

## **Globetrotters Club — 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes**

**Date:** Saturday 8 November @ 12:30

**Location:** London (19 attendees in person; 6 via Zoom)

### **1 Welcome and Apologies**

**Chair:** Mary Fogarty opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

**Apologies for absence:** John Pilkington, Zara Taylor, Jo Jaeckel, Alan Palmer, Jay Ginn, Hemant Amin, Judy Patterson.

### **2 Attendance**

#### **In The Hall**

- Fiona Churchill, David Reekie, Sandra Reekie, John Pannell, Simon Finnamore, Catherine Finnamore, Mike Smith, Eric Camplin, Doreen Tayler, Mary Fogarty, Paul Roberts, Kevin Brackley, Penny Mellor, Tracy Murray, Philomena Kelly, John Pryce, Gavin Fernandes, Robert Parsons.
- Arrived late: Simon Banks

#### **On Zoom**

- Paul Woodward, Colin Grant-Wilson, Beryl & John O'Donnell, Francesca Jaggs, Liz Southcombe.

### **3 Approval of Previous AGM Minutes**

[Previous minutes were circulated by email.](#) A majority show of hands approved the minutes.

#### **4 Membership Report — Catherine Finnamore**

- Total members: 250 (net increase).
- New members: 38 (all UK-based).
- Rejoined after lapse: 48.
- Early renewals: 67 (approx. two-thirds online).
- New recruits at Adventure Travel Show: 6.
- Main recruitment channels: word of mouth and online search.

#### **5 Treasurer's Report — John Pannell (Sept 2024 — Aug 2025)**

- Non-trading (membership activities) net: £151.83 profit.
- Trading (calendar sales) net: £296.62 profit.
- Corporation tax anticipated on trading income: approx. £55 — £60.
- Total cash across accounts (Barclays, PayPal, savings): £24,403.
- No outstanding debtors or creditors.
- Accounts to be presented to Companies House and HMRC, approved by majority vote.

#### **6 Calendar Report — Gavin Fernandes**

- 2025 calendar: ~100 submissions from ~25 contributors; final 13 images selected after anonymous judging.
- Production managed with Ludo Press; members receive a free copy.
- Extra calendars sold via website/PayPal; The printer can mail directly to recipients.
- Pre-Christmas sales push planned to meet postal deadlines.
- 2026 calendar submissions are underway.

## **7 Globe Magazine — Mary Fogarty (Editor)**

- Plan to publish quarterly (four issues per year).
- Content areas: travel features, recipes, member contributions.
- Request for more submissions and increased social media promotion.
- Considering designer support and potential advertising revenue.

## **8 Website and Membership Data — Paul Roberts**

- Period Sept 2024 — Aug 2025: 22,380 page views; 12,791 users; UK = 27% of users.
- Peaks: February (Adventure Travel Show) and June (active speakers).
- New members via website: 34; 100 renewals.
- 201 membership inquiries (157 UK).
- PayPal form and server updated for improved payment flow and PCI scanning.

## **9 Committee Election**

**Committee members:** Cath, Kevin, Paul, John, Gavin, Mary, Doreen, and Eloise.

The committee was re-elected unanimously.

## **10 Local Groups Reports**

- **Chester:** Bi-monthly meetings, average 40 — 50 attendees; planning a travel quiz; 2026 programme mostly filled.
- **Toronto:** Bi-monthly meetings with diverse presentations and a potluck picnic once a year.

## **11 London Meetings — Paul Roberts**

- Average in-person attendance: 55; Zoom average: 14; combined average ~69.
- Income and expenses summarised (cash/card/Eventbrite takings; speaker fees; venue costs).
- Current reserves are positive; venue charges are monitored due to potential building works.

## **12 Banking Discussion**

Concern was raised about the Barclays account. The committee noted difficulties switching banks due to the organisation being a company limited by guarantee and agreed to research alternatives.

## **13 Any Other Business and Closing**

- Doreen confirmed as a director.
- Thanks were expressed to members and volunteers.
- Meeting closed.