## TRAIL RUNNING & ULTRAS THE CHARITY OPPORTUNITY Threshold x Maverick Race x Alzheimer's Research UK x JustGiving





## ALZHEIMER'S FORA RESEARCH UK

## THRESHOLD/ More is in you™



# JustGiving® from Blackbaud

# Today's Agenda

- The growth of Trails and Ultras
- The Trail and Ultra demographic
- Event case studies
  - Maverick Race
  - Threshold Trail Series
  - Endure24
- The Fundraising Opportunity
- Charity partner case study: Alzheimer's Research UK
- Q&A



# A brief history of Trails & Ultras

#### **Roots in the Northern Fells** Hard men in small shorts



**Developed in the mountains** Terrifying unless you're part goat



#### **Increasingly elite** Unwelcoming to mere mortals MORE IS IN YOU™

# Ultras: Growing fast, booking early

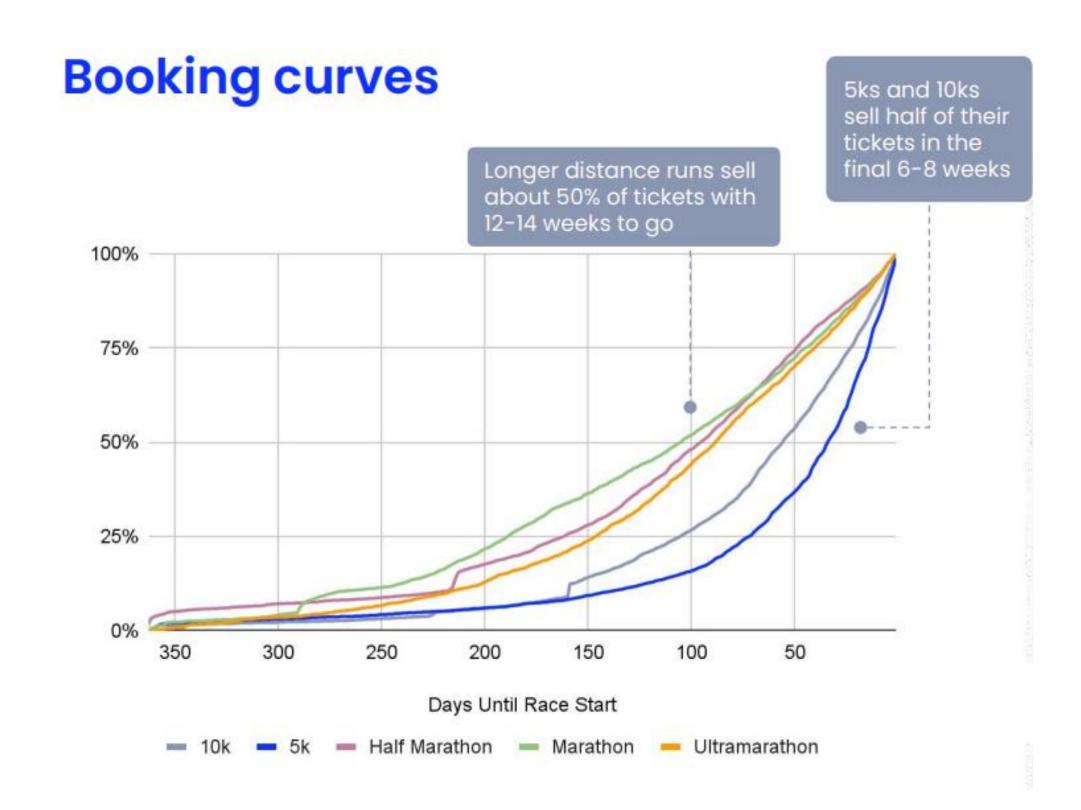
## Ultramarathons are among our fastest growing categories in 2023

| Growth Tier   | Event Distance                    |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 30%+ Growth 🚀 | Ultramarathon, 10k, Half Marathon |
| 10%+ Growth   | 5k                                |
| 0% Growth     | Marathon                          |

#### **Growth of longer distances** People pushing beyond the marathon

Data provided by





These are considered events Matches a longer fundraising journey MORE IS IN YOU™



# Trails is a focal point for the sector

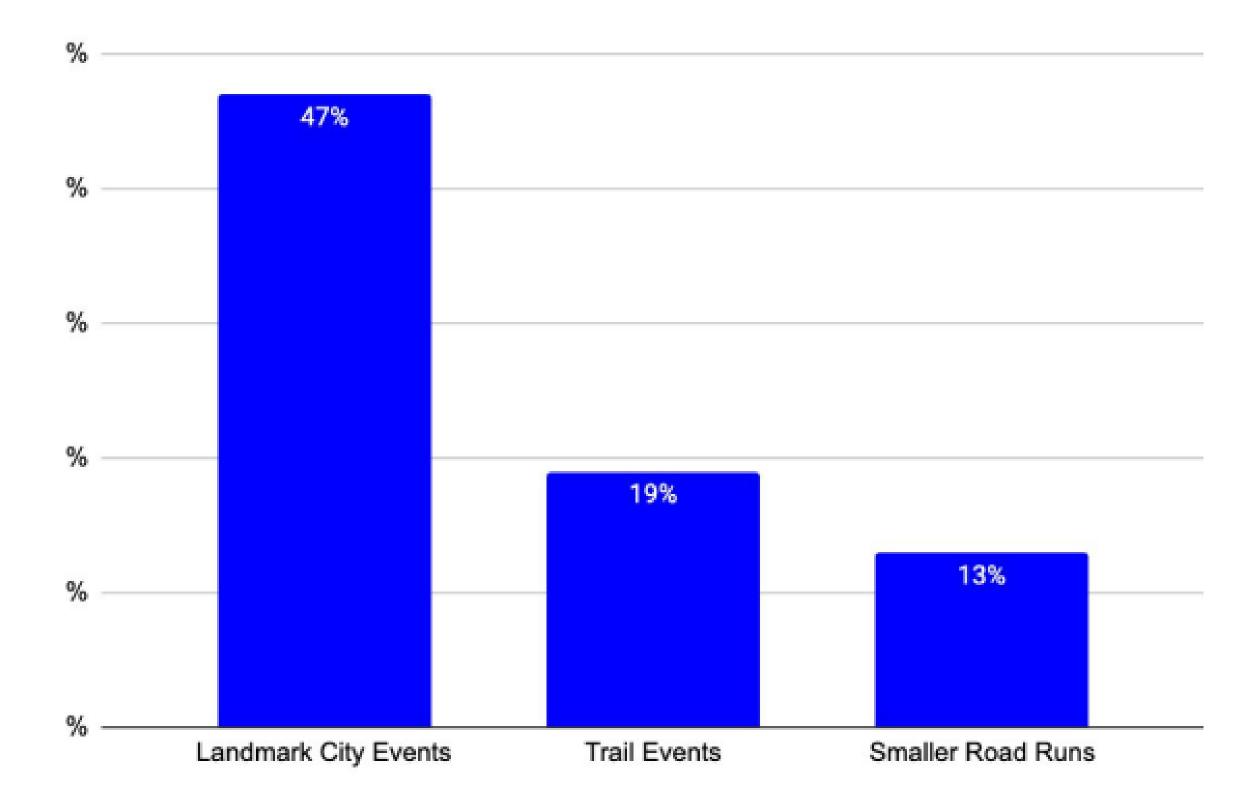
- Trail running has grown by 231% in the last 10 years. Run Repeat
- Female participation has grown from 13% in 1997 to 46% in 2022. World Athletics
- Forecast annual growth of 8% annually to 2028. Intellectual Market Insights Research.
- Continuing to be a major growth sector with running brands investing heavily

1. 'The State of Trail Running'. RunRepeat

Data provided by

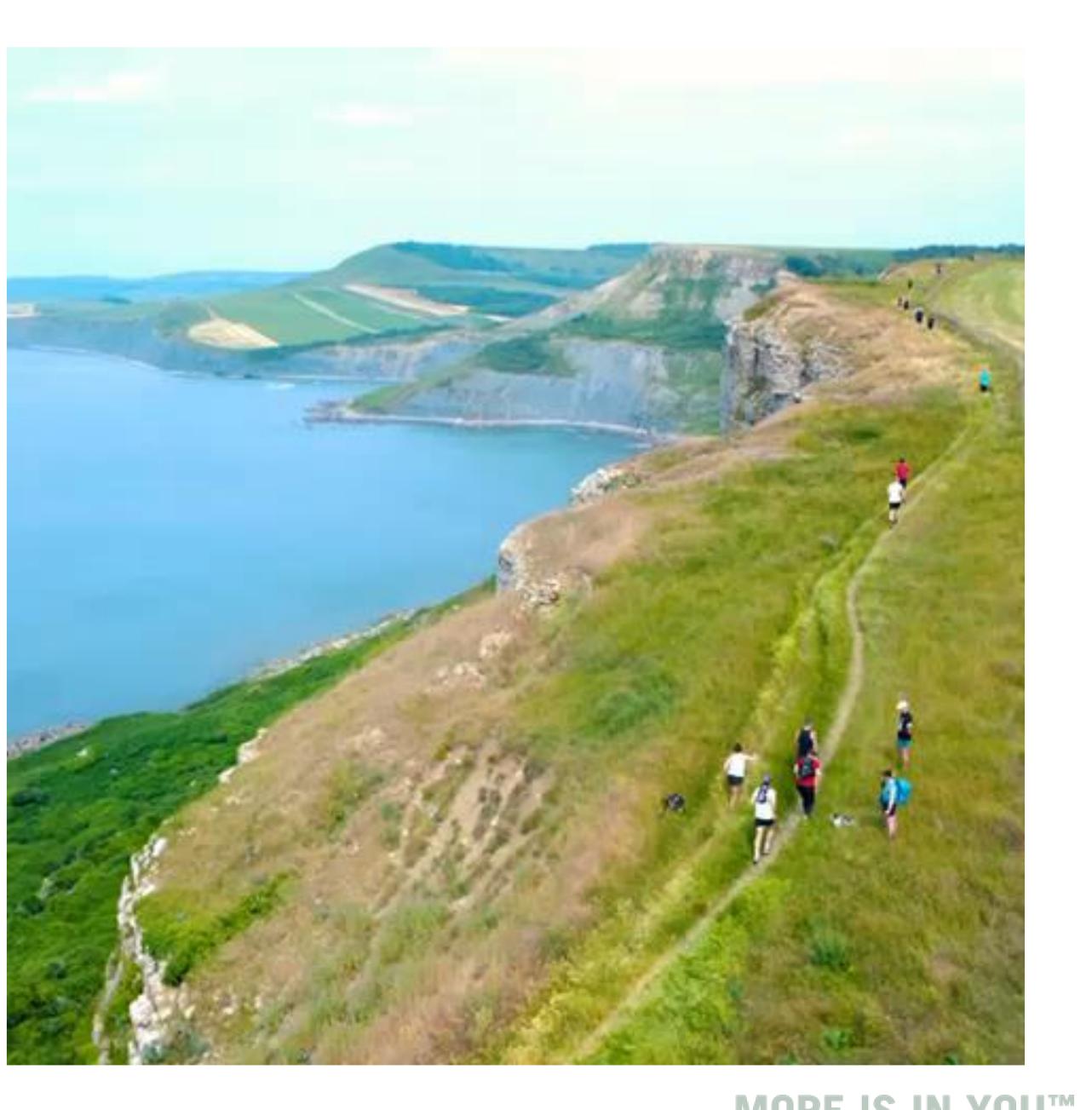


#### Year-on-Year Growth vs 2022



#### MORE IS IN





## A challenge, an experience, a community.

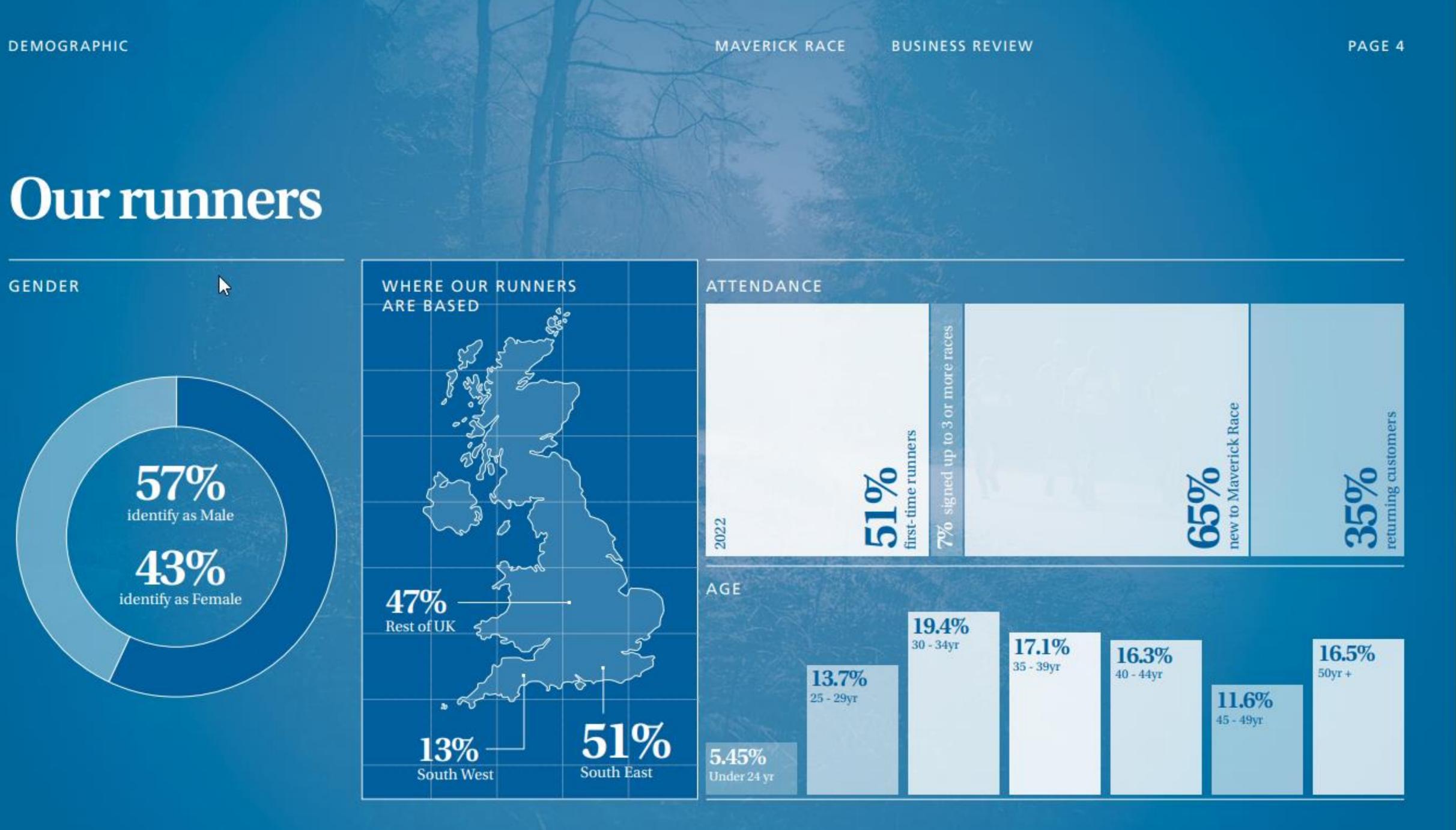
#### MAVERICK RACE

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**



Maverick Race is guided by a set of core values at its heart that shape our identity and mission. We embrace adventure and support community spirit in the outdoors with all enthusiasts. We operate with integrity and innovation, prioritising the safety and enrichment for our participants. We pride ourselves on inclusivity, creating a diverse and welcoming environment for all.





## **Connecting with our runners**

## **Email database** )15k

| <b>53%</b> | open rate |
|------------|-----------|
|            |           |

| 0.07 | THE LOCAL DRAFT | STRUCTURE OF | 15 24000 | 10.025 |
|------|-----------------|--------------|----------|--------|
| 8%   | click-t         | 11001        | en ra    | 110    |
| 0 /0 | Contract of the | no or house  | o        | 10000  |

#### Website

4%



#### 500k views per month

av conversion rate of visitors buying a race entry

## **Instagram followers** • 20k

| 38k | av monthly reach        |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 6k  | av monthly profile vis  |
| 500 | av new followers a mo   |
| 3k  | av reel views, 91% stor |

## **Facebook followers** F)12k

| 70k | av monthly reach        |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 7k  | av monthly profile visi |
| 60  | av new followers a mo   |

#### MAVERICK RACE

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

nth

v completion

nth



PAGE 5







# RACE TO THE STONES IS A CENTRE S

The UK's favourite Ultramarathons

Designed to be **Ultras for All** Distances from 50km to 100km Single-day or 2-day options

Stones: 13-14<sup>th</sup> July, Ridgeway c.3,000 runners and walkers King: 15<sup>th</sup> June, South Downs c.2,000 runners and walkers



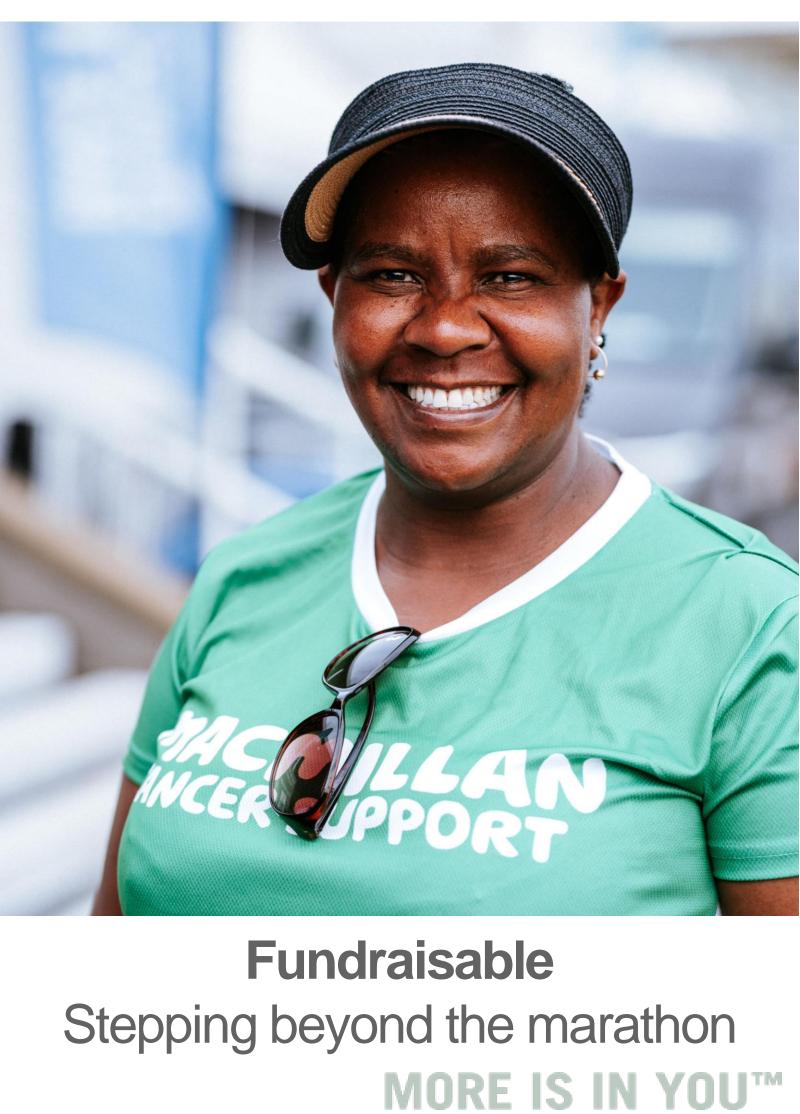


# **Designed to open up Ultras For All**



#### Wide range of participants First timers to fastest known timers

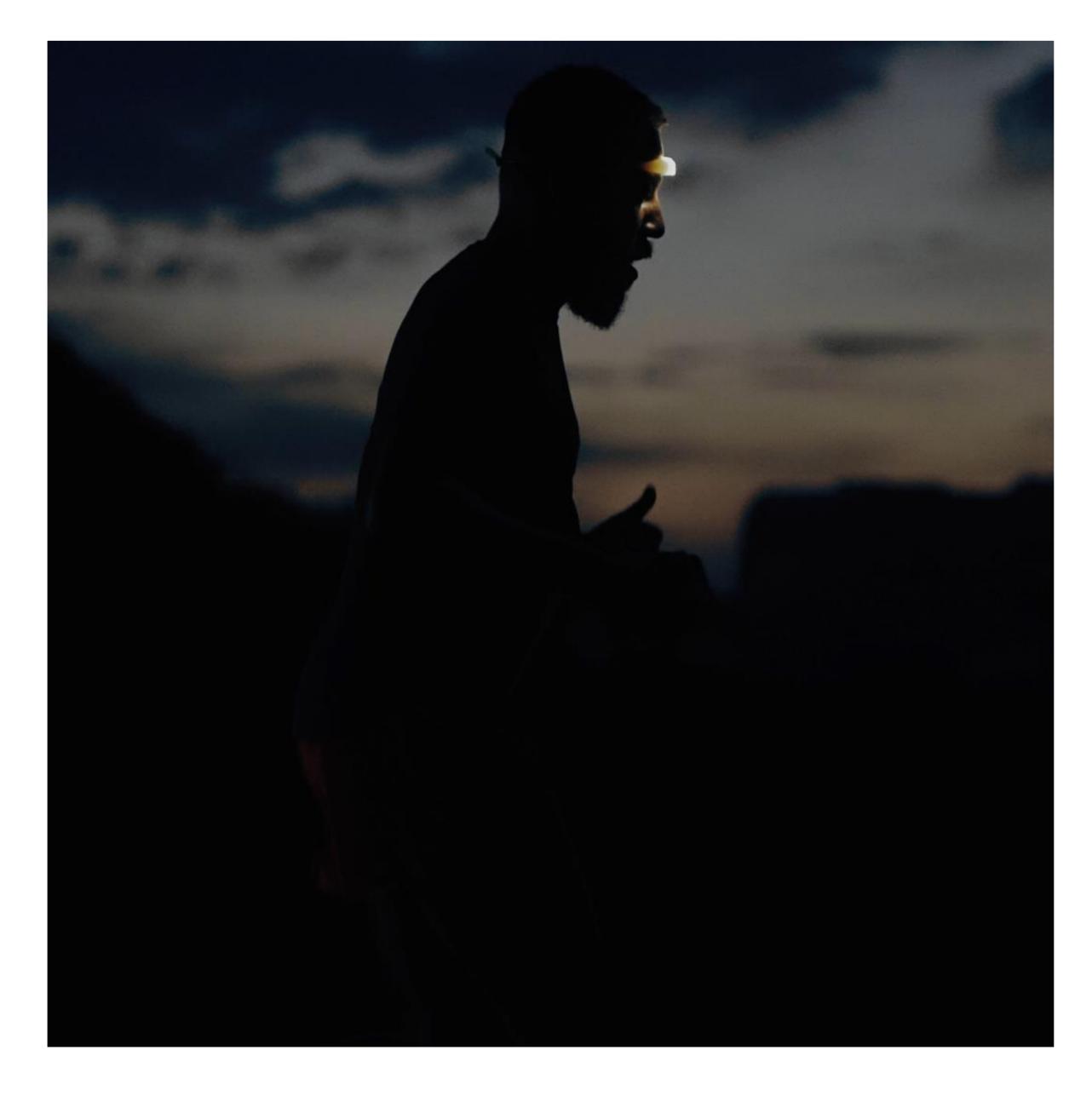
#### A lifetime achievement The inaccessible made accessible



## ENDURE24 How far will you go?

The UK's biggest 24hr trail race Enter as a solo, pair or a team of up to 12. Bring your team for the Friday night party. See how many laps of the 5-mile trail you can complete from midday on Saturday to midday on Sunday.

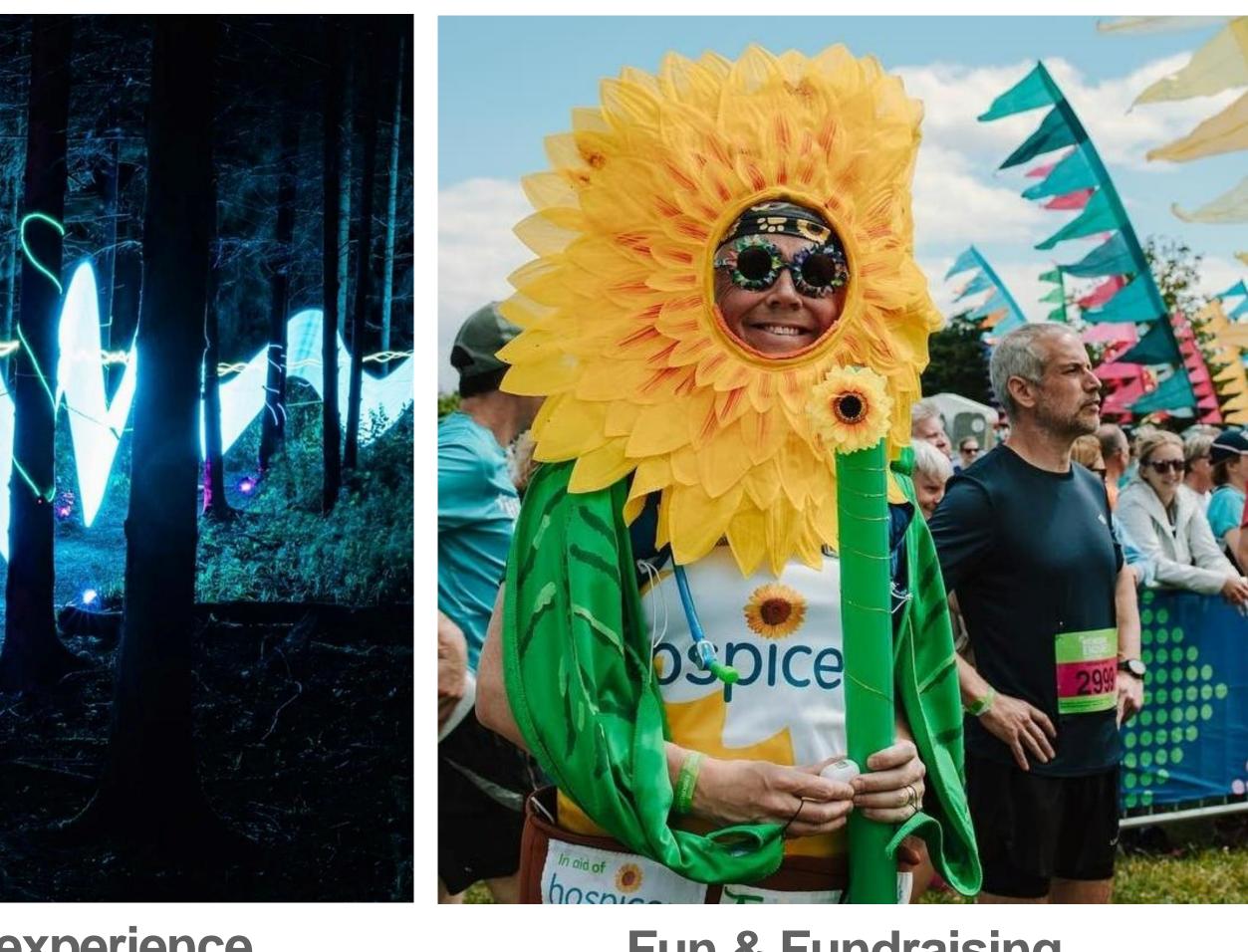
**Reading:** 8-9<sup>th</sup> June. c.3,500 participants **Leeds**: 29-30<sup>th</sup> June. c.2,500 participants



# The team opportunity: Endure24



#### **Team running event** Unique vs. standard solo races



**Multi-day experience** Up to 50+ hours on site

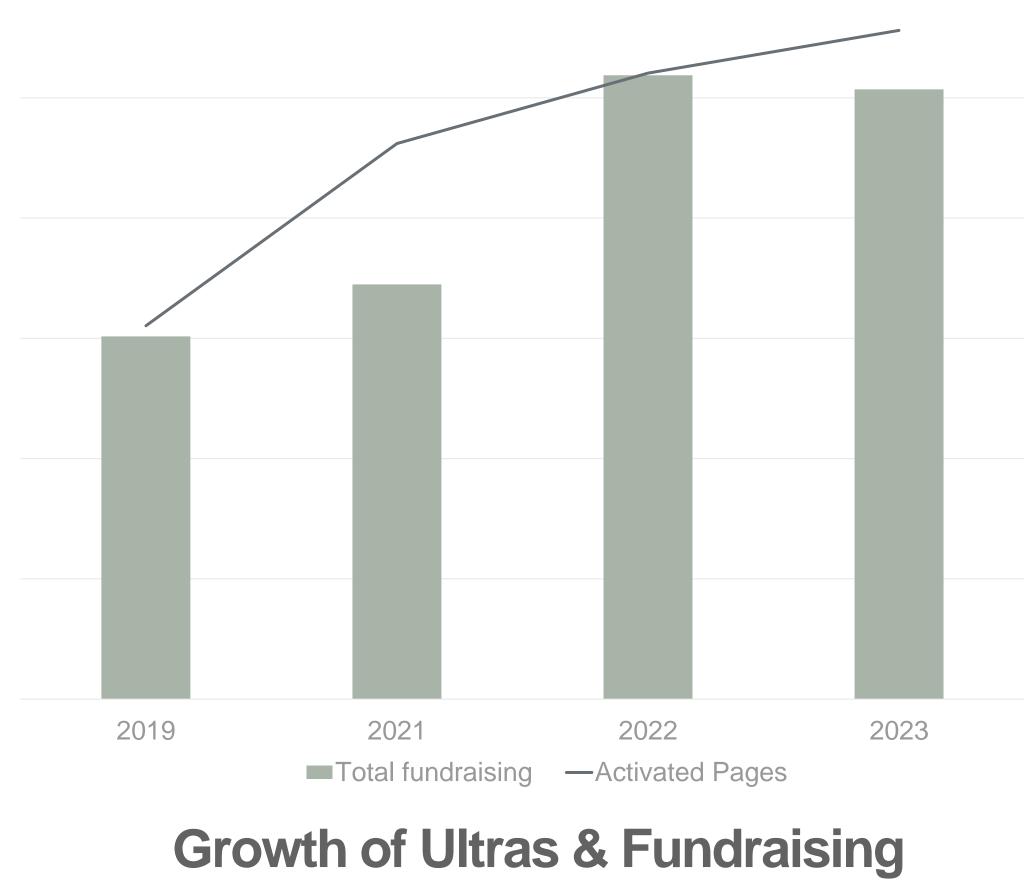
#### **Fun & Fundraising** A rare combination in one event MORE IS IN YOU™



# Ultras deliver the highest fundraising



Ultra event activated pages & total fundraising

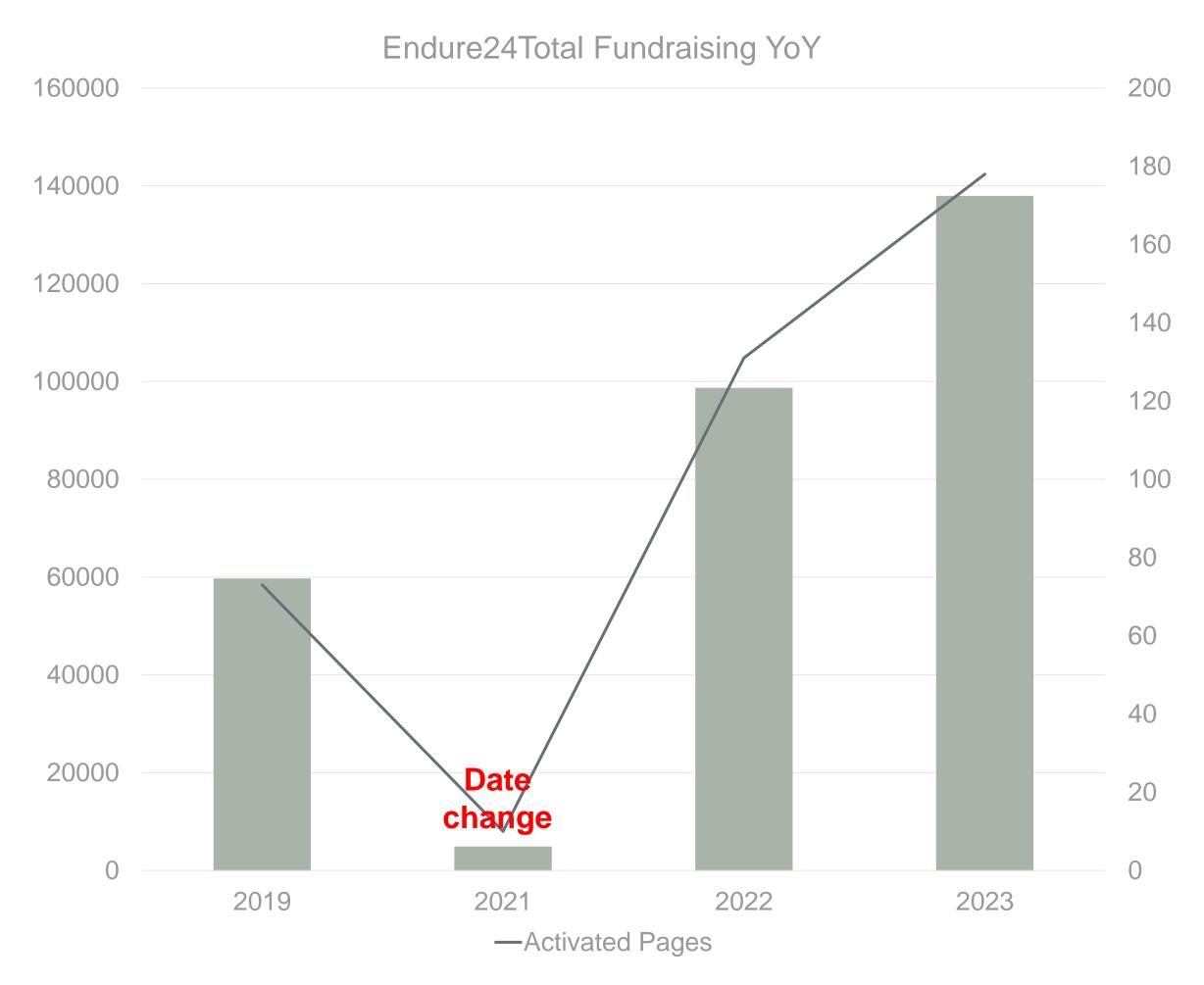


Well above pre-COVID levels

MORE IS

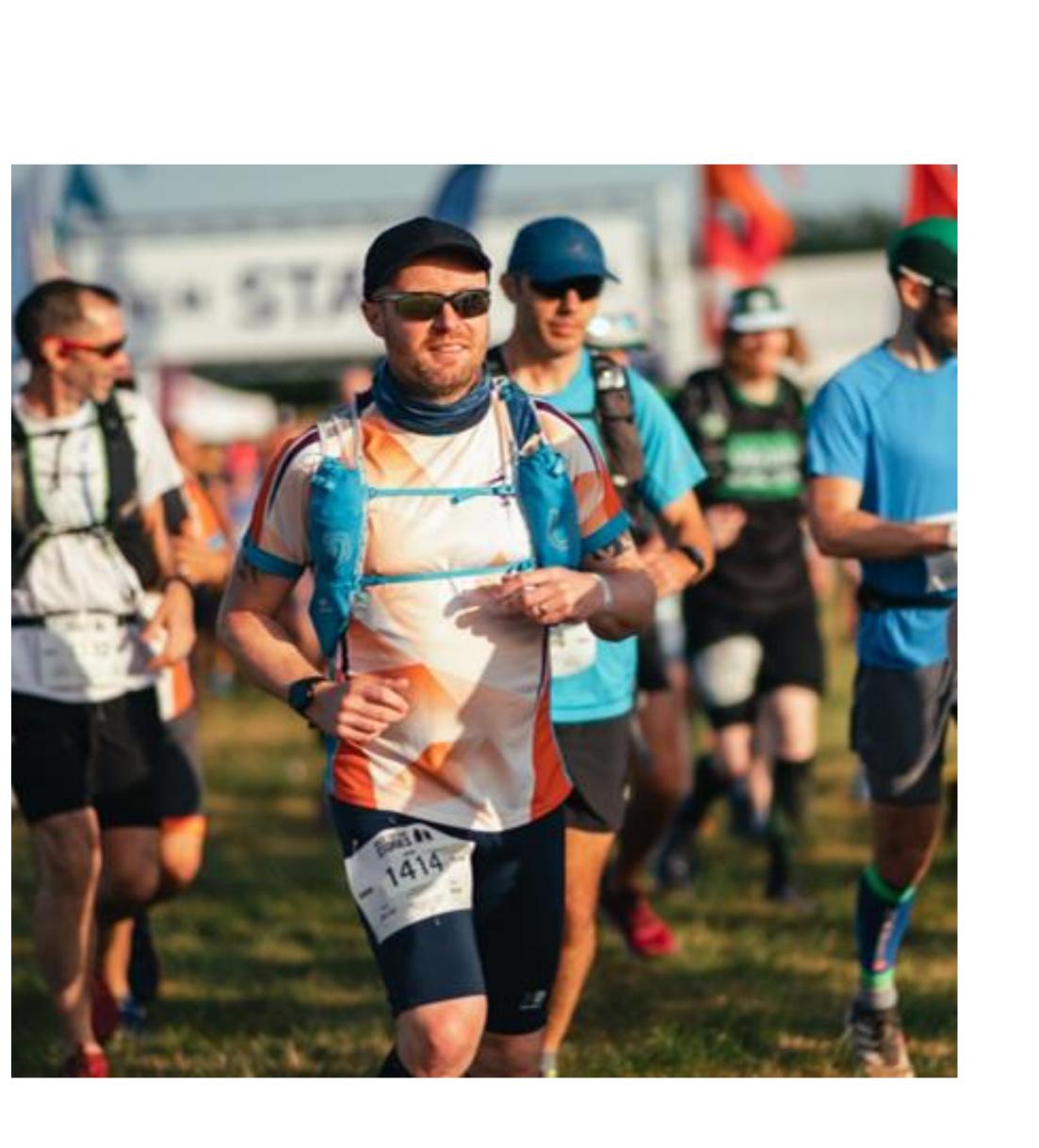
# Endure24 the emerging opportunity

- Acquired by Threshold and first delivered by their team in 2022
  - Beginning with a single charity model
  - Now open to more charities
- Average fundraising in 2023:
  - ► Endure24 Reading: £794
  - ► Endure 24 Leeds: £734



# **ARUK: Top 5 lessons**

- Demographic of runner
  - Already clued up on the event or have been a part of another organised event
- Don't sweat the fundraising
  - Fundraising can look daunting when running an Ultra
- The support is endless
  - Learn to rely on your partner for support
- Collaboration
  - A platform to showcase the charity's initiatives
- Input vs Output
  - Little expenditure but high average fundraising for the Trail Series 7:5



# Things to consider

- Communication style
  - Stay concise, no fluff!
- Fundraising
  - Runners still need fundraising reminders & a bit of a push
- Event day experience
  - Finish times can be long
- Trust the information provided
  - Threshold are there to help, you don't need to handhold the runner





# A key part of your events mix



## Not just another road race

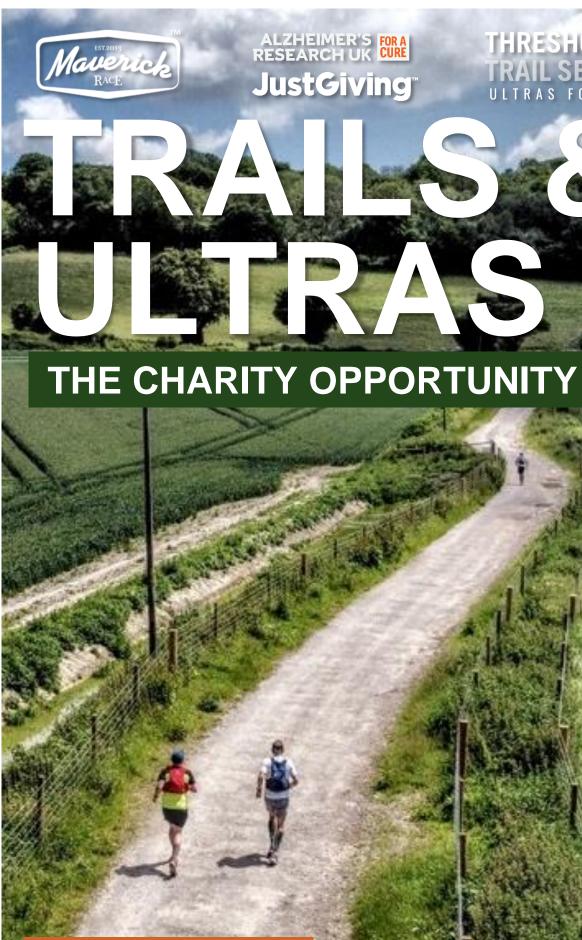
## Partner with quality providers

## Tap into those going longer MORE IS IN YOU<sup>™</sup>

ANY QUESTIONS? The only stupid question is the one you don't ask







**FREE WEBINAR** MAXIMISING FUNDRAISING FROM THE UK'S FASTEST **GROWING RUNNING TRENDS** 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2PM



THRESHOLD

TRAIL SERIES ULTRAS FOR ALL