievements, his greatest qualification for the merit award is being the sheer epitome of what it is to be a Randonneur representing Audax UK.
- **Organisers Award – Danial Webb**  
Since taking over in 2013, Danial has turned LEL into a world class event, second only to PBP in size and arguably greater than it in quality. Each edition has surpassed the previous and we are confident that this will be the case again in 2025 with the delivery of an event that will be bigger and better. The event galvanises the efforts of an army of volunteers including a large number of AUK members. Whilst it takes a lot of people to deliver the event, the planning, logistics and execution are a direct result of Danial and his boundless energy, enthusiasm and attention to detail.
- **Helpers Award – Andy Berne**  
As well as being a very active organiser, Andy is responsible for the development of this year's LEL route. This is no mean feat and has been well over a year in planning and development. It involves assessing the suitability of roads for riders, ensuring relevant regulations are adhered to, reviewing and risk assessing routing options, undertaking test rides, and liaising with numerous councils and highways authorities, It has been commented that *"the time, effort and care he has put into the route is unparalleled"*.
- **Services to Audax UK – Dave Allison and Caroline Fenton**  
AUK's IT modernisation project has been long and complex largely due to the nature of what we do and the related complexities. It has been no mean feat to take the legacy of Francis Cooke's efforts in developing the aukweb planner and translating those into a modern platform within the Audax.uk site. In the last year, a massive amount of progress has been made and these deployments have been well planned and implemented. We are now on the verge of retiring aukweb entirely and addressing a significant IT risk in the process. The quality of this work and the unwavering commitment to its delivery by Dave and Caroline is something that money couldn't buy.

## **Financial**

We continue to be on a healthy financial footing. The year to 31st August 2024 showed a continuing trend of a gentle increase in income of 3.7% over last year's turnover and a further increase in interest received from our bank balances. This contrasts with a 17.9% decrease in expenditure, which has very nearly resulted in a doubling of the Operating Surplus to £87,041 before tax. More details are provided in the Finance Director's report and the Annual Accounts.

More generally, AUK have accumulated significant reserves to accommodate IT development which is now largely being delivered by volunteers and with minimal supporting costs. The board have discussed and will be exploring further in the coming year ways in which we might spend funds for the benefit of the membership and reduce income in order to bring reserves back to a suitable level in future years.

## **IT**

Significant progress has been made during the year in the migration from the legacy AUKweb planner to the Audax.uk platform. Highlights have included the migration of functions related to permanents and the planning and administration of calendar events. Work to implement modules around entry and validation is currently ongoing and there are then a few minor functions to replicate together with the migration of some historic data. The current aim is to complete this work during the spring of 2025 and to retire AUKweb entirely addressing a significant area of ICT-related risk. Work will then proceed with applying version upgrades to the Audax.uk platform and integrating other sundry modules such as E-brevet.

We are indebted to Dave Allison and Caroline Fenton for their significant efforts in these areas and to Francis Cooke and Terry Kay for their continued support of AUKweb. Kevin Lake has played less of a role in developments during the year but has provided valuable input when required. Elements of the IT Manager role are now being undertaken by Andy Yates. A related modernisation of our e-mail platform is currently underway. In the longer term our requirements for IT leadership are likely to align with consideration of related processes under a broader transformation role. The detail of this is to be informed by future discussion.

## **Membership**

At the beginning of 2024 we had 7539 members and by the end 9345 members. These figures are both slightly higher than the previous year. Earlier in the year we had around 200-300 more members than the same point in 2023 but this decreased towards year end. As always, not all members renew and we started 2025 with almost exactly the same number as in 2024. More details are provided in the Membership Secretary's report.

## **Events**

There were 586 calendar events, run by 126 clubs or individual organisers. 3967 people rode at least one calendar event, of whom 347 attained Super Randonneur status. In total, including Brevet Populaire events, there were 18,135 validated brevets.

DIY permanent events continue to grow in popularity with a tendency towards shorter events. The riding of traditional permanents continues to decline.

There have been significant changes to validation with increased rollout of instant validation to longer events and the issuing of stamps to replace stickers.

More details are provided in the Event Services Director, the Permanent Events Secretary, the Calendar Events Secretary.

### **Communications**

Arrivée continues to be an excellent and inspiring magazine and is highly valued by the members.

A new design of AUK jersey has proved popular and work is in progress to add a long-sleeved version. Work is also underway to refresh designs around banners and signs and to distribute to organisers in the coming year. More details are provided in the Communications Director's report.

### **Reunion and awards ceremony**

2024 saw the return of the reunion and awards ceremony following a 5-year hiatus. It was an excellent event incorporating a quiz, darts, rides, talks, a dinner and awards ceremony and was well attended. Many thanks to delegates Peter Davis, Laura Massey-Pugh and Lucy McTaggart for delivering such a successful event. We expect to have a reunion again in 2025 and a larger anniversary event in 2026. More details will be circulated in due course.

### **Acknowledgements**

Many people contribute to the work and success of Audax UK; the delegates who manage membership, validation, calendar events, DIY events, event services, and all the other back office functions; the organisers and all the support teams who make the events possible and enjoyable and the IT teams that are supporting our current systems and managing the move to the new.

All our volunteers are vital to AUK's operations, and we must not take their efforts behind the scenes for granted. We are fortunate to have them, and their continuing dedication and hard work deserve our thanks.

We always welcome thoughts, comments, suggestions as well as offers to assist with the running of the organisation. Please contact Andy ([secretary@audax.uk](mailto:secretary@audax.uk)) in the first instance.

Finally, congratulations and thank you to all of our members. We hope you have all achieved your audax goals, enjoyed being a part of our superb community, and we thank you for your continued support.

**Andy Cox**  
Chair

## Part A: Director Reports



## 1. Finance Director Report

The year to 31st August 2024 showed a continuing trend of a gentle increase in income of 3.7% over last year's turnover and a further increase in interest received from our bank balances. This contrasts with a 17.9% decrease in expenditure, which has very nearly resulted in a doubling of the Operating Surplus to £87,041 before tax.

Highlights of the changes from the previous year's income include income from our renewing members increased by just under 17% to £104,277, whilst income from new members rose 9% to £54,119. People who are non-members but sign up to our rides, and so are members for the ride, well the income from them went the other way, went down by 8% to £19,821. Income from organising events such as validations of rides, registration of new rides and printing of brevet cards increased by 23% to £37,807.

Our costs of running Audax UK went down with a combination of timing and a tight control of costs by our IT & Systems team and our membership secretary controlling the Arrivee Magazine posting costs. This has all contributed to the reserves held by Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association standing at £356,157 on 31st August 2024.

Honoraria to those officials nominated to receive them was determined by the non-executive directors who decided who should receive honoraria and the amount. The honoraria are paid in recognition of the volunteered services without a contractual relationship between Audax UK and the volunteer and is not payment for services performed by the volunteer based on time periods. The honoraria awarded in the year to August 2024 is laid out below and is put to the AGM for members to approve. I also propose to the AGM that the members approve the setting of honoraria for roles in 2025 by a committee made up of the non-executive directors followed by their approval of the payments at the following AGM in 2026.

The forecast to 31st August 2025, version 7, was prepared in August 2024 and shows a modest excess of income over expenditure for the year to 31st August 2025 from our expected future activities. The current level of reserves is adequate to meet the objectives of Audax UK and so I do not propose to consider any change to membership fees or event charges relating to events, including registration, validation and recording until the 2026 AGM.

**Nigel Armstrong**

Finance Director



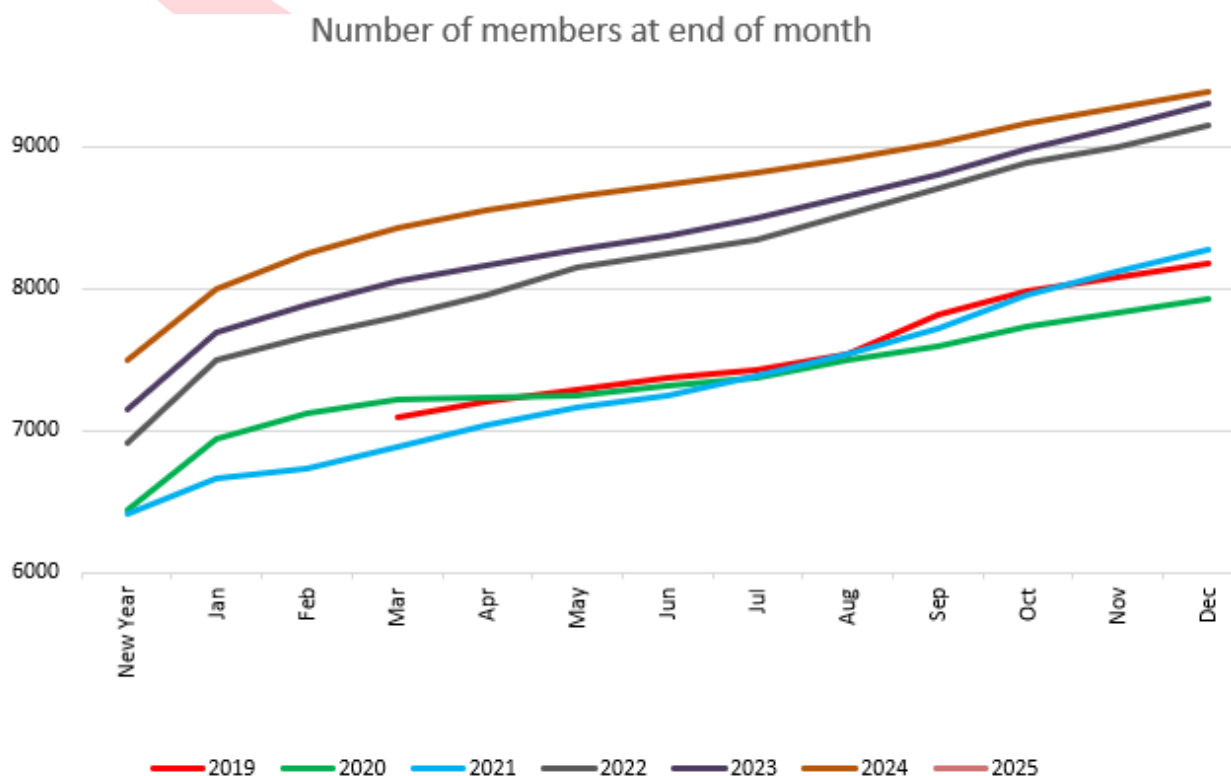
## 2. Membership Secretary Report

Note – this report generally covers the period 1st Jan to Dec 31st 2024 as that is our membership year, rather than aligning with either the financial year or events season.

### How do membership numbers for 2024 compare with previous years?

At the beginning of 2024 we had 7539 members and by the end 9345 members. These figures are both slightly higher than the previous year . Earlier in the year we had around 200-300 more members than the same point in 2023 but, as the graph shows, this decreased towards year end. As always, not all members renew and we started 2025 with almost exactly the same number as in 2024.

In 2024, as in previous years, we had new joiners who registered with us and immediately paid for membership. We also see a significant number who registered some time ago, up to two years, presumably to enter one or more events as a non-member but have now decided to join us. We also welcomed back lapsed members, some after an interval of many years.

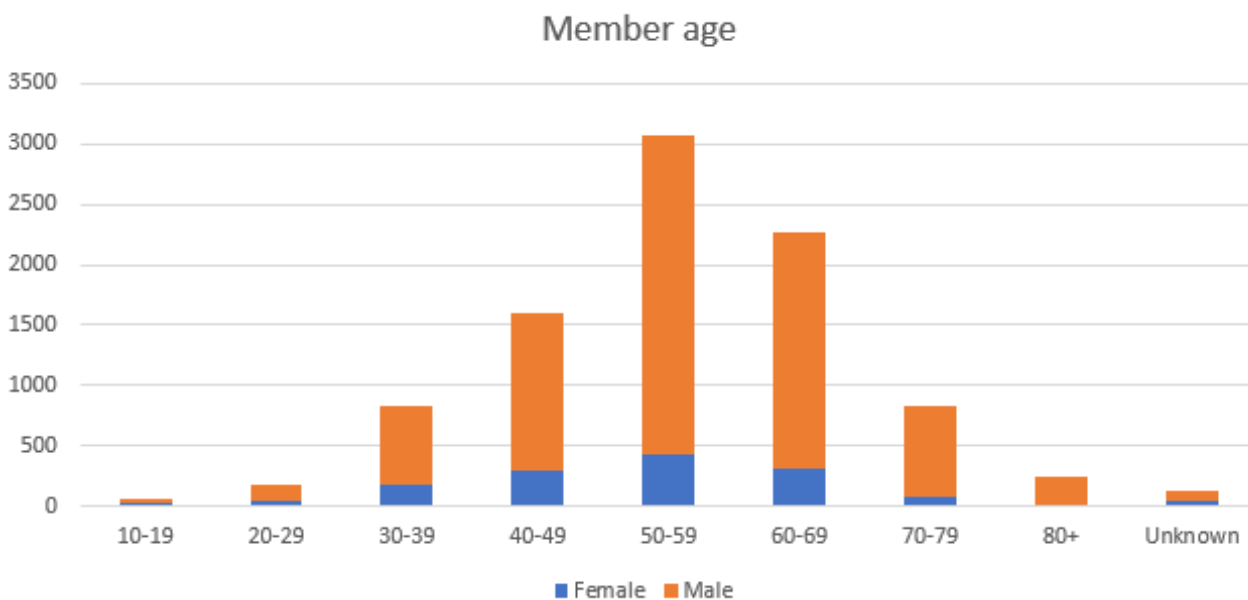


Some headline numbers from the end of 2024 (2023 in brackets)

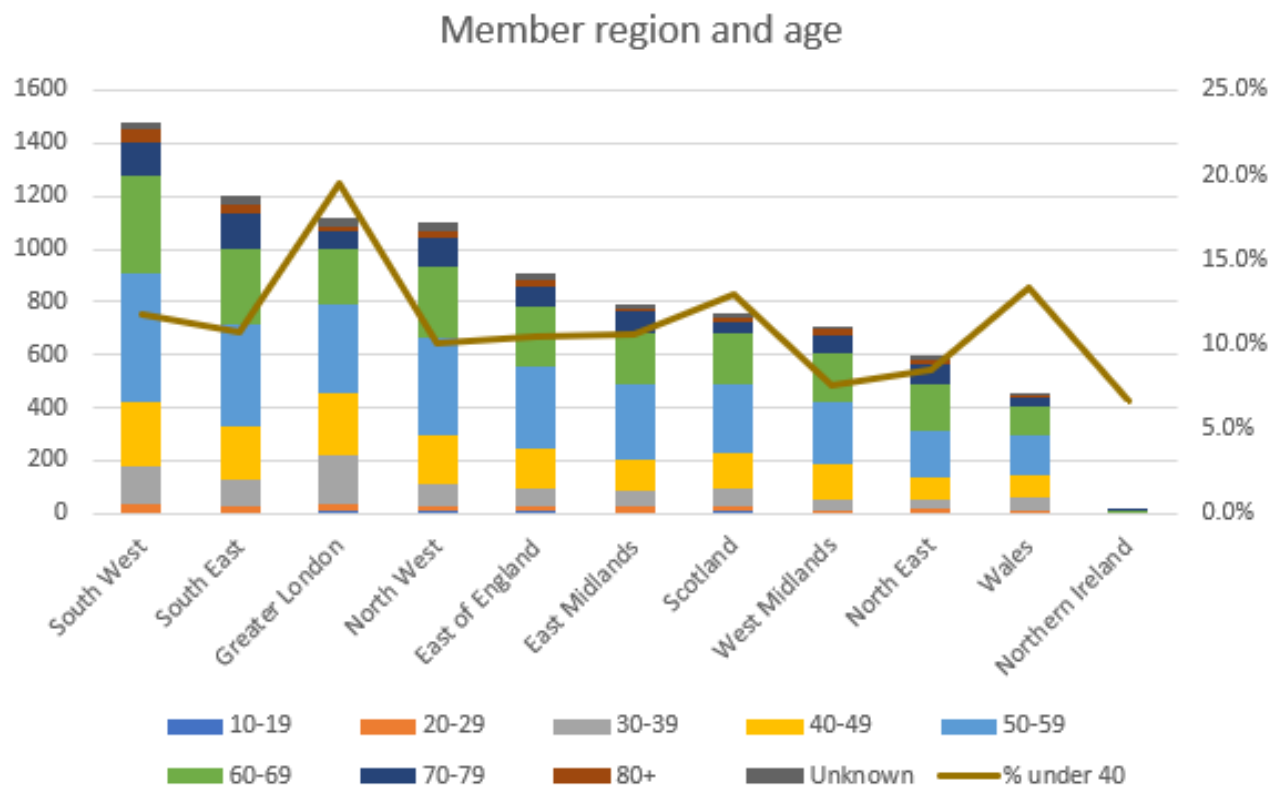
- 7620 (7573) Individual members (with no household)
- 912 (890) Household members in 862 (842) households (most households are only two people)
- 841 (779) of our members qualify for life membership – approx. 70% subscribe to Arrivéé
- 195 (200) members live overseas (not including Channel Isles/Isle of Man)
- Figures that are virtually unchanged from 2023 - approximately 15% of our members are female, with a lower average age (52) than the men (56)

Some demographic analysis:

1) By age – the same story as last year, 50-59 is still the dominant age range, although this does not necessarily reflect the members actually riding events



2) By region, South West England again has a higher number of members than any other, and London is still at the top of the table for percentage under 40.



Every region showed growth in membership numbers but the highest increases were in North West (131 or 14%) and Scotland (111 or 17%). Scotland and Wales also score well on the under 40 figures.

### **Activities performed by the Membership team**

A significant task is provide the mailing list for Arrivee four times each year. We also have to estimate how many “spare” copies we need to cover the mailing to the next three months’ new joiners.

Renewal time requires some attention from the Membership Secretary. Although most people renew online which is fully automated, we do send out reminder emails, and manually trigger the direct debit payment run – which now includes around 1500 members.

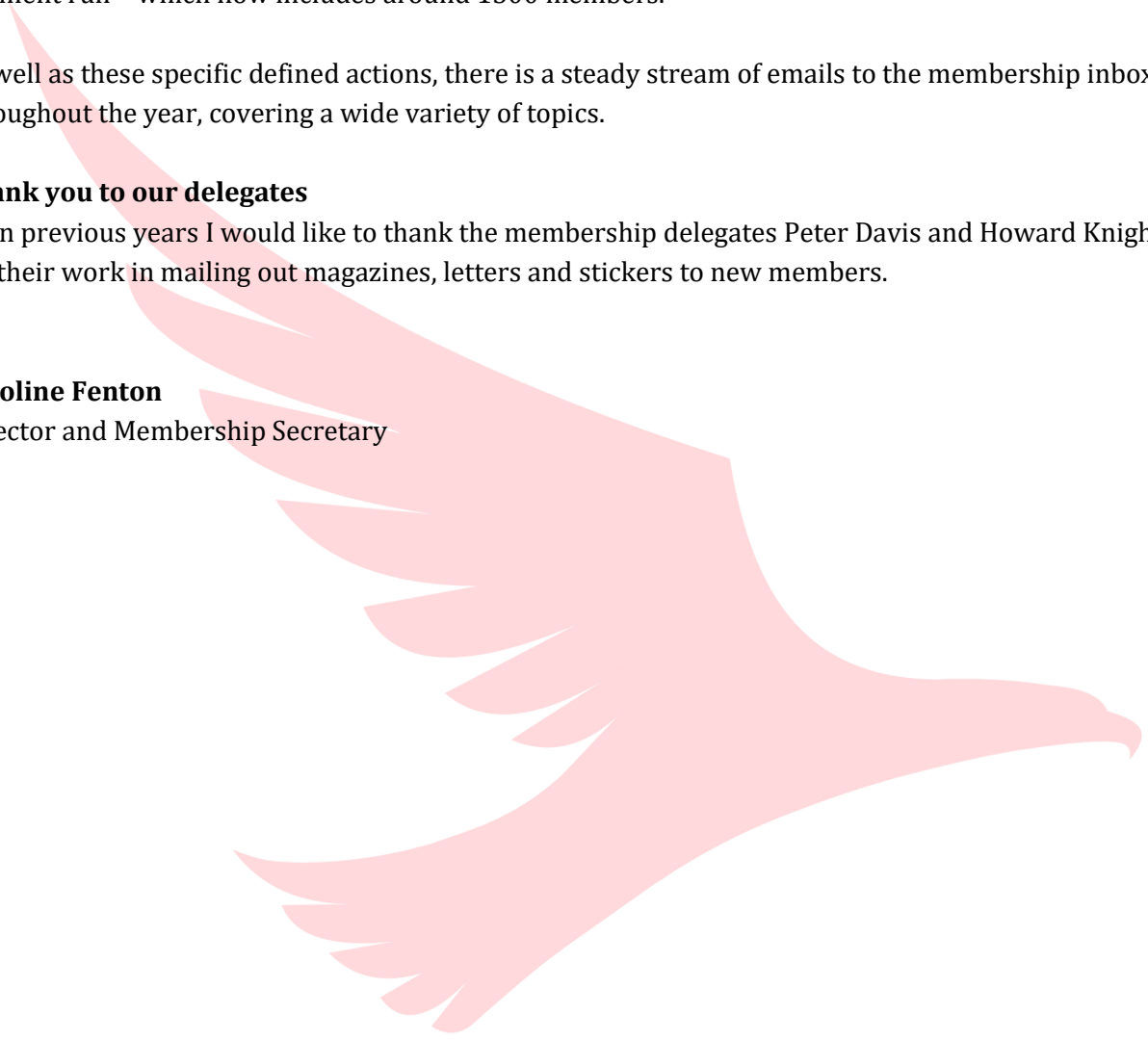
As well as these specific defined actions, there is a steady stream of emails to the membership inbox throughout the year, covering a wide variety of topics.

### **Thank you to our delegates**

As in previous years I would like to thank the membership delegates Peter Davis and Howard Knight for their work in mailing out magazines, letters and stickers to new members.

### **Caroline Fenton**

Director and Membership Secretary



### **3. Calendar Events Secretary Report**

We might have expected a drop-off in numbers after Paris-Brest year, but this doesn't seem to have happened.

There were 586 events, run by 126 clubs or individual organisers.

3967 people rode at least one calendar event, of whom 347 attained Super Randonneur status.

In total, including Brevet Populaire events, there were 18,135 validated brevets.

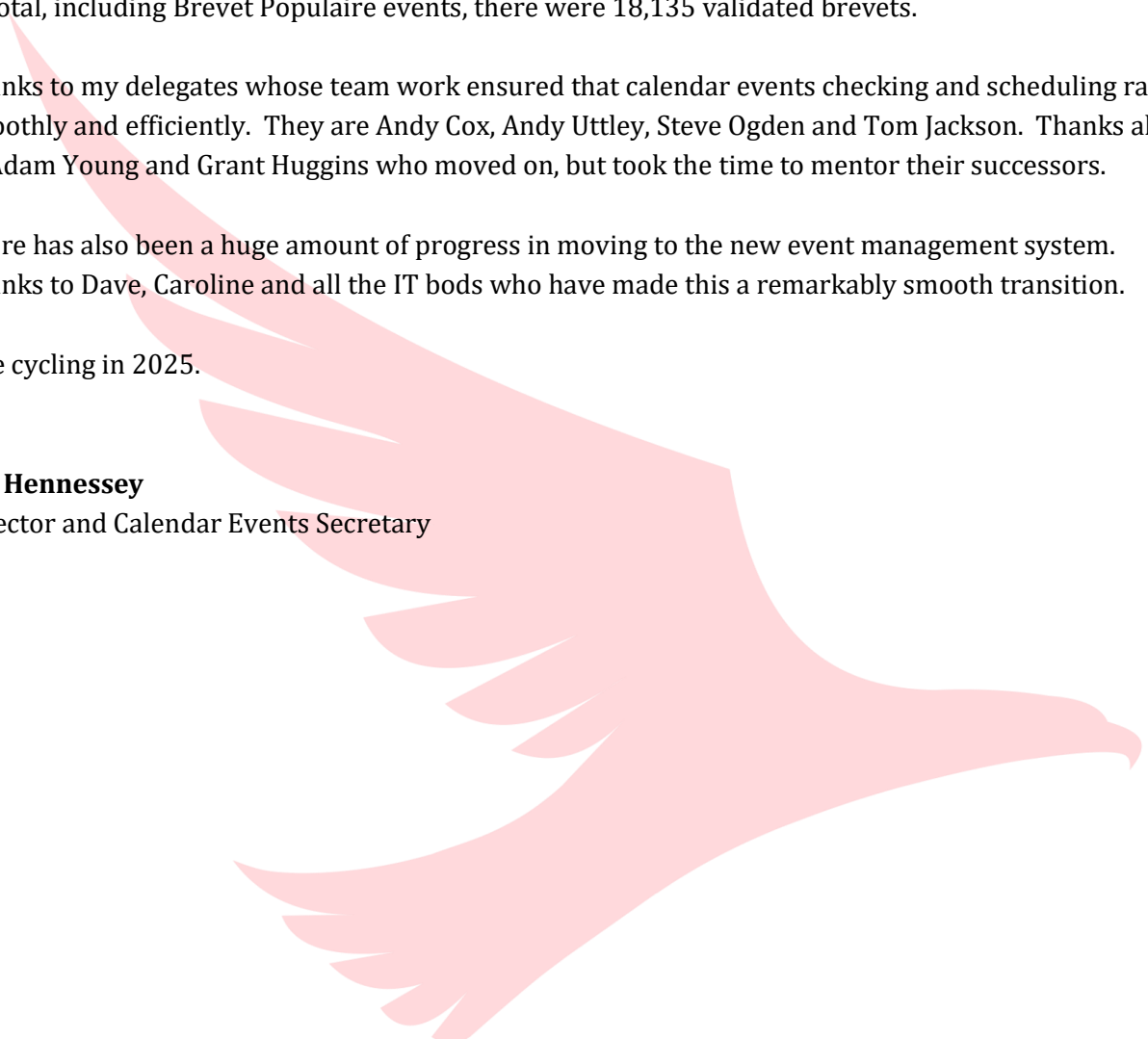
Thanks to my delegates whose team work ensured that calendar events checking and scheduling ran smoothly and efficiently. They are Andy Cox, Andy Uttley, Steve Ogden and Tom Jackson. Thanks also to Adam Young and Grant Huggins who moved on, but took the time to mentor their successors.

There has also been a huge amount of progress in moving to the new event management system. Thanks to Dave, Caroline and all the IT bods who have made this a remarkably smooth transition.

Safe cycling in 2025.

**Ian Hennessey**

Director and Calendar Events Secretary



#### 4. Permanent Events Secretary Report

Slightly disappointingly the 2022/23 season saw a small drop in the number of Permanent Events of all types that were validated compared with the previous year in which the number had recovered to a similar level to that of the year before Covid struck. With the number of AUK members steadily increasing, the 2023/24 season has seen a resumed increase taking us to slightly more than 7,000 Permanent Event validations. (When I became AUK Permanents Secretary the number of annual validations for Permanent Events was about 800 – But it was all paper, postage stamps and envelopes and I personally handled every one of those 800 printed brevet cards.)

As in most years, some Permanent events have dropped out of the calendar, others have been handed on to a new organiser and some new Permanent event organisers have come forward with new event routes.

Currently there are 530 Permanent events available for you to ride. 158 are Brevet Populaire events and 372 are Brevet Randonneur events. You may choose a distance to suit you from a gentle 50km up to a “stupidly long way”. Some long Permanent Events also give you the option of becoming a tourist and riding them as a succession of separate 200km stages.

Most of these events are relatively flat, others exist for the sole purpose of cramming as many AAA points into the distance as possible. But beware, the absence of AAA points is not a guarantee of a flat ride (not all organisers bother to give their Permanent Events an AAA rating). If you wish to escape to foreign parts there are Permanent Randonnées on Foreign Soil. (‘PRoF’s). Some will take you over classic Alpine or Pyrenean cols, others will take you on epic cycle rides to places like Istanbul or Brindisi.

The increase in validation by GPS for fixed route Permanent events has continued as it has for the last few seasons. Validation by e-brevet has also grown since it was first trialled in 2019/20. More than 200 Permanent events now offer validation by GPS; a similar number offer e-brevet validation, and this number is steadily increasing. GPS validation is now established as the norm for DIY events.

The process for payment of brevet cards and validation fees using Stripe as the payment method replacing PayPal has continued to grow with more organisers switching to Stripe. Stripe is now the required entry fee and validation fee payment process for new Permanent Event organisers and for those wishing to introduce new routes or GPS or eBrevet. Now that ‘smart’ phones and GPS units are every day accoutrements, traditional paper brevet cards are rapidly become a thing of the past, no longer being seen as a collectable memento of riding the event. Most Permanent events will, however, continue to be available to ride with nothing but your hands on the handlebars and just one sprocket on the rear wheel of your bike.

The major change in the processes for handling events as AUK moves on with its comprehensive new IT system continued into 2023/24. All of the processes for handling Permanent Events, from creating new events, through entering them and then dealing with Validation and Recording are now running on the new system. There remains some reliance on aukweb for a few things, but not for any functions used by the general AUK membership. As I wrote in my report last year I continue to be grateful for the

patient help given by Dave Alison and Caroline Fenton both to myself and to some Permanent event organisers. During 2023/24 some new organisers have come forward to run new Permanent events and have been able to trial the process for setting up a new Permanent Event. My 'how to do it' notes for new Permanent Event organisers are still labelled as "Draft", but should soon be a definitive guide.

Once again my thanks go to all Permanent event and DIY event organisers.

### Summary Permanent Event validation numbers for 2023-24 compared with (2022-23)

Fixed Route events	1,070	(1,009)
DIY events	5,675	(4,370)
ECE events	273	(247)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,018</b>	<b>(5,625)</b>

### Spread of Distances for BR Events

200km	300km	400km	500km	600km	700km	1,000km	1,500+km
4089	352	130	6	107	4	18	8
(87%)	(7.5%)	(2.8%)	(0.1%)	(2.3%)	(0.1%)	(0.4%)	(0.2%)

**Spread of Distances for BP Events (excluding ECE events)** This shows the increase in 50km events from virtually none in previous years to a significant number of 'points collectors' being interested.

50km	100km	150km
791	944	295
(39%)	(46.5%)	(14.5%)

- 7,018 Permanent Events results, including ECE events have been recorded for 2023/24.
- 806 AUK members completed one or more Permanent events, which is slightly lower than in 2022/23.
- 21 Fixed Route Permanent Events were completed by non-AUK members.
- Overall 70% of Permanent events ridden were BR events, and 30% were BP events, a continued shift from BR to BP events compared with 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- 72% of DIY Events ridden were BR events and 28% were BP events, a slight shift from BR to BP events compared with 2022/23
- 63% of all DIY events ridden were 200km.
- 273 ECE events were recorded. The longest ECE event ridden to reach a calendar event start was 500km with 10 cyclists travelling 300km or 400km in addition to the calendar event distance
- 30 AUK members completed Permanent events longer than 600km. 26 cycled 1,000km or more and Lee Killestein managed to complete a 1,900km DIY event, followed later by a 2,500km DIY event.

### **The Unofficial 2023/24 Permanent Event 'Prizes'**

#### ***The organiser's award for having most entrants (excluding DIY & ECE events):***

Mike Wigley seems to have made this slot his own personal prize having topped the list for three years running. So if you want riders to enter your Permanent events Mike's formula is: Interesting routes with GPS or ebrévet validation as options, a great website and some interesting merchandise including for RRTY.

#### ***The rider's award for successfully completing most Traditional Permanent BR events:***

Damien O'Dowd by riding Permanent events from the wide choice offered by organiser Mike Wigley.

#### ***The rider's award for successfully completing most DIY BR events:***

Andy Clarkson easily topped this list with lots of 200km events, but topped off in style by riding Permanent events from the wide choice offered by organiser Mike Wigley

#### ***The rider's award for collecting most AUK Points on Permanent events:***

As suggested last year, I have run out of enthusiasm for totting up endless points for increasingly short BP events, so this award has dropped off the Permanents prizes list.

### **Ordre des Cols Durs (OCD)**

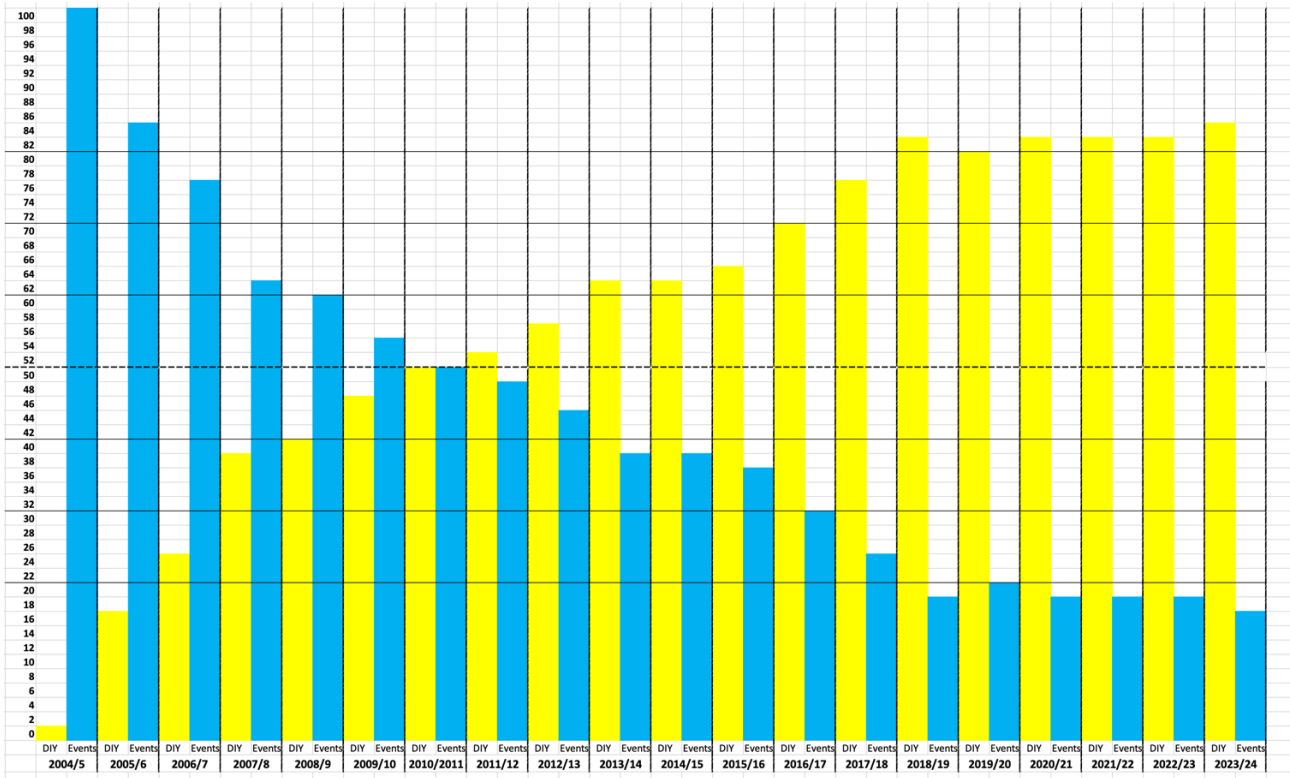
OCD events are recorded over a calendar year with claims and validations for the previous year being made during the first two months of the following year. The 2024 annual report for OCD will, be published in Arrivée magazine as soon as it is complete.

### **The evolution of Permanent Events**

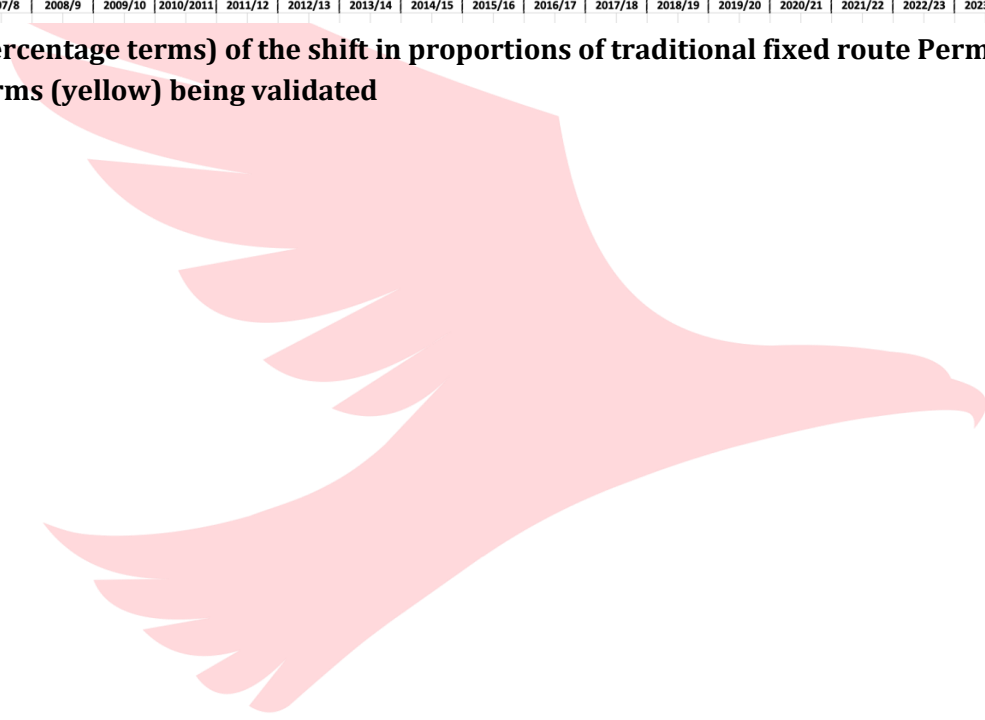
I have thumbed back through the statistics in all of the AUK annual reports I have written since becoming Permanents Secretary. The charts below show both the overall increase of Permanent Events being validated with an increasing membership, and the changing composition of events with the rise of GPS validated DIY events.

### **John Ward**

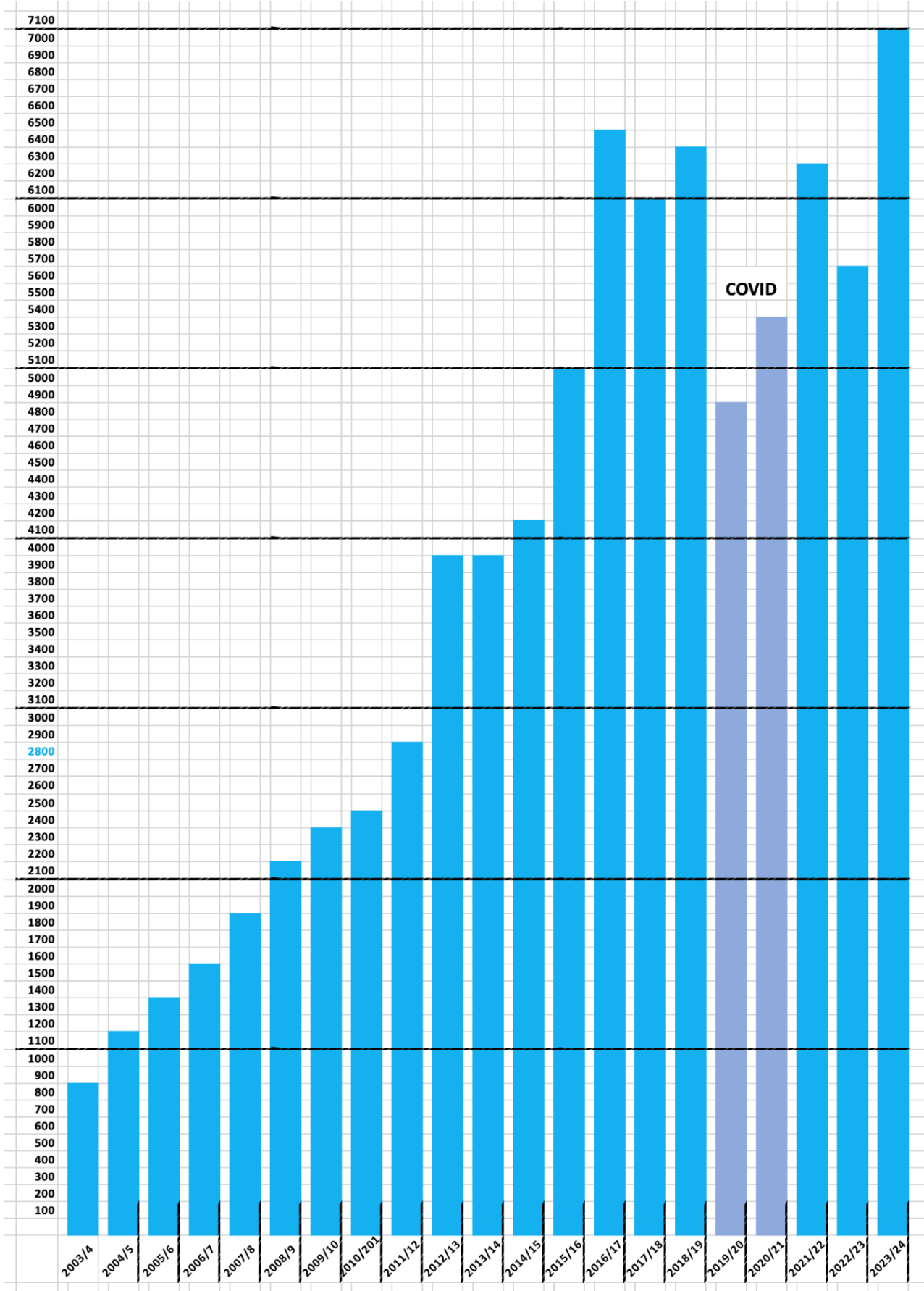
Director and Permanent Events Secretary



**Comparison (in percentage terms) of the shift in proportions of traditional fixed route Perms (blue) and DIY Perms (yellow) being validated**







Year by year growth in the numbers of AUK Permanent Events being validated

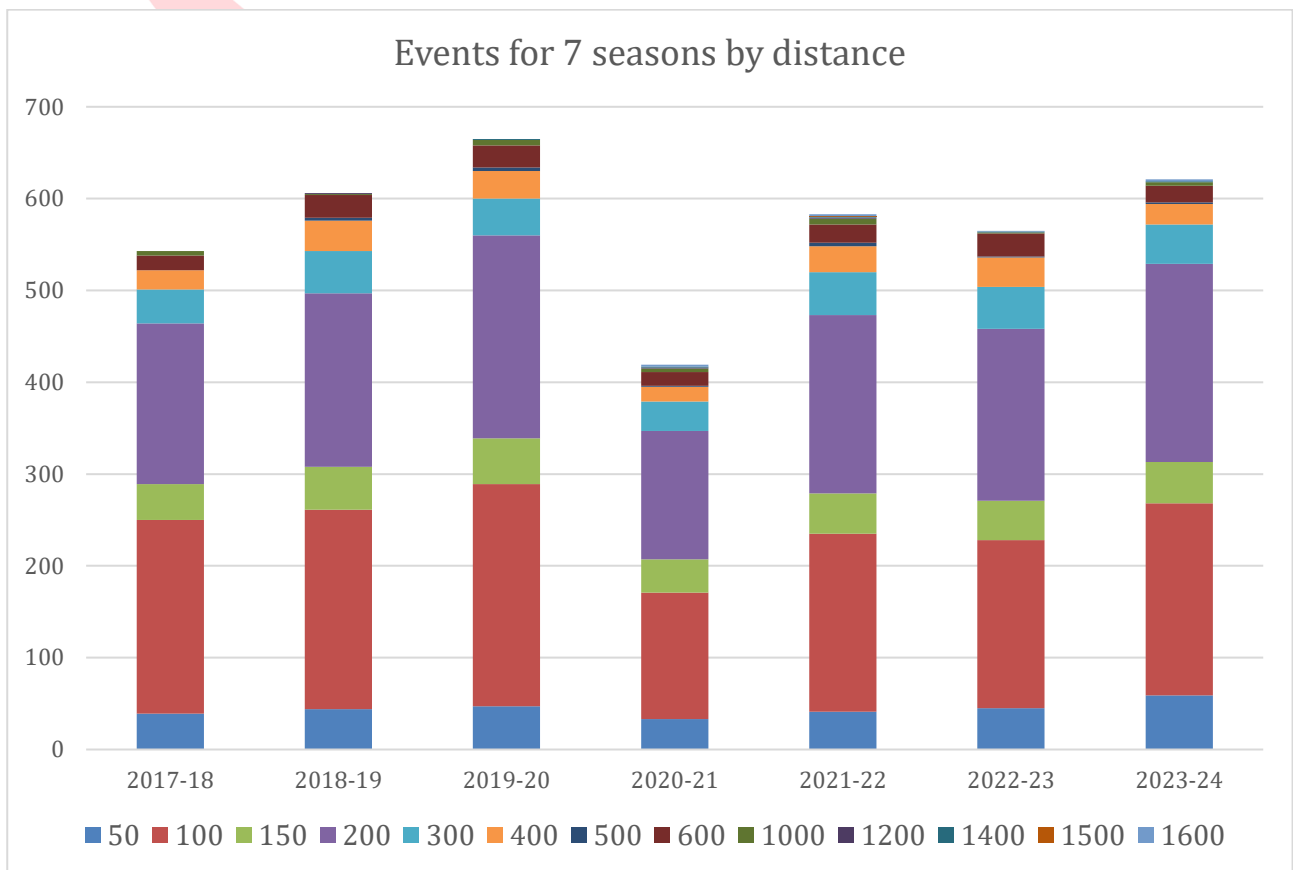
## 5. Event Services and Recorder Report

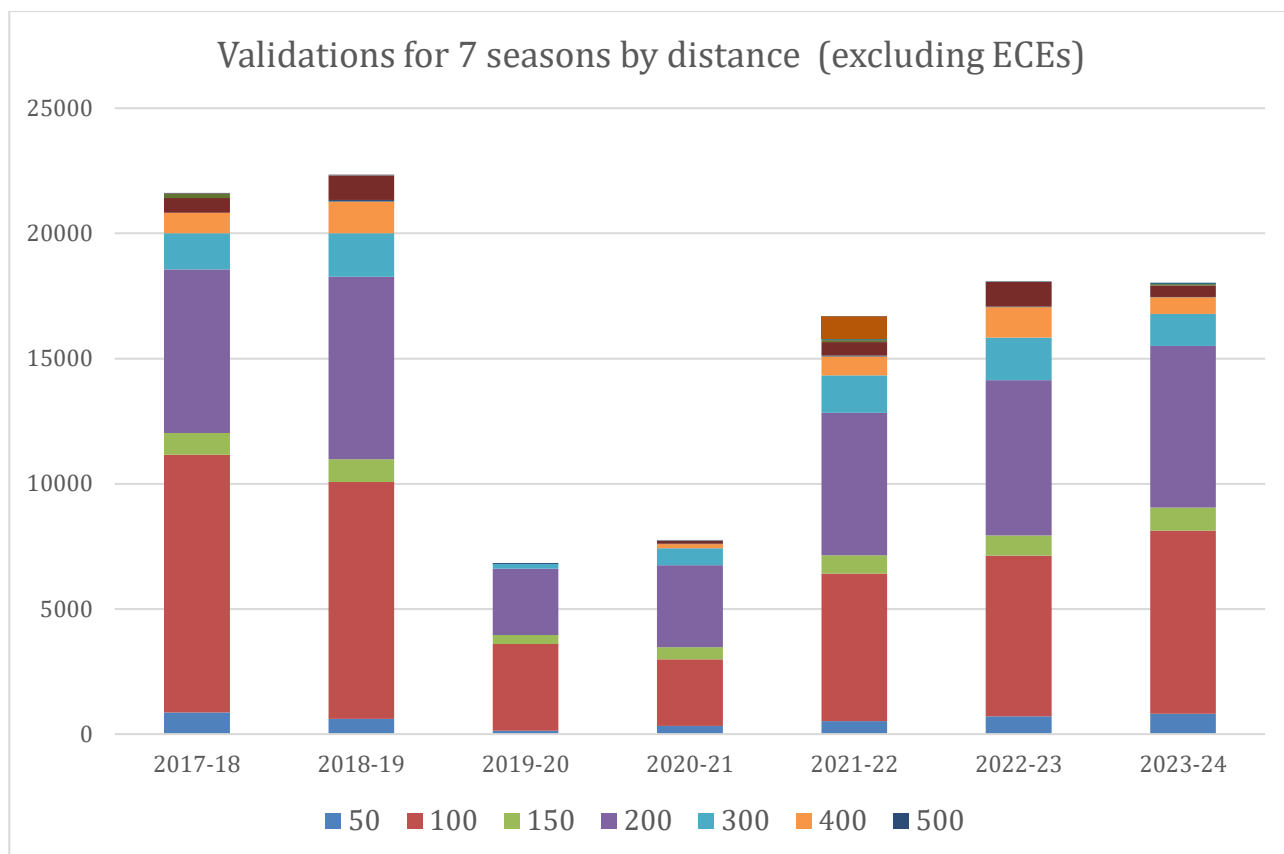
As of the 2024 AGM the Event Services Director position transitioned from Dan Smith to Grant Huggins. Special thanks to Dan for his service and handover meetings to explain the role and responsibilities.

### Events and Validations

There were 621 events during the 2023-2024 season with 18,030 validations. Details are shown in the table below (excluding ECEs). This represents a small reduction of validations overall on the previous season.

Distance	50	100	150	200	300	400	500	600	1000	1200	1400	1500	1600	Total
<b>Events</b>	59	209	45	216	43	22	2	18	4	0	1	0	2	<b>621</b>
<b>Validations</b>	814	7313	926	6449	1284	660	20	450	57	0	56	0	1	<b>18030</b>





There is uptick in BP validations in 2023-24 from previous season trends, most likely influenced by the award of points for BP events being introduced from this season.

The Randonnée 200k distance validations are up on recent non-PBP years, but the 300k, 400k & 600k validations are all down on previous trend.

Events put on by Organisers is approaching pre-pandemic volume again although rider entries have not returned to match with validations only 81% of those in the 2018-19 season.

### Recorder and Brevet Awards

The following awards were claimed during the past season:

Brevet 1000: 1

Brevet 2000: 8

Brevet 3000: 9

Brevet 4000: 8

Brevet 5000: 7

Brevet 25000: 18

Randonneur 100000: 7

New lifetime Randonneur distance awards for 25000, 50000 & 75000 were introduced at the AUK Reunion in November 2024. Claims to the Recorder have been received for each of the new awards; ratified claims have been published on the Audax UK website in the Randonneur award page. Volume of claims will be reported in season 2024-25.

### **Overseas Rides**

Members requested 81 overseas rides be added to their records.

### **Awards**

Peter Davis has worked diligently to determine awards for the last two seasons and where possible arrange for distribution at the AUK Reunion in November 2024.

There were 57 trophies produced for the 2023-24 season.

The Awards 'How-to' document has been updated with refreshed guidance for future reference about each award.

New trophies for the Randonneur 25k, 50k & 75k achievements will be awarded at the next Reunion.

### **Brevet Cards**

Brevet card production is stable after some challenges in the previous year. Thanks to Oliver Iles for timely response to Organiser requests for brevet card production.

New A4 printers were purchased for John Ward and Grant Huggins, primarily to be back up brevet production if Oliver is unavailable at any time.

### **Ride with GPS**

AUK subscribed to a Ride with GPS club account. The initial intention is for the Events Delegates to validate Organiser submitted event plans for minimum distance and Organisers to create & share event routes with entrants.

A second club account may be considered necessary for use by the wider membership as a club benefit.

New delegate Mike Kear was appointed to administer the AUK RwGPS club account.

### **Other Delegates**

Thanks also go to Cathy Brown (Validations), Ivan Cornell (AAA) and newly appointed Sarah Britton (RRtY) who keep their areas quietly and efficiently working.

### **Grant Huggins**

Director – Event Services and Recorder

## 6. Communications Director Report

Another great Audax year passes and gives me time to reflect, on a personal level it has been tough, trying to strike a good work/life balance has kept the kilometres very low indeed. I did however manage to volunteer for several events and organised my first Audax event. This comes a close 2nd to riding the events but it is important to see the work our great organisers put in.

I like many members look forward to the quarterly edition of Arrivee and it is great to read and see a much more diverse participation. A couple of real highlights for me are Altaf and Jess's fantastic rides in Kromvojoj and Northcape, adventures that will live long in their memories. It is important to me that we continue to make Audax accessible and inclusive to all, reading inspiring real-life stories certainly helps. With that in mind, we are always on the lookout for more stories, inspiring events, or personal rides, they don't need to be Audax based what we are looking to do is inspire members to get out on the bikes and find the joys of long-distance cycling and in turn inspire non-members to join the fun.

In terms of kit offerings, we have managed to now offer a short sleeve jersey, visibility vest and caps. The jerseys had a great pre-sale and will be great to see Audax kit out on the rides. The visibility vests are in stock but we do have limited numbers left so grab them whilst you can. As you read this we should now have in-store long sleeve jerseys to order and arm warmers. This will give members the choice of kit all year round. To cap that off we will also be looking to introduce some casual clothing, details are just being finalised.

Banners and flags have been a bit of a slow process and I missed the main events of 2024, we are now taking the time to get the design right and be able to offer an extensive range to organisers. We will be able to offer them out to organisers in the early part of 2025.

The Instagram site goes from strength to strength, it provides a great space for inspiring stories of which many have then appeared in Arrivee. On top of that organisers can use it to help promote events but now needs a more dedicated helper to spread the workload and help promote events and riders' achievements. If this something that you feel you could help, then please do drop me a line.

**Paul Renshaw**

Communications Director

## **7. ACP/LRM Representative Report**

The Correspondent is the official contact for Audax Club Parisien (ACP) and Les Randonneurs Mondiaux (LRM). I liaise with Jean-Gualbert Faburel at ACP and the president of LRM, currently Tal Katzir.

I process and forward claims for international awards, compile and forward annual lists of our international events (BRM & LRM, as well as Easter Arrows and trails).

This year I also attended the quadrennial ACP meeting in Paris.

AUK is one of the largest 'foreign' randonneur clubs (and is the oldest). I rely on the Recorder and the Validation Secretary to process event finish results for homologation by ACP or LRM.

We enjoy a good relationship with both international organisations. They allow us to produce our own brevet cards and delegate some of the homologation tasks to us.

2025 will see our biggest international event, the London-Edinburgh-London. There will be a lot of work going on behind the scenes.

**Ian Hennessey**  
ACP/LRM Representative



**Part B: Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**



**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**



16 Burlington Terrace  
Cardiff CF5 1GG

Telephone: 07919 410 910  
Email: info@richardalsept.co.uk

**Richard Alsept**  
Chartered Accountant

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE DIRECTORS OF AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION.**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**Respective responsibilities of Directors and examiner**

The Directors of Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and have requested that an independent examination is carried out.

Having satisfied myself that the company is not subject to audit under company law and have been asked to carry out an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts;
- (ii) review the accounting records; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and comply with the accounting requirements of section 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006;
- have not been met.

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard Alsept, Chartered Accountant  
16 Burlington Terrace  
Cardiff CF5 1GG

DATE: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024



Richard Alsept Limited, registered in England and Wales, No. 05007928  
Registered Office: 16 Burlington Terrace, Cardiff CF5 1GG

[www.richardalsept.co.uk](http://www.richardalsept.co.uk)

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS  
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**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
COMPANY INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

<b>Directors</b>	William John Ward Nigel Peter Armstrong Caroline Anne Fenton Ian Gerard Hennessey Andrew David Yates Paul Renshaw Andy Cox Grant Huggins Darrell James Whittle Anne Margaret Young
<b>Secretary</b>	Graeme David Provan
<b>Company Number</b>	5920055 (England and Wales)
<b>Registered Office</b>	Whitelands Terling Road Hatfield Peverel Essex CM3 2AG

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**(COMPANY NO: 5920055 ENGLAND AND WALES)**  
**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

---

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**Directors**

The following directors held office during the whole of the period:

William John Ward  
Nigel Peter Armstrong  
Caroline Anne Fenton  
Ian Gerard Hennessey  
Andrew David Yates  
Paul Renshaw

The following directors were appointed during the period:

Andy Cox was appointed on 15 February 2024.  
Grant Huggins was appointed on 15 February 2024.  
Darrell James Whittle was appointed on 15 February 2024.  
Anne Margaret Young was appointed on 15 February 2024.

The following directors resigned during the period:

Christopher Peter Crossland resigned on 15 February 2024.  
Daniel Refoy Peskett Smith resigned on 15 February 2024.  
Paul Haxell resigned on 15 February 2024.

**Statement of directors' responsibilities**

The directors are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these accounts, the directors are required to:

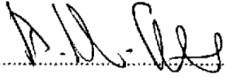
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the board of directors



Andy Cox  
Director

Approved by the board on: 18 January 2025

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Turnover</b>	218,316	210,507
Cost of sales	(101,069)	(115,437)
<b>Gross surplus</b>	<u>117,247</u>	<u>95,070</u>
Administrative expenses	(40,897)	(57,580)
<b>Operating surplus</b>	<u>76,350</u>	<u>37,490</u>
Interest receivable and similar income	10,691	6,185
<b>Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<u>87,041</u>	<u>43,675</u>
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	(2,860)	(2,137)
<b>Surplus for the financial year</b>	<u><u>84,181</u></u>	<u><u>41,538</u></u>

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	4	1,236	387
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories		13,409	6,687
Debtors	5	19,134	13,142
Cash at bank and in hand		418,463	348,064
		<u>451,006</u>	<u>367,893</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	(59,471)	(59,974)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>391,535</u>	<u>307,919</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>392,771</u>	<u>308,306</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	7	(36,614)	(36,330)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>356,157</u>	<u>271,976</u>
<b>Reserves</b>	8		
Profit and loss account		356,157	271,976
<b>Members' funds</b>		<u>356,157</u>	<u>271,976</u>

For the year ending 31 August 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - Small Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 18 January 2025 and were signed on its behalf by

Andy Cox  
Director



Company Registration No. 5920055

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1 Statutory information**

Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, registration number 5920055. The registered office is Whitelands, Terling Road, Hatfield Peverel, Essex, CM3 2AG.

**2 Compliance with accounting standards**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 18th January 2025

**3 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have remained unchanged from the previous year, and also have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

***Basis of preparation***

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, except that as disclosed in the accounts certain items are shown at fair value.

***Tangible fixed assets and depreciation***

Tangible assets are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives:

Plant & machinery	25% Reducing balance method
-------------------	-----------------------------

***Inventories***

Finished goods inventories have been valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to sell and comprise stocks of medals and badges.

***Tax accounting policy***

The tax expense is recognised in profit and loss. The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the company operates.

***Revenue Recognition***

Turnover comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and provision of services in the ordinary course of the company's activities. Turnover is shown net of sales/value added tax, returns, rebates and discounts.

The company recognises revenue when:

The amount of revenue can be reliably measured;  
it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity;  
and specific criteria have been met for each of the company's activities.

***Employees***

Members and Directors of Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association who are paid an honorarium for their services to the company are identified as employees in note 9.

***Cash & cash equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.



**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**Trade debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**4 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Plant &amp; machinery</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	<b>£</b>
At 1 September 2023	At cost 2,900
Additions	1,419
Disposals	(1,774)
At 31 August 2024	2,545
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	2,513
Charge for the year	333
On disposals	(1,537)
At 31 August 2024	1,309
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2024	1,236
At 31 August 2023	387

**5 Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	75	300
Accrued income and prepayments	19,059	12,842
	19,134	13,142

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

<b>6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	6,182	2,204
Taxes and social security	3,479	2,944
Other creditors	31,021	31,704
Accruals	14,697	23,122
Deferred income	4,092	-
	59,471	59,974

Other creditors above include members deferred subscriptions of £31,021.

<b>7 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	36,614	36,330
	36,614	36,330

Other creditors above are made up of members deferred subscriptions.

**8 Company limited by guarantee**

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

**9 Average number of employees**

During the year the average number of employees was 21 (2023: 23).

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION  
DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts.

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Turnover</b>		
Fees	218,316	210,507
<b>Cost of sales</b>		
Other direct costs	101,069	115,437
<b>Gross profit</b>	<u>117,247</u>	<u>95,070</u>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
Wages and salaries	7,880	11,140
Directors' salaries	5,425	6,100
Rent	6,052	4,747
Bank charges	6,067	5,142
Software	11,320	27,424
Depreciation	570	129
Bad debts	600	-
Sundry expenses	33	37
Accountancy fees	2,950	2,850
Other legal and professional	-	11
	<u>40,897</u>	<u>57,580</u>
<b>Operating profit</b>	<u>76,350</u>	<u>37,490</u>
<b>Interest receivable</b>		
Interest receivable	10,691	6,185
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<u><u>87,041</u></u>	<u><u>43,675</u></u>

## Part C: AGM Agenda



## Agenda for the Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association AGM 2023/24

To be held on 19 February 2025, commencing at 19:00:

- 1) To record the names of those present at the meeting
- 2) To record apologies for absence
- 3) To approve the minutes of the last AGM as a true record of that meeting
- 4) Matters arising from the last meeting (AGM 2022/23).
- 5) To approve the Annual Report
- 6) To approve the Annual Accounts and the Finance Director's recommendations
- 7) To consider resolutions
  - a) Resolution 1  
Refer to [Appendix 1: Resolution 1 Information](#) for supporting information.

Proposer: AUK Board

Resolution:

That Awards Regulations be amended with the following revision to appendix 1.2.4:

*1.2.4 The Randonneur Award Series is for achievement in one season, except where indicated. All events of 200km or more must be BR, BRM or RM. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted. The Super Randonneur award is available to all riders; only subscribed Members are eligible for other Randonneur awards. A rider completing a Super Randonneur award is thereafter designated a Super Randonneur:*

- (a) Randonneur 500: 50, 100, 150 and 200 km events;*
- (b) Randonneur 1000: 100, 200, 300, plus other events to a total of 1,000 km;*
- (c) Super Randonneur: 200, 300, 400 and 600 km events;*
- (d) Randonneur 2500: 200, 300, 400, 600 & 1000 km events;*
- (e) Randonneur 5000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 5,000 km;*
- (f) Randonneur 10000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 10,000 km;*
- (g) Ultra Randonneur : riders completing ten Super Randonneur series shall be eligible for the award of Ultra Randonneur. Only one series per year counts. The series do not have to be consecutive;*
- (h) Randonneur Round The Year: riders completing one 200km or longer event per month, as listed in the Audax UK event results;*
- (i) Randonneur 25,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 25,000 km at randonneur standard;*
- (j) Randonneur 50,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a*

*total distance of at least 50,000 km at randonneur standard;*

*(k) Randonneur 75,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 75,000 km at randonneur standard; and*

*(l) Randonneur 100,000: within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 100,000 km at randonneur standard.*

b) Resolution 2

(Refer to [Appendix 2: Resolution 2 Information](#) for supporting information)

Proposer: AUK Board

Resolution:

That Event Regulations be amended with the following revision to appendix 7.3.1:

*7.3.1 Acceptable proof of passage requires independent evidence of time, date and control location. Acceptable forms include:*

*(a) A timed signature of a controller designated by the event organiser*

*(b) A stamp, sticker or other distinct mark provided by the event organiser or a controller*

*(c) A printed receipt, with time, date and control location e.g. from a cash register or ATM*

*(d) A digital record of time, date and location using a method designated by the event organiser, e.g. e-brevet.*

*(e) Other forms may be designated by the organiser, provided they are acceptable to AUK.*

*Where a rider is unable to obtain proof of passage, an alternative form may be accepted at the organiser's discretion.*

c) Resolution 3

(Refer to [Appendix 3: Resolution 3 Information](#) for supporting information)

Proposer: AUK Board

Resolution:

That Event Regulations be amended with the following addition of appendix 7.4.3:

*7.4.3 Timings for intermediate controls are advisory only.*

8) Election of Directors

- Refer to [Appendix 4: Election of Directors Information](#) for supporting statements/

1) Finance Director

**Nominee:** Nigel Armstrong (AUK 2585)

**Proposer:** Dean Clementson (AUK 9207)

**Secunder:** Lucy McTaggart (AUK 3923)

2) Non-Executive Director – 2 Posts

**Nominee 1: Rob Bullyment (AUK 4010)**

Proposer: Tom Deakins (AUK 6380)

Secunder: Grant Huggins (AUK 6150)

**Nominee 2: Arabella Maude (AUK 5617)**

Proposer: Emma Dixon (AUK 9301)

Secunder: Matthew Chambers (AUK 7300)

**Nominee 3: Darrell Whittle (AUK 5592)**

Proposer: Robert Dews (AUK 20836)

Secunder: Terry Hodges (AUK 3146)

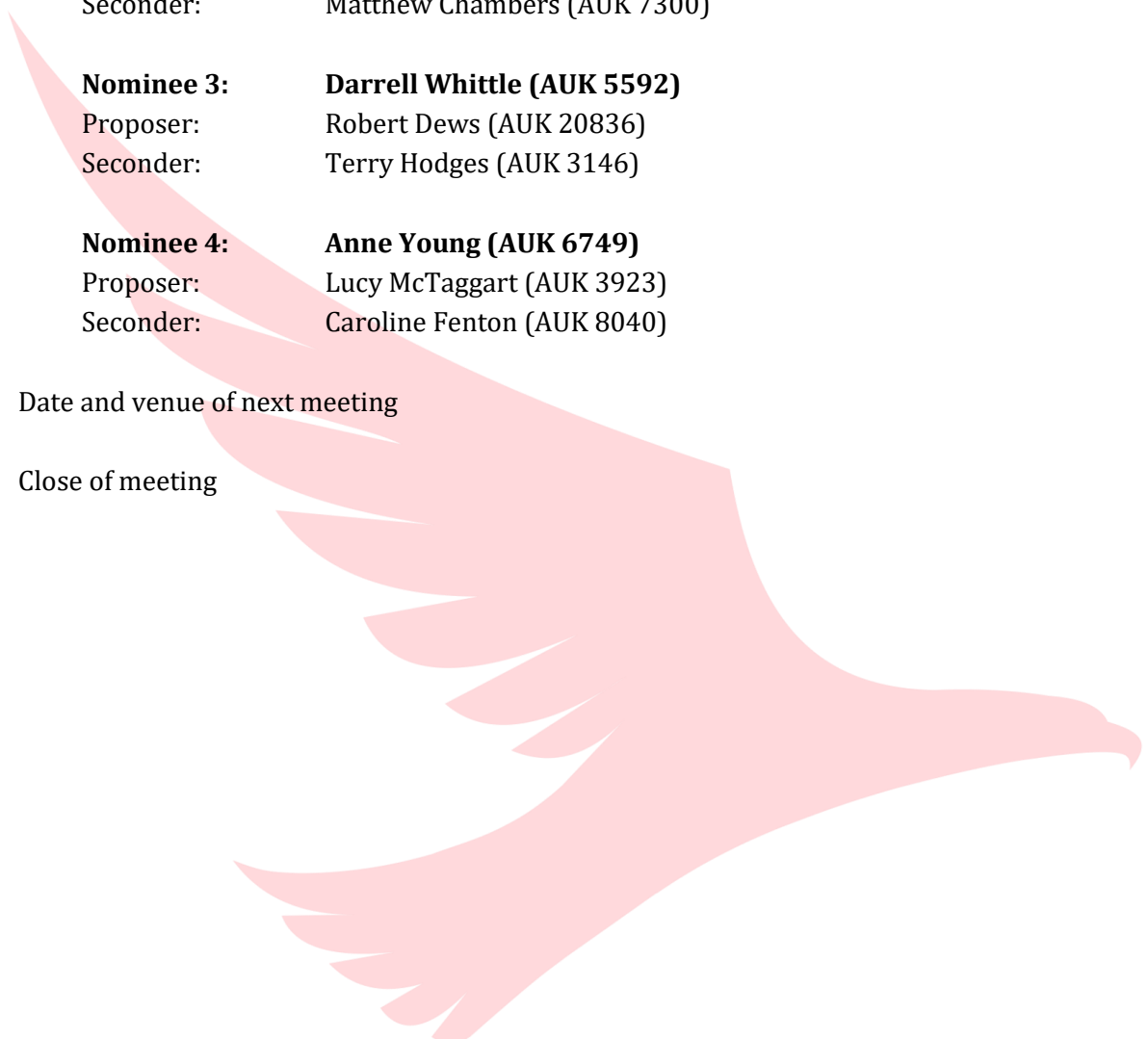
**Nominee 4: Anne Young (AUK 6749)**

Proposer: Lucy McTaggart (AUK 3923)

Secunder: Caroline Fenton (AUK 8040)

9) Date and venue of next meeting

10) Close of meeting



## **Appendix 1: Resolution 1 Information**





## Resolution 1

**Proposer:** AUK Board

Note 1: The resolution concerns an amendment to an appendix to the AUK Award Regulations. The amendment to Appendix 1.2.4 was agreed by the Board at its meeting on 16 March 2024 subject to ratification at this AGM.

Note 2: The current wording of Appendix 1.2.4 of the Award Regulations can be viewed here:  
<https://www.audax.uk/media/2958/awards-regulations-2023.pdf>

**Resolution:**

That Awards Regulations be amended with the following revision to appendix 1.2.4:

*1.2.4 The Randonneur Award Series is for achievement in one season, except where indicated. All events of 200km or more must be BR, BRM or RM. For any distance a longer distance may be substituted. The Super Randonneur award is available to all riders; only subscribed Members are eligible for other Randonneur awards. A rider completing a Super Randonneur award is thereafter designated a Super Randonneur:*

- a) Randonneur 500: 50, 100, 150 and 200 km events;*
- b) Randonneur 1000: 100, 200, 300, plus other events to a total of 1,000 km;*
- c) Super Randonneur: 200, 300, 400 and 600 km events;*
- d) Randonneur 2500: 200, 300, 400, 600 & 1000 km events;*
- e) Randonneur 5000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 5,000 km;*
- f) Randonneur 10000: BR, BRM or RM events totalling 10,000 km;*
- g) Ultra Randonneur : riders completing ten Super Randonneur series shall be eligible for the award of Ultra Randonneur. Only one series per year counts. The series do not have to be consecutive;*
- h) Randonneur Round The Year: riders completing one 200km or longer event per month, as listed in the Audax UK event results;*
- i) Randonneur 25,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 25,000 km at randonneur standard;*
- j) Randonneur 50,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 50,000 km at randonneur standard;*
- k) Randonneur 75,000; within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 75,000 km at randonneur standard; and*
- l) Randonneur 100,000: within any period of time, BR, BRM, ACP or RM events comprising a total distance of at least 100,000 km at randonneur standard.*

**Rationale:**

This addition of Randonneur awards has been proposed as a direct response to our members' feedback to recognise the achievements of members and to provide intermediate awards between the Randonneur 10,000 and Randonneur 100,000 awards.

## Appendix 2: Resolution 2 Information



## Resolution 2

**Proposer:** AUK Board

Note 1: The resolution concerns an amendment to an appendix to the AUK Event Regulations. The amendment to Appendix 7.3.1 was agreed by the Board at its meeting on 14 November 2024 subject to ratification at this AGM.

Note 2: The current wording of the Event Regulations can be viewed here:

[https://www.audax.uk/media/2259/regs\\_all\\_events\\_2020.pdf](https://www.audax.uk/media/2259/regs_all_events_2020.pdf)

**Resolution:**

That Event Regulations be amended with the following revision to appendix 7.3.1:

*7.3.1 Acceptable proof of passage requires independent evidence of time, date and control location.*

*Acceptable forms include:*

- a) A timed signature of a controller designated by the event organiser*
- b) A stamp, sticker or other distinct mark provided by the event organiser or a controller*
- c) A printed receipt, with time, date and control location e.g. from a cash register or ATM*
- d) A digital record of time, date and location using a method designated by the event organiser, e.g. e-brevet.*
- e) Other forms may be designated by the organiser, provided they are acceptable to AUK.*

*Where a rider is unable to obtain proof of passage, an alternative form may be accepted at the organiser's discretion.*

**Rationale:**

This change is proposed in response to a change by ACP in their regulations to specifically mention digital forms of proof of passage.

## Appendix 3: Resolution 3 Information



## Resolution 3

**Proposer:** AUK Board

Note 1: The resolution concerns an addition of an appendix to the AUK Event Regulations. The addition of Appendix 7.4.3 was agreed by the Board at its meeting on 14 November 2024 subject to ratification at this AGM.

Note 2: The current wording of the Event Regulations can be viewed here:

[https://www.audax.uk/media/2259/regs\\_all\\_events\\_2020.pdf](https://www.audax.uk/media/2259/regs_all_events_2020.pdf)

**Resolution:**

That Event Regulations be amended with the following addition of appendix 7.4.3:

*7.4.3 Timings for intermediate controls are advisory only.*

**Rationale:**

This change is proposed in response to a change by ACP in their regulations to specifically highlight that timings for intermediate controls are advisory.

## Appendix 4: Election of Directors Information



## 1. Finance Director

**Nominee:** Nigel Armstrong (AUK 2585)

**Proposer:** Dean Clementson (AUK 9207)

**Seconder:** Lucy McTaggart (AUK 3923)

### **Supporting Statement:**

I put myself forward as a nominee for the position of Financial Director of Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association.

I have spent my professional life in industry, starting out as a Metallurgist with British Steel in Sheffield & then as a Management Accountant in various industries until I was Director on Site for a PLC subsidiary in the 1990's in Lancashire. In 1993 I started an accounting practice that became Pi Partners Ltd that has provided the bookkeeping and the preparation of the annual accounts for Audax UK since 2015.

I am a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and have gained a good working knowledge of Audax UK's. As a member of CIMA I am required to undertake continuing professional development and keep abreast of changes to legislation and accepted accounting practices.

My technical competence is in repeatable, reliable management accounting, which I will use to help the board to make good decisions using scenario based forecasts. These forecasts then form one of the foundation pillars of the Audax UK strategy documents.

Cycling wise I bought my first bike shaped object when I was 19, having never ridden as a child and was hooked. Various bikes later at the age of 51 I undertook my first long distance ride when I cycled solo with a tent and large full panniers front and back from Penzance to Land's End, Lizard Point, Lowestoft, Ardnamurchan Point, Duncansby Head, John O'Groats, Dunnet Head and finished at Inverness taking the whole month of May but discovered I could ride all day.

Then aged 55 I met the late John Radford of Huddersfield CTC who encouraged me to try an Audax, so in May 2013 I completed my first 100 and by today I have managed to grow my points tally to 288 with 6 RRTY's and 2 AAA. My longest distance completed under Audax rules was a solo 500 DIY in August 2023, a sort of Spalding via Northallerton.

## 2. Non-Executive Director – 2 Posts

*Please note that there are 4 nominees for the 2 posts; see below for all 4 candidates' information.*

### **Nominee 1: Rob Bullyment (AUK 4010)**

Proposer: Tom Deakins (AUK 6380)

Seconder: Grant Huggins (AUK 6150)

#### **Supporting Statement:**

I have been a member of Audax UK since 1993. A period that has seen a huge amount of growth and significant change. I am a club rider, an audaxer and a time triallist, although my racing days are probably behind me. In this time I have become an Ultra Randonneur, a recipient of the Brevet 25,000 a Randonneur 100,000 and a one time winner of the Dave Lewis trophy. I have completed the last 7 editions of Paris-Brest-Paris, along with a handful of other 1200k+ events. Having recorded my mileage since the age of 16, I became a member of the 300,000 mile club in September 2023.

From the late 90s to the mid-2000s I was part of the West Kent CTC Outdoor Events Committee organising Audax rides of up to 400k, including one edition of the CTC National 400. Parenthood at this time initiated a step back from organising but I remained a helper at controls on the West Kent events for some years. Relocating to North Essex in 2020 I am now a member of Audax Club Mid Essex and can be seen riding or helping out at local events as well as riding further afield.

Professionally I have worked in the energy industry since 1997, initially as an analyst and IT Project Manager. I have worked for Utilities, 2 Commodity Trading Houses and an Investment Bank providing advice, products and services to generators, suppliers, investors and large energy consumers. For the last 4 years I have been an Originator with a large Swiss-based Energy Company putting together structured transactions in the natural gas and power space.

As I head towards the end of my professional life and with a grown up family I find myself with more spare time than I have had in the past, although I do still ride my bike quite a lot.

I am applying to for the Non-Exec Director role with Audax UK with a view to providing support to the existing team as they navigate the evolving nature of this branch of the sport. I feel my long-standing experience of Audax as a rider and supporter place me in a good position to add value. In addition, my professional experience helping, advising and devising products for clients at up to Board level stands me in good stead.



**Nominee 2: Arabella Maude (AUK 5617)**

Proposer: Emma Dixon (AUK 9301)

Seconder: Matthew Chambers (AUK 7300)

**Supporting Statement:**

I wish to stand for position of Non-Executive Director for Audax UK at the upcoming AGM.

Long distance cycling is something that has given me a great deal of enjoyment over the past couple of decades, during which time I've had loads of fun, a sense of achievement and had a number of "interesting" experiences. Prior to joining AUK I've cycle commuted since 1989 and done various cycle tours including with a young family and later as a single parent.

I have been a member of AUK for around 20 years and did my first randonnées in 2005. From then, I went on to complete my first SR series in 2006, LEL in 2009, first Arrow in 2010, Brevet 5000 in 2010, PBP in 2011, RRTY in late 2011 and ultra randonneur in 2015 (not to mention an SR2000 in 2008). Over the past 2 decades I have regularly participated in Audax UK events, even, in spite of living in the flatlands, managing to get the AAA points required for a full set of grimpeur mdeals. As a full value rider I'm familiar with the view from the back of the field.

I've written a number of articles for arrivée, mainly up to 2016. My event organising has been limited to DIYs and Arrows - I've successfully captained four mixed or ladies' arrow teams and done countless DIYs, alone and with others. I'm also active on the yacf (and predecessor) audax noticeboard.

I help out on assorted local events (mainly but not only ACME). In 2013 LEL I was in charge of the St Ives control, stepping in after the initial controllers dropped out, and in 2022 I volunteered at the Malton control run by our now chairman.

If elected I will turn my hand to whatever specialist subject the board requires of me.

I have a degree in computer science with business studies, a masters in telecommunications engineering and I am a chartered engineer. I'm fluent in french and speak a few other assorted languages with varying degrees of fluency, generally usable for chatting to riders as a volunteer.

**Nominee 3: Darrell Whittle (AUK 5592)**

Proposer: Robert Dews (AUK 20836)

Secunder: Terry Hodges (AUK 3146)

**Supporting Statement:**

I wish to stand for re-election to the position of Non-Executive Director for Audax UK at the upcoming AGM. I have held this position since February 2024.

I have been a Registered Nurse for over 30 years and work full time as an Advanced Clinical Practitioner in a busy Emergency Department. In this role I am a senior clinical decision maker, assimilating various strands of information to devise effective medical plans working autonomously as part of the wider clinical team. I also undertake safeguarding interventions and risk assessments and I am co-opted to strategic planning groups as required.

My Audax career dates to 2011 when I read about LEL and started riding events prior to completing LEL in 2013 along with an SR. I have been involved with Audax ever since although most of my riding now is around the 200km distance. In 2017 I volunteered for LEL and had fun helping at Innerleithen. I was very flattered after this when asked to be the Eskdalemuir controller in 2022. My LEL journey continues in 2025 as I will be the Hessle Controller.

Around 2019/20, Mike Wigley from Peak Audax, asked if I had ever considered becoming an AUK organiser. Now, following Mike's mentorship, I run several events and perms' north of Manchester around/over Bowland and the Yorkshire Dales up to 400km distance. Most of the routes are AAA heavy but still attract a fair number of entrants (some of them even come back for more!). I also have had some success submitting photos to Arrivée of riders on mine, and other local events, along with write ups from the pictured riders.

In 2020 I became a moderator for the LEL Facebook group and later the AUK Facebook group. These positions allow me to see a broad range of interests, concerns and questions from non-AUK members who may be looking to ride their first 50k through to fully signed up AUK members with multiple events under their belt.

In 2022 I was instrumental in affecting an AUK rule change in relation to route planning for perms'. I made contact with the Permanents Secretary and, with his support, made the case to the board that it can be difficult as an organiser to offer perms' in remote areas due to lack of controls able to provide stamps, receipts or ATM slips. The board agreed such routes could be planned without the need for paper based control points and instead organisers could offer routes based solely on eBrevet app or GPX to provide validation if they felt the need.

In February 2024 I was elected for the standard one year period to the position of Non-Executive Director of Audax UK. Over this last year, as well as taking part in routine board matters I have: supported moving board meetings from quarterly to monthly frequency; proposed that 'instant validation' for events up to 200km be increased up to 600km distance for experienced organisers - this

was approved recently although the process has now been renamed 'organiser certification'; met with the Arrivéé editor, along with the Audax UK Chair, to discuss building on the success of the magazine and to explore how the editor can be supported in the role; taken on the task of designing and distributing self-inking certification stamps to organisers to use instead of stickers on Brevet Cards; along with my fellow Non-Executive Director, I am currently reviewing honoraria payments for board members and delegates.

If re-elected I will continue to support the Audax UK board with a focus on long term strategy. I feel it is imperative AUK maintains its rigour in providing routes and distances that are at times both challenging and enjoyable and which allow points and awards to be accrued. I am quite conscious though the stated objectives of Audax UK include supporting and encouraging "all forms of cycling which benefit the physical and mental well-being of the community". I fully support this aim and so want to encourage more diversity of riders, in age, ethnicity and gender, to become Randonneurs. I see Brevet Populaire events as great opportunities to introduce such riders to the world of Audax, hopefully seeing them migrate to 200km+ distances as interest, confidence and ability grows. I also see eBikes as a boon for less able riders who would like to move on to, or who can no longer achieve, 200km+ distances. While riding an assisted bicycle, rather than solely human powered one, would render them ineligible to claim traditional points and awards, Audax UK could investigate either allowing entry without points and awards or setting up a separate eBike category

So, you can see my interest in Audax crosses several aspects. I am a full value rider who completed an SR and LEL, a willing volunteer, a competent controller, a keen organiser, an enthusiastic advocate for long distance cycling and I can successfully argue and canvas for change.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Nominee 4: Anne Young (AUK 6749)**

Proposer: Lucy McTaggart (AUK 3923)

Seconder: Caroline Fenton (AUK 8040)

**Supporting Statement:**

I have been a non-executive director of AUK for the past year and am keen to continue in the role. It has been a steep learning curve and feel that the knowledge I have acquired in the last year to be invaluable and would like the opportunity to build on this for the benefit of AUK members both present and future.

I have been a member of AUK for over 20 years and over this time I have completed PBP 4 times, LEL once and also achieved my R100,000 award this year as well as 21 RRTYs over recent years. I have been a member of the VC167 for a similar period of time and been on the committee as secretary and membership secretary for the last few years, and during this time I have made a lot of positive changes to the club including increasing membership numbers and encouraging new audax riders. I believe that my wealth of riding experience will be highly beneficial for moving AUK forward.

Through my regular attendance at calendar events, I am well known throughout AUK, largely in the North of England and Scottish Borders and feel it is important that the AUK board are visible to the membership and so help bring ideas and concerns of riders to the attention of the Board to enable positive changes to be made..

## Appendix 5: Minutes of the AGM 2022-23





2022-23 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022/23

Held online (via Zoom) on 15 February 2024 at 19:00.

a. To record the names of those present at the meeting

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Board Members attending:**

*Chris Crossland (Chair), Andy Yates (General Secretary), Caroline Fenton (Membership Secretary), Dan Smith (Events Services Director and Recorder), Ian Hennessey (Calendar Events Secretary), John Ward (Permanents Events Secretary), Nigel Armstrong (Finance Director), Paul Renshaw (Communications Director).*

**Other Members attending:**

*Melanie Armstrong, Ann Benton, Keith Benton, Ivan Cornell (AAA Secretary), Andy Cox (Regional Events delegate), Ulrich Freyburger, Kevin Hickman, Grant Huggins (Regional Events delegate and RRTY delegate), Lucy McTaggart (Annual Reunion delegate), Richard McTaggart, Keith Matthews, Arabella Maude, Richard Painter, Geoff Pearce, Helen Pearce, Graeme Provan (Company Secretary), John Thompson, Darrell Whittle, Mark Williams.*

The Chair asked members to join him in a short period of reflection in memory of the AUK members who had passed away since the last AGM.

These included:

Neil Fuller, Richard Gorman, Colin Horn, John Parr, Chris O'Hearn, Mark Phillips, Simon Trumper.

The Chair explained that he was holding mandated proxy votes where he had no choice but to vote in accordance with the direction of the appointing members and also discretionary proxy votes where members had given him full discretion. He stated that he would listen to any debate before exercising those discretionary votes for the good of Audax UK. Voting would be conducted via poll votes.

Ian Hennessey, as Returning Officer, explained that he had a record of all proxy votes cast in advance and would add these to the votes in the meeting before announcing the result of each vote. He reminded those who had voted online not to vote again during the meeting.

b. To record apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from:  
Jennifer Crossland, Peter Davis, Anne Young.

c. To approve the minutes of the last AGM as a true record of that meeting

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 713 mandated proxies to vote for the resolution.
- 0 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution.
- 112 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution.
- 482 discretionary proxies

The Chair declared that their discretionary proxy votes be cast in favour of the resolution.

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 5 votes for the resolution.
- 0 votes against the resolution.
- 2 votes to abstain on the resolution.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 1200 votes for the resolution.
- 0 votes against the resolution.
- 114 votes to abstain on the resolution.
- 1314 total votes cast.

The minutes of the last AGM were approved.

d. Matters arising from the last meeting (AGM 2021/22).

None

e. To approve the Annual Report

The Chair asked for any questions from the floor on the individual sections of the Annual Report.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 747 mandated proxies to vote for the resolution.
- 0 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution.



- 85 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution.
- 472 discretionary proxies

The Chair declared that their discretionary proxy votes be cast in favour of the resolution.

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 7 votes for the resolution.
- 0 votes against the resolution.
- 0 votes to abstain on the resolution.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 1226 votes for the resolution.
- 0 votes against the resolution.
- 85 votes to abstain on the resolution.
- 1311 total votes cast.

The Annual Report was approved.

f. **To approve the Annual Accounts and the Finance Director's recommendations**

Nigel Armstrong presented the Annual Accounts to the meeting and stated that his recommendations are to accept the accounts and not to change any fees until at least the next AGM.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 717 mandated proxies to vote for the resolution.
- 1 mandated proxy to vote against the resolution.
- 89 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution.
- 484 discretionary proxies

The Chair declared that their discretionary proxy votes be cast in favour of the resolution.

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 9 votes for the resolution.
- 0 votes against the resolution.
- 0 votes to abstain on the resolution.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 1210 votes for the resolution.
- 1 vote against the resolution.
- 89 votes to abstain on the resolution.
- 1300 total votes cast.



The Annual Accounts and the Finance Director's recommendations were approved.

g. **To consider resolutions**

The Chair explained that the resolutions before the meeting would be decided by majority vote. Voting would be conducted via poll votes as the number of proxy votes held greatly exceeded the number of votes available in the room. There would be an opportunity to ask questions of the proposer of each resolution but thereafter, as this would not be discussion in committee, any debate would follow the custom and practice of AUK AGM's and generally accepted rules of debate. Each member would be able to speak once on each proposal, with the exception of proposers who would be afforded the right of reply to a debate. Members would retain the right to make points of order, information and explanation.

**1. Resolution 1**

**Proposer:** Arabella Maude (AUK 5617)

**Seconder:** Grant Huggins (AUK 6150)

**Resolution:**

That Event Regulations be amended with the addition of the following appendix to Regulation 10.1:

*"10.1.1 "When riding on a calendar event between sunset and sunrise, and during reduced visibility conditions, riders should use only lights showing a steady light to both front and rear (i.e. no flashing or pulsing lights should be used)."*

Arabella Maude introduced her reasons for putting the resolution to members. She finds flashing lights difficult to cope with when she is riding and particularly having now got back into audax and longer rides. She undertook some research and found that lots of people also had difficulty with flashing lights and so proposed the resolution.

Grant Huggins noted his support for the resolution and commented that the proposal was only for use of steady lights during reduced visibility conditions.

Richard Painter commented that he has sympathy with the proposer and he loathes flashing lights himself, considering their use bad form and inconsiderate to others. However he is against the resolution as his fear is that AUK would be imposing something on riders which is legal. His view is that it should be a matter of education rather than imposition which could put AUK and organisers in a very difficult position.

Keith Benton commented that proposal can't be policed and didn't seem to have any sanctions and so felt like regulation for regulation's sake.

Chris Crossland read out the Board's view on the resolution.

*"This proposed addition to the regulations would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to enforce. It also differs from what is legally required and/or allowed in the UK for pedal cycles on public highways, and therefore raises the possibility of unnecessary conflict. The Board's view is that for these reasons, AUK's Event Regulations should not be amended in this way.*

*The Board considers that if a rider is being affected by flashing lights during an event, then a courteous request should be made and followed. AUK Event Regulation 10.1 includes that riders must "show consideration to other road users" and this includes other riders. However, the Board will prepare a rider Code of Conduct which sets out what is expected from riders of Audax UK events, which will refer to the use of flashing lights, amongst other items."*

Arabella Maude responded that she found the Board's view a bit disappointing. She is not sure why a rider code of conduct would have more weight than regulation or the current advice to riders, which is not to use flashing lights. She also noted that a lot of the debate focused on policing of the proposal. She commented that the resolution differed from previous discussions regarding mudguards as everyone has lights and so can be asked to use steady lights until the culture comes in.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 475 mandated proxies to vote for the resolution.
- 632 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution.
- 70 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution.
- 156 discretionary proxies

The Chair declared that their discretionary proxy votes be cast against the resolution.

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 1 vote for the resolution.
- 2 votes against the resolution.
- 1 vote to abstain on the resolution.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 476 votes for the resolution.
- 790 votes against the resolution.
- 71 votes to abstain on the resolution.
- 1337 total votes cast.

The resolution was therefore not passed.

## h. Election of Directors

The Chair noted it was his usual policy to abstain on elections where he had discretionary votes.

### 1. Chair and ACP/LRM Representative

**Sole Nominee:** Andy Cox (AUK 6766)

No questions from the floor.

#### **Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 945 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 10 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 355 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 5 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 950 votes for the candidate.
- 10 votes against the candidate.
- 355 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1315 total votes cast.

Andy Cox was duly elected.

Chris Crossland wished Andy Cox good luck and noted that they will arrange a meeting with to handover the role.

### 2. General Secretary

**Sole Nominee:** Andy Yates (AUK 14666)

The Chair reminded the meeting that the nominee had been coopted on to the Board during the previous year and was now standing for election by the members.

No questions from the floor.

#### **Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 936 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 4 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 369 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 5 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 941 votes for the candidate.
- 4 votes against the candidate.
- 369 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1314 total votes cast.

Andy Yates was duly elected.

### **3. Director – Permanent Events Secretary**

**Sole Nominee:** John Ward (AUK 826)

No questions from the floor.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 948 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 7 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 366 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 5 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 953 votes for the candidate.
- 7 votes against the candidate.
- 366 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1326 total votes cast.

John Ward was duly elected.

### **4. Director – Event Services and Recorder**

**Sole Nominee:** Grant Huggins (AUK 6150)

No questions from the floor.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 929 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 7 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.

- 366 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 4 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 933 votes for the candidate.
- 7 votes against the candidate.
- 366 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1306 total votes cast.

Grant Huggins was duly elected.

#### 5. Director – Membership Secretary

**Sole Nominee:** Caroline Fenton (AUK 8040)

Richard Painter asked about current membership numbers. Caroline Fenton responded that current membership was approximately 8145 and that, as membership generally increase throughout the year, this was around 2 months ahead of the previous year. Richard Painter noted that this meant that around 16% of members were voting.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 980 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 3 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 328 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 4 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 984 votes for the candidate.
- 3 votes against the candidate.
- 328 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1315 total votes cast.

Caroline Fenton was duly elected.



#### 6. **Non-Executive Director – Post 1**

**Sole Nominee:** Darrell Whittle (AUK 5592)

No questions from the floor.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 923 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 10 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 373 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 5 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 928 votes for the candidate.
- 10 votes against the candidate.
- 373 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1311 total votes cast.

Darrell Whittle was duly elected.

#### 7. **Non-Executive Director – Post 2**

**Sole Nominee:** Anne Young (AUK 6749)

No questions from the floor.

**Result:**

Ian Hennessey declared that the Chair had:

- 920 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate.
- 6 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate.
- 386 discretionary proxies

Ian Hennessey further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

- 6 votes for the candidate.
- 0 votes against the candidate.
- 0 votes to abstain on the election.

Ian Hennessey therefore declared the following result:

- 926 votes for the candidate.
- 6 votes against the candidate.
- 386 votes to abstain on the election.
- 1318 total votes cast.

Anne Young was duly elected.

i. Date and venue of next meeting

To be agreed but likely to be held online in February 2025.

j. Close of meeting

Richard Painter, on behalf of the members, thanked the board, delegates, organisers and everyone else who had contributed to AUK for their hard work. He gave special thanks to Chris Crossland noting that he had done a tremendous job of steering the ship over the past 10 years.

Chris Crossland thanked all the Board and delegates for the time they put in to AUK. He noted he has had a great time as Chair of AUK and is particularly pleased with the knowledge and experience of the Board and the organisation becoming even more professional. He noted that it was good that AUK is growing, and things are going well, and he hoped that they will be even better in the future.

The Chair thanked everyone who had attended the meeting.

The meeting closed at 20:15.