Cycling UK East Midlands Region AGM Secretaries’ Report 2025:

Many thanks to Ian Prince for steering the Member Group through its 25th year with his first year in office as Chair. Ian took over from Ray Clay who retired after 24 years as a Committee Member. Ray was presented with a **Lifetime Achievement Award (SILVER)** by National Office and he’s been inducted into the **‘Roll of Honour’**.

Ian himself is a keen cyclist and has taken part in rides and events across the East Midlands and further afield. He has extensive knowledge across several cycling disciplines with his Harry Hall bike once mastering everything from time trialling to cyclo cross racing, touring, recreational and club riding (it was the only bike he had). Ian has experience riding mountain bikes (from its early days in the 1980’s) and now rides a variety of road bikes to include a Brompton and an ICE recumbent amongst others. Having previously been publicity secretary for CTC Nottingham and Nottingham Pedals, he’s no stranger to campaigning either. He’s also involved with Audax, a member of The Veteran-Cycle Club (V-CC) and on the committee of the York Rally and Festival. Ian is certainly passionate about cycling.

Cycling UK East Midlands Region’s Mince Pie Run (currently the Member Groups only event) took place on 22nd December 2024 with the weather being notable for being just bad it could be. In the end about 200 cyclists battled through the conditions. Many thanks to lead organiser John Catt ably assisted by Ian Hill and Terry Scott for all their hard work. Following the deduction of expenses the net surplus was £170 along with an additional £755 raised from the Tombola run by Derek Willans; all funds going to Rainbows Hospice for Babies, Children and Young People. A cheque presentation took place on 20th February 2025 at the Hospice in Loughborough.

The Mince Pie Run will once again be taking place in 2025 and other East Midlands Region Member Group events will hopefully include an ‘East Midlands Challenge Ride’ with planning currently in progress. Looking further ahead maybe the joining up of a number of rides across all of our counties to form a ‘Tour of the East Midlands Route’, similar to the long distance tourism trails that Cycling UK has been devising and promoting.

Our Regional Member Group’s aim is to support and facilitate a close liaison and collaboration between the 6 Full Member Groups (it’s hoped attend as many of the AGM’s as possible) but also collaborating with ‘advocates of active travel and groups focused on improving the environment’. With this in mind, we’ve been striving to make contact with like minded bodies and we’ll be attending the relaunch of the East Midlands Cycle Forum in October, this event taking place in Chesterfield. We’ve also been invited into discussions and collaboration with the new Newark and Sherwood Cycling and Walking Advisory Group along with Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire’s (D2N2) ‘Active Travel Alliance’.

Further, we welcome Mikey Cottle to our AGM. Mickey is Cycling UK’s Cycling Development Officer (East Midlands). Mikey’s focus is on community projects such as Cycling UK East Midlands affiliated community cycle clubs, active travel and sustainable transport. Mikey also co-ordinates the delivery of Cycling UK’s Big Bike Revival in the East Midlands (Cycling UK’s Behaviour Change Programme) which the government has agreed to fund again this year.

Here's to a successful year and a smooth transition to the re-branding of our organisation.

Tim Newbery

Secretary, Cycling UK East Midlands Region