

Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers AGM

15th October 2025 19:00 via Teams

Present:

Mary Rack (MR), Peter Firth (PF), Katherine Brown (KB), Frank Shillitoe (FS), Paul Boyles (PB), Allie Wilson-Craw (AWC), Gwenda Cavill (GC), Les Cavill (LC), Michael Broadhurst (MB), Patrick Smyth (PS), Lewis Balfour (LB), George Hare (GH), Helen Rafferty (HR), Sue Metcalfe (SM), Kim Sanderson (KS)

1. **Apologies:** Joanne Field, John Crosby
2. **Matters Arising 2024 AGM:** No matters arising, minutes accepted.
3. **Chair's Report** – Francis Shillitoe

Memorable events for me over the last year have included the excellent Newcastle Urban, the JK, the Scottish Six Days and more recently Pike O'Blisco and the Lake District Mountain Trial. There is plenty of good orienteering to be had if you are able to travel. Locally, forest and fell events are thin on the ground. In NATO this is due to being unable to get hold of landowners with emails and voicemails not being returned. On a positive note, we still have a few good areas we can save for Nationals such as the up coming event at Beanley. This has been completely re-mapped and geo-referenced so will stand us in good stead for the future. Next year I'm really looking forward to a new area for us: Berwick-upon-Tweed. Like Beanley we have paid a professional to produce a map for us. This will form part of a weekend with Roxburgh Reivers who will host an event at another new area: Eyemouth. If anyone can suggest new areas or has friendly relationships with landowners then let me or one of the committee members know.

Member numbers are just shy of 100, and we've held 1 National, 1 Regional, 5 Local and 14 LOPs over the past 12 months. Gwenda Cavill is our volunteer co-ordinator having taken over from Mary Rack after many years of service. Please consider volunteering in any capacity. Planning a LOP or Local Event is a good place to start. There are more experienced members who can show you the ropes.

4. **Treasurer's report** (summary and account statement on Dropbox)

Annual accounts to 31/8/25 presented by GH. There is a healthy balance of £12136. Newcastle City race was the biggest event and profitable. The LOPs are also making some money thanks to Fred printing the maps.

On the expense side the club has bought 10 SI cards to loan at events. We have paid upfront for 5 years to use SI. A number of control boxes needed servicing. A card payment machine was purchased. Lloyds are now charging £4.25/month for banking. There are costs to go out for the Beanley and Berwick maps.

The accounts were checked by PF and there were no questions.

5. Election of officers

Chair Francis Shillitoe, proposed and seconded

Vice chair Lewis Balfour, proposed and seconded

Secretary Michael Broadhurst, proposed and seconded

Treasurer Joanne Feld, proposed and seconded

Club Captain Mary Rack, proposed and seconded

Account verifier Peter Firth, proposed and seconded

Committee members Allie Wilson Craw, Gwenda Cavill, Paul Boyles, Peter Firth, Katherine Brown. Mary Rack and Fred Miller are all happy to stay on.

6. **AOB** KS suggested the Prudhoe Riverside event be put back one week to allow FS more time to map and plan. MR will change the date on the website and look at the desirability of moving the dates of the Silverlink and Weetslade local events.

- **AGM closed 19.29pm**