



Resumés of candidates for election as Director 2023

In alphabetical order, candidates marked * are retiring by rotation and seek re-election:

Rob Bailey* (Manchester DC) TCB
Martin Balk (South DC)
Peter Rogers* (West DC)
Dawn Sherrin* (North East DC)
Tim Smith (Manchester DC)

Rob Bailey* (Manchester DC)

Aged 68. Retired 6 years ago.

I have been on the CTT Board for 5 years with recent emphasis on the Finances of the Company. I have been on the Manchester DC Committee for about 35 years including 20 years as DC Treasurer. I handed this role over in 2019 as part of the succession planning the Manchester Committee had been working on. I have been on National Council as a Manchester Delegate for 25 years.

I have ridden more than 500 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?

- a) Experience of handling many practical issues associated with managing the admin and sport of time trials at club, DC and National level
- b) Experience in industry of operational leadership, management development, HR, High Performing Work Systems, cost control and most other areas of industrial management.

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

- a) Developing the Company Vision and Strategy - what do we see CTT aiming to achieve in 5 years and how?
- b) Using the strategy work to develop the necessary skills and organisation to build the Company.
- c) 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.

Martin Balk (South DC)

I am a lifelong cyclist with a passion all aspects of the sport, but especially time trialling. Having competed in my first time trial over 50 years ago and still regularly competing today.

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 11 years, the last 5 years as Chairman, also currently holding the position of assistant secretary club events and courses and taking responsibility for the South DC website. Since taking on the role of courses secretary, I have modernised the system for collating and management of risk assessment within the district. Ensuring that they are updated in a timely manner and are available to all parties that may needs sight of them.

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 in engineering, the last 20 years I have held various management roles in further education, both in the private and public sector. Gaining lots of experience in people management, financial systems and implementing system changes.

The CTT and sport in general, face many challenges both financial and within society, I feel that my experience, enthusiasm, and willingness to take on new challenges with a can-do attitude, would enhance the current board and offering skills in IT, modern communication channels technology and change management.

We can't stand still we must change as an organisation if we want to survive long term and communicate in a much more open and meaning full way with clubs, riders and volunteers and I want to help bring that change into being. I hope that you will give me the opportunity to make a difference.

Peter Rogers* (West DC)

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 CATI time trials in the summer on a quiet country course ideal for novices.

RTTC/CTT experience: Chair West DC (elected October 2023). 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 late 2016 with a couple of National Hill Climb starts to my credit. Course measurer since early 2019. I am regularly in attendance at National Championships as CTT Representative or just helping out.

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. As Chair of the Rules and Regulations Sub-Committee, I'm fully occupied at the back end of the year. I also lead the contacts with the para-cycling community. 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 remains the liquidity of CTT and as a former owner of a business I am familiar with budgets etc. There still needs to be further cost reduction without detriment to the functioning of CTT as a company. The recent high turnover of staff is a major concern, and we need as a Board and sport to better support the ones we have.

We must keep the districts, clubs and their members engaged, there needs to be a continuation of the 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. The decline in “club spirit” is changing the profile of riders who enter CTT events, something we need to look at carefully.

There is still work to be done regarding rider safety, namely “superman”, “mantis” and “puppy paws” 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.

Dawn Sherrin* (North East DC)

I was first elected to the Board of Directors at the end of 2020, starting my first three year tenure and now stand for re-election at the 2023 AGM.

CTT background: -

- North East DC District Secretary since 2010
- Attended first National Council (AGM) in 2010 and have attended the AGM numerous times since
- Took up competitive cycling fairly late in life in the main enjoying sporting courses and hill climbs and then hung up my competitive cycling shoes in 2014 but I continue to be very actively involved within time trialling, locally and nationally.
- CTT Director, elected at 2020 AGM

Skills and experience: -

I see my strengths in leadership, people management, organisation and communications – all of which I have utilised and put to good use in the service of CTT. My career experience has been primarily within customer service, in senior leadership positions, leading people and teams primarily within financial services in both the private and public sector. That means I have much experience working in both fast-paced, agile businesses as well as within bureaucratic and/or traditional businesses. I am more or less retired now and in addition to the time which I am able to devote to CTT, I also work one day per week at an outdoor activity centre for children (ages 7-11) and volunteering in a local community charity shop.

Relevance to CTT: -

I have seen much change within my first three years on the Board and to say that it has not been plain sailing is a master of under-statement. I will be honest that at times it has felt like turmoil and I am well aware that there are some onlookers who feel that it hasn't been necessary and that the "status quo" should have been left as such. However, change has been necessary and will continue to be needed – that has been apparent from the feedback from the surveys that have been conducted – across all of our participant groups – an important element of comment and data collection that I have been instrumental in managing for CTT.

It is my hope that I can continue to contribute to CTT's future and add further value in the areas where it is relevant - communication, people management, organisation and supporting the delivery of change, where it is needed most. The heritage and history of CTT (RRC and RTTC before) is acknowledged and respected but the importance of change for the future of the sport of time-trialling and the longevity of CTT needs to also be acknowledged and respected.

Tim Smith (Manchester DC)

To introduce myself, I'm Tim Smith and I'm currently the District Secretary for Manchester. This is a position I've held for about 3 years now, but one that I also held for a number of years in the late 90's. To caveat that, however, I was only in my mid-20s at that time!

Professionally, I've always worked in the technology space, initially working as a Developer and then through various Pre-Sales roles in the Customer Experience space. I believe that Pre-Sales is a background that ideally suits me to helping the CTT reverse the dramatic decline in participation.

For those who aren't familiar with it, Pre-Sales is the technical element of a sales team. This essentially means that I spend my days speaking to both business users and technical users within small business to huge organisations such as high-street banks, understanding their challenges, their drivers and their technical infrastructure and devise a solution that solves these problems. Essentially, it's the bridge between the corporate challenges and a technical solution.

Why does this help?

I believe a big part of the decline in the sport is down to the fact that the CTT aren't making use of the data they have regarding participants – we aren't communicating with riders effectively. What we need to communicate about could be many things, but we certainly need to engage with the participants for the sport to have a future.

Just one example. The website can, at best, be described as adequate. There are so many things that could make it more user friendly, and not somewhere (as I suspect most people do) to only go to simply enter an event. It needs to be enhanced to not only fix the relatively minor, but numerous, usability issues that make it frustrating to use but also to make it somewhere that riders interact with the CTT on a more regular basis. I've already shared numerous thoughts on this with Andrea throughout the year.

My other passion is to encourage younger participants in the sport which ultimately comes to the same conclusion, namely safeguarding the future of the sport. One of my reasons for the gap between my two stints on the District Committee was the arrival of twins. Now aged 15, one of my sons is an extremely keen time-triallist. In fact, he will at the National AGM as, I suspect, the youngest ever District Officer, having taken over as Club Events Secretary at our recent AGM.

I've had numerous initiatives around trying to improve junior and juvenile participation in my events – free entry, prizes for all, event sponsorship, social media advertising etc. Some of these have yielded results, but it's certainly a work in progress.

In summary, I believe that I have the background and experience to provide significant value to the Board and the wider CTT in terms of understanding and driving through the changes that are undoubtedly needed to ensure that our beloved sport has a future.