

THE CLUB IN JAN 2021

Taking over as Captain in Jan 2021 I took custodianship of a wonderful, inherited legacy from 50 years of rowing:

1. Club house in an idea location
2. Large boat park with a stock of boats and related equipment
3. Stable, diverse membership and committed organisational team
4. A reasonable & stable financial position
5. A growing section of internationally achieving of rowers and related coaches

Albeit, with some challenges ahead:

1. Lease: right to be moved, increasingly commercial landlord under financial stress
2. 2020 membership numbers devastated by COVID (down from c150 to <90)
3. The boat park is full, it can't be further extended (also new rowers can't buy boats as they can't be put anywhere)
4. The club's boat stock is old...no experienced club member wants to row in a club boat
5. A niche sport, with very high barriers to entry and no external funding
6. Very limited media presence, therefore a very limited product to offer a potential sponsor
7. An aging membership, fully volunteer team with a membership expecting 'more'

We haven't the money, so we've got to think". Lord Rutherford

THE CLUB TOMORROW

OUR JOURNEY: FROM A COLLECTION OF BOAT OWNERS WHO ROW... TO AN INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE, COMMUNITY ROWING CLUB

One club:

1. That organises a range of rowing & social events for all members
2. That helps people who help the club
3. Run in a financially and socially sustainable manner
4. For a diverse collection of community members
5. Of people who are fair, transparent and respectful to each other

Whether you want aim for Gold or simply the finish...we have a place for you

“We can’t solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.” - Albert Einstein

WE'RE STRONGER TOGETHER: HOW THE CLUB HELPS

Kit

- 1st target (set in Sep '21) of 4xQ, 4xP, 4xS likely to be achieved early '24
- Plus oars, life jackets, etc
- Long-term target of c.35 club boats for a range of abilities

Money

- Raised £60k+ from GOJ, SJKF, JCF, Dandara, 'Anna' and subscriptions from SWIFT hire
- Bought 3xQ, 2xP, 2xS with +2 singles soon
- Sponsorship commitment from Oak for a further 40k over 4 years.
- Activity to raise further funds underway

Governance

- Properly formed legal body
- Well established governance process
- Audited accounts & account function

Organisation Team

- Well functioning committee & support team
- Well functioning press team
- Sponsorship application capability
- Event organisation capability
- Race committee
- Sark 2 Jersey team
- Beach Sprint team

Infrastructure

- Club boats that rowers want to row in! (finally)
- Club House / Boat Park
- Ribs & support vessels / Trailers
- Website / Social Media Presence
- Media & relationship network
- Coaching Team

“If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together”. African Proverb