

## Annual Reports, Accounts and Agenda for AGM 2020-21

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## General Secretary's Report

The Audax UK Chair has asked me to compile this introduction to the Annual Report this year and I am happy to do so.

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 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 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 its report for 2020-21. This period corresponds to AUK's financial year, which ran from 1 September 2020 - 31 August 2021, although some officer reports refer to activities and figures relating to the UK Randonneur season, which runs from November to October (having been altered at the last AGM). Some more recent matters are also reported, where relevant to Audax UK activities.

During the year the Board has:

- continued to navigate the maze of Covid-19 restrictions and guidance across the four nations of the United Kingdom. Our engagement with the UK Government Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the sports councils of the devolved nations during the initial return to sport in summer 2021 was crucial to developing our approach during this season. This engagement enabled us to develop the approach whereby permanent events could take place as exercise in the conditions under which exercise was regulated and to run calendar events of increasing length as the rules around the return to organised sport were eased across the UK. It was our belief that this approach provided the greatest amount of flexibility to allow us to validate the largest number of different events;
- continued to use the AUK Strategy to 2020 (available to view on the website) as an integral part of its business. Given the degree of uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, it was difficult to make any realistic plans around future membership numbers, budgets and participation. That said, we have recognised the need to develop the AUK Strategy document and we have commenced work on it. One of the main challenges we will face is a switch to the need for paid employees to undertake certain tasks within AUK if the membership continues to grow as it had been prior to March 2020. In the meantime, there are still items with outstanding work to do from the 2020 Strategy, including the IT Refresh and the National Governing Body (NGB) application;
- continued the essential, on-going background work of guiding organisers and members on the regulations and Covid-19-related guidance, and acting as adjudicator on disputes;
- continued to review the levels of honoraria paid to directors and delegates to try and ensure that the system operates fairly, both to the delegates and directors receiving recognition of their work, and in the interests of Audax UK itself;
- continued work on the IT Refresh project beyond Phase 2 (Membership) and into Phase 3 (Events); and

- continued to liaise with the organisers of London-Edinburgh-London regarding the 2022 event.

## **Governance and People**

Since the last AGM there have been comings and goings, including, on the way out:

- John Sabine who stepped down from his role as Non-Executive Director, having held the post since it was first constituted; and
- Lucy McTaggart who stepped down from a further appointment to the AUK Board, this time as a Non-Executive Director.

Our thanks go to them for making their contributions, with best wishes for the future. If I have missed anybody out, please let me know and I will mention you next year.

We welcomed, on the way in:

- Andy Yates, who was elected as a Non-Executive Director at the last AGM
- Peter Davis, who was appointed as Annual Awards Secretary

## **Aukweb**

Francis Cooke has continued his long association with our legacy website and administration system, aukweb, ably assisted by Terry Kay. Between them they have kept aukweb going while also enhancing and improving it. Our IT manager Kevin Lake continues to have overall responsibility for aukweb, reporting to the Board, but it is Francis and Terry who do the work on that element of our IT. Any volunteers to assist Francis and Terry would be appreciated. Please contact Kevin at [it@audax.uk](mailto:it@audax.uk)

## **audax.uk**

Kevin continued his vital work in the role of IT Manager with overall responsibility for the delivery of Phases 2 and 3 of our IT Refresh project.

With continuing limitations on the availability of our external contractor, the progress we have made with completing Phase 2 and commencing Phase 3 is the result of a huge effort on the part of Kevin and fellow volunteers Dave Allison and Caroline Fenton. I am sure they would welcome additional assistance from any members willing to help out with the work. Again, if you are interested, please contact IT Manager Kevin Lake at [it@audax.uk](mailto:it@audax.uk)

## **Financial**

The accounting function within Audax UK is now firmly established.

- The accounts continue to be produced using professional accountancy software (Sage On-Line)
- The accounts continue to be produced by a book-keeper on a paid for basis.
- The Finance Director role continues to be more involved in strategic financial development of the organisation, with an overseeing and reviewing role for the accounting function.

It continues to remain likely that the cost of the outsourced book-keeping will rise when the current Finance Director chooses to retire from the company that currently employs him.

In considering the effects of Covid-19 on the company's financial situation, the Finance Director has provided the Board with detailed forecasts for different scenarios, enabling decisions to be taken on as sound a basis as possible. Thankfully AUK has fared considerably better than the worst-case scenarios presented to us.

### **More to come in 2022**

1. We hope to move the IT Refresh project further towards completion of Phase 3. You should already have noticed that the new website has fewer links to the old site and this migration should continue.
2. We still hope to be able to finalise our pre-application for National Governing Body Status for randonneur cycling to the full application stage, having had our preliminary submission passed some time ago before the inevitable delays caused by the pandemic.
3. We hope to make a start on a new Board strategy for 2022-2027.

### **Participation**

The 2020-21 season showed a marked increase in the number of events (419 compared with 183) but participation continued to be affected by Covid-19 restrictions, with validated rides (7,726) at around one third of normal levels.

I was, however, particularly pleased to note a recovery in membership numbers. In fact, by the end of 2021, they were at an all-time high.

### **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 one.

All our volunteers are vital to AUK's operations, and it would be easy to take their efforts behind the scenes for granted. We are fortunate to have them, and their continuing dedication and hard work deserve our thanks.

**Graeme Provan**  
**General Secretary, on behalf of the AUK Board**

## Director Report: Membership

We started 2021 with 6,412 members and by the end we had 8,282 members – which (allowing for the reduction in life memberships made in July 2020) was the highest number ever. This indicates a good recovery after 2020 which, for obvious reasons, was lower than 2019. It is noticeable that quite a few who let their membership lapse in 2020 have come back now.

During 2021 we introduced another payment method – Stripe – for use with debit/credit cards. This was partly because we had feedback in 2019-2020 about difficulties in using PayPal without a PayPal account and also because Stripe charges lower fees on most membership payments. To date, Stripe and PayPal are equally popular with new joiners, but renewers, by around 3:2, still favour PayPal. Since introducing the direct debit option in 2019, we now have over 1,500 members paying this way. It requires a bit of effort to create all the payment requests in early December but increases our timely renewals and retention rate.

One of the good features of our new membership system is the facility for existing members to add new household members to their account online whereas previously they needed to ask me. It is very pleasing to see a significant number taking this option during their own membership renewal or at other times of the year. I still need to perform the “matches” where two existing members want to combine their memberships into a household but otherwise most actions are now “self-service”.

As always, the membership email account has been busy with queries on many topics, both directly related to membership and more generally about AUK activities. It is very satisfying to be able to provide helpful advice and support including, this year, responding to a request from a non-native English speaker and audax beginner to be put in touch with a local “buddy” to talk to about entering rides. We have also seen a few more members come “on line” – we now have email addresses for all except 80 main and 150 household members. I have processed a few gift memberships too, which I hope is appreciated by giver and receiver, and also reunited some long-lapsed members with their old membership numbers, which is generally appreciated.

With London-Edinburgh-London now coming up, the final list of members eligible for guaranteed places was compiled and sent off to the LEL team at the beginning of January. As the date grew nearer the volume of enquiries from those who didn’t check earlier and now want to know why they weren’t on the list increased. At the time of writing, I had not yet found anyone wrongly denied their place but it has not been much fun telling them the bad news.

This year we started using a Royal Mail business account for “click and drop” postage for the Arrivee magazines sent to new members. In pandemic times this has been particularly convenient as it avoids the need to go to a post office – just like the domestic version of the service, the postage labels can be printed at home and then the envelopes dropped into the nearest post box. It also offers us a nice cost saving for standard UK post.

Towards the end of the year, we started to work on tidying up old results data to create a new archive. This provides an opportunity to combine results for people who have had more than one membership number in the past so they can see their complete event history in one place. It’s a complicated exercise given that we have membership numbers linked to more than one person (some have had three owners) and names linked to more than one number (some members have had three numbers!).

Finally, I would like to thank the membership delegates Peter Davis and Howard Knight who have continued to provide invaluable support and have stuffed many magazines, stickers and letters into envelopes for our new members.

**Caroline Fenton**  
**Membership Secretary**



## Director Report: Permanent Events

As the 2020-21 season commenced, we were still living with Covid-19 restrictions, although the Government's "Freedom for Christmas" policy optimistically signalled that life would be getting back to normal into 2021. Alas, Covid-19 stubbornly persisted and once again we have had to live with restrictions. We have tried our best to keep AUK events running, unsuspending as many Permanent events as possible.

The total number of Permanent events ridden through the season has increased from last year, mainly because of DIY events picking up. But it is hardly surprising that, overall, they are still down compared with the three seasons previous to Covid-19.

While the total of validated Permanent events has remained low, the number of 600km events increased again to be the highest number recorded, possibly because, again like last year, there have been fewer Calendar event opportunities to complete an SR series.

Last year long Permanent events (1,000km or more) just did not happen. But it was good to see cyclists once again venturing further in 2020-21. Twenty cyclists logged Permanent events longer than 600km, with 15 riding 1,000km or further, and one Audax Club Bristol cyclist logged a 1,900km DIY event, requiring a new DIY event for this distance to be created.

With versions of 'lockdown' in force across Europe nearly all PRoF events have continued to be suspended, but one AUK rider managed to complete a BP Permanent ride in Mallorca.

Two cyclists completed a randonneur version of a Super Randonnée mountainous Permanent event.

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.

The increase in validation by GPS continued as it has for the last few seasons, now almost becoming the norm for DIY events. Validation by e-brevets has also grown since it was first trialled in 2019-20.

A new AUK payments process has been introduced by the IT refresh team, which will enable all financial transactions (brevet card purchases, validation fees and non-member temporary member fees) to be made on-line by Permanent event organisers. This should simplify payments, provide a better audit trail, and I may even have to find a way to replace the exercise of walking to the bank to pay in AUK cheques.

Once again my thanks go to all Permanent event organisers with a special mention for the DIY team (Andy Clarkson, Julian Dyson, Martin Foley, Tony Hull, Mike Kelly, Paul Stewart and Rob Baird) who have kept DIY events open for entry throughout 2020-21 wherever possible. After a long stint as a DIY organiser, checking and validating innumerable events (e.g. 1,278 South West DIY validations in 2020-21), not to mention DNS and DNF entries, and "how do I do it" queries, Tony Hull stepped down at the end of 2020-21, saying that he was, "hoping to get in more actual riding". Tony kindly acted as a DIY mentor for Rob Baird, who has taken over from him, and for Martin Lucas, who will be sharing the South East Region DIY workload with Paul Stewart.

### Summary Permanent Event numbers for 2020-21

Fixed Route events	933	2% decrease on 2019-20
DIY events	4159	14% increase on 2019-20
ECE events	175	7% decrease on 2019-20
TOTAL	5267	10% increase on 2019-20

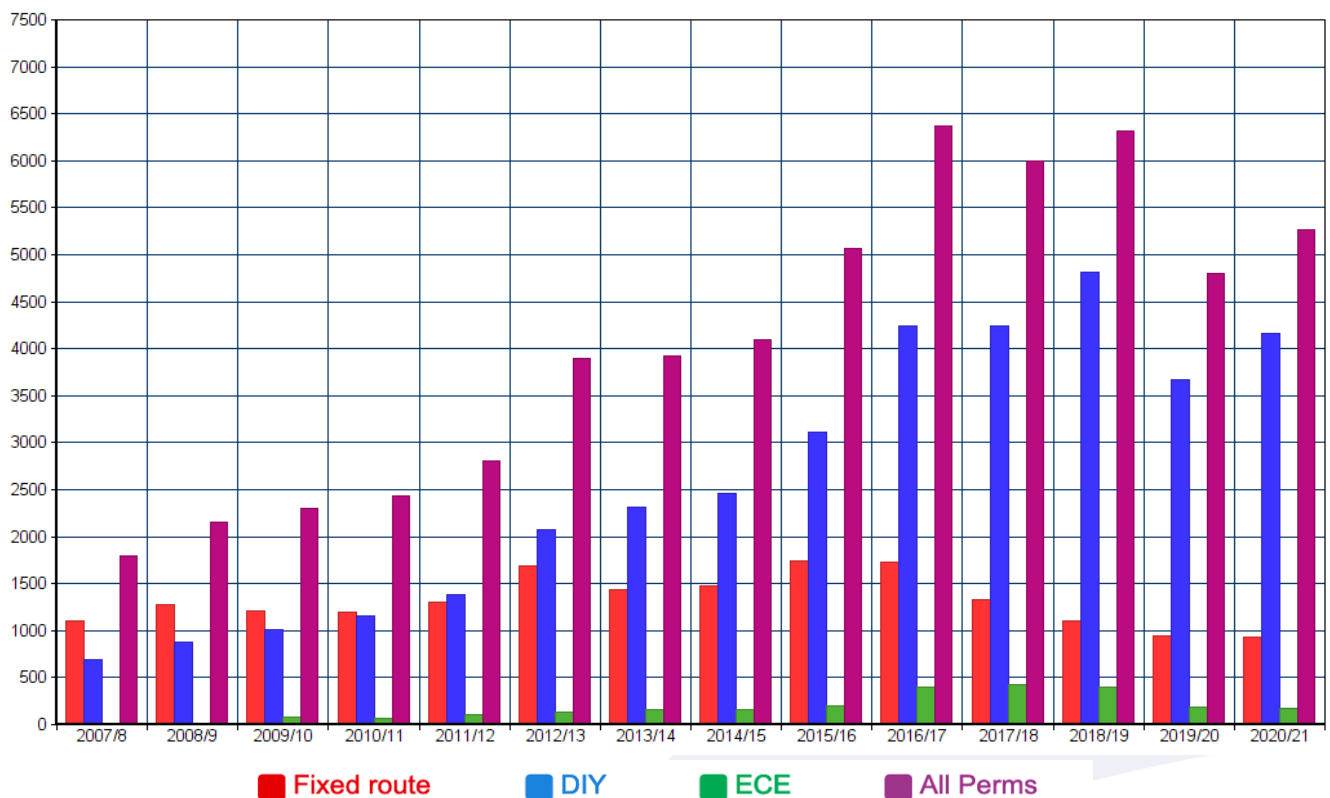
5,440 Permanent Events results, including AAA points awarded to DIY events, have been recorded for 2020-21. 960 AUK members completed one or more Permanent events, which is a slightly fewer than in 2019-20.

10 Permanent events were completed by non-AUK members, much fewer than in previous years.

83% of Permanent events ridden were BR events and 17% were BP events. This was almost the same proportion as in 2019-20.

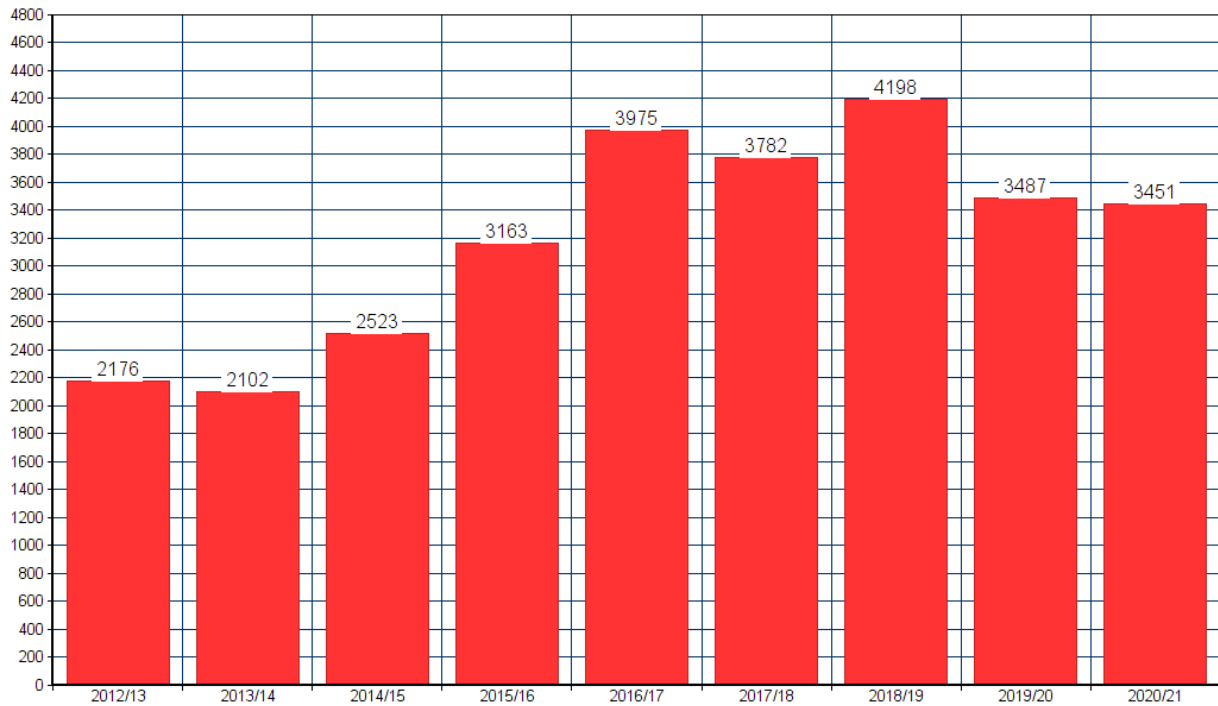
As in previous years, DIY riders follow much the same pattern as the overall Permanent events results. 85% of DIY Events ridden were BR events and 15% were BP events. 70% of all DIY events ridden were 200km.

### Permanent Events Completed Compared with Previous Seasons

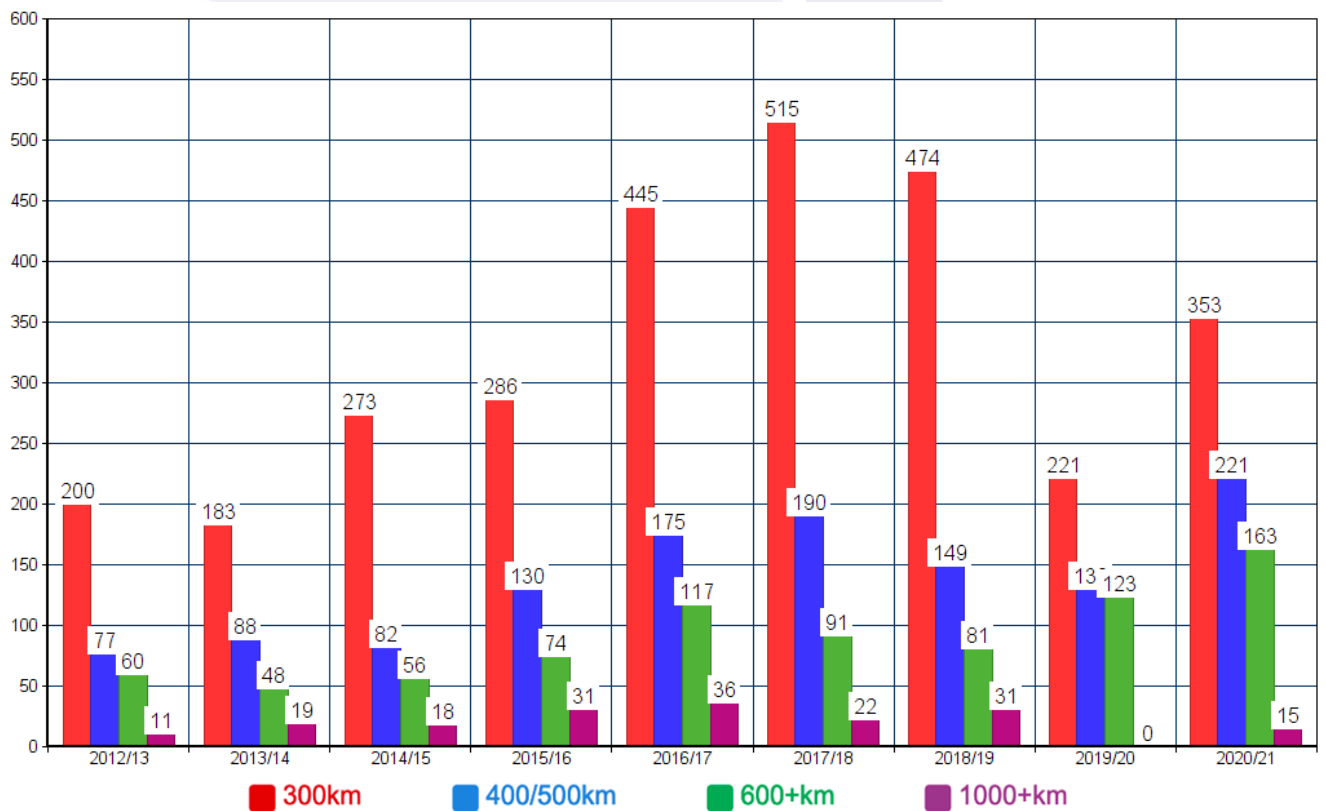




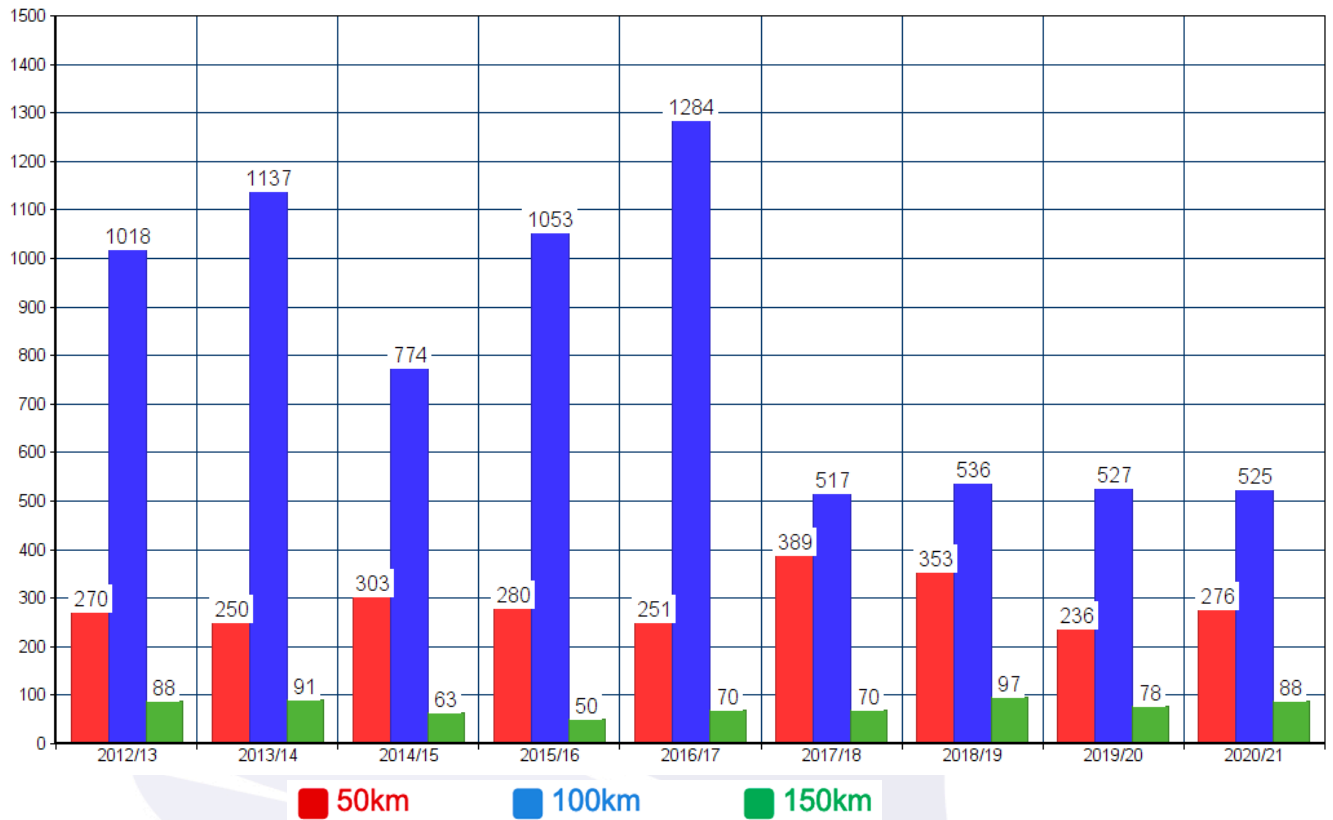
### Permanent Event Totals by Distance for 200km BR Events



### Permanent Event Totals by Distance for 300km, 400km, 600+km and 1,000+km BR Events showing the highest number of 600km+ and 1,000km+ Permanent events recorded in one season



## Permanent Event Totals by Distance for 50km, 100km and 150km BP Events



### The Unofficial 2020-21 Permanent Event 'Prizes'

**Organisers' award for having most entrants** (excluding DIY & ECE events) this year has the same organisers jostling for the top spots as in previous years, with little to separate the 3<sup>rd</sup> place contenders

- |                       |       |  |
|-----------------------|-------|--|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | (152) | Mike Wigley – more than last year.<br>Not only does Mike now seem to be regularly in the top spot, but once again he has increased his total compared with previous years. |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | (73)  | Tom Fox – whose Permanent event validations ranged from 100km to 600km.  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> | (56)  | John Hamilton – based in Wellington, with a range of Permanent events extending into the Welsh borders and Wales.  |

**Rider podium places for most Permanent event points collected in 2020/21.** The same three AUK members are on the podium as last year, but they have changed the running order

- |                       |       |  |
|-----------------------|-------|--|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | (143) | Ivor Peachey, including a Permanent events SR                      |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | (141) | Alan Rawet, including a Permanent events SR. and a 1,300km Perm    |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> | (112) | Andy Clarkson, including a Permanent events SR. and a 1,300km Perm |

(Andy gained the same number of Permanent points as another AUK member, but edged in front with a more

diverse range of rides and a Perm SR. Alan and Andy completed their 1,300km DIY events on the same day, presumably riding together)

### **Super Randonnée permanent events of 600km in mountainous terrain**

As noted the ACP Representative's report, from 2022, these events will no longer be part of the Audax Club Parisien roster, but will be administered and homologated by Provence Randonneurs (<https://www.superrandonnees.fr/>). They will remain in the AUK calendar of Permanent Events and will be validated by AUK as now before submission to Provence Randonneurs.

Because they are now not an ACP event, they no longer count as a qualifying event for the ACP Randonneur 10,000 award, being replaced by a second *Fleche Nationale* (e.g. in the UK, an Easter Arrow), or a *Fleche de France* with a gold or silver medal for those who can ride in France. Super Randonnées completed before 2022 will be accepted for future R10,000 requests.

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

Unlike the annual AUK season, OCD events run over a calendar year, with claims and validations for the previous year being made during the first two months of the following year. The 2021 annual report for OCD will, therefore be published in *Arrivée* magazine as soon as it is complete.

**John Ward**  
**Permanent Events Secretary**

## Director Report: Calendar Events

Events to 300k were permitted initially and, in June, distance restrictions were removed, though longer events were still impractical because of health & safety concerns and restrictions on indoor gatherings. In the end London-Edinburgh-London was postponed, as was Land's End-John O'Groats, and only a small number of x-rated longer events went ahead.

The events team worked hard to ensure that organisers were aware of Covid-19 safety requirements, which included restricted field numbers, staggered starts, and minimising indoor gatherings.

Towards the end of the 2021 season, things were returning to some semblance of normality, though we remain cautious and some precautionary measures are still in place.

Although the number of events recovered, rider numbers remained relatively low in historical terms:

In 2020, 47 organisers put on 182 events, resulting in 6,826 validated brevets.

In 2021, 92 organisers put on 313 events, resulting in 7,752 validated brevets.

For the future, we are hoping for a more normal season during 2022. LEL and LeJoG are both scheduled and accepting entries. We shall continue to monitor the situation and act in accordance with Government guidelines and regulations.

Thanks are due to Pat, Grant, and the two Andys for all their hard work as delegates.

Here's to safe cycling in 2022.

**Ian Hennessey**  
**Calendar Events Secretary**

## Director Report: Event Services

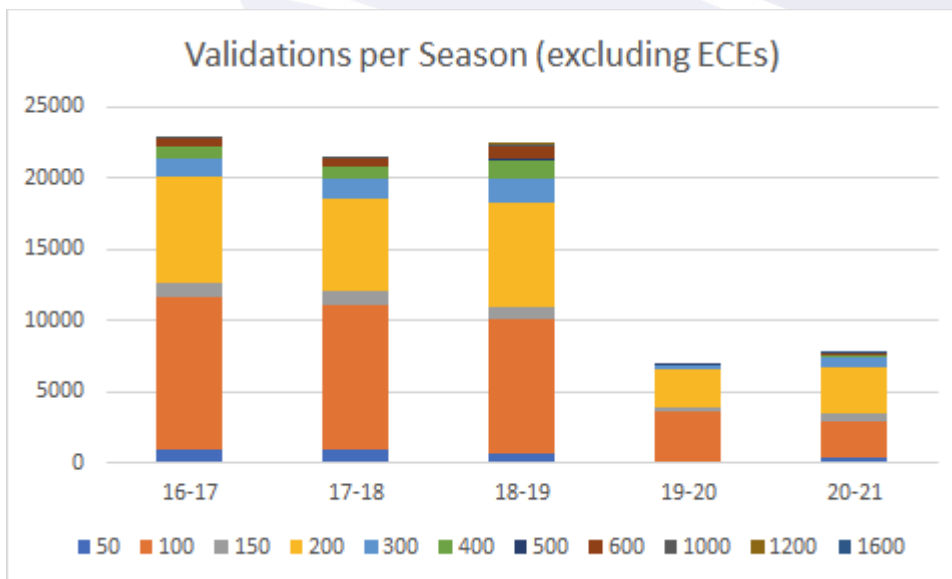
The past season saw some sort of normality return as longer events could, once again, be run. However, volumes were still well down on historical levels.

### Event Validations

There were 419 events validated during the season with 7,726 validations. Details are shown in the table below (excluding ECEs):

Distance	50	100	150	200	300	400	500	600	1000	1200	1400	1600	Total
Events	33	138	36	140	32	16	1	15	4	1	1	2	419
Validations	329	2,629	494	3,270	673	168	10	116	21	8		8	7,726

The number of validated rides increased by 13% over the 2020 season and remained about a third of those in previous seasons.



It is of note that 200km events were the most popular in the 2021 season, taking over from 100kms. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues.

### Recorder and Brevet Awards

The volume of awards started to increase as riders became active again. The following awards were claimed during the past season:

- Brevet 1,000: 4
- Brevet 2,000: 13
- Brevet 3,000: 8
- Brevet 4,000: 6
- Brevet 5,000: 6

Brevet 25,000: 12

Randonneur 100,000: 0

Riders requested 21 overseas rides be added to their records.

### **Randonneur Round the Year**

The continued interest in RRtY, especially during the validation suspension periods, has highlighted how important an impetus RRtY is to motivating members to get out on their bikes.

In December, Graham Brodie became the 1,000th member to complete a first RRtY series. There are now 1,005 members in the club and there have been 202 RRtY series validated since the first C-19 unlocking in August 2020.

### **Outlook for the current season**

Event volumes are expected to increase as riders train for London-Edinburgh-London in August and to qualify for Paris-Brest-Paris in 2023. There are also expected to be changes to the way results appear, as functions are migrated to the new website. Although every effort will be made to avoid disruption, occasional issues are to be expected.

The smooth running of event services would not happen without the efforts of Oliver Iles (Brevet Cards), Cathy Brown (Validations), Ivan Cornell (AAA) and Grant Huggins (RRtY) - many thanks to them for their time and diligence. And welcome to Peter Davis who has recently joined the team as Annual Awards Secretary.

**Dan Smith**

**Event Services Director**

## Director Report: Communications

Not surprisingly, the continuing impact of Covid-19 - in particular, the postponement of London-Edinburgh-London until this forthcoming August - meant that the organisation has maintained a relatively low profile during 2020-21, aside from direct communication with members. I anticipate that this will change in the coming year and I am particularly pleased that Liam Fitzpatrick has agreed to handle publicity for LEL, as this event has tremendous potential to raise awareness of long-distance cycling in the UK.

The other big event is, of course, Paris-Brest-Paris and, on the assumption that this will still go ahead next year (see the comments in the ACP Correspondent's Report for details), we worked with Cycling Weekly on a large article covering the heritage of the event, the process for UK riders to qualify and the qualities required to be a successful finisher. Several AUK members were quoted in the article and many more were interviewed and their advice used, if not attributed. Thank you to all who gave up their time to help. If any member would like to see the article, please email me at [communications@audax.uk](mailto:communications@audax.uk) and I will send you a PDF copy.

During the year, we introduced a new suite of Brevet cards, with different colours for each of our standard event distances. For next year, I hope there will also be a PBP-specific range for the qualifying events that will kick off in January 2023.

I'd like to thank Dave Allison and Caroline Fenton, for their work in keeping the welcoming pages of the AUK website regularly refreshed and Allan Taylor for his management of our medals and badges shop. Ged Lennox, ably assisted with copy editing by his brother, Tony, has continued to develop Arrivee into a magazine that aims to reflect the many facets of AUK and provide a great showcase for the club. Thanks are also due, of course, to the many members who have contributed articles, letters and photographs.

I will be stepping down after this year's AGM, but will still be around, helping out at events and even riding the odd one myself. Many thanks to everyone who has helped me in this post since I took it up in 2018.

**Rob McIvor**  
**Communications Director**

## IT Manager's Report

### Overview

Development was particularly slow in the first part of the year but has picked up towards the end. Our developer found it difficult to allocate time to spend on our project, which meant that we had to focus on correcting problems rather than developing new functionality. This situation has improved now that he has formed his own software company and recruited help. In addition, Dave Allison has been spending his own time developing the site. This combination means that we are now seeing some progress. I am now optimistic that we can complete the transition away from Aukweb during this Audax year (i.e. before the end of October 2022).

### Aukweb

The Aukweb site continues to be maintained by Francis Cooke. Whilst this site is hardly ever encountered by regular users, it is still the core tool for setting up and managing rides and the underlying database remains the key source of information for the Audax.uk website. There is no active development of the site, but we have encountered small problems during the year that Francis has resolved for us by making modifications to the database, the code, or both.

### Audax.uk maintenance

The Audax.uk website is the public face of AUK. It has been stable over the last year, with no major problems or outages. There have been several minor changes, both bug fixes and enhancements, made over the year to improve the site. They include:

- Corrections to the way subscriptions are handled, to ensure people are charged the correct fees;
- Adding a facility to pay membership subscriptions by credit card (as an alternative to Direct Debit);
- Corrections to the member dashboard display of AAA points and Awards;
- A new page with an improved search of the AUK archive of results;
- A switch from Google Maps to Open Street Map; and
- Changes to prevent browser alerts that the "page is not fully secure".

In the early part of the year, the number of visitors was abnormally low. This was understandable as there were very few rides available to enter. However, now that the number of available rides has increased, we are seeing more traffic. Over the last three months of the calendar year, the number of visitors to the site was fairly constant at about 5,000 per week.

### Audax.uk development

There are some significant changes to the site that we have been working on, which are currently on our development test site. We are about to share these with wider groups of testers prior to planning the deployment to the main site:

- We are proposing to switch the payment provider from PayPal to Stripe. This allows us to improve administration, principally inside AUK, but also for event organisers. It is also marginally cheaper. This change will be managed gradually on an organiser-by-organiser basis, after full consultation with organisers.
- We have new event entry pages that will remove the need for the legacy login to Aukweb (the spinning cog when you log in to Audax.uk). These will also make it easier for members to enter on behalf of other members of their household.



- We have added a 'shop' to the site. This has been structured so as to allow AUK to be the 'shop front' for individual vendors selling AUK related items. This will not be for Medals and Badges. That service is run by Allan Taylor and will continue as it is while Allan is content to run it.

### **E-Brevet**

The E-Brevet application currently being developed by Dave Allison is now available as both an iPhone and an Android app for riders and is currently being trialled. Some organisers are choosing to accept this on their perms, many of which do not use brevet cards. Some Calendar event organisers are also trialling it. Using the E-Brevet, riders do not need to gather physical proofs of passage such as receipts and hand them over to the organiser at the end of the ride. However, proof of passage does have to be copied or transposed to the brevet card required on BRM and other calendar events.

Should such a system, when mature, become a mainstay of AUK practice, we have ideas to integrate it more tightly with the main Audax site but would want to complete the transition to the new site first.

**Kevin Lake**  
**IT Manager**

## ACP Correspondent / LRM Representative Report

Once again Covid-19- has cast a cloud over the season. With fewer BRM events than usual, verifying and submitting award claims on behalf of members for ACP Randonneur 5,000 & 10,000 awards and collecting and sending on to ACP was a much smaller task than usual task, as was dealing with a handful of orders for BRM distance and Super Randonneur medals. We can only hope that this is not repeated in 2021-22.

There was no Audax Club Parisien awards presentation in Paris in early 2021 and, at the time of writing, it appears unlikely that there will be one in mid-January 2022. However, some preliminary information has emerged about Paris-Brest-Paris 2023. The translated words that have come to me say that

*"The next session of Paris-Brest-Paris will be held next year from August 19 to 24. The rules will be roughly the same as last sessions. Pre-registrations in early 2023 will help riders to enter PBP and to be able to choose easily their favourite starting time. To pre-register, riders will have to use the longest BRM ridden between November 2021 and October 2022. The starting point is not yet decided but Rambouillet should be the final decision. I will let you know as soon as possible."*

From 2022, the Super Randonnee permanent events of 600 km in mountainous terrain will no longer be part of the Audax Club Parisien roster, but will be administered by Provence Randonneurs. They will no longer count as a qualifying event for the ACP Randonneur 10,000 award, being replaced by a second *Fleche Nationale* (e.g. in the UK, an Easter Arrow), or a *Fleche de France* with a gold or silver medal for those who can ride in France. Super Randonnées completed before 2022 will be accepted for future R10,000 requests. Given the disruption to the two last randonneur seasons, the qualifying period for the ACP Randonneur 5,000 and 10,000 awards have been extended to 6 and 8 years respectively, on the condition that they include the 2019 PBP.

On 2021, ACP also issued a set of updated regulations for BRM events. The main change was to allow the use of electronic proof of passage at controls, although this would still have to be recorded/transposed into the brevet cards carried by riders. Given the surprising number of ways in which this could be carried out, Audax UK has to consider the best way it can be done so as not to overwhelm our validation processes for calendar events. It is possible that the adoption of something similar to the e-brevet system is a way forward. This is currently on trial for some permanent events and a few non-BRM calendar events. We will need to be satisfied that the system is mature and that we have sufficient evidence of suitability before formal introduction.

For Les Randonneurs Mondiaux (LRM), that part of ACP consisting of the representatives of all the countries registered in the randonneur family and responsible for the administration of randonneur events of 1200 km and above, the world-wide calendar rebounded from 31 events and 481 successful riders in 2019-20 to 54 events with 1,171 successful riders.

I hope that this year's London-Edinburgh-London 1500 km event, with its predicted entry of 2,000 riders will beat those numbers on its own and would like to send the best wishes of AUK members for a successful event to Danial Webb and his organising team and volunteers. If any AUK members who are not riding would like to take part anyway, being a volunteer at this event will be an experience to remember, and I would urge you to visit <https://londonedinburghlondon.com/volunteer> and register.

**Chris Crossland**

**ACP Correspondent / LRM Representative**

## Director Report: Finance

I reported last year that the Covid-19 epidemic had impacted our activities in the year to the end of August 2020, but that the fall in costs outstripped the fall in income and so we had made a £16,359 surplus. The epidemic continued with different strains of virus and different government-imposed regulations and societal behaviour throughout the year to August 2021, resulting in a continuation of the trend seen in the previous year. Income fell further but costs fell even more, leaving us with a £22,124 surplus.

Analysis of the detail shows that the membership income fell by about another 3% from 2020 and that temporary membership almost halved to £6,025. Income from all our events, such as validations of rides, registration of new rides and printing of brevet cards, fell again, by about 53% when compared to the previous year. The only increase of income came from members' donations which went up 13%.

Our costs, on the whole, went down, with the IT and systems spend falling by nearly £24,000, and with no annual re-union, those associated costs went down by £10,000. There was also a voluntary decrease in the taking of honorariums by delegates that saved us about £1,600.

These decreases were offset by an increase in the costs of printing and posting the Arrivee magazine by £6,500 and a big increase of over £8,500 in our insurance cover costs. I did feel encouraged by one cost that increased from the previous year; the cost of printing the Brevet Cards went up by 850% to just under £3,000, so people had started to go on rides and organisers were starting to feel that rides were do-able even with all the Covid-19 avoidance that they had to cope with.

Looking back at last year's report, I gave an indication that I thought that we would have £224,000 in our banks at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. It turned out better than I had planned and so we finished the year with £39,368 more, at £263,368 and the net worth of Audax United Kingdom Long Distance Cyclists' Association increased by 12.7% or £22,124, giving us a secure platform to face the very uncertain future. I say uncertain; I think our members' activities will continue and increase but I cannot tell what the Covid-19 virus will mutate into next or what changes to regulations and laws will happen in the next 12 months.

I expect our Phase 3 IT project to continue in 2021-22 and cost us more than it did in this year, so I am hoping, with not much confidence, that at the end of August 2022 we will finish the year with about the same amount in our banks and our net worth will be about the same as it is this year.

**Nigel P Armstrong**  
**Finance Director**

## Agenda for the Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association AGM 2020-21

This year's meeting will be held via Zoom. Please contact the General Secretary at – [secretary@audax.uk](mailto:secretary@audax.uk) for login details.

*To be held on 12 February 2022 commencing at 12:00pm*

- 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 2019/20).
- 5) To approve the Annual Report
- 6) To approve the Annual Accounts and the Finance Director's recommendations
- 7) To consider resolutions:

### **Resolution 1:**

**Proposer:** Graeme Provan - AUK General Secretary

**Secunder:** Rob McIvor – AUK Communications Director

### **Resolution:**

To delete Appendix 8.1.2 in the Events Regulations in its entirety and replace it with the following:

*8.1.2 Entry fees are neither refundable nor transferable where a rider withdraws from an event*

### **Note:**

This Appendix was amended by the AUK Board at its October 2021 Board Meeting. In accordance with AUK's Articles of Association, that amendment must be ratified by the members at the following AGM.

### **Board View:**

This resolution has been brought forward on behalf of the Board of AUK.

### **Rationale:**

Previous Regulation:-

*8.1.2 Entry fees are neither refundable nor transferable.*

The new wording makes it clear that there will be no refunds or transfers where a rider withdraws from an event. Any other refunds will depend on the circumstances.

## **Resolution 2**

**Proposer:** Mike Warren – (AUK 20166)

**Seconder:** Jon Banks – (AUK 12120)

### **Resolution:**

That Audax UK continue to award the Peter Tandy trophy.

### **Note:**

The Peter Tandy Trophy is currently awarded to the youngest person to complete a 200km Brevet AUK on a solo machine.

It was suspended by the Board at its October Board Meeting pending a consultation with members on how best to use the award for the promotion of youth participation.

### **Board View:**

The Board does not support the reintroduction of the Peter Tandy Trophy in its current form. We believe the Trophy can be awarded this season for a purpose more in tune with current thinking on youth participation in sport, including - for example - supporting events or sustained participation on shorter distances.

The relevant October Board Minute reads:

*“It was noted that current thinking on juvenile participation in endurance sport, and indeed in most sports, included reservations about submitting growing youngsters to stresses that might have possible adverse implications for their future development and health. Equally, it was clear that some, particularly those nearer the junior age limit of 18, will be able to do so without any such fears. In circumstances where it is not easy to distinguish between these groups, AUK's promotion of an annual trophy for the youngest randonneur aged under 18 has the potential to cause lasting harm to some of those participants, and should consequently be discontinued.*

*It was resolved that the Trophy should consequently be discontinued in its current form pending consultation on what criteria should be used for its re-introduction.”*

The consultation process has already started on the AUK Forum and we intend to award the Trophy this season but based on the outcome of that consultation.

### **Supporting Statement from Proposer and Seconder:**

We are disappointed to learn of the Board's intention to discontinue the Peter Tandy trophy, awarded annually to the youngest rider to complete a 200km Brevet Randonneur. We believe that the award should continue.

What's happened so far?

Following the 6th October board meeting, it was announced (Arrivée #154 p4) that the trophy would be discontinued. As of 14th December the minutes have not been published, so all we've seen is item 6.6 of the preceding meeting (7th July), where Event Services Director and Recorder Daniel Smith raised a concern that the trophy could "promote [...] extreme events for such young people", and agreed to "undertake some research into [...] young people and endurance events." As an aside to this motion, we would urge the Board to publish the 6th October minutes and any supporting research, so that members have sight of the Board's thinking on this issue.

We are aware of the deadline for submission of AGM resolutions (17th December 2021). As we have not had sight of any evidence supporting withdrawal, we are submitting a resolution for the trophy's reinstatement.

What are we proposing and why?

We move that Audax UK reconsider the Board's decision and continue to award the Peter Tandy trophy, for the following six reasons:

1. The decision was taken without consulting the membership or sharing any supporting evidence. The annual nature of the award allows plenty of time for such consultation, and the Peter Tandy trophy has a rich and growing history. Decisions affecting its future deserve the discussion and consent of Audax UK's membership - particularly younger riders and their parents. As far as we know, the Board's research has made no attempt to engage with past trophy recipients, other young randonneurs, their parents, or the membership in general.
2. Past recipients of the trophy have shown us that a 200km randonnée is safe, accessible and rewarding for all manner of ages and physical abilities. We feel that decisions around participation belong with the parent or guardian who authorises entry and accompanies young riders. Audax is a niche sport and we feel that we should push back against the misconception that long-distance cycling is dangerous, unreasonable or off-limits to younger people.
3. As an incentive in itself, we question whether this trophy leads to 'extreme' activity. Moreover, as every randonneur knows, a 12-14 hour ride is qualitatively different from, say, a tennis match - it simply cannot be completed without the rider's enthusiastic and capable participation.
4. Revoking signals of our appreciation toward young riders who participate in our sport could discourage them from learning their craft in a welcoming environment where they can acquire good habits, valuable skills and the means to keep themselves safe.

Discontinuing the trophy therefore removes one imagined danger but saddles young people with two very real ones: the "outdoor risk" of riding alone with one less reason to heed our community, and the "indoor risk" of a sedentary lifestyle and shrinking horizons.

The communities surrounding other outdoor pursuits - some of which hold far greater inherent hazards - have embraced their appeal to young people while effectively teaching them to manage risk. It is incumbent on us to do the same.

5. Recognising the achievements of young riders and welcoming them to our sport is essential to the future of Audax UK specifically, and of long-distance cycling in general. In the 2020 membership survey, only 13 respondents (0.5%) were under the age of 24, so we already have work to do. By turning away from this next generation of randonneurs, we take a step toward irrelevance.

6. Safeguarding and data protection obligations will be a part of our reality for as long as Audax UK allows membership to under-18s. Our duty is to shoulder these obligations, not to shrug them. If the Board wishes to seek professional advice on the matter, this should be published in full prior to any final decision being taken.

What should happen next?

Child safety is always a valid topic of concern, and we accept that some reform may be beneficial. There are ways to engage with this concern without giving up on the award and its legacy. For example:

1. Requiring that any award to a child or vulnerable adult depends on the prior consent of the rider's parent or guardian, including consent to make the award, and consent to record and publish the rider's name if applicable.
2. Awarding the trophy to the youngest new randonneur, so that a rider can only win it once in his or her lifetime, and that each award allows us to welcome a new rider to the sport.
3. Requiring that the qualifying ride be a calendar event, so that the safety and conduct of young riders and accompanying adults is visible to organisers, helpers and other participants along a risk-assessed route.

We welcome a constructive, member-led discussion of any necessary reform, provided that such a conversation consults young riders and their parents, heeds their input and puts their needs and interests centre-stage. In the meantime, the Board's decision should be suspended and the Peter Tandy trophy continue to be awarded.

## 8) Election of Directors

### 1. Financial Director

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

**Proposer:** John Ward (AUK 826)

**Secunder:** Caroline Fenton (AUK 8040)

#### **Supporting Statement:**

I am the current holder of the office of Financial Director of Audax UK, having held the position since 2018.

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. In 1993 I started an accounting practice that became Pi Partners Ltd which is aimed at micro industrial / manufacturing businesses and 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).

Cycling wise I have managed to amass 219 Audax points since May 2013 and I am very proud of my 5RRTY badge, but I can only dream of completing a 600km.

Audax UK is developing a computerised administration system with both eyes focused on the expected future growth of long distance cycling, which has meant that the accounting systems we use have been tweaked and changed since 2015 to optimise the procedures to cope with hoped-for expansion of the sport.

If I am re-elected to the board I will work hard with the team on the board to ensure that Audax UK will stay in its current strong financial position, to fund its future activities and develop its position in the cycling world.

### 2. Director – Communications

**Nominee – None**



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

**Nominee** – Andy Yates (AUK 14666)

**Proposer** – Caroline Fenton (AUK 8040)

**Seconded** – Ivan Cornell (AUK 2692)

#### **Supporting Statement:**

I am an active member of Audax UK and Audax Club Hackney and so far have achieved, amongst other awards, 5 SRs, 4 RRTYs, LEL 2017 and PBP 2019. I am a keen rider and for the past few years have been in the top 6 of our club's points table. My aim is to continue entering events across the country and collecting more of the various awards. I also volunteer for various calendar events to man controls or assist at the start and arrivée. I have been a Non-Executive Director of Audax UK since May 2021 and have enjoyed being part of the Board.

To me, the non-competitive and self-sufficient nature of Audax riding but with the camaraderie from other riders is what makes it so appealing. I believe that audax offers a whole range of experiences, from challenging oneself to ride further or achieve the wide range of awards, enjoying the diversity of the UK's scenery (and cafes!), or just enjoying a ride with friendly, like-minded cyclists. All of these appeal to a growing body of people and I am keen to assist with the development and promotion of Audax UK. I would welcome the opportunity to continue to assist with the running of Audax UK as a Non-Executive Director and believe my experience and skills are of benefit to Audax UK.

In my professional career, I have been working as a structural engineer for over 25 years. I am a founder and company director at Webb Yates Engineers, an engineering consultancy business. The company was established in 2005 and over the past 17 years I have led the development and growth of the company to a practice of over 70 staff with 3 offices across the UK. My own specific management responsibilities are to lead on Finance, Quality Management, Health and Safety, Information Technology, Policies, Purchasing and Premises. My MBA has provided me with a solid background in company governance and organisational development and I use this knowledge to assist in my leadership of the organisation.

I am also a Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers and volunteer as a member of some of their committees to assist with the promotion, development, leadership and support to the members.

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

**Nominee** – None



**Appendix 1: Annual report and unaudited accounts**

**Company Registration No. 5920055 (England and Wales)**



**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS'  
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED  
ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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 2021.

**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 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021



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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Statement of financial position	7
Notes to the accounts	8
Detailed profit and loss account	11

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION**

**COMPANY INFORMATION**

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**Directors** Christopher Peter Crossland  
William John Ward  
Graeme David Provan  
Nigel Peter Armstrong  
Caroline Anne Fenton  
Robert Alan McIvor  
Ian Gerard Hennessey  
Daniel Refoy Peskett Smith  
Lucy Margaret McTaggart  
Andrew David Yates

**Secretary** Graeme David Provan

**Company Number** 5920055 (England and Wales)

**Registered Office** Whitelands  
Terling Road  
Hatfield Peverel  
Essex  
  
CM3 2AG

# AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION

(COMPANY NO: 5920055 ENGLAND AND WALES)

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The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021.

## Directors

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

Christopher Peter Crossland  
William John Ward  
Graeme David Provan  
Nigel Peter Armstrong  
Caroline Anne Fenton  
Robert Alan McIvor  
Ian Gerard Hennessey  
Daniel Refoy Peskett Smith

The following directors were appointed during the period:

Lucy Margaret McTaggart was appointed on 15 May 2021.  
Andrew David Yates was appointed on 15 May 2021.

The following directors resigned during the period:

John Matthew Sabine resigned on 15 May 2021.  
Martin David Stefan resigned on 15 May 2021.

## 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

  
.....

Christopher Peter Crossland  
Director

Approved by the board on: 12 January 2022

AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION

INCOME STATEMENT

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	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>	129,372	151,399
Cost of sales	(84,189)	(80,387)
<b>Gross surplus</b>	<u>45,183</u>	<u>71,012</u>
Administrative expenses	(23,627)	(55,214)
<b>Operating surplus</b>	<u>21,556</u>	<u>15,798</u>
Interest receivable and similar income	835	1,490
Interest payable and similar charges	-	(2)
<b>Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<u>22,391</u>	<u>17,286</u>
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	(267)	(927)
<b>Surplus for the financial year</b>	<u><u>22,124</u></u>	<u><u>16,359</u></u>

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	4	689	918
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories		4,882	5,462
Debtors	5	9,217	10,066
Cash at bank and in hand		263,368	226,374
		277,467	241,902
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	(43,567)	(31,247)
<b>Net current assets</b>		233,900	210,655
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		234,589	211,573
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	7	(38,519)	(37,627)
<b>Net assets</b>		196,070	173,946
<b>Reserves</b>	8		
Profit and loss account		196,070	173,946
<b>Members' funds</b>		196,070	173,946

For the year ending 31 August 2021 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 12 January 2022 and were signed on its behalf by



Christopher Peter Crossland  
Director

Company Registration No. 5920055



# AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

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### 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 ....

### 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
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#### 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

### 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>	At cost
At 1 September 2020	2,900
At 31 August 2021	2,900
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 September 2020	1,982
Charge for the year	229
At 31 August 2021	2,211
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2021	689
At 31 August 2020	918

### 5 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	300	300
Accrued income and prepayments	8,917	9,766
	<u>9,217</u>	<u>10,066</u>

# AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

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<b>6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	7,027	1,000
Taxes and social security	1,562	2,251
Other creditors	31,803	23,811
Accruals	3,175	4,185
	<u>43,567</u>	<u>31,247</u>

Other creditors above include members deferred subscriptions of £31,803.

<b>7 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	<u>38,519</u>	<u>37,627</u>

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 29 (2020: 32).

**AUDAX UNITED KINGDOM LONG DISTANCE CYCLISTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts.

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>		
Fees	129,372	151,399
<b>Cost of sales</b>		
Other direct costs	84,189	80,387
Fees	129,372	151,399
<b>Gross profit</b>	45,183	71,012
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
Wages and salaries	6,075	8,019
Blah	22,391	17,286
Directors' salaries	3,425	3,118
Travel and subsistence	137	3,819
Bank charges	3,721	4,082
Software	8,655	33,273
Depreciation	229	306
Bad debts	300	259
Sundry expenses	35	40
Accountancy fees	1,050	2,298
	23,627	55,214
<b>Operating profit</b>	21,556	15,798
<b>Interest receivable</b>		
Interest receivable	835	1,490
<b>Interest payable</b>		
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	2
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	22,391	17,286

## Appendix 2: Minutes of the AGM 2019-20

Audax UK Long Distance Cyclists' Association  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019-20

*Held via Zoom on 15 May 2021 at 12.00pm*

### **1) TO RECORD THE NAMES OF THOSE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING.**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the members of the Board and asked the members present to introduce themselves to the meeting.

*Board Members Attending: Chris Crossland (Chair), Graeme Provan (General Secretary), John Ward (Permanent Events Secretary), Caroline Fenton (Membership Secretary), Nigel Armstrong (Finance Director and Returning Officer), Rob McIvor (Communications Director), Daniel Smith (Events Services Director and Recorder) Ian Hennessey (Calendar Events Secretary) and John Sabine (Non-Executive Director)*

*Other Members attending: Ged Lennox (Arrivee Managing Editor) Nick Wilkinson, Mel Armstrong, Stefan Eichenhseher, Chris Wilby, Dave Minter (UAF Delegate), Mike Hardiman, Susumu Furukubo, Lucy McTaggart, Keith Matthews, Michael Cawthorne, Andy Yates, John Hopper, Roger Lewis, Anton Brown and Kevin Hickman.*

He then 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:

Paul Denny  
Tobias Bauer  
Trevor Hughes  
David Cane  
Richard Frost  
Stuart Cross  
Andy Durber  
Russell Pindar  
Neville Cooke  
John Sheard  
Philip St John  
Graham Jones  
Roy Neve  
Brian Wharton  
Chris Hoyle  
Norman Payne  
Richard Gray  
Geoff Bell  
Eric Fletcher

The Chair explained to the meeting that the AGM had been delayed in the hope that it might be able to be held in person. He asked those attending to bear with the Board as this was the first time the AGM had been held

virtually. He went to explain that all those attending would be muted during the meeting until invited to speak but that everyone would be given the opportunity to speak at the appropriate time.

The Chair further explained that he was holding mandated proxy votes where he had no choice but to vote in line 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.

## **2) TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies had been received from:

Jennifer Crossland

Mike Wigley

Martin Stefan

Stephen Poulton

Anne Learmonth

Richard Evans

Dominic Trevett

Peter Mastenko

## **3) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM as a true record of that meeting**

Nigel Armstrong, 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. Save for the Chair, there was only one further proxy vote, held by Caroline Fenton. He reminded those who had voted online not to vote again during the meeting.

### **Result:-**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

469 mandated proxies to vote in favour of the resolution

3 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution

76 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution

124 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 19

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

### **Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 612*

*Against - 3*

*Abstain – 76*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 691*

*Approved*

**4) MATTERS ARISING from the last meeting.**

None

**5) TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT.**

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

Nick Wilkinson asked how many permanent events had been ridden by non-members. John Ward gave the response as 23.

Dave Minter asked about the projected total cost of the IT Refresh Project. Chris Crossland told him he would respond to him after the meeting.

Nick Wilkinson enquired about the Direct Debit scheme for memberships. Caroline Fenton explained it was working very well with over 1,000 members using it.

Nick Wilkinson further enquired about the Stripe payment system. Caroline Fenton stated it had been in use for membership payments for some time and was already being used in about the same numbers as Paypal. Paypal had changed their operating processes by making it harder to use without opening an account. Stripe's fees are lower and it is easier to split payments. Generally AUK's Paypal integration for entries is not up to date but it is fully up to date for membership renewal.

Chris Crossland noted organisers were reporting increasing numbers of issues with Paypal.

Caroline Fenton reported the IT team were also looking at Apple Pay and Google Pay.

**Result:-**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

505 mandated proxies to vote in favour of the resolution

3 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution

39 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution

125 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 15

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 645*

*Against - 3*

*Abstain – 39*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST – 687*

*Approved*

## 6) TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

Nigel Armstrong presented the Accounts and Report to the meeting. He explained that in his view AUK was in a good position.

Nick Wilkinson asked about the number of rides and fees and what effect non-member fees had on overall revenue. Nigel Armstrong said he believed it was fairly marginal but that he did not have exact numbers to hand.

Matthew Cawthorne asked about AUK's financial objectives.

Nigel Armstrong replied that the objectives were based on supporting AUK's strategy. The major cost at present was the IT Refresh Project which needed reserves to support that project while still funding ongoing activities.

Matthew Cawthorne asked if AUK strategy was available. Chris Crossland confirmed it was published on the website.

Anton Brown asked how much of the £3 temporary membership fee was paid across to AUK's insurers. Nigel Armstrong confirmed the money went into AUK's general income. Chris Crossland explained that, under the terms of AUK's insurance policy, all riders had to be members even if only temporarily.

Dave Minter stated he believed the policy on reserves was based on being able to cover one year of AUK's expenses. Nigel Armstrong explained the position had been complicated somewhat by COVID-19 but the figure for general expenses was £44k per annum and he believed two years' expenses was a more prudent position on reserves.

Dave Minter noted there was £173k of reserves. He asked if the amount remaining, having deducted two years of expenses, was earmarked for the IT Refresh Project and if that was the projected budget. Nigel Armstrong confirmed that he anticipated something around that figure for Phase III.

Dave Minter asked how much confidence there was in that budget. Nigel Armstrong explained the detailed work on budgeting for Phase III was ongoing.

### **Result:-**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

495 mandated proxies to vote in favour of the resolution

4 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution

47 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution

126 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 17

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 638*



*Against - 4*

*Abstain – 47*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 938*

*Approved*

## **7) TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS**

The Chair explained that the first resolution before the meeting would be decided by majority vote but that the second resolution would require 75% of those voting to vote in favour as it involved a change to the articles of association. 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.

### **Resolution 1:**

Resolution: to amend Regulation 1.2.1 of Audax UK's Awards Regulations to read:

*1.2.1 The season for trophies and awards is the 12 month period from 1 November to the following 31 October unless otherwise specified.*

Nick Wilkinson noted that some events which used to be at the start of the season would now be at the end of the season.

### **Result:-**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

524 mandated proxies to vote in favour of the resolution

7 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution

18 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution

123 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 22

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

### **Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 669*

*Against - 7*

*Abstain – 18*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST – 694*

*Resolution passed*

**Resolution 2:**

**Resolution:** to amend the Company's Articles of Association by the deletion of Article 19.3 and its replacement with the following:

*19.3 Members may give written notice to the General Secretary of any resolution in addition to those originating from the Board which may properly be moved and is intended to be moved by those Members at a General Meeting or nominations including nominations for Directors, patrons and vice presidents as follows:*

*19.3.1 Special or Ordinary Resolutions of the Company and any resolutions to alter the AUK Regulations must be submitted by a proposer and seconder and supported in writing by not fewer than 25 Members.*

*19.3.2 Any other resolutions may be submitted by Members acting as proposer and seconder.*

*19.3.3 Resolutions should be submitted in writing to the General Secretary no later than 56 days prior to the date of the General Meeting or as specified in the notice for the meeting. The resolution may include a statement of no more than 1000 words. The resolutions will be advertised to members via the Audax UK website or extension thereof for review and discussion for a minimum of 21 days. During this period proposers of resolutions may withdraw or amend resolutions so long as they continue to address the resolution's original subject.*

*19.3.4 Nominations with details of the members proposing and seconding the nomination and the consent of the nominated person to serve together with a statement of that person's relevant abilities or experience of no more than 1000 words shall be sent in writing to the General Secretary to be received no later than 28 days prior to the date of the General Meeting at which election is proposed or as specified in the notice for the meeting. Members will receive notice of the nominations no later than 21 days prior to the General Meeting or as specified in the notice for the meeting.*

*19.3.5 Members will receive notice of the resolutions and the nominations for the General Meeting no later than 21 days prior to the General Meeting or as specified in the notice for the meeting.*

Andy Yates questioned why the threshold had been set at 25.

Rob McIvor explained that it was lower than many similar associations and that he felt it was a high enough number to ensure that there was some engagement with a proposal without it being too high to discourage that engagement.

Dave Minter suggested a sledgehammer was being applied to crack a nut.

Graeme Provan explained the previous position had left AUK vulnerable to frivolous or vexatious proposed changes to its fundamental rules and that such proposals had caused issues in the recent past.

Nick Wilkinson observed his running club had removed their threshold only to reinstate it shortly afterwards. Dave Minter stated he believed the proposal to be absurd as, to his knowledge, only one such resolution had ever been passed.

Nick Wilkinson noted that, since the advent of online voting, the meeting itself had become less effective which may tend towards possible voting in favour of resolutions.

Graeme Provan explained that the previous online voting site suppliers had provided what he felt had been a good solution whereby voting members were directed to the arguments for and against before being able to vote.

Nevertheless he believed the potential for damage to AUK whether by passing harmful resolutions or by the mere threat of proposing them was such that some form of threshold was desirable.

Stefan Eichenseher suggested limiting the number of resolutions that can be put forward to any AGM.

**Result:**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

477 mandated proxies to vote in favour of the resolution

11 mandated proxies to vote against the resolution

55 mandated proxies to abstain on the resolution

129 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 10

Against - 2

Abstain - 0

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 616*

*Against - 13*

*Abstain – 55*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 684*

*Resolution passed*

## **8. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Chair explained that it was his custom to abstain on elections where he held discretionary proxy votes.

### **1: Chair – sole nominee Chris Crossland**

Graeme Provan took the chair of the meeting and asked Chris Crossland if he wished to say anything in support of his election.

Chris Crossland commented that it had been a privilege to serve as AUK's chair so far.

No questions from the floor

**Result:**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

561 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate

13 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate

0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election

98 discretionary proxies

Graeme Provan confirmed he would exercise the discretionary proxies as abstaining.

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 15

Against - 1

Abstain – 0

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 576*

*Against - 14*

*Abstain – 98*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 688*

Chris Crossland was duly elected.

## **2: Permanent Events Secretary – sole nominee John Ward**

Chris Crossland took the chair of the meeting. He explained that due to an error on the part of the board, the post had not been put to the previous AGM. John Ward had been re-appointed by the Board and that appointment would now be put to the members for ratification.

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

569 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate

5 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate

0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election

98 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 14

Against – 0

Abstain – 98

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 583*

*Against – 5*

*Abstain – 98*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 686*

John Ward was duly elected.

## **3. Event Services and Recorder - sole nominee Daniel Smith**

Chris Crossland explained that, in the absence of any candidates for the post at the previous AGM, Daniel Smith had been appointed by the Board after the AGM and that appointment would now be put to the members for

ratification.

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

564 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate  
7 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate  
0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election  
101 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 15  
Against – 0  
Abstain – 101

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 579*  
*Against – 7*  
*Abstain – 101*  
*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 687*  
Daniel Smith was duly elected.

#### **4. Membership Secretary – sole nominee Caroline Fenton**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:

568 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate  
6 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate  
0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election  
98 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 16  
Against – 0  
Abstain – 98

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 584*  
*Against – 6*  
*Abstain – 98*  
*TOTAL VOTES CAST – 688*  
Caroline Fenton was duly elected.

#### **5. Non-executive Director – Post 1 – sole nominee Andy Yates**

Chris Crossland noted the retirement of the current non-executive directors. Martin Stefan was now living in New Zealand and he thanked him for his contribution to the work of the Board.

John Sabine had been a non-executive director since the post was first introduced and had served temporarily as General Secretary. Chris Crossland thanked him for his many years of service to AUK.

Dave Minter explained he had previously served as a non-executive director and asked this year's candidates to keep a critical eye on the Board. Andy Yates confirmed he was aware of his role and wanted to avoid any groupthink.

**Result:**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:  
557 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate  
9 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate  
0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election  
106 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 13  
Against - 0  
Abstain – 106

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 570*  
*Against - 9*  
*Abstain – 106*  
*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 685*  
Andy Yates was duly elected.

**6: Non-executive Director – Post 2 – sole nominee Lucy McTaggart**

Lucy McTaggart stated she felt she could contribute as someone with practical experience of running events.

**Result:**

Nigel Armstrong declared that the Chair had:  
571 mandated proxies to vote for the candidate  
7 mandated proxies to vote against the candidate  
0 mandated proxies to abstain on the election  
94 discretionary proxies

Nigel Armstrong further declared that the votes cast at the meeting were:

For – 16  
Against - 0  
Abstain – 0

**Nigel Armstrong therefore declared the following result:**

*For – 587*  
*Against - 7*

*Abstain – 94*

*TOTAL VOTES CAST - 688*

Lucy McTaggart was duly elected.

**9. Date and venue of next meeting:**

To be agreed but likely to be Birmingham on 5th February 2022.

**10. Close**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and thanked the board, delegates, organisers and everyone else who had contributed to AUK for their hard work.

Nick Wilkinson, on behalf of the members, thanked the board, delegates, organisers and everyone else who gave their time to AUK for their contribution to AUK.

The meeting closed at 13.45