

Minutes of Globetrotters Club AGM on 2nd Nov 2024

Apologies.

Francesca Jaggs, Eiman Aleem, Rosemary Brown, Louise Bacon, Patricia Shorter, Jacqui Trotter, Eric Camplin, Brian Channel (Patient), Rose Streatfeild

Present.

In The Hall

Simon Finnemore, Catherine Finnemore, Mary Fogerty, Mike Smith, Gavin Fernandez, Nicky Williams, Mary Trevis, Clovine Morris, Sheila Robinson, Elizabeth Mioduchowski, Tracy Murray, Paul Roberts, Sarah Chanter, John Pannell, Fiona Churchill, Hemant Amin, Brennie Dyer, Simon Banks.

On Zoom

Doreen Tayler, Eric Hayman, Keith MacIntosh, Kevin Brackley, Paul Woodward, Stephen Jones, Zara Taylor

Welcome

We did not have a quorum at the advertised time, so we had to wait half an hour to start. We started late due to an issue with the sound on Zoom, which we resolved.

Minutes of the last AGM.

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted unanimously

Membership Report.

Catherine Fynamore, Membership Secretary.

- **Total Membership:** The club ended the year with **237 members**, which has remained relatively steady in recent years. Membership peaked during the **COVID years**, likely due to increased interest from people joining to participate via Zoom.
- **New Members:**
 - **27 new members** joined the club in the past year.
 - Of these, **20 were from the UK** (note: the exact numbers will be verified and corrected for the final minutes).
- **Lapsed Members:** A total of **39 lapsed members** rejoined the club this year.
- **Early Bird Renewals:** **58 members** took advantage of the early bird renewal offer last year.
- **International Interest:** There was **one new member from Romania** who expressed interest in potentially setting up a branch in Romania. However, as of the meeting, there have been no updates on this initiative.
- **Membership Growth Sources:** The majority of new members have joined through **referrals, word of mouth, or online searches**.

(Note: The numbers provided for new members and regional distribution will be verified and corrected for accuracy in the final minutes.)

Treasurer's report.

John Pannel presented the accounts.

The accounts are divided into **two main categories**:

1. **Non-trading activities**: Membership-related activities (including Globetrotters operations but excluding local branches).
2. **Trading activities**: Calendar sales, which generate potential profit.

Non-Trading Activities (Membership):

- **Income** from membership: **£2,528**.
- **Expenses** related to membership activities: **£2,872**.
- **Other income** (e.g., bank interest): **£238**.
- **Net result**: Loss of **£105** for the year, compared to a profit of **£42** the previous year.
- **Key expenses**:
 - Office and admin costs: £120 (bank charges: PayPal and Barclays).
 - Delivery costs (calendar distribution): £355.
 - Software licenses: £262.
 - Other membership-related expenses: £1,020.
 - Website running costs (admin by Paul): £300.

Trading Activities (Calendar Sales):

- **Income** from calendar sales: **£402**.
- **Cost of production**: **£108**.
- **Gross profit** from calendar sales: **£293.76**.
- This profit is reported to **HMRC** and **Companies House**.

Cash and Bank Balances:

- **Current accounts**: £1,500 (Barclays).
- **PayPal balance**: £4,800.
- **Reserve savings account**: £17,808.
- **Total cash at bank**: £24,158 (compared to £23,895 last year).

Financial Oversight:

- The committee regularly **monitors accounts**.
- For any outgoing payments, **two signatories** are required, usually Kevin and the presenter.

Conclusion:

- **Net loss** for the non-trading account of **£105** and **net profit** of **£293.76** from trading activities.

- Overall, the bank balance shows slight growth year-over-year.

Approval:

- **Members agreed** that the **Directors** be authorised to present the accounts as prepared at the AGM to **Companies House** and **HMRC**.

Publications.

Globe:

Globe Magazine Francesca Jaggs produced 2 wonderful issues of Globe this year as above. They look really good and seeing she's never done anything like that before, I think it was a fantastic effort. Now, we're working on the next edition.

Calendar

2024 Calendar Overview:

- The 2024 calendar process began with the closing date for entries on **September 1, 2023**.
- Around **100-110 images** were submitted by approximately **20-25 people**.
- **Judging Process:**
 - The images were anonymised (no photographer names or captions).
 - The selection committee voted on images, eliminating those that wouldn't make the final calendar in several rounds.
 - The process began with **approximately 70 images**, narrowing down to **50**, then **30**, and ultimately resulted in the selection of the **final 13**.
 - This process was completed by **mid-November 2023**.
- **Printing and Distribution:**
 - The finalised calendar was sent to **Ludo Press** for printing by mid-November. Ludo Press, which was previously based in Wimbledon, continues printing this year's edition.
 - Every member receives one free calendar as part of their membership, with additional copies available for purchase.
 - A **mailing list** for extra copies was sent out to members by **end of November**, allowing for pre-orders and shipping in time for **Christmas**.
 - Extra copies, after sending to members, were used for **sales at meetings** and to **new members**.
- **Sales Process:**
 - Leftover copies were distributed for **promotion** and sold through various channels.
 - Some calendars were sent directly to **UK and Europe addresses** on behalf of international members (e.g., Jackie in Australia), easing logistics and promoting gift-giving.
 - The **last 20 copies** were sold out by **early 2024**, with Kath and the membership secretary helping with the final sales.

2025 Calendar Process:

- **Call for Entries** for the **2025 calendar** is currently open.

- Early submissions allow for **5 images** per member (early bird offer).
- As the deadline nears (usually **end of September 2024**), submissions are limited to **3 images**.
- The judging and selection process for 2025 will start after the deadline, and the final calendar will be prepared in **late 2024** for distribution.

Next Steps:

- Continue promotion of the 2025 calendar call for entries.
- Finalise sales and distribution processes for the current year's calendar (2024).

Website Report

Newsletters

Currently, all newsletters have 29097 subscribers, with 28533 who are confirmed. We currently have 8327 active subscribers, with 20503 who have unsubscribed or have non-working email addresses.

We had 114 new newsletter subscribers this year, with 91 confirming their subscription. This included 86 from the UK and 9 from the USA.

Membership Enquiries

This year we had 183 membership enquiries, of those 36 selected to join, 99 selected for renewal, 11 printed a form to post in and 37 downloaded a sample of Globe. (Of these, 82 renewed and 33 joined.). Of these enquiries, 135 were from the UK and 22 from the USA.

Queries from the floor:

Simon Banks asked about mailing lists and if we can see opens, etc

.

We can see some of them if it goes to Outlook or Hotmail. No, if you can see if people click a link and stuff like that. But yeah, I can see if people have read.

Sometimes, we get Outlook and Hotmail decide that we're sending too many emails one time a month like before the meetings and decide this is an unusual pattern and block us from emailing anyone on their Servers and then I have to chase around and get them to unblock.

Election of Committee Members.

The Following members are standing for re-election to the committee:

Cath Finamore, Kevin Brackley, Paul Roberts, John Pannell,
Gavin Fernandes, Mary Fogarty, Doreen Tayler,

Nicky Williams and Eloise Burnett joined the committee.

Voted: All were elected unanimously

Local Group meetings

London Meetings.

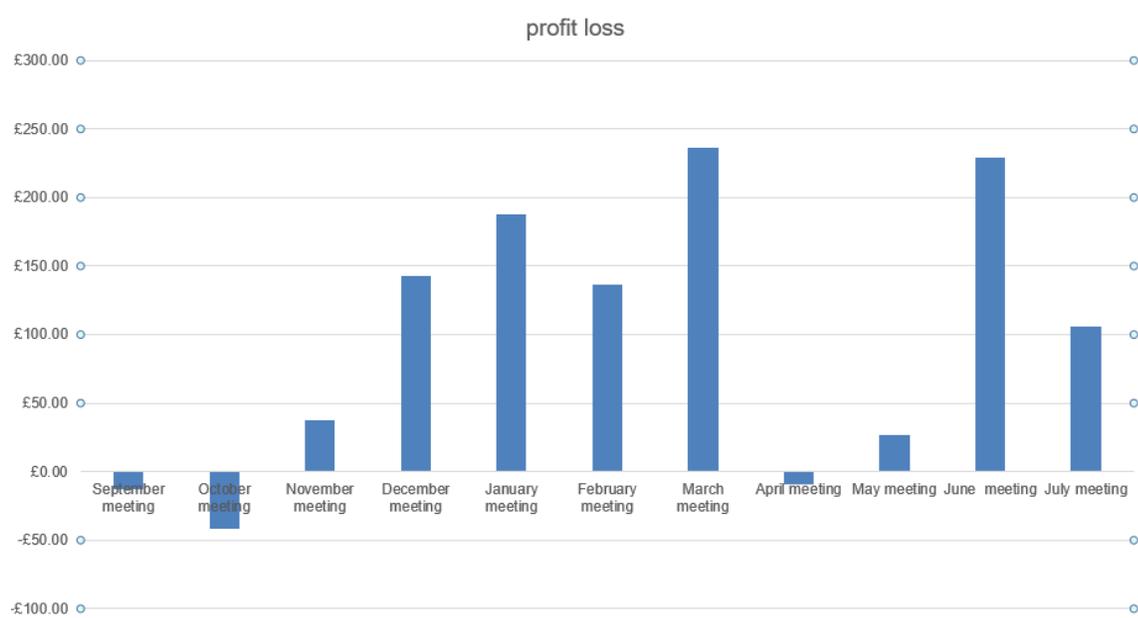
- Paul Roberts

The finances for the London branch were presented

Money In	
On Door Cash	£1,509.00
On Door Card	£1,266.00
Eventbrite (Zoom)	£964.50
Bank Interest	£25.64
Money In Total	£3,765.14

Money Out	
Eventbrite Fees	£20.90
Zoom Fees	£100.72
Izettle fees	£23.90
Speakers	£117.62
Food	£227.84
Technical	£725.87
Donation (CoS)	£1,897.50
Sundries	£192.39
Advertising	£24.32
Money Out Total	£3,331.06

A slide showing Profit and loss for the meetings was shown. We were making a loss on these meetings before the price increase but now have enough reserves to cover a year's rent and any equipment replacement needs.



Insurance Coverage: The club has secured insurance with **Zurich** to cover **laptops** and **cash** carried to meetings, providing protection in case of any incidents.

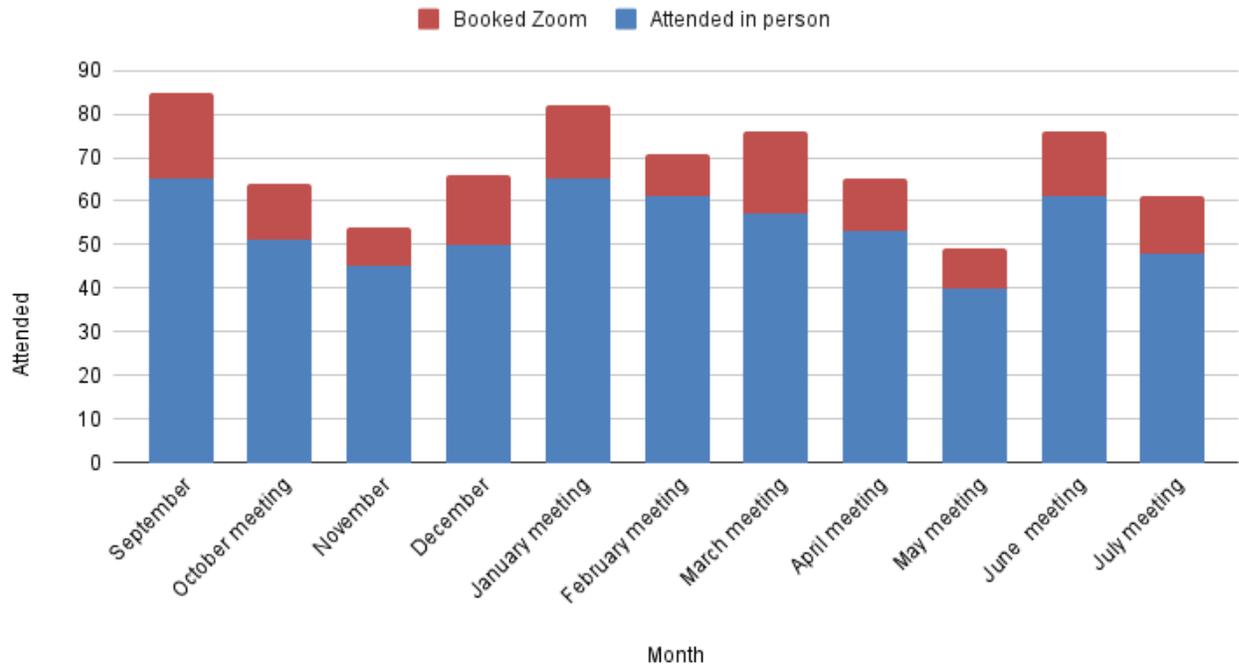
Bank Account Changes:

- The club's **Nationwide treasurer account** has been closed, and the funds have been transferred to a new **Lloyds treasurer's account**.
- **London meetings** are considered **mutual trading**, meaning all funds collected belong to the members attending the meetings and are used entirely for their benefit.

Meeting Attendance:

- There was discussion about **variable attendance** at meetings, with some meetings experiencing **low attendance** due to **good weather, tube strikes and other factors**.

Attended in person vs Booked Zoom



Chester meetings.

Eve MacPherson's report was presented
2024 Programme has gone well with a full complement of speakers.

We were very pleased to welcome Kevin Brackley once again to give his presentation on Washington DC, which was warmly welcomed by our audience, and also to catch up on the news of the London meetings. Good to see you once again Kevin.

We are currently undertaking a review of our Income and Expenses. Although our funds are quite healthy, we are considering as to whether we need to increase our admission charge, as now, of course, some potential speakers are requesting a higher fee and also as our lecture theatre venue is owned by the local council, we are waiting to be advised, when we receive our next hire charge invoice, as to the increase in the fees.

As a number of our previous committee members have now "resigned", we require recruiting more help, as at some meetings it is becoming difficult to ensure we have sufficient cover for the various duties. – As always as with many organisations, volunteers are not easy to come by, but fingers crossed, we will overcome this problem.

Meanwhile, we have almost filled our "speaker diary" to cover 2025, thus enabling us to make a few more journeys around the world from our seats in the Grosvenor Museum Lecture Theatre in Chester.

Toronto GTs meetings.

A report is not required as they have fewer than 20 members attending

4-5 meetings a year with talks, organised by Bruce Weber. All going well

There's a film on the website about Bruce Weber that was on Canadian television.

Any other business

We are still looking for a president to replace John Pilkington and a chair for the committee. Suggestions for a president are welcome.

No other business was raised, so Mary thanked everyone and ended the meeting.