



2025 Regional Chairs Report

To the Annual General Meeting

Twelve months into my role as Chair, the time has certainly flown by. This past year has been one of discovery and of making sure Team Yorkshire continues its fantastic work across our region.

Our motion at last years National Council was approved and now there are several staff at British Cycling, headed by Yorkshire's Anthony Gill are now working on a project to transform the sport. Over the next 18 months, this will bring much-needed changes to points structures and a wider review of how the sport works for members. I look forward to seeing these improvements take shape.

We have also faced some changes closer to home. A staffing restructure meant that Matthew Gott moved across to the same role in the North West Region. Many of you will know Matt and the support he has given over the years, and we wish him every success. Stepping into the role here in Yorkshire is Andy Akers. Andy is passionate about clubs and is ready to support organisers with advice, guidance, and encouragement as you plan your events for 2026.

Looking back, we began the year on a high with an organisers, commissaires and accredited marshals' workshop at Wyke. It was a lively day of ideas, discussion, and the usual Yorkshire humour. At this event, we introduced Bev Randell-Eyre as our new ACM Co-ordinator. Bev has worked tirelessly all year, booking marshals and working alongside our RCA, Phil Makinson, to ensure events run as smoothly as possible. This was followed by a Yorkshire Clubs Network event which sparked real enthusiasm and collaboration. It was inspiring to see so much passion in the room, a reminder of just how many dedicated people in our region are helping others enjoy cycling.

Speaking of dedication, I want to highlight some incredible achievements within our Breeze community. Val French and Jules Turner both reached the remarkable milestone of leading 1,000 Breeze rides. Equally impressive is Anne Sugden from East Yorkshire, who has led 600 rides in just five years. These milestones are a true reflection of the commitment and energy our Breeze Champions bring to the sport.

Yorkshire has once again played host to major events that showcase our region. The early season opener and arguably the UK's premier National B event, the YBC Peaks 2-Day was another success and in July, Yorkshire played hosts to the Otley and Ilkley Town Centre races, along with the Sheffield Grand Prix, these events continue to attract huge crowds and inspire the next generation. Mandy Parker and her son Joe deserve special recognition for organising two rounds of the British Cycling National Youth Circuit Series at Wyke and Scarborough, including a superb weekend of racing at Oliver's Mount. It was great to see strong participation too at the revitalised White Rose Youth League, which continues to provide valuable racing opportunities for young riders.

Our Regional Events Workgroup also deserves congratulations for delivering a round of the British Cycling National Under-23 Road Series at Carlecotes, the only region to do so this year. A big well done to everyone involved for their efforts in making this happen.



2025 Regional Chairs Report cont.

Looking ahead, at the end of August we will see the inaugural Wentworth Woodhouse Grand Prix. This promises to be one of the largest events in South Yorkshire since the Tour of Britain came through Sheffield and Barnsley last year. With large crowds expected and the spectacular Wentworth House as the backdrop, it's set to be a fantastic day of racing. Huge thanks to former Regional Chair and current British Cycling President, Bob Howden, for bringing this event to our roads.

Another exciting development in 2025 has been the launch of a new Community Cycling Group. This initiative is aimed at non-competitive cyclists and has already attracted strong interest. Led by Bev Randell-Eyre, and supported by new volunteers, the group will provide opportunities for people who simply want to enjoy riding their bike. I'm really encouraged by this project and confident it will help us connect with new members who may have felt overlooked in the past.

On the elite stage, Yorkshire riders continue to make us proud. Rising stars Cat Ferguson and Imogen Wolff are making their mark internationally and look set for long, successful careers. And of course, special congratulations go to Doncaster's Ben Turner, who claimed a stunning Grand Tour victory on Stage 4 of the Vuelta a España. Go Team Yorkshire!

Finally, as we look forward to the AGM, we have vacancies on the Board. If you'd like to play a part in shaping all aspects of cycling in our region, please get in touch with our Regional Secretary, Peter Root, who can guide you through the application process. I'd love to see some new faces around the table as we continue to grow and strengthen Team Yorkshire.

Ride safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Etches".

Marc Etches

Chair, British Cycling Yorkshire.