



## **AGM Minutes 1st December 2022**

**Apologies:** Rupert Halliday, Anne Halliday, Ruth Maugham, Rachel Holgate, Jane Avery, Sian Thompson, Dave Putt.

**Present:** the Committee and Sue Voisey, Helen O'Hara, Shari Smith, Christine Bloor, Lewis Bloor, Mark Eastman, Tom Manley, John Lintel, Mike Cullen, Caroline Vanstone, Andy Dakin.

**Previous minutes:** 2021 minutes attached. Reviewed and agreed

### **Matters arising:**

People running the Seine boat section had stood down, others had stepped forward.

### **Chair's report: Attached**

**1. 2022** had been the first full season post-Covid. The club has begun to recover with lots of rowing in all sections.

#### **2. The Chair expressed particular thanks to:**

- Jane and the committee,
- Kit and Ben who had turned around the Junior section with Shari
- Mel and Tom for their work on the Seine boat section
- Tom for all the maintenance work
- The Sculling team which had grown since pre-Covid and the coastal section which had been very popular.

#### **3. Where are we now?**

250 members compared with 169 in 2021. It is building from Covid but pre-Covid, we were 400+. People may have inadvertently lapsed, the true figure could be 300 but our best estimate is that we are 120-150 down on pre-Covid levels. Historically most of the membership has been Seine rowers many of whom do not use club assets or facilities ie private boat owners/rowers, but contribute a lot to the base membership fee and have done for many years. Gigs and Coastals are pretty well back to pre-Covid. Seine numbers have not recovered and that is an issue.

#### **4. Response To Questions Raised by Members**

Some points had been raised by members for discussion on the evening. The Chairman has responded to the questions in his attached report, as a precursor to discussing the topics here at the AGM however those with the concerns were unable to attend the AGM. The Chairman read his responses and responded to questions arising from the floor.

**5. Premises:** Thanks to Andy Darkin who has worked so hard on this.

**6. An appeal:** There are very few people (probably about 20) involved in running the club. If you feel you can offer, please do -even a small amount will soon add up.

**7. Teignbridge lottery:** You can support the club by buying tickets.

Questions were answered.

### **Finance: Attached**

Jane presented the report sent by Greenwoods Accountants. A general discussion was had on club finances and questions from the floor answered by Jane and Mark

**Gig report: Attached**

A scanned copy of Kate's report is attached

**Sculling report: Attached**

Zane gave the sculling report

**Seine report: Attached**

A scanned copy of Mel's report is attached.

**Juniors**

Moving in a positive direction. There are 20 juniors each week in summer, 10-15 in winter. Huge thanks for Shari's efforts and the time given by coxes. Any help would be welcome. Overall a very successful season. Going well.

**Safety report**

Not much to report. No incidents and the return to British Rowing had been completed. Policies and maintenance of kit are being reviewed following an incident of another club at Salcombe. Need to follow up the water safety policy.

The Safety boat should be good for another 3-4 years.

The engine is good and only 4 years old. The seams will be at risk.

Question: Are rowers permitted to wear wellies? We have consulted British Rowing and concluded that they are not banned.

**Membership Fees**

We are not in a strong position. Discussed as part of finance that if membership stays at the current levels then club reserves will be consumed in a few years with costs increasing and maintenance bills increasing.

The Committee has discussed this and has a strategy to increase membership annually at relatively small increments. Also planning to improve other revenue activities i.e Seine boat series, Frostbite Challenge, taster sessions etc to "spread the load" and improve the clubs position.

Agreed to increase Basic membership (Seine) to £50 (from £45) and Section supplements by £10 meaning that a Gig rower or Sculler would pay an additional £70 per year, discounted proportionately for multi discipline membership.

**Election of Officers**

All of the existing members were re-elected, with Tom Manley to take on club-wide maintenance and Helen to lead on social media.

Seeking: a treasurer, webmaster, lead on fundraising and a lead on novice and development rowing. Please let Mark know of any interest in these roles.

**AOB -none**

## **RTRC Chairmans Report for November 2022 AGM**

2022 our first post Covid season, although restrictions were still in place for the early part of the year! The club has started to recover and we have begun to get a lot more rowing out this season.

### **Special Thanks to.....**

- Jane and the committee
- Special thanks to Kit and Ben for juniors
  - Regular junior rowing even now into the winter
  - Some junior racing
- Mel and Tom for their hard work in the Seine section
  - Social rowing events / Shari social rowing
  - Seine boats maintained
  - Series
- Kate and the Gig team
  - Regattas attended
  - Back to Scillies!!
- Zane and the sculling team
  - More sculling members
  - Coastal rowing particularly growing

Where we are; 250 members , 169 in 2021 and 409 in 2019 numbers are growing but Seine boat rowing membership, basic membership is low.

Some questions that have been raised that I would like to address directly.

1. We have a club safeguarding officer Mandy whose contact is on the website along with our safe guarding policy. In discussion with the NSPCC Safeguarding In Sports lead, we have modified our policies so that we can accept DBS checks from other organisations combined with other assessments, to enable more people to assist with juniors.
2. Lifejacket checks are the responsibility of the sections that use them and should have been made and recorded. No one should use any piece of safety equipment if they are not happy it will do the job intended, and should report concerns via [info@rtrc](mailto:info@rtrc) and to the relevant section leads etc.
3. We have a regular newsletter that comes out for sections and the wider club, thanks to Kate and Mel mainly for this. We could communicate more if members provided content and helped put the coms together
4. There is a Seine boat working party or sub committee and a separate working party that run the Seine boat series, it has taken a lot of work to get very few people involved in those 2 groups....
5. Premises have been explored for years with a lot of work done by Andy Darkin, thanks!! We carried out, with TDC support a full suitability study as to the appropriateness of Polly steps and it was found wanting as a site

There are a few members who keep the club running and do a lot behind the scenes. It has become harder in recent years to support this with fewer volunteers.

I would like to say that we have positions on the committee for members to come forward and take. However what is not particularly helpful or supportive of the club is behind-the-scenes complaining and then when asked specifically those people actually tell us that they don't have time to put in.

**River Teign Rowing Club Ltd**

**Independent examiners report to the accounts year end 31 October 2021**

I can confirm that I do not have any concerns with the accounting records of the club and their accuracy.

The clubs income was similar to the previous year less the council grants received due to the pandemic.

The club reported a deficit of £5,890 but this was mainly due to depreciation charged in the year of £10,126 which in fact meant there was a cash increase of £4,236

There were asset additions of £581 in the year and the bank balance increased to £55,405 against £51,510 as of 31 October 2021.

David Rudall – Independent examiner  
Greenwood Accountancy Ltd  
30 November 2022



**RIVER TEIGN ROWING CLUB**  
**27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Date : Thursday 25th November 2021 – 8.00 pm**  
**Venue : Teignmouth Rugby Club**

**Minutes**

**Existing Committee Members : Mark Layton, Jane Tipper, Kate Barczok, Maxine Harrington, Julia Street, Rebecca Haines, Zane Steers, Simon Coe, Kit Banks, Rob Gilkes**

Apologies: Cat Miller, Anne and Rupert Holliday, Nick Shaw, Rachel Holgate

- Approval of Previous Minutes – approved
- Matters arising - None
- Chairman's Report
- Re-Election of existing Committee Members and Election of new Committee Members – Seine boat section lead position not filled, all other committee members re-elected.
  - Positions that remain open: Secretary, social media lead, maintenance team?
- Gig Report - Read
- Sculling Report - Read
- Seine Boat Report – No report given
- Juniors Report - Read
- Finance Report - Read
- Safety Report - Read
- AOB
  - Seine boat membership is down- questions and suggestions to reflect why it is low include COVID restrictions and lack of fitness in crews. We feel seine membership should rise again next season.
  - Member questioned how novice rowers continue after the initial summer trial rows. It was suggested that a development crew or 'next step' needs to be organised. A member raised the issue that we need volunteers for this to happen- If anyone would like to help support and train novice members, please contact the committee.
  - Member asked about ordering club clothing- We need 10 of an item to put an order in for it, order forms can be found on webcollect. There are some items available in our own stock. Reminder: order ASAP for items for Scillies.
  - Seine members asked about the format for booking club seine boats. It was answered that the 'team-up' calendar for booking a boat is on Webcollect and needs to be used to avoid clashes of users. IT was also noted that there are 2 sets of club gates missing from the oar store, if anyone knows of their whereabouts or has accidentally moved them, please return them to the oar store.
  - Frost bite challenge provisional dates: 9<sup>th</sup> Jan, 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb, reserve date 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.
- To see any of the individual section reports, please email [info@rtrc.com](mailto:info@rtrc.com)

## RTRC GIG SECTION REPORT 2022

Since the last AGM, we have had a whole twelve months of rowing where we have not had to adhere to the restrictions Covid-19 put upon us. Albeit continuing with the cautious approach of not spreading covid or any other illness.

As the new year arrived, we were on amended fixture list number 9 (with more to follow) and the IOS championships was on after a two season covid break. Things seemed to finally be going in the right direction.

Training was under way and a season full of regatta's and competition was on the cards! Our membership was trickling through and it seemed things were starting to be on the up.

The first event of the season was the dredged 3 Rivers down at Saltash. A gruelling long race and talk about baptism of fire! The weather was horrendous and the rowing was really tough. All crews that took part did really well and it was good to be racing.

A group of crews also went down to the Helford River and took part in the Helford Mini Scillies event. This is always a popular event and always frustrating that we are limited to only a few crews being able to attend. We held our own and it was good to see the potential crews that we would be up against at future events.

Dartmouth was the next event. As ever we took a strong contingent of rowers down and respectively finished amongst the top positions for the event.

It was apparent that covid was still trying to cause trouble, with people ill but also with people away having to go on short breaks, events etc that had been rearranged two or three times over the past couple years. This was a trend that was set to affect the whole season.

The long wait was over and IOS was here. All crews were fantastic and the club spirit shown by everyone was something to be proud of. This event is tense and every race is a fight for survival. We did absolutely fantastic and with all the celebrations and by just being social, we unofficially created our own covid super spreader event!

Rowing for the next couple weeks was thin on the ground!

One of the biggest changes in the Gig rowing world was the change in how the CPGA was ran. They had a strategic plan in order to cope and drive forward the ever growing interest in Gig rowing. Every club has to pay a membership, but now it was introduced that in order to take part in Championship events, each rower had to become an individual member of "Gigrower" for the cost of £25 per year. This was affective from the 1 June and affected the Mixed Championships, the Veteran Championships and the Newquay County Championships.

It also meant that a few of us had to do a lot more admin and keep tabs on who had joined and made sure crews were registered on a completely new system. It was a steep learning curve where a couple of us had a few evenings of seminars/webinars and technical confusion in order to make sure crews could attend and everyone taking part was a member.

Next year, this will also apply to IOS entrants and the Supervets Championships.

The summer was quite a quiet one when it came to attending events. But regardless of the ones we attended, we seemed to keep our place in one of the top spots.

This year, in order to drum the drive for rowing again, the Rock up and row races were introduced. The first one was in June and was good fun and a success! We had one a month and really helped get a buzz back in to Gig rowing. Thank you to Andy and few others for making this happen.

We also sent competitive crews to the Mixed Championship event, down in Saltash, at the end of June. Always a spectacle to watch with some close racing and interesting bouy turns. Again we did really well and got through to final.

We also attended the Veteran Championships and again did absolutely brilliant. The ladies reached the cup final with interesting coxing from Brixham! (Enough said), if you know you know, and the men did fantastic in the plate final, narrowly missing out on the trophy to St Goran.

IT was then time for the Newquay County Championships, where the racing line up and progression on to further rounds was different to previous years. A change welcomed by some, but not by others. Still a WIP, but I think it is here to stay. Both mens and ladies did absolutely fantastic and I think it is safe to say, that it really was a brilliant way to top off the season.

Our summer event, due to be held in July was cancelled again due to clashes with other clubs and also channelling our effort in to the "Round the Island" event, to be held in late September.

This event was a great success and attracted other clubs to come and race with us but also see the seine boat fleet and the coastals take part. This is an "all club" event and it is really great to see each discipline on the water at the same time, rowing together. The weather was pretty interesting and challenging to say the least but it was enjoyed by everyone and will be back next year.

In October, we created a "development group" and took on people that wanted to be introduced to Gig rowing. This included rowers that already rowed seine boats but also people that were completely new to rowing. On a Sunday morning, we have three crews out in the development squad, which bring nothing but positive feedback. It has also generated new Gig members to the section.

The junior squad this year for which I am sure Kit will tell you more about, have been super stars this year! We sent a crew to the under 16 championships who half of which were under 14 and they did absolutely amazing. Not used to much weather, when rowing on the river, they took on the swell and the sea of Newquay and absolutely smashed it! They finished as one of the top girls team which I am sure you will join me in being proud of them. Bring on next year!

We have seen coxes come and go but have brought on new coxes yet again. This is something we are still looking to drive forward. Thank you to all the coxes that put their time in to not only taking crews out, but training and coaching crews in all weathers, throughout the year. You really are appreciated.

Thank you to the crew captains for doing an absolute sterling job of not only organising your teams and keeping them going, but informing them of what is going on and relaying important information, this is essential and you do a grand job.

Thank you to Shari, Kit, Ben and everyone else involved for keeping the Juniors going over the past year. You have really developed a keen and admirable squad. The Juniors have done amazing with keeping up the training on and off the water which is absolutely fantastic.

Thank you to everyone that helped, cleaning the gigs, for taking oars to be refurbished, for towing gigs from one place to another, for fixing stretchers, rudders, pin holes, keel bands and gig covers, replacing leathers, pins and grips. For breaking oars and getting them mended. For tidying the oar store, looking after the life jackets, the cushions and everything else that often gets over looked and so on and so on. The list goes on and there are a few people that make this happen. Thank you.

Thank you to the small group in the Gig section committee and a few others for making everything happen and tick along and also keeping me going while I have just had my leg in the air for most of the summer. It has been a tough twelve months in many ways and people sticking together and keeping each others heads up above water, keeping spirits high has been heart warming and worth its weight in gold. Thank you.

So lets see what 2023 brings. Scilly's is on and we are only on version 2 of the fixture list so far! Our club Gig regatta is on Saturday 24 June and the "Round the Islands" is on 15 July. We will need many hands to make these two events happen and be a success. And we will do it. Watch this space.

**KATE BARCZOK**

RTRC Gig lead

Scullers report for RTRC AGM  
and scullers AMM  
9/11/22

This past year seems to have flown by in a blur which suggests it was very busy, I can't believe we're round to my favourite time of year already where I have to compose this report!

As usual we had a steady stream of trial rowers and we've even managed to persuade a few of them to join the club.

### Numbers

Two of our coastal quads had a minor refit including new seats and foot straps which are greatly appreciated by the rowers. We've repeatedly tried to have a cox box so that I can make it to the end of a coxing session without losing my voice. But the corrosive effects of sea water have been thwarting our efforts. So we tried a blue tooth version and found that while it worked fine on land as soon as we got on the water it packed up!

We've had a rather unfortunate season of breaking oars, I think the count is up to 8 now. However Roger has risen to the challenge of repairing our equipment and we now have two fixed oars to trial.

Once again our coastal crews put in a very good showing at the coastal rowing league. Our womens quad and double won the league, they also collected a third and fourth in the singles. The mens quad came second in league with the B crew coming joint 8th. Our mixed crews coming 4th and 9th.

We also had the nationals and worlds at Saundersfoot in Wales where our womens crew attended both

Marjorie has been dominating the indoor rowing championships, winning the British and coming 2nd in the worlds in her age category.

Brian

This year we were able to run our junior sessions again, ably organised by Sally and well attended with some budding rowers.

Unfortunately we didn't run our spring regatta due to a lack of organisers, thankfully our ladies A crew stepped up and fantastically ran the autumn regatta. Receiving lots of positive feedback from the attending clubs. Once again we were on the river from Hearn field a great place to run a regatta although I think we are hoping to get it out to sea next year.

## Seine Working Party Progress

November 2021 - November 2022

Working party  
April 21.

Remember the \*AIM\* from January:

*'Helping the local community to enjoy the benefits of rowing as a sport - getting people of all ages out on the water which will improve people's physical, mental & social health which is desperately needed during pandemic times' 📖 📖 📖*

Look at the amazing things we have achieved as a group/team:

### Boats, Kit & memberships

- All 4 club boats refurbished (sanded, varnished, repaired and painted) and have been back on the water in 2022 (major project - well done Tom!)
- Now being annually refurbished and maintained by Tom Manley & team at Pat & Gerald Atkins barn (thank you 😊)
- Boat booking system in place on Teamup
- Boats are being booked & used regularly by juniors, crews, social rowing groups & racing crews
- 4 kits bags organised for use containing flares, stretchers, gates (and now life jackets) for each named club boat (grab bag)
- Broken club oars are presently being repaired (Debbie & Phil)
- Club oars are being refurbished (Delphine)
- Trot lines been revamped with strops/buoys and carabiners to assist boats to be secured more easily
- New covers purchased for club boats
- Seine membership numbers are gradually increasing

### Sponsorship/boat signage

- Julia ensured each club boat has been sponsored
- Julia arranged signage on Freya and Tony

### Seine News/communication

- 1st Seine news went live to RTRC club members January 2022
- Written by Mel
- Weekly - 2 weekly in winter to update members on boats and developments
- Been monthly over summer
- Positive feedback as good communication to members with Seine updates

### **Coxes and Training**

- Cox training course been developed over 18 months and being implemented (thanks to both Daves & Rex)
- Ongoing development for training material (Rex leading this)
- Assessments being undertaken presently by Mel & Jon Haytread
- At least 6 extra coxes now signed off and registered as RTRC coxes 😊
- 3 awaiting assessment
- Big thank you to all our amazing coxes as the seines would not be out regularly without you!

### **Back to Rowing**

- Was implemented on Wed 30th March by Becky and Pat and finished September 2022
- Weekly wed night sessions
- Pat & Becky were first contact to assist those not in crews or in disbanded crews in getting back on the water again after a long break from rowing due to the covid pandemic
- back to rowing over the summer fulfilled it's aim and was extremely successful at helping rowers get back to rowing again.
- Crews have formed from these sessions ; beginners have blossomed and others have joined social rowing groups to continue their rowing

### **Try a Row and novices**

- Try a row evening held in July for gig and Seine Co-ordinated by Mel
- £5 for 30 mins rowing
- Was successful at attracting new rowers
- Emma kindly took out a group of novice rowers on back to row evenings in July & August that have now progressed into other groups

### **Tornadoes social rowing groups**

- Mon and Thursday social row groups
- Set up privately on what's app
- Organised by Shari
- Built up from around 10 to 70 rowers over the year
- Coffee ☕ afterwards

### **Social rowing organised outings**

- 1st social row was in April 2022 to salty dog kiosk in Holcombe
- 2nd social row to maidencombe 21/06 with gigs attending too

- 3rd social row to Coombe Cellars on 26/06
- Enjoyed and successful
- Organisers: Maxine & Lisa

### Seine Racing

- Frostbite 🏠 held in Jan - different arrangements as still covid a problem
- Seine Series held this year
- All 10 races were held in Teignmouth
- More men's crew than ladies
- Slowly numbers are building up again
- Dartmouth invited RTRC to their Seine regatta races ; we entered and won!
- Round the Islands endurance race - 5 seines entered
- London River Race - 3 seines entered
- New Rock up and Row fun races in December organised by Shari