



AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB

MINUTES

Committee meeting held via Zoom

Monday 30 January 2023

Present: Jim Dawson (JDw), Jane Day (JDy), Ella Ford (EF), Jon Garner (JG), Will Gray (WG), Katherine Greenhead (KG), Tim Grice (TG), Patsy Lamb (PL), Marian Lovell (ML), Kim Pennelegion (KP), Angie Scott (AS), Penny Senior (PSen), Philippa Sondheimer (PSon), Julian Sondheimer (JSon)

Apologies: Antony Constantinidi (AC), Poppy Kearney (PK), Clair Ponting (CP), Gudrun Wiesenthal-Saunders (GW-S)

1. Minutes of last meeting – Approved and adopted

2. Update on Action list –

ACTIONS FROM 26/9/22 MEETING	STATUS
<p>Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ML to draft information for RNs re role of Welfare Office, to include process for updates to health and wellbeing - 'In case of emergency' – PSON to complete the In case of Emergency information, to add this to Google Forms 	<p>ML will be working on this in the coming few weeks.</p> <p>PSON has more information from BSU members so is able to start working on this. New paper version needed as previous version was destroyed with the recent flooding.</p>
<p>New Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EF to encourage all BSU members to complete the Google form (membership form is available from: https://avoncountrowingclub.org.uk/learn-and-join/) - EF referred to a number of H&S queries relating to BSU members with physical concerns 	<p>EF has sent multiple messages to those still needing to complete the Google form, will chase again. <i>[Leave on action list]</i></p> <p>EF has completed the risk assessment and will have meeting with individual by the end of the week.</p>
<p>Mailchimp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master spreadsheet has been created with initial 'tags' (categories) assigned. KP has shared as a Google sheet, accessible to all co-ordinators who have been reviewing the data for accuracy. - Once dataset complete, KP to import into Mailchimp and testing of each category (to be notified via RNs that we will be sending test emails out) – members will have opportunity during this test period to opt out (although this will mean that they opt out from all communications) - KP to review PSON Starters/Leavers reports and update master sheet 	<p>Currently this is work in progress. All co-ordinators have updated their squad members and made relevant revisions.</p> <p>Agreed that KP will update the contacts list, on a monthly basis, on receipt of PSON Starters/Leavers list to ensure that the contacts list is up to date. Noted that there will always be a slight delay between an individual joining and being added onto list.</p> <p>KP to update mailing list with January 23 starters/leavers KP to upload mailing list into Mailchimp and check all relevant tags (categories) have been assigned</p>



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	<p>KP to organise testing of the categories (although members will be notified prior to this through RNs)</p> <p>Agreed that once Mailchimp is up and running, Event Co-ordinators need to be given access so that they have direct access to contacts so they can organise volunteers. Once Mailchimp is up and running, KP to show all how it works (incl Event Co-ordinators) etc.</p>
<p>ACTIONS FROM 31/10/22 meeting:</p>	
<p>Beginner (Adults) Proposed LTR courses 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JG to liaise with CP and put dates on website - JG to liaise with CP to invite people on LTR waiting list to join Go Row before March <p>Individuals on waiting list to be encouraged to do some GRI before joining the LTR programme. Some GRI want to learn to row.</p> <p>Movement from LTR to Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AS to draft targets for moving LTR into Dev squad (not urgent) 	<p>Taster session arranged for 11/3/23 with 9 week course starting 1/4/23.</p> <p>KG/JG/CP have met to discuss LTR, JG to have a follow-up meeting with CP for update.</p> <p>KG to create a Helpers Google rota signup sheet. Each week will have broad plan of what week entails and what help will be required. PSen has offered to run a 'coaching from pontoon' session which makes it more accessible for greater number of people to help.</p> <p>KG to create Google rota sign-up sheets, including summaries of each week plan/help required PSen to carry out a 'coaching from the pontoon' session</p> <p>JG keen to integrate LTR individuals into the club as much as possible, invite to circuits, social events. Will then go onto a dev squad format.</p> <p>AS/JG to meet in the near future to discuss the Dev Squad co-ordinator role.</p>
<p>Boat House Management Committee Electricity consumption/options to reduce consumption in 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AC/JG to explore settings in plant room/any other changes that can help to reduce usage - AC/JG to explore options for lighting controls 	<p>Ongoing – JG/AC/JSon continue to investigate how best to reduce energy consumption. This is in hand. [Leave on until AC present]</p> <p>JSon confirmed that we are unable to have a smart meter due to the level of internet access coverage in our area. Currently unknown when this may improve. Suggestion that if</p>



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	<p>we have a sense of the cost (eg boat house lights for 1 hours) of our usage, we can place posters up in strategic parts of the site to remind members to switch off unnecessary lights etc. JG to progress with Odette who may be able to help with this.</p> <p>JG to progress with Odette</p>
<p>Safety 'Private/keep off' signage for pontoons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JG to progress installation of signage around pontoons <p>Safety Adviser</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JG to progress seeking a club Safety Adviser 	<p>JG will continue to carry on this role for this year.</p>
<p>ACTIONS FROM 12/12/22 meeting:</p>	
<p>Go Row Indoor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GRI membership form accesses to be resolved so that PSON notified when members join - GRI instructor 'pool' 	<p>Discussion surrounding the issue of Pay as you go (£5/session) vs GRI (£18/month with unlimited classes). Agreed that whilst we don't need to capture PAYG numbers for membership reporting, it is important that those taking payment via SumUp ensure that they include the name of the individual so that we capture this information.</p> <p>All (who use SumUp for GRI) to ensure they include the individual's name when taking payment</p> <p>Currently we have 3 GRI members, everyone else is PAYG. For GRI members, need to encourage completion of the Google form so that we have a record of any medical issues. We need a mechanism for PAYG members to declare any medical conditions – this could be a disclaimer on the sign-up form that the individual ticks. TG happy to look at the sign-up form option in more detail.</p> <p>TG to explore sign-up form/disclaimer option for PAYG individuals</p> <p>Discussion regarding whether club members can participate in GRI within their membership costs. Views varied – i) club members participating without incurring further charge however GRI</p>



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	<p>members need to be prioritised over club members, ii) club members being able to participate at a reduced price or the fee is tacked onto their membership. All agreed that option i) will be difficult to police when numbers increase.</p> <p>GWS to set up GRI team meeting to discuss all aspects of GRI and to report back to committee</p> <p>There has been no further interest from BSU/club members to become GRI instructors; PSen confirmed that we have enough instructors now to cover the classes</p>
<p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avon Regatta 13/5/23 – need to recruit 2 individuals to join the organising committee - Bristol Uni Head 4/2/23 - Worcester Regatta/potential date conflict 	<p>JSon confirmed that J Dean has been recruited, still have 1 vacancy. All to encourage anyone who may be interested to speak to JSon; JG to include in RNs.</p> <p>This event is going ahead JG confirmed Worcester no longer issue.</p>
<p>Gym/ergs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women squad session, Saturdays 7.30-8.30am - Bristol University use of pontoons for erging 	<p>JG has spoken to UoB. He didn't know about erging on pontoons.</p>

** Actions highlighted in grey have been completed*

3. Reports

Captains – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below

A special thanks to Chris Hopper for his involvement with Penny's BR award.



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A detailed discussion took place regarding the issue of making decisions in adverse weather conditions. In PL's view, it often feels that the responsibility is held by the person making the decision whereas it should be a club decision about safety. The decision-making process focuses on whether a boat can go out rather than basing it on the risk (eg of capsize and the difficulty individuals may have swimming to safety) in fast flowing water. PL felt that there should be strong decision making around this.

From JG's perspective, safety is taken very seriously, however the final decision to go rowing or not on any particular day must come back to the individual's own view on their competence and the conditions prevailing at the time. It is not possible to put in place rules that cater for all the variations of individual competences, crew & boat configurations and the water & weather conditions. Members must use their own judgement about their ability to cope with various conditions on the water & the risks they are willing to take. Having said that, the club does have rules on visibility, river level & some weather conditions (eg. lightening) which overrule an individual decision. In the end if someone has any doubt then they should not go rowing.

It was noted that there is a rule in Wales regarding water temperature, rowing is not allowed under any circumstances when the temperature is below 2.5°. Flow rate is also a factor.

JSon felt that guidance relating to big boat capsizes reasons would be helpful in order to help individuals judge the risk.

The decision must be made taking into account the competence and willingness, or not, of all crew members (including cox) and the conditions.

Several actions were noted from this discussion:

Action: JG to explore options for measuring water temperature and water flow and make recommendations to add these into club no rowing rules.

JG to include information in RNs about risk assessment & decision making in adverse conditions. This will include information relating to big boat capsizes reasons to assist with decision making

Men – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below
Nothing to add

Women – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below
Nothing to add

Social rowing – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below
Nothing to add.

Beginners (Adults) – Nothing to report

Juniors – Nothing to report



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Volunteer co-ordinator – Discussed in co-ordinator meeting about what this role is and how best to engage with leavers/alumni. Felt that a positive approach would be to send personalised communications with a reminder of all our forthcoming events. PSen has volunteered (unless anyone else would like to take this on) to produce a calendar of events (hardcopy) that can then be sent out, with a personalised note asking the individuals to consider coming back and helping with events.

**Action: PSen to create calendar of events to be sent to leavers
Calendar of events to be placed in the clubhouse. JG to circulate in RN**

Go Row Indoor – GRI has dropped off since the new year with little take up in January, nothing new to report.

BSU co-ordinator –

EF would like to explore opportunities for BSU members to have some coaching, especially with BUCS on the horizon. EF the only coaching member within the squad and not yet fully qualified.

**Action: JG to liaise with club coaches to identify who is able to provide coaching
(weekday mornings ideally, otherwise anytime)**

Previously Luke Sarti had been involved in making arrangements for Gloucester Uni to come to the club, EF wanted to check that this arrangement is still acceptable. In principle, this is fine, although depending on the size of the group, there may be a day fee (although if reciprocated, this may not apply). Gloucester would use our club boats and this would be reciprocated if BSU visit Gloucester. JSen confirmed that our insurance would cover this.

BSU are interested in Head of the Dart, JG will keep EF up to date if the club has a trailer going. Noted that Max's dad has offered to tow the trailer.

4. Boathouse Management Committee

Biggest issues currently are the missing pontoon and mud. Discussions are currently ongoing regarding both of these. JSen confirmed that he has notified the insurers about the pontoon and will liaise with them regarding the costs we incur.

PSen has suggested that we liaise with the Fire Brigade – they may be able to help with the mud.

Action: AS to see whether her contacts can assist

The alarm is currently not working, the sensor at the front of the University boat house is failing.

**Action: KP to contact Apex Alarms and arrange a service
JG to put up a notice about not setting the alarm**

5. Welfare

Nothing to report

Everyone is well!



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6. **Safety Report** – No safety issues to report
Everyone is safe!

7. Events

Spring Head (4 March 2023) – We now have 115 entries, these do not include any entries from ACRC. It would be really helpful if club entries can be entered asap so that M Peacock can sort out the helper rota.

**Action: JDy/PSen/TR to enter ACRC crews asap
All to encourage other members to help volunteer**

Noted that there is an urgency to replace the missing raft. JG will liaise with Monkton regarding the redundant rafts at Dundas. AC has contacted people who made the last one to see how quickly it can be made.

Confirmed that the Social Rower squad will be providing the catering service.

Regatta (13 May 2023) – JSon has had an initial meeting, identified that we need to plan the details for the set up logistics. As noted above, still need to recruit one more individual to the organising committee. The vacancy will be specifically involved with advanced logistics and set up.

We will be hosting the West of England Coxed 4s Open and Women, we need some ace coxed 4s to swell the numbers.

Avon Bluefriars Autumn Head – nothing to report

Social events – 4 February 23 club dinner

JDy will send out email out about dress code and arrival time. 57 have booked and a reasonable proportion have already paid via SumUp and DDs. JG expressed many thanks to JDy for organising the dinner

Potential future social events:

Games Night
Club 50th anniversary

8. Finances, Joiners and Leavers

Membership – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below. Nothing to add.

New members & Leavers – Report circulated prior to meeting, see below. Nothing to add.

Finances – Report circulated prior to the meeting, see below.

BSU subs of approximately £2.5k for the current academic year have been paid. We still have outstanding balance on Women's Stampfli 18600.

9. AOB



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Rowing tank

PSon has provided some information about this, see below. Monkton very interested in getting tank, PSON thinks it is a conversation we should start having with Monkton and Uni.

First Aid – noted that there is an appetite for 1st aid course.

Action: PSON to pass on contact to JG

'Victor' to be returned to coxless quad, EF can use this as a rigging lesson for the BSU squad. JG will locate the riggers as they were moved during the flood.

PSon has had a meeting with WAGS, discussion around the possibility of rowing at Clevedon Lake (1500m, 6 lane course). JG has had a discussion with the Chair of WAGs, JG view that in principle it is beneficial to have a multilane facility in our region, however there are a lot of questions about how it will be paid for and organised. JG would like to see a business plan from people who will run Cleveland Lake about their proposal etc. Noted that if we think it is important to express vote of support without any commitment, that is fine, but there are a lot of unanswered questions.

PSon referred to WAGS regions who are supposed to be creating regional strategies that link into BR strategies. Given we are part of the region, if anyone has any good ideas, please let PSON know.

KP asked whether there might be an appetite to support a local charity, an opportunity to give something back. To be discussed at a later date in the wider context of inclusion.

JG confirmed that a Coaches and Co-ordinators supper is being arranged (open to anyone who coaches on a regular basis), proposed date 25 February. Informal opportunity to chat about coaching and related matters.

Action: JG to add to RNs

Date of next meeting: 20 March 2023, 7.45pm



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CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Captain's Report 30th January 2023

It's been a very disrupted month thanks to some inclement weather and a misbehaving river. Many thanks to all those who took part in the big Avon clean up (aka Operation Marigold). We've nearly completed the cleaning (WW still to do) & found some corners of the boathouse not seen for 8 years, which is a bonus. We need to source a new pontoon to replace the missing one (almost certainly sunk the other side of the weir) & find a solution for the very muddy boat handling area. Both are being considered & may be insurance claims.

Some fantastic news that Penny has been awarded the BR WAGS Region Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022 AND the British Rowing Medal of Merit, one of only 4 awarded in 2022. I know that the whole club will join me in saying congratulations to Penny on these very prestigious recognitions. I must also say thank you to Philippa for her excellent writing skills in managing to condense all Penny's rowing & coaching & captaincy exploits into just 2500 words. Not an easy job at all! If anyone missed the awards ceremony last week & wants to see it, it's on YouTube <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wTGjCkL23fs> with the important bit starting at 44'06".

There's been no racing for a few weeks either until yesterday when we took a very full trailer to Stourport. Many thanks to Steve for towing. Some great results across all squads with congratulations to winners:

WMasD8+ Marian, Kim, Katherine, Joanna, Hannah L, Patsy, Rosie, Kath, Jon (cox)
OJ154x+ Ben, Sam, AJ, Albert, Primrose (cox)

We finally have Antony C back from Janousek, so Victor can revert to 4x if this is required.

I haven't written a Safety Review for this meeting as there is little to report locally (which has to be good news!) Please do remind people to be careful though.

The water is cold, the pontoons are slippery, it is often foggy in the morning & the river may be flowing fast & be full of debris. Please remember to sign out, keep a good lookout, wear hi-viz, & if in doubt, don't go out. I'll repeat this in RN this week.

The WAGS&WM Caps & Secs meeting last Wednesday was attended by Philippa & Julian in person and me on zoom. Of note:

- BR are moving to FISA coxing weight limits or All O&W J15 and younger crews = 45kg minimum. Everyone else regardless of crew gender will be 55KG minimum, ie the 50kg for women's crews is being removed.
- There is no update on the proposed changes to membership categories
- For regatta secs, the gender given on a person's BR membership card is the one which is used to determine race entries.
- The Boat Safety Scheme in operation on EA waters was discussed at length. It's all about launches. In summary, open top, manual start launches don't need a BSS certificate. We are also covered by a CART exemption which we apply for with the



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annual boat registration. We can train & approve launch drivers at the club based on competence & experience. We should log this training (which we do by maintaining an approved launch driver list). RYA2 is a recognised but not essential requirement.

We held a very useful Squad Co-ords meeting last Friday covering a lot of topics including Go-Row Indoor, Learn to Row, Coaching, etc. Most of this will be covered during the committee agenda

MEN'S SQUAD REPORT

Competitions

The squad was represented at Stourport. Unfortunately, the quality of our coxless boats seems to have frightened off all competition. The 4x- and 4- both ended up rowing Time Only (excellent times – the opposition has good reason to be scared!).

The squad is moving forward through the Spring Head Season with 25 active competitive members comprising:

- 4- (Jon's crew)
- 4x- (Darrel's group)
- Residual squad of 15 (supplemented by willing subs) which divides for coaching purposes into coxed sweep boats (8s and 4s).

Current targets have been identified as Worcester, Avon Spring and Tideway. Gloucester remains a strong possibility. Head of the Dart has been scheduled for the Sunday (26 March) following Tideway. Lack of decent social possibilities (the Saturday night beer and curry) and proximity to Tideway has clearly put people off. We will not send a men's crew. Whether there is a mixed crew of some sort remains to be seen but there is a collective lack of enthusiasm for the event as planned.

Water training (repeated from 12 December 2022)

The main squad outing takes place on Sunday between 8 and 10am. This time slot is importantly supported by paid coaching which fills a current and historical gap in men's squad development with a requirement to commit to training, fitness, crew development and participation in competition.

Land Training

Andy Mason circulates weekly erg training plans. Training at the club take place on Wednesday evenings. Many squad members prefer to carry through (or claim to carry through) the training plans at home. Over the past rather disrupted month numbers have been relatively low and the need for two sessions has receded at least for the time being.

Boat Booking

The new system is in operation and appears to be working well.

Other

'I have read Jane's report and will follow up the very helpful suggestions she has made about including the men's squad in additional activities'. From last report.

This has slipped off my radar. Apologies. I'll pick it up in the near future.

WOMEN'S SQUAD REPORT

General

A challenging time for crews on the water in the last 6-8 weeks with less availability during December, quite a lot of illness, festive plans and then three weekends of no rowing due to



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poor weather. We also can't row next Saturday, 4th, due to the UBR Head. This has impacted training time for crews and onward plans for racing, etc.

The flooding also sadly meant that the Yoga for Rowers session planned for 15th January didn't happen. Sam is now out of the country for 2 months so this will be rearranged for the Spring when she is back.

Stourport and Beyond

Three women's crews competed at Stourport on 29th Jan.

The WMasD8+ won the WMasD/E/F event, beating the next competitor by 41 seconds. The W8+ and WMas2x both had to compete as Seniors against mainly Uni crews – the crews rowed well but no wins for these crews on the day.

A WMas8+ will be going to Worcester on 11th Feb.

Looking ahead to finalise whether to send a crew to WeHorr and what that will mean for women's entries at AAH.

We currently have a W4x- entered for Vesta and are looking at the possibility of a WMas8+. We will then start preparing for regatta season. I will arrange a squad meeting to talk about this.

Club Dinner

Club Dinner has been arranged for 4th February at Saltford Golf Club with 57 members booked to come. The invite was extended to Bath Spa (although quite late in the day!) but they are now on a two-week semester and many have gone home for the duration so they won't be attending.

SOCIAL ROWING REPORT

What with Christmas, lurgis and floods, we have not done much rowing since the last committee meeting.

But the big news has been the arrival of Ella who has coxed a couple of oct outings (giving Julian a chance to remember how to row) and also offered to bow steer.

I have circulated a List of Exciting Things for Social Rowers to do, on the assumption that rowing up and down the same stretch of river all the time might be boring, beautiful and changeable though the river undoubtedly is. Outcome:

- We have a few takers for Head of the Dart (Phil, Ange, Theresa, Bev, SusanR, Julian) and are hoping to do it in the octuple.
- One person liked the look of the Broads Tour
- Two of us (guess!) are hoping to row the Wannsee.

Details of the Great Tyne Row, Good Friday Row etc still to come.

Preparation for catering for ASH is proceeding – BBQ, bread and meat ordered and Food Hygiene certification under way.

Re WAGS Recreational Rowing (I am the rep on the BR Committee): I need to try and get:

- a list of WAGS clubs with RecRow sections
- a session for us and visiting social rowers to get some coaching

INDOOR ROWING/GO ROW REPORT

GRI we have had a drop off since the new year and little take up of Classes so nothing new to report.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBS REPORT



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Membership and Subs Report Jan 2023 (subs to 8th Jan , membership figures to 28th Jan)

Membership numbers

	31 March 2022	July 2022	Sep 2022	Jan 2023	Notes
Full	99	104	105	101	
Full paying junior rate during lockdown	2	2	2	2	
Coach	2	2	2	2	
Non Rowing	3	2	2	4	
GoRowIndoor				1	
GRI Coordinator				1	
Student	0	1	1	2	
Vac student (paying)	19	3	3	3	Brend, Brown, Stratton
VacM (maybe maybe)		7	7	7	
VACL (never to be seen again)		8	7	7	
Junior	53	60	49	49	
Taster	5	5	5	5	
LTR Taster + course	6	17	4	3	
Junior - family membership 1 parent	2	1	1	5	
Junior - family membership 2 parents	3	3	3	2	
Bath Spa	30	0	0	27	Only pay Oct - May
Non Bath Spa Leavers this FY	58	16	45	58	
Total exc all VAC, T, LTR, BSU	164	175	165	169	
Total exc all Vac, T and LTR	194	175	165	196	

Points to note and action if appropriate

BSU – Bath Spa have paid for 27 members as listed by Tom Bennett. This means that they are all paid for this financial year and have April and May in credit for next year. Of the 27, after several efforts by Ella, only 14 have given their details on the Google form.

GoRow – Apologies – still working on this.

JOINERS & LEAVERS

Joiners and Leavers and payment queries January 2023 v1

Paying people included in membership numbers

Adult Joiners (receive Welcome Pack)

Ramy Abou Farha

ramyaboufarha@gmail.com

BSU joiners (who have filled in Google form)

Ella Ford

ella.lindsey@hotmail.com

Mali Lewis

mali.lewis20@bathspa.ac.uk



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GRI joiners (need to sort access, sorry)

Gudrun Wiesenthal-Saunders

wiesenthal.saunders@gmail.com

Ingrid Beattie

Junior Joiners

Tobias Vivalllos

marcelo_lecocq@hotmail.com (

[paying](#))

Leavers (or joiners who never really happened)

Lily Rainbow (NRH)

hayleyw1@hotmail.com

[Chloe Penman](#) (moved to non-rowing)

[mail from Jane](#)

[Paula Nixon](#)

[mail to Jane](#)

[Becky Panton](#)

[mail to Jane](#)

(NB People who leave temporarily are counted as left as they are not paying – they are not deleted from the spreadsheet)



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FINANCIAL REPORT

AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB					
Financial Report for Committee Meeting on 30 January 2023					
		This report (30/01/23)	Previous report (12/12/22)	Change	
1. BANK BALANCE					
	Interest rate				
Current account - General ¹		9,455	6,524	2,931	
CAF Cash account		2,887	3,096	(210)	
CAF Gold account ²		62,086	62,019	68	
Virgin Money account		18,156	18,109	48	
Total in bank		92,584	89,748	2,837	
¹ General excludes subs standing order receipts since 09/01/23					
² Includes £3,000 events working capital					
ENTRIES/KIT/MISC DEBTS/(CREDITS)					
Balance 31/03/22 (after write-offs)		374	374		
Race fees		7,228	6,352		
Kit & Misc		2,037	1,798		
Credits this year		(6,917)	(5,998)		
Total Current Balance		2,722	2,526	197	
NB active members only					
2. MAJOR INCOME & EXPENDITURE ITEMS SINCE LAST REPORT					
(excluding normal routine items)				Amount	
Insurance excess A Constantinidi 4- repair				500	
Bath Spa subs academic year 22/23				2,592 income	
3. IMPENDING MAJOR EXPENDITURE/INCOME					
				Amount	
Insurance excess Bath Uni 4x repair				500	
Womens Stampfli 4x- (balance)				18,613	
4. FINANCIAL ISSUES					

SAFETY REPORT



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Thoughts about a rowing tank – plagiarism at its most useful

Why do we want one? Monkton interested so looking at a joint effort.....

Opportunities

- Part of the offer for LTR people
- Offer for community à la GRI – intro to wet rowing without falling into the river
- Source of income as above
- Rowing for all when river unrowable

Technical

- Beginners can be introduced to rowing in a safe, controlled and stable environment. When they progress to the river, they will already know how to row and will have practiced safety actions and manoeuvres.
- A rowing tank is a material improvement on the erg since the full stroke is performed with blades out to the side of the tank rather than just pulling a chain in and out.
- Coaching can be hands-on as coaches can walk up and down the middle of the tank to correct the posture/positioning/stroke pattern of each rower;
- Coxing commands can be taught and practiced in a safe setting.

Options

- **Strathclyde-type eight person indoor tank** for rowing and sculling with space for instructor, mirrors and videos. The cost of the Strathclyde tank was about £100,000 and I think that was in 2011. So we are probably talking about £150,000. I saw this in maybe 2012 so might have been superseded by.....
- **Cambridge Rowing Tank** - The Cambridge Rowing Tank opened in January 2018. The tank has been installed at Downing College Boat House, on a newly built mezzanine floor, above the boat bays. The two tanks are 50' long and hold around 20 tonnes of water. The tank unit is a US product made by **The Durham Boat Company in Boston, a subsidiary of Dreher**. The project has taken two years from initial concept to opening. The Tank can accommodate eight athletes rowing, one behind the other, as in a rowing eight. It can be used either for rowing or sculling. Eight video cameras and two 65" high-definition TV screens allow the athletes to watch themselves while they row. There are also tanks at Oxford University, Radley College, Molesey Boat Club, Thames, Barn Elms. Dreher, who provided the Downing College tank are coy about pricing; you have to contact them.
- **Contraption that fits into the pond** but has retractable roof so covered but still available as flood overspill or whatever the condition was in the planning permission.
- **Contraption that fits onto the raft** (and is a big nuisance if anyone wants to launch/land)