

# Christchurch Bicycle Club Annual General Meeting

**Monday, 11th March 2024**

at East Christchurch Sports and Social Club, Grange Road, Christchurch.  
7.30 for 8.15 p.m.

## MINUTES

**IN ATTENDANCE:** **Committee** – Seth Bishop (Acting Chairman), David Breakwell (Club Secretary), Iwan Knott (Treasurer), Val Lloyd-Smith (Membership Secretary), Duncan Melling (Rides-Coordinator), Rex Waygood and David Freed (Joint Webmasters), Bill Simmons (Competitions Secretary), Janice Milton (Minutes Secretary)

**Members:** Sally Cowie, Rhona Copp, Mike Copp, Marion Wells, Gavin Wells, Ann Knott, Clive Nightingale, Clifford Curry, Debbie Murphy, Sue Saunders, J Barry Rossell, Kathy Melling, Christine Houghton, Jenny Bewley, Linda Wisz, Peter Adams, Richard J Walter, Laurence Sillar, Richard Walker, Bob Baker, Jim Hatton, Norman Baldwin, Kelvin Witt, Graham Dengate, Derek Heritage, Lynne Smewing, Keith Smewing, David Foster, Christine Ratcliffe, Jean Kernan, John Whiffen, Patricia Whiffen, Mike Youkee, Duncan Wilkinson, Peter Barry, Janet Beith, Ian Forester, Stuart Mitchell

- 1. Acting Chairman – Seth Bishop - opened meeting at 8.15.** Having been asked by David Orme to act as chairman for reasons stated below in Chairman's Report, Seth emphasised that he did not want this to be misconstrued as an offer to join the committee as vice-Chairman or Chair. These are still vacant positions!!
- 2. Apologies for absence** – *John Vuaginaux, Moksha Darnton, John Ellis, Christopher Hummerstone, Jill Gray, Stephen Gray, Geoff Cross, Peter Griffiths, David Chesworth, David Orme, Zena Orme, Chris Townsend, Pippa Johnson, Chris Brooks, Alan Baker, Maggie Ross, Den Ross, Seb Shelley, Penny Buckley, Dave Mansfield, Graham Perkins, Paul Morris, Tilly Ross, Leslie Hottinger, Maraneka Greenslade, Greg Garratt, Steve Beith*
- 3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting** held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Approved by Peter Adams, Seconded by Linda Wisz
- 4. Matters Arising** – no matters arising
- 5. Committee Reports** (Circulated to all members prior to meeting)

### **CHAIRMAN (David Orme).**

Firstly, my apologies for not making the AGM, due to inadvertently double-booking a cycling holiday in Vietnam with ex-work colleagues. Put it down to failing memory! Many thanks to Seth, who is filling in for me – but just for the AGM, so please don't read anything into this!

Having completed the King Alfred's Way last year in dry sunny weather, I can thoroughly recommend it as an excellent mixed road/gravel/track route. As well as Vietnam, I'm looking forward to cycling the Way of the Roses with other CBC members this June and, of course, the CBC weekend in Cirencester in September. Last year's weekend in Marlborough was most enjoyable – although some found the 4-mile Grand Avenue through Savernake Forest a little bumpy!

The 30th Gridiron 100km cycle round the Forest was held on October and (at least in my opinion) was the best ever. Great support from our members as helpers (Jan, Maggie & Den, Duncan & Kathy, Moksha, Wendy and, of course, organiser John Jackson) and as riders – the biggest CBC group I've seen on the Gridiron. Coupled with brilliant weather and excellent organisation.

I have provided cycling routes for two CBC groups who visited Guernsey on day trips. If anyone else wants similar cycling information on the island, do let me know. We are planning on holding a series of Zoom meetings on the subject of reading, plotting and following cycle routes using various software applications and gps devices (eg Ride with GPS, Komoot, Garmin, Wahoo) – the first evening is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, details to follow.

As well as being on the New Forest Cycle Working Group, I have had meetings with Lymington Transition Group regarding cycle infrastructure planning as a potential input into the New Forest Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – setting the strategy for the next 10-years. As part of this I have helped with the formation of the Cycling Tube Map for the southern New Forest which has been widely published in the press and we have presented it to the Cycle Working Group and local councils. I have met with New Milton Town

Council a number of times to discuss this matter.

Last April I wrote to my local MP Desmond Swayne (NF West) concerning the severe cuts to the cycling budget and received the following reply: *"Thanks. In times when we have all sorts of pressures on the budget, I'm afraid that it comes down to priorities. Given the investment over recent years, I'm confident that most people can cycle, as I do, without additional funding."* Speaks for itself!

I am thankful that David Foster has taken on the role of Assistant Treasurer, relieving me of being the finance back-up – which at times has been quite time consuming, especially when dealing with PayPal. Thanks also to Lawrence Sillar who has been looking into the possibility of CBC being registered with HMRC as a charitable organisation – since this would mean changes to our club rules, we need to consult with members (and AGM vote) before progressing further.

I am glad the Mince Pie event ended up happening, despite being delayed and the awful weather meaning most of us drove to the Old Farmhouse. A magnificent turn-out, and well done the few who cycled. Thanks to Christine for organising, and to the Old Farmhouse for providing coffee and a large slice of mince tart to all who attended for just £1 each! Christine also facilitated Burley Cycles giving us all a Christmas £10 voucher.

Many thanks to Seth for managing the new club kit consultation, design and manufacture – short and long-sleeve jerseys have been ordered are expected in the next few weeks.

By March 2025 I will have been chairman for 10 years and feel that's enough, especially as I now have other responsibilities including working towards better cycling infrastructure in the New Forest, and so am seeking a replacement. Hence it would be excellent if someone could join the committee at the AGM as vice-chair, to assist me and to see if they'd be happy taking on the role of chair.

## **CLUB SECRETARY (David Breakwell)**

### **Correspondence**

I have received enquiries about joining the off-road Cycle ride I have replied with details of the ride, which will start in March 2024.

We continued our membership of Cycle Time Trials and Cycling UK for this year.

Received an email from our member David Foster, who suggested we support Michael House in Boscombe. Michael House is a homeless charity in Boscombe Bournemouth. They have a reconditioning bike project . Here is an extract from details which I have posted my facebook page <https://michaelhouse.co.uk>

“The residents of Michael House have been busy **reconditioning unwanted bikes for rough sleepers** and people within our local community for a nominal donation to cover the cost of parts.

Since starting the project in 2019, we have developed this initiative into a self-funding community project, with a view to helping more people to save their travel costs and further their move-on opportunities.”

### **Changes to affiliation membership of Cycling U.K**

The club renewed its membership of Cycling U.K in November 2023. The club can no longer offer affiliated membership which gives you membership with Personal Public liability at a reduced rate.

Cycling U.K has removed that membership type in November 2023. They are offering a 20% exclusive discount to renew to full membership. I have noticed that as of 30/01/2024 that there is for new members a discount of 25%.

### **BH Active Forum**

They have an active Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/562345244426808?hoisted\\_section\\_header\\_type=recently\\_seen&multi\\_permalink=1362400554421269](https://www.facebook.com/groups/562345244426808?hoisted_section_header_type=recently_seen&multi_permalink=1362400554421269)

Their webpage is no longer updated [BH Active Travel - Cycling and walking in BCP](#)

Derek Heritage has informed us that there is no new cycling funding

## **TREASURER'S REPORT (Iwan Knott)**

The following page shows that we have a healthy surplus of funds in the club account at the end of 2023 and it is likely that by the end of this year we will also have a surplus of funds over £3000. So we need to give some thought to making a charitable donation. This will need to be considered by the committee and put on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 2023**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Subs	760.00	2685.00	Time Trial CTT	30.00	60.00
			CLUB Affiliation CTC	85.00	88.00
			B'mth & District Womens Cycling		
			Public Liability Insurance	99.31	99.31
			Mesh Digital	19.19	20.39
			Envato Software		
			Hostgator	107.68	118.00
			Membership Mojo	75.00	75.00
Clothing			Paypal Charges	71.91	85.79
Badges			Website Costs		
Donations Received - Sundry			Zoom Costs	187.07	184.68
Jim's			New Website		790.99
Jumble			Prizes/Trophies	33.99	
			AGM room hire	70.20	105.00
Snood and Badge Income	228.00	12.00	Snood Costs	278.03	0.00
			Refreshments for Committee Mtgs		
<b><u>Social Events</u></b>			<b><u>Social Events</u></b>		
Birthday Ride	555.00	0.00	Birthday Ride	495.00	0.00
Summer Picnic			Summer Picnic	299.51	421.68
			Christmas Carol Service Donation		
			Organist Donation		
			Refreshments for above		
			Music Mixer	44.00	
			Mince Pie Run	204.93	62.00
Christmas Dinner	1127.90		Christmas Dinner	1184.65	0.00
Marlborough trip	720.25		Marlborough trip	720.25	
	<u>3391.15</u>	<u>2697.00</u>		<u>4005.72</u>	<u>2110.84</u>
			Surplus of Income over Expenditure	-614.57	586.16
			Surplus of Expenditure over Income		586.16
	<u>3391.15</u>	<u>2697.00</u>		<u>3391.15</u>	<u>2697.00</u>
		0			
	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>			
Total CBC in bank	<u>2755.87</u>	<u>3342.03</u>	DIFF	586.16	
<b>Clothes stock held @ 31st December Cost</b>	<b>209.00</b>				

Iwan Knott (Treasurer)

Auditors Report

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (Val Lloyd-Smith)

Although the majority of members confidently navigate the MemberMojo membership system, we are aware that there were some issues with renewals this year, notably:

- For a range of unrelated reasons some members found it difficult to access the system.
- Some members paid subscriptions but did not go into the system to actually renew, meaning that automatic reminders were sent as if payment was still required.
- There was some delay confirming payment for members who renewed using Bank transfer, cheque or cash. We are confident that this will be rectified for 2025!

We are assured that the system itself is robust and would like to remind all members that Iwan (Treasurer) and myself are very happy to take payment/renew membership for anyone who would like help with the process.

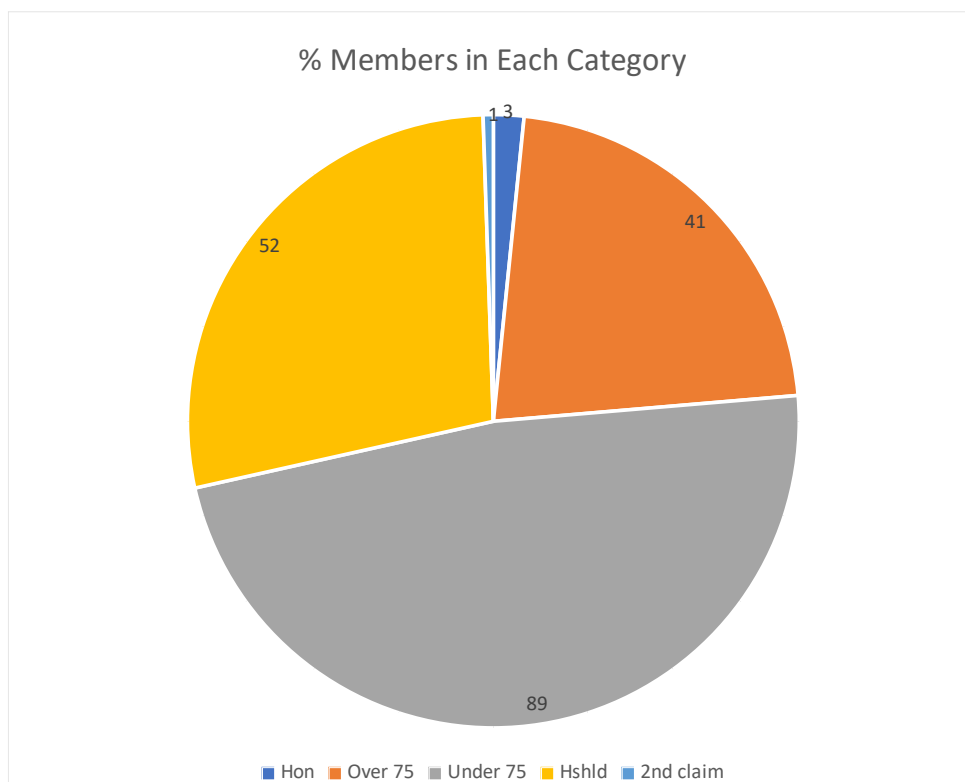
**As of 4 March 2024, in Member Mojo, there are:**

Honorary Members 3 (3 in 2023)  
Household Memberships 52 (54 in 2023)  
Over 75 Memberships 41 (41 in 2023)  
Under 75 Memberships 89 (100 in 2023)  
Second Claim 1 (2 in 2023)

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**Membership Total:** 186 (200 in 2023)

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As in previous years, quick reminder that you can access and change personal information and print membership cards by logging into MemberMojo using the link in the 'Membership Details' tab on the CBC website. Any issues or queries, please do contact me – [membership@christchurchbicycleclub.org](mailto:membership@christchurchbicycleclub.org).

## **RIDES CO-ORDINATOR (Duncan Melling)**

### **Thursday ride (Jan Milton) 10-11.5 mph**

The rides over the year have gone well and are usually well supported. We have divided into two or three groups depending on numbers starting and having in mind the maximum group number of 8. They are very much a "social" ride, whereby the social chit-chat during breaks is almost as important as the ride itself. It is quite difficult to control the momentum of the rides and to ride in tight peloton formation because of the vast difference in age, ability and experience of the members. We are all on the rides essentially to keep as fit as we can with the passing years, or to build up our strength to join faster rides if we are inexperienced or recovering from injury/illness, etc. Without doubt we will each have a different pace and speed which we consider gives us the cardio-vascular fitness we are aiming for. However, first and foremost for the benefit of good humour and companionship we are happy to compromise on optimum personal speed requirements.

As far as possible we consider other road users and encourage small groups and plenty of gaps for cars to pass. "Safety" is always at the top of our agenda.

I do realise that this is a very important ride for all our members as they move into older age categories - which we all hope to do - and I have no objection to electric bikes joining us. Rather than give up riding altogether.

It is my hope that this slower speed category of ride will always be available to our members.

### **Tuesday 10-12 mph (Kelvin Witt)**

A very well supported ride. Everything is running smoothly. Wendy Fox from Blandford has volunteered to lead some of the rides out of Wimborne this year.

### **Thursday 13-14 mph (Sue Turner)**

The ride remains popular. We have 6-8 people on most rides, sometimes up to 12. This small group, same ability riding makes for a really enjoyable day on a bike. There are people who can lead when I'm not available.

The only challenges are the weather and the road surfaces, not something the club can do much about! We communicate via a lively WhatsApp group.

### **Tuesday 12-14mph (Derek Heritage)**

The ride has gone from strength to strength with up to 16 riders on a good day. We continue to attract new members to the club some go on to join the faster group and some have dropped down from the faster group. We have a variety of leaders ready to step in when Derek is unable to lead. We are doing some lovely rides and a group of about 15 are going on a coast to coast trip in June. All going very well.

### **Tuesday and Thursday 14-16mph (Duncan Melling, Rob Yorke, Brian Maxton, Stuart Mitchell)**

Four of us share the route planning and leading of these popular rides. There are usually over 12 riders out from the start, so we often need to split into 2 groups, at least to coffee where some may turn back. We have been varying the rides more recently, sometimes stopping for coffee and lunch and other times just stopping for lunch.

The ride caters for quite a wide range of abilities and fitness levels which isn't always easy to manage, but the ride leaders do a great job in managing this.

In summer we offer a number of car assisted rides to places such as round the Isle of Wight and the course of the Dorset Coastlet amongst others. The group also organises trips away. Last year a group rented a large house together in the South Downs National Park for a week, a group went to Mallorca and a group went on a tour through Portugal and Spain.

## **COMPETITIONS SECRETARY (Bill Simmons)**

The winner of the club Hillclimb was Dave King with Bill Simmons winning the downhill freewheel. On the time trial front the club came 34<sup>th</sup> out of 54 with 67 points. On the individual side I came 97 with 33 points from 6 rides. Stuart Folley 25 from 2 rides and Rob York 9 from 2 rides out of 285 riders.

The 2024 Hillclimb will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> September with the 5<sup>th</sup> October as reserve date. Also a competition will be run on Facebook/emails to name café/lunch stops used by the club rides. Some will be in the cafes some near the stops.

## WEBMASTERS (Rex Waygood & David Freed)

David Freed and Rex Waygood are currently operating as joint webmasters and this enables a rapid response to almost all change requests.

David's knowledge allows him to sort some of the inner technicalities of Wordpress.

The website upgrade was completed to our satisfaction in September albeit that it took longer than originally anticipated.

The general feeling is that the new site is cleaner and simpler to navigate than the old site.

David has had some poor support from Hostgator, our current website host, and is investigating a move to another provider he has used when the renewal is due.

In February a ransom threat was received through the contact form on the Forum; since this is no longer used by the club it has been taken offline to prevent further vulnerability.

Lawrence Sillar will re-engage with website security.

- 6. Membership fees** – no change. Affiliate individual membership of Cycling UK for our members no longer offered. Instead members have the opportunity at renewal date to transition to full membership of Cycling UK with discount of 20 per cent in first year.

## 7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

We are still looking for a Vice-Chairman to join the committee. We are also looking for a chairman to take over from David Orme at the end of current year, when he will leave this role.

Vacancy for Club Secretary has been filled by Kathy Melling on retirement of David Breakwell who is thanked for the enthusiasm and effort he has given to this position. We have been grateful for his voluntary participation in local cycle issues and regular attendance and reporting of BCP Active Forum meetings. Kathy will take on the role of club secretary with immediate effect.

Tilly Ross has offered to be Minutes Secretary and is currently attending committee meetings until she feels comfortable to take on the role sometime before the next AGM.

No one has come forward to take over the role of Social Secretary from Derek Heritage since he retired from the committee at the last AGM. Whilst Derek had done a magnificent job – applauded again at this AGM – some of the events in the preceding year (2022) had been difficult to sell to members and we needed to look at the possibility of updating/tailoring the programme. Looking forward we are asking members to come forward with any new ideas for events they would like to organise. This may be one individual or a group of members who can work together as a non-committee sub-group. The club committee will provide all necessary admin support on line to run and publicise events

Any member considering joining our committee is very welcome to come along to our quarterly meetings before they commit to taking on a role.

Thanks given to members of the club who generously give their services voluntarily to help the club and its committee. See web page <https://www.christchurchbicycleclub.org/about-us/other-club-roles/>

Apart from David Breakwell (Club Secretary) all resigning members of the 2023 committee are willing to be reinstated.

The following nominations for committee were accepted by the majority and were re-elected for 2024

Name	Position	Proposer	Seconder
David Orme	Chairman	Marina Johnson	Seth Bishop
Iwan Knott	Treasurer	Marion Wells	Gavin Wells
Val Lloyd Smith	Membership Secretary	Maraneka Greenslade	Christine Houghton
Duncan Melling	Rides Co-ordinator	Sue Turner	David Turner
Rex Waywood	Webmaster	Allan Lilley	David Turner

David Freed	Webmaster	Derek Heritage	Christine Ratcliffe
Bill Simmons	Competitions Secretary	David King	Barrie O'Callaghan
Janice Milton	Meetings Secretary	Anne Knott	Marion Wells
Kathy Melling	Club Secretary	James Kelly	Elsbeth Kelly

**8. Appointment of Auditor** – Chris Brooks is happy to continue to audit accounts for 2024.

## 9. Presentation of Certificates

The following members will be added to our Roll of Honour. They received certificates for the following long distance continuous rides:

### ***Faro to Santander 1600 km***

John Jackson  
Jim Kelly  
Stuart Mitchell  
Duncan Melling

### ***Bournemouth to Bilbao 1315 km***

Sue Turner  
David Turner

The “longest day ride” competition was won by Bill Mayes who cycled 256 miles through Cambridge, Northamptonshire and Yorkshire. Derek Heritage (who introduced this competition last year) came to the stage to give a few words about this ride, which was completed on 24<sup>th</sup> June and was, amazingly, followed the next day by a 200 mile ride! Unfortunately Bill Mayes wasn't in attendance. He, too, will be added to our Roll of Honour and was given a certificate.

Derek also gave us an update on Carol:

*“After a fall in the bathroom and a prognosis that she had suffered spinal cord damage which was permanent and would cause paralysis from the neck down, it has since been revealed that Carol has Central Cord Syndrome, which is a badly bruised spinal cord. There will be about 6 weeks of rest to allow swelling to subside and then an operation due next week to remove a bit of spine and put a cage around to protect from further damage and hopefully remove any pressure on the cord.*

*All CCS patients have different outcomes varying from substantial recovery to very limited recovery. We really don't know where we stand and are playing a waiting game. At the moment Carol can twiddle her toes and feel sensations in her legs. She has limited movement in the arms. There have been improvements over the weeks so there is hope. After her operation and a couple of weeks of recovery, she will be going to the spinal unit at Salisbury for an estimated 3 months of rehab.”*

Derek could not put into words how comforting it has been to receive such wonderful support from the CBC. Some of the offers of help and messages have been quite overwhelming. His own family too have been fantastic in their support over these difficult weeks. But the support of our members has been like having another really big family all pulling together for him. He is profuse in his thanks.

## 10. Any Other Business

**Silent Soldier, Burton.** There have been **complaints in Burton from residents** who object to cyclists there parking their bikes against the “silent soldier” memorial on the Green. Emails have gone out to ride leaders. In addition we ask all members to be aware and to pass the word around if necessary.

**Club kit.** Seth is obviously disappointed with the limited response to the new club kit that he has produced for our club members. It was a difficult task in view of such varied feedback on designs from members about their preferred choices in style and design. The final date for orders was extended for last minute orders and had to be limited to a couple of items only. In the event the items have now been made. It will be a few weeks before they are delivered to Seth in bulk and he will find a way to distribute them as quickly as possible. Seth would appreciate some feedback from members as to their lack of interest in purchasing. It is not Seth's intention to make any profit on this project but to give his services free of charge as a club member. Later in



the summer – when people have had a chance to see other members wear the kit – Seth will take the opportunity to create a second bulk order, by which time there may be a greater uptake

**Jim Hatton cycle jumble at Burley** is in June, date to be confirmed. He would like to see more of our club members coming, even if only for coffee and cake and a social visit. As usual proceeds will go to a charity of his choice. On this subject he is pleased to hear Iwan suggest that consideration should be made for the club to make a charitable donation if we have surplus funds in our club account at the end of year.

In 2014 Jim had some certificates printed and given to each club member to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> birthday of the club, We are coming up to 20 years now and would like the club's views to providing a 20<sup>th</sup> birthday certificate to members, which the club celebrates this year. Duncan suggested that 21 years might be more appropriate. In the meantime, it is noted in the minutes and will be passed on to the committee for discussion at the next committee meeting in May,

Jim also has some surplus CBC badges available to buy if anyone is interested - £2 each.

**11. Provisional date of next AGM – Monday 10 March 2025**

**12. Chairman closes meeting** at 9.10 p.m.