

# RESUMÉS OF THE CANDIDATES FOR SELECTION TO THE CTT NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Dawn Sherrin (North East)

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For anyone who doesn't know me, I am the current serving District Secretary within North East District. I joined the District as District Secretary back in 2010 so have fulfilled the role for some 10 years now. I hadn't been a member of the Committee prior to that point, I jumped straight in to the Secretary role. However, I was very active in Time Trialling at that time and was very keen for wider involvement in the sport, other than just as a competitor. Within months of taking up the District Secretary role, I was attending the National Council AGM as a representative for North East, alongside Peter McGrath and Ray Luckett. In the last 10 years I have attended 7 of the National Council AGM's and as our District numbers of affiliated clubs have grown, so has our number of elected representatives and I am hugely proud that at each AGM for around the last 4-5 years, we have had maximum representation from the District as our affiliated club base has consolidated.

I was late taking up the sport competitively and only really got into competing in CTT events in around 2007 in Hill Climb events. Whilst the first one (and indeed every one since) was absolute torture, Hill Climbs are strangely addictive. I have always had a very active lifestyle - I always had a bike as a child and through most of my adult life and used it for just messing around on and for what I would describe as "utility". Then, I stepped in to what was Hardisty Cycles, purchased my first road bike (road shoes and cleats for the first time), fell off, took it back to the shop to have the handlebars re-straightened having ridden only around 0.25 miles and in spite of that inauspicious start, just fell in love with it. It was an orange Dawes bike - very different to the beautiful Look 695 that I have today - but it was special because it was my first road bike and that's ultimately where it all started in terms of getting into this amazing sport of cycling and time-trialling - the ultimate race of truth. I've proudly represented my club of GS Metro in CTT events, including National events - I think once finishing within the top 10 in the National Hill Climb - so never going to set the world alight, but I'd like to think in the North East I became a catalyst for more female riders taking up the sport and then also getting into the sport behind the scenes - so much so that today our District Committee is made up of almost 50% female representation - when I joined I was the only female.

In terms of what I can bring to the National Board, were my nomination to receive a favourable vote, I'd like to think that I can add value in a number of areas:-

- Leadership and People - in my professional career of almost 30 years, I've worked and continue to work in a leadership and people management capacity and so that brings with it tact, diplomacy, consultation, compassion, fairness, honesty and respect
- Communication - again, through my career these skills have been important and I like to think I can converse equally well verbally and in written format and certainly in the case of District Secretary both are required and I personally see that both are required as a member of the National Board. Being articulate, able to form logical arguments and convey these passionately but not aggressively I think are important qualities - not least for National Board but absolutely at the National Council AGM where time is precious and the quality of the discussion is vital
- Organisation - I've not been a sole Event Organiser to date, but I have been heavily involved in supporting the organisation of the GS Metro Open Events, the extremely successful 2017 National Hill Climb and 2020 National 50m TT (both of which were held on NE courses) and I actively support events across the District in whatever capacity is needed
- Teamwork - whilst I no longer compete in events, I am very closely involved in the NE network - I was

Secretary to the N&DCA for a number of years – and I've seen how with the right people in place, with the right level of passion and focussed direction, great things can be achieved.

As mentioned, in the NE we've seen not only our volume of affiliated clubs grow significantly in recent years, but the level of active participation by competitors has increased substantially right across the board – not only in terms of the age range but across gender - by introducing new ideas around having a road bike category, by changing our blend of N&DCA BAR competition qualifying events, introducing N&DCA sole membership as well as team membership. Being flexible and adaptable, we've seen our overall event and rider numbers grow, growth in interest in the sport and a brilliant team spirit emerge within the District – so much so that the recent 2020 National 50m TT was a true team effort.

The things I'd like to see moving forward are how we can harness some of the excellent practices that are happening right across the CTT community – as I know that whilst we are seeing growth in the North East, I am sure the other Districts are also doing some brilliant things to generate interest and participation in the sport and bringing some creative elements to their activities and if these best practices are shared, blueprints created for great ways of doing things, then as a sport I am sure we can progress even further. Covid has stretched and challenged us all and, for me, now it's about looking beyond the Covid crisis, galvanising the spirit of the Districts together and really working as a collective that sets a strong and inspiring tone for the future of the sport.

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## Glen Knight (London West)

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I'll be the first to admit I'm not as eloquent as many, very much a grass roots in the dirt kind of person. I don't believe in the "old boys network" or the "clique" associated with most cycling (probably most sports) related committees. Most of you will not have heard of me before this year, or if you have it will have been because of my involvement with Virtual Cycling rather than real world cycling.

I ran my very first open event on the 30th August 2020, which just happened to be the RTTC National 10 Mile Championship event. When I started discussions with Stewart Smith about this event we had 6 weeks before the original date, which was shortened to 5 because we had to move the date. I asked for a week to confirm I could put everything in place, extended the closing date and created an additional event purely for women. Why am I telling you this? It demonstrates my can-do attitude, but also demonstrates the amazing team of people I have around me. Not just in my cycling club but in the wider community. Amateur sport should be community based. And if you work with the community you will get a lot more done. This is very clear also in my online activity as part of KISS Racing/KISS Racing Team and zwiftpower.com which helped to bring Virtual Racing on Zwift to the forefront.

I have been involved with cycling as long as I can remember: racing BMXs as an 8 year old, progressing to grass track and finally downhill mountain biking in my early 20s. Like many, life got in the way after this but my love of cycling remained, and I got back to it in my 30s, mainly with friends, my kids and sportives. Throughout my cycling history, I have always wanted to help others progress and enjoy the sport just as much as I have: this started with fixing friends' bikes, then working in a local bike shop and encouraging friends and family to be involved, too.

Around 5 years ago I was introduced to time trialling. Something I observed for years wondering what it was like to participate, but always felt I wouldn't be accepted. A friend took me along and after a few weeks it didn't quite feel so scary. At that point, I felt truly welcomed into this "special" community, but couldn't help but question – even in my relatively naive state - what could be done to make this wonderful domain a little more accessible.

In addition to cycling "on the road", I've also been one of those who has spearheaded virtual cycling on the Zwift platform since its beta days. As one of the founders of the KISS/KISS Racing Team and Zwiftpower.com results platform we spearheaded community racing: fun racing that would attract newcomers and seasoned online specialists alike. As a result of the work we did on this, I've been involved in some major virtual events

and live events all over the world. Throughout this, I have been keen to keep racing open, inclusive and remove any barriers that may be holding some back.

Fast forward a few years and November 2019 I decided to found a new cycling club in West Berkshire, Newbury Velo. I wanted to start a club which harboured the same ethos as I had put into my cycling projects throughout life: unrelenting encouragement, no glimpses of eliteness and remaining inclusive.

Bringing diversity and inclusivity and using all resources available to us to share our vision with like minded cyclists. Within a year, we now have over 230 members. Our club is also over a third women, many of whom joined us to ride as beginners. Many of those are now trying time trialling, and have become hooked! Newbury Velo jerseys are now peppered throughout fields in local and national time trials!

We've run five National Championship time trial events and had several Type B events with full fields of over 100 riders with a waiting list. We pioneered COVID-friendly time trialling, and many clubs have used our model to promote their own events around the country.

I want to bring some of that renewed energy and modernisation to the CTT. Reverse the decline in participation, increase diversity and inclusivity by bringing new ideas, technology and a passion for cycling into the board room. I believe in challenging what is considered to be normal but respecting tradition. A good mix can see our sport thrive and I believe that now is the time to capitalise on the increase in participation in cycling generally.

I believe with my experience in the cycling industry, working with multifaceted cycling communities as well as my technical experience of risk management and event management within the horse racing sector provides me with the perfect platform to investigate and promote modernisation within the CTT.

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## Keith Dorling (London East)

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I have been cycling since I was 14 when I rode my first time trial and have been hooked ever since. From then, I have competed for most of the last 45 years.

I organised my first event at 16, I was club secretary at 18 and have served on various committees up to and including the present day. I'm currently on the VTTA National Executive, Treasurer for East Anglia VTTA, and on the London East district committee (since 2015) and have been a National Council delegate every year since.

I have continued to organise events over the last few years, and also my local clubs club events, as well as timekeeping them.

I have been fortunate to come from the grass roots of our sport and have received great support from "the old boys" when I started out. I am now lucky to be part of a Team at the forefront of advancing our sport, so I've seen it all. Throughout, I have seen many changes to our sport, most have been progressive and for the good of all.

I am a very strong advocate of common sense and keeping things simple without letting standards slip. I believe it is vital that we take a professional approach with the appropriate levels of consideration for our competitors, those volunteers who make our sport happen, without any fuss and also for the general public.

My professional career in the construction industry has given me a rounded, practical approach to considerations in a myriad of challenging and potentially difficult situations, coming up with some innovative solutions always with a can-do attitude.

Having been involved in our sport and competed for so long, I am well known by a lot of people and I'm

probably known for saying it as it is. I believe that is what is sometimes needed to cut through unnecessary politics, whilst always believing in the right thing for a sport that I love.

I have also achieved some notable results at National level including being part of the National 50 Team to beat competition record in 2016, in the National 25 Championship winning team in 2019, in doing so, I believe I'm the oldest person to win a non-age related RTTC medal at 60 years old. I have also been the National age group champion for the 10, 25, 50,100, closed and open Circuit Championship. One of my highlights was becoming the 44th fastest recorded for 30 miles with 59.32 at the age of 59 which is a national age record (it was a good day....lol)

We have a long history to be proud of and I am standing for the Board now because I believe that we have to work to keep our sport buoyant and to protect its longevity. We must ensure we do the right thing for the future without just relying on the ever-diminishing selfless volunteers, who are not getting any younger, but are keeping us going.

I strongly believe we should be embracing technology to make things as easy as possible so as to enable us to attract younger riders to get involved in volunteering and to help in all aspects of the sport, especially organising and timekeeping. We also need to attract younger riders who will be the sport's future.

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## Martin Balk

(South)

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I am a lifelong cyclist with a passion all aspects of the sport, but especially time trialling. Having competed in time trials for over 45 years, both in this country and overseas.

From age 18 I have served on the committee of most clubs that I have belonged to, including New Forest CC, RAF CA, Cardiff Ajax, 3C Cycle club. I organised many club and open events, including classic series events.

I have served on the committee of South DC for several years, the last three years as chairman.

In the world of work I have gained experience and range of skills, having worked in retail management of a major supermarket, served for 12 years in Royal Air Force rising to become a SNCO, followed by many years working in various educational roles both in the public and private sectors, including management roles.

At this difficult and challenging time, I feel that the above experience, my enthusiasm and willingness to take on new challenges with a can-do attitude, would enhance the current board and offer skills in IT and modern communication channels technology.

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## Martyn Heritage-Owen

(South Wales)

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I'm a lifelong mediocre TT rider, who in more recent years has become one of the leading promoters in South Wales and the country. I promote around 12 times a year and provide background promoter admin for 2 other open events, as well as mentoring all new promoters in South Wales on how to use the CTT admin portal. Additionally, I have provided support to many other organisers in districts outside my own. I

have also helped the board run its results service when the new website first went live.

I will be promoting the National 100 in 2021 Covid conditions willing. I promoted the Women's National 25 Championship and was especially proud to do that because I've been a keen driver of the BBAR rule changes to encourage women in the sport. In the events I promote, we always run well-attended separate events for women and juniors, in order to encourage participation by ensuring all riders in these categories will obtain start slots. We promote gender equality in all our events though allocation of equal prizes for men and women.

We live in uncertain times, and the CTT has done well to continue to operate during the Covid19 pandemic. A key factor that enabled this, was that CTT collaborated with volunteers from outside of the board, a feature that until this year seemed to be a weakness. I would like to see this become the norm for the CTT going forward.

I bring to the board IT skills, and a can-do attitude where I always look for novel solutions to any problems that arise. Perhaps most importantly, I am adaptable and collaborative, expressing strong willingness to advocate for change where needed. The CTT needs to modernise, encourage new volunteers into the sport, reduce the administrative burden on race promoters and continue to develop the website.

I've run my own Limited Company and you can't run a business if you don't have sight of your income until the last minute (club event levies) and have a keen eye on expenditure. The CTT needs to modernise its finances and if necessary, make its case to the membership.

The CTT needs to communicate better and be fit for current challenges and into the future. This is a challenge I'm ready for because I'm passionate the CTT needs to survive. Make no mistake the CTT is in a fight for its very existence.

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## Paul Thomson

(London North)

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Hemel Hempstead Cycling Club (life member), since 1978 – no other clubs joined

CTT Board member since 2011

CTT London North District Committee member since 2001/2

CTT London North delegate to National Council since 2009

BC Central Region (& West London Division) committee member since approx. 1990 to 2016

BC Central Region National Council delegate from approx. 2005 to approx. 2015

BC West London Treasurer approx. 1995-97, BC Commissaire for over 25 years.

Since the mid-80s I have organised probably over 50 races (multiples per day counted as one), both time trials and road races and including 2 CTT National Championships as well as for about 18 years ran my clubs evening events (18 per year). I have raised the profiles of the events I run from decent local events to ones of national renown with riders seeking them out from all over the country. I am fortunate enough to be in a great club that supports me and the promotions wholeheartedly.

I have raced every season since 1979 (as a junior) with the exception of this current year, although I did have plans to do so at the start! I have done many National Championships from 10 miles to the 12 hour (my first in 1983 and most recent in 2018), although I now only race 'for fun' and just getting around is good enough. My club, through the then club Sec and myself, were one of the pioneers of the reserve system in the early 90s and it was our proposed system that the RTTC adopted as their own and as a current Board member I now keep this scheme up to date.

My club and myself have proposed many amendments to equalise the differences in ages groups and genders

in multiple aspects (Different Championships, records, etc.), and my own events have for a very long time always given preference to women and junior riders and I have for some years given equal prizes to women. In the last few years have had between 40 and 70 women enter, which would place it one of the top events nationally for such entries, outside of the National Championships.

It was my proposals in the early 2000's that kick started the fight to reduce the clothing limitations in events that eventually resulted in club events allowing sleeveless tops that meant club events were more welcoming for newcomers who may not have full proper kit and to help attract riders from triathlon backgrounds, and for allowing Team Time Trials to have different kit if riding for a mixed club team.

I was one of the first people to project full results onto large screens, helping streamline the process and have running results direct from the finish line. My services were used by many other promoters across the area and included several National Championships and VTTA Championships.

My work experience is in data and finance analysis and reporting primarily, although I have experiences in many fields and applications. It means I have to see the bigger picture but work in the details, finding the aspects that make it all up. I have to find the ways to create changes in a reasonable and realistic manner and know what will or won't work. I am a person that likes to help others and facilitate them to obtain their goals. I am known as the go-to person for problem solving, processes and procedures.

I am currently involved in looking how we can encourage, reward and retain volunteers in the sport – something the sports needs as much as riders and events to be able to continue. This starts from the marshals and start pushers right up through timekeepers, course measurers, District Committees and Delegates. I am also keen to continue the ongoing work to modernise and update CTT but also keep its heritage alive. The sport is about to celebrate 100 years. I want to make sure it can continue for another century.

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## Peter Rogers

(West)

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DoB: 12 January 1950

Club: Team Tor 2000 | Kalas (West DC) and still racing (albeit slowly) – nearly 1000 races

Resides: near Cheddar, Somerset since 2007

Occupation: retired 2016 (but almost full-time cycling administrator since!)

Education: B.Sc (Hons) Physics; M.Sc Digital Electronics both UMIST (Manchester)

Background: started cycling in 1964 and raced every year since 1965 with various clubs as I moved around the country (Liverpool, Manchester, East Midlands, Lancashire, Hertfordshire, Somerset)

Organisational skills: founded and ran Central Lancashire Road Club for 10 years when I lived near Chorley. Held numerous offices in various clubs (Hon Sec, Hon Treasurer, RTTC/CTT delegate). Promoted about 100 club and open time-trials (and a few road races!). I run a series of CAT1 time trials in the summer on a quiet country course ideal for novices.

RTTC/CTT experience: District Secretary in Liverpool DC for 3 years till family life became too time-consuming. West DC Committee Member since 2011 and delegate to National Council AGM every year since. Full timekeeper since being “promoted” late 2016. Course measurer since early 2019.

Board experience: first elected to the Board in 2015 and because of my experience, hit the floor running as they say. Over and above normal Board duties, I devised and administer the Milestones and have recently written a complete set of notes for time-keeping courses (which have yet to be used because of the limitations imposed by Covid-19). I retire by rotation and seek re-election.

Technical (computer) skills: as my working life was spent using computers, I am very familiar with the official CTT choice of Windows and Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, Outlook). As a former software engineer in safety-critical environments, I am highly numerate and a stickler for clear, precise, and unambiguous English.

Recent achievements: promoted the first RTTC National Championship in 2020 (after the return of racing

from the Covid-19 embargo) – the 100-mile Championship.

Manifesto: Clearly the number one issue facing the sport is the liquidity of CTT and as a former owner of a business I am familiar with budgets etc. There needs to be further cost reduction without detriment to the functioning of CTT as a company.

To keep the districts, clubs and their members engaged, there needs to be an overhaul of communications from the Board. As a Board we need to dispel the perception of aloofness with which we are viewed in too many quarters.

There are number of technical issues which need completing and which I am leading: timing devices and “chip” timing to name but two. I very much want to see this through. Also, I intend to roll out the timekeeping course mentioned above and start to deliver it once Covid-19 restrictions are sufficiently relaxed.

There is work to be done regarding rider safety, namely “superman” and “mantis” positions and also head-down riding.

I am still very much “hands-on” and in touch but haven't lost sight of the traditions of the sport, which I am keen to preserve while modernising it in a way compatible with the modern environment and attitudes.

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## Rob Bailey (Manchester)

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Aged 65. Retired 3 years ago.

I have had more than 30 years on Manchester DC Committee. Had 20 years as DC Treasurer before handing over the role in 2019. This was part of the succession planning we on the Manchester Committee had been working on. I have been on National Council as a Manchester Delegate for 20 years. I was voted onto the Board in 2018

I have ridden more than 450 time trials as well as organising at least 25 open events and many club events. I have over the years been beaten by world champions as well as some rather indifferent riders!

I was employed for 40 years by a couple of multi-national FMCG companies. I covered most aspects of manufacturing at various levels of management. This included running production plants with more than 150 people and working with people in more than 25 countries. I have dealt with government bodies in more than a dozen countries on export and regulatory issues. I have been on many product launch teams covering Europe Asia and Africa.

What do I bring to CTT as a Director?

- Experience of handling many practical issues associated with managing the admin and sport of time trials at club, DC and National level
- Experience in industry of operational leadership, management development, HR, high performing work systems, cost control and most other management skills.

What are the issues I will be working on or continue to work on with the Board?

- Ensure the Company finances are robust during this difficult period and beyond.
- Ensure that riders, clubs and DC committees feel they get value for money from CTT and that the organisation helps deliver a sport that they and future generations love to enjoy.
- Use my H&S experience to help riders, clubs and DC to manage the intrinsic hazards of racing on the open roads.