

Camrowers Company Number 7120907
Camrowers End of Year Accounts

Camrowers

Chairman's Report

Report of the Trustees 2025

Accounts Year Ended 30 September 2025

Chairman's Report

The Club was founded 20 years ago by Simon and Kate Merrington. We started with second-hand equipment: Virus singles and a stable quad and they worked well. Simon was our first Captain and has been an honorary member for several years. (Honorary membership carries all the rights of normal membership, provides exemption from annual fees and has been used to appreciate particular and extended service to the Club.) Simon still rows regularly. Kate was our first Club secretary and first company secretary after incorporation, works frequently as an RP (Responsible Person, organising rowing on a club day), rows regularly and plays an important part in club administration. The Trustees at our last meeting enthusiastically agreed also to make her an honorary member.

Over the years we have clarified our purpose and grown our facilities. We offer non-competitive rowing for older rowers, most of whom are retired. We currently only offer sculling, no sweep oars. We provide a range of single and double sculls, two coxed quads, one coxed double and one coxed single. We still have two Viruses available for learners, though most early learning is now in Swift singles with floats. Most of our boats have been bought new.

Our regular rowing sessions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 0930-1300, all of which are supervised by RPs. We have recently introduced occasional sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, to allow coaching and to allow experienced rowers the opportunity to row in a less congested environment.

We have welcomed 25 new joiners since Easter, and a team of 12 coaches have assisted them to become safe and competent independent scullers. Three of these joiners dropped out after one session and 18 of the others have since completed their training and remain with the Club. All of our coaches are qualified by British Rowing.

We welcome rowers with disabilities. One member who is blind rows weekly with a sighted cox in the coxed single; a paraplegic rower was a keen member until his disability worsened; a new member with paralysis of both legs and a visually impaired member have been coached and now row successfully in an adapted stable double; we have two members with Parkinson's disease and numerous members with hearing difficulty and lesser physical disabilities.

Our boathouse was completed eight years ago and is physically adjacent to one of Cambridgeshire Rowing Association. Together we lease our premises from the Combined Colleges who in turn lease from Cambridge City Council. The City Council and Sport England both made grants to us to assist in construction of our boathouse. The Combined Colleges (Churchill, King's, Selwyn and The Leys School) have been consistently supportive landlords and we maintain good relations with them. Each of Camrowers and CRA pays 10% of the costs of improvements to the site. It is helpful that we have different preferred times of operation: we row in the mornings after 9.30; CRA rows a lot at weekends and a bit in the daytime; the Colleges row mainly early morning; and The Leys rows in the afternoon.

Wherever possible we do our own boat maintenance. Boathouse cleaning is done by members on a rota basis. Rowing sessions are supervised by RPs, also on a rota basis, under the overall direction of Brian Finlay, our indefatigable Captain. To date members have been able to do all our legal and accounting work without requiring paid assistance.

We have a developing relationship with the Peregrine Rowing Club, a local women's club that engages in competitive rowing. They borrow our quads for non-competitive training and they provide support to us with expertise and donations. Several Peregrine members have joined Camrowers. The Trustees have agreed a new form of corporate membership for Peregrines, which will allow use of our boats by their members at times agreed by the Captain of Camrowers; the arrangement is subject to annual review.

Several of our coaches have supported Rob Roy in providing training to King's College School and we have loaned boats for this purpose. All the parties concerned have found this mutually beneficial.

Our finances are strong, we have ample cash reserve and the Trustees propose to maintain the membership fee unchanged. It is a measure of this strength that when our old stable quad had clearly reached retirement age, we were able to commit to buy Cormorant new for up to £14,000 with minimum concern. Cormorant was delivered in the new financial year at a final price of £10,500; it is also a stable quad and is a joy to row, and without the tendency of its predecessor to lean to port.

Alison Howat is retiring at the AGM as Social Secretary. She has done a magnificent job over 10 years and has been a key player in the development of the Club as a coherent and mutually supportive body. Zoe Broughton is retiring as Welfare Officer, a critical role which she has filled impeccably. We are looking for replacement officers for both roles.

I will be retiring as chair at the AGM and I am delighted that Tony Coad, one of the earliest members of the Club, has offered to succeed me.

Roger Salmon
12 January 2026



Report of the Trustees 2025

Camrowers was founded as an unincorporated club in 2006. Camrowers, a company limited by guarantee (no 01720907) was incorporated 9 January 2010 and granted charitable status on 16 April 2010 (registered no 1135567).

Following an EGM of the club, the assets and undertaking of the club were transferred to the company on 6 September 2010.

The principal office of the charity is at 14 Earl Street, Cambridge CB1 1JR

This report is also the Directors' Report required by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustees have complied with their duty in section 4 of the 2006 Act to have regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission (PB1).

Trustees during the 2024/2025 financial year

Paul Ray: co-opted 15 Nov 2015 and re-elected 16 Jan 2018, 28 Jan 2020, 14 Feb 2023 and 17 Feb 2025

Anne Sales: appointed 8 Dec 2016 and re-elected 28 Jan 2020 and 14 Feb 2023

Trish Steen: appointed 29 Jan 2019 and re-elected 2 Jan 2022 and 4 Jan 2024

Margaret Ely: co-opted 16 Feb 2021 and re-elected 26 Jan 2022 and 4 Jan 2024

Kate Belger: co-opted 16 Feb 2021 and re-elected 26 Jan 2022 and 4 Jan 2024

Maureen O'Donnell: appointed 26 Jan 2022 and re-elected 17 Feb 2025

Roger Salmon: co-opted 7 Nov 2022 and re-elected 14 Feb 2023

Rowland Thomas: appointed 14 Feb 2023

Brian Finlay: appointed 4 Jan 2024

Malcolm Brearley: appointed 17 February 2025

Day to day management of the charity is delegated to a committee, elected at the AGM.

Appointment of Trustees

Annually at the AGM one third of Trustees retire by rotation but are eligible for re-election. Trustees are normally drawn from the membership and can be appointed by a General Meeting or by Trustees; in the latter case the trustee must retire at the next AGM but is eligible for re-election.

Governing Document and Objects

The organisation's objects are defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. They are: The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the inhabitants of Cambridge and environs by the provision of facilities for rowing.

Activities of Camrowers

The club rows when University students are not normally on the river, from 9.30-12.30, on three mornings a week. The rowing is non-competitive. There are 2 rowing sessions on each morning. New members complete a course of sessions with one of the team of British Rowing accredited coaches to become safe and effective scullers. Members can progress to more challenging boats, if desired, through a defined competency system which supports safe rowing. All aspects of the club are managed by volunteer members.

The Camrowers boathouse, operational from May 2017, has its own changing and disabled facilities, emergency shower, kitchenette and 4 rowing machines for exercise or warming up.

Responsible Persons (RPs), working in pairs, take turns to manage each morning's boating session. The club has a team of 18 RPs (with 9 reserves) who have been trained and continue to ensure that recommended safety measures are effectively implemented.

There are currently 12 British Rowing-qualified coaches.

On 30 September 2025 there were 122 members (2024: 117, 2023: 113, 2022: 113, 2021: 117, 2020: 125, 2019:129, 2018: 131). There are also 9 honorary members.

The renewed website is progressing and is attracting many new members.

Our fleet at 30 September 2025

Uncoxed boats:

3 Virus training boats (one is used for pool use only.)

3 fine singles

3 fine trainers

2 fine doubles

3 recreational doubles

8 recreational singles

Coxed boats:

1 double

2 quads

1 Mondego single

The club also has a kayak.

There are fittings to make 2 recreational uncoxed singles and 1 uncoxed double suitable for disabled use.

The stable quad was refurbished in 2024 and is being replaced. It gets good regular usage throughout the year. The fine quad has more limited use but there is slowly increasing demand with regular crews.

Policies and Procedures

Trustees have reviewed and updated the Camrowers Policies and Procedures during this year and have in place a systematic review schedule including a complaints procedure.

Reserves and Cash

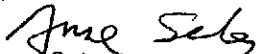
Current reserves policy is to hold:

- £10,000 cash reserve (circa 6 months operating costs)
- £10,000 major flood reserve to enable a quick recovery
- £10,000 to upgrade boats
- £30,000 building reserve
- (£60,000 in total)

Cash in current and savings accounts at 30 September 2025 was £85,956 (£79,956 in 2024; £88,743 in 2023).

We are therefore in a robust financial position.

By order of the Trustees



Anne Sales

Company Secretary

12 January 2026

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Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2025

	Note	Total Funds (£) 2025	Total Funds (£) 2024
Assets and Liabilities			
Boathouse (inc. Frontage from 2023)	4	270,272	271,369
Other fixed assets (exc. Frontage from 2023)	4	27,463	33,071
Bank deposits		85,956	79,956
Payments in advance for next financial year		2,147	1,957
Deposit prepayment for new boat		0	0
Total assets		385,838	386,353
Creditors (frontage work done, awaiting invoice)		2,150	0
Accruals		0	0
Total liabilities		2,150	0
Net assets		383,688	386,353
 Reconciliation with SOFA			
Net assets at start of accounting year		386,353	397,326
Net increase in assets during the year		-2,665	-10,973
Net assets at end of year		383,688	386,353

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to the companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Roger Salmon
Chairman
12 January 2026

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Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 30 September 2025

	Note	Total Funds (£) 2025	Total Funds (£) 2024
Incoming Resources			
Membership Fees		17,691	15,309
Interest		1,198	1,255
Grants and donations		500	1,730
Sale of Assets			
Purchased fixed assets		1,000	7,488
Total Incoming Resources		20,389	25,782
Outgoing Resources			
Insurance - Coaches		130	105
CRA membership		25	25
Affiliated memberships		10	10
Boat Repairs		450	1,868
Training		956	347
General maintenance		2,003	1,640
Admin - Office supplies, Companies House, web		77	113
Equipment (eg boats, fittings)		321	14,907
Social activities/refreshments		154	295
Bank Charges		60	80
Ground Rent		1,808	1,808
Electricity		1,145	570
Rates		387	172
Publicity (inc. website)		276	474
Accruals:			
British Rowing Membership	2.1	1,193	980
Cam Conservators boat registration	2.1	2,002	1,743
Insurance - Buildings	2.1	1,000	1,019
Insurance - Boats	2.1	1,202	675
Depreciation:			
Depreciation of fixed assets exc. Boathouse	2.2	6,608	6,668
Depreciation of Boathouse (inc. Frontage from 2023)	4	3,247	3,256
Total Outgoing Resources		23,054	36,755
Net increase of assets over year (net income)		-2,665	-10,973

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Notes to the Accounts

General

1.1 Reference in these accounts to the Club is reference to Camrowers, a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. Reference to the Trustees is to the Directors of the Company.

1.2 The Club has no employees.

1.3 The Club has not entered into any contracts with related parties.

2. Accounting policies

2.1. These accounts are prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) (the "SORP") and company and charity law in England. Income and expenditure are only accrued where the annual payments are over £500; where an annual payment was over £500 and then falls under £500 but the trustees expect it to be over £500 in future years, the accrual basis is maintained. Costs of around £2,150 incurred in August 2024 for improvement to the river frontage, and not yet invoiced to Camrowers have been included under Creditors.

2.2 Boats, oars (the only material assets of the Club prior to 2017), rowing machines and other material assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives, taken as 10, 7 or 5 years. Payments for assets costing less than £500 are expensed as incurred.

2.3 Leasehold land and buildings for use by the Club are depreciated evenly over their expected lives from the date when use becomes possible; in the case of the Boathouse, use was considered possible on certification of Practical Completion, which was 14 March 2017.

2.4 The River frontage was improved in 2019 and the Club bore 10% of the cost as required by the Lease of the Boathouse; Camrowers share of the cost was capitalised and is being depreciated over 20 years. From 2023 'River Frontage' is reported under 'Leasehold land and buildings' instead of 'Fixtures, fittings and equipment'.

3. Governance, fundraising and other costs

3.1 Total governance costs (administration and Companies House registration) were £57.

3.2 No Trustee has been reimbursed for personal expenditure.

3.3 There were nil fundraising costs (£nil).

3.4 CRA has an insurance policy that covers all its member clubs (including Camrowers) for third party liability. Accordingly Camrowers does not have a separate liability policy.

4. Fixed Assets Including New Boathouse

The Boathouse is held on a 99 year lease ending on 22 November 2114. The Club may not dispose of the Boathouse before 8 July 2026 without the consent of The English Sports Council (Sport England). The cost of the Boathouse includes relevant professional fees incurred in the building contract and the reimbursement of certain costs incurred by CRA as our landlord. In line with Note 2.4 above, in the table below 'Frontage' valuation has been included under 'Leasehold land and buildings' instead of 'Fixtures, fittings and equipment'.

Analysis of opening and closing carrying amounts

	Leasehold land and buildings (inc. Frontage)	Fixtures, fittings and equipment
	£	£
Cost or valuation		
Cost or valuation at 30 September 2024	295,276	100,551
Additions	2,150	1,000
Total at 30 September 2025	297,426	101,551
Depreciation		
At 30 September 2024	23,907	67,479
Depreciation during the year	3,247	6,608
Total depreciation at 30 September 2025	27,154	74,087
Net book value		
Net book value at 30 September 2024	271,369	33,072
Net book value at 30 September 2025	270,272	27,464

5. Volunteers

The Club has no employees: all rowing activities are managed and supervised by volunteers, as are fund raising, coaching, preparation of accounts, and the settling of legal arrangements for the Boathouse. No imputed cost is made in the accounts for these services.