



Crusader Community Boating

www.crusadercommunityboating.org.uk

Bringing the peace and tranquillity of Northamptonshire's waterways to everyone, regardless of age, physical or mental ability, through subsidised trips for eligible groups on our specially equipped wide beam boats.

Trustees Annual Report: 1st January to 31st December 2025

Correspondence Address: 7 Pyghtle Way, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN4 0QJ

Trustees showing date of appointment

Julie Colman	10 Dec 2025		Geoff Fellows	28 Jan 2023
Paul Hickerson	4 Sep 2023		Colin Neal	14 Jan 2025
Mike Watts	14 Jan 2025		Colin Lovesy	24 Jul 2025
Gary Coles	15 Aug 2025		Julie Payne	15 Aug 2025

Trustees are elected for a 3 year term, after which they may be re-elected for a further term.

Officers

Colin Neal (Chairman), Geoff Fellows (Treasurer), Paul Hickerson (Maintenance), Stephen Henley (Client Manager), Karla Lesingham (Crew Rota), Julie Colman (Training), Sue Hickerson (Secretary & Quartermaster), Mick Watts (Health & Safety Officer).

Note: Mick Watts is standing down as a trustee and as our H&S Officer as at the AGM.

Governance

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission as a 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Association Model' governed by its board of trustees. Day-to-day operations are managed by the Officers on behalf of the Trustees. All Trustees, Officers and Crew act on a voluntary basis.

Meetings

Trustees normally hold face-to-face meeting 2 to 3 times a year with other business handled via email or telephone.

Charity Assets

The principle assets of the charity are two passenger trip boats 'Mountbatten Crusader' and 'Community Spirit' plus associated equipment used in connection with their operation. The charity aims to hold cash reserves sufficient to cover at least one year's outgoings. Some of this cash is held in an interest-earning account.

Operations

The trip season had a slow start due to the lift out and MCA inspection of Community Spirit being delayed until early May because of the prevailing river condition. The season would normally start mid April but the first passenger trip on the river was pushed back to 20th May.

During the year we ran a total of 70 passenger trips (cf 97 in 2024), 46 on Community Spirit and 24 on Mountbatten. The drop in numbers is due to a combination of factors, mainly the shortened season and a shortage of Boatmasters following two retirements at the end of 2024. Although several trips were cancelled due to adverse weather conditions and/or Strong Stream Advice being in force, most were rescheduled for a later date in the season.

Prior to the trip season, Mountbatten also had an out-of-water inspection and the marine surveyor recommended a number of maintenance tasks were carried out over the following two year period. Trustees had considered whether we should put this boat up for sale but decided to hold onto it for the time being and had the maintenance work carried out in December 2025.

All this has led to a significant operating loss for the year and we've had to rely on our reserves to see us through.

The charity had a successful recruitment campaign early in the year and took on 15 new volunteers. Several of these have taken up steering and one is working towards applying for a Boatmaster licence.

Financial Overview

We started the year with a bank balance of £40,779.32 and an end of year balance of £37,205.81 making an operating loss of £3,573.51 The charity has no debts or other liabilities and further information can be found in the treasurer's report and year end accounts.



Colin L Neal
Chair of the Trustees
Crusader Community Boating
5th January 2026



Crusader Community Boating

Annual Accounts for Year Ending 31st December 2025

Balance Brought Forward	£40,779.32
Income	£18,685.84
Expenditure	£22,259.35
Outstanding	£0.00
Operating Deficit	£3,573.51
Balance Carried Forward	£37,205.81

Geoff Fellows
Treasurer
Crusader Community Boating
31st December 2025

As an Independent Examiner I have reviewed the accounts of the above Charity for the period 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

From the information and documentation provided I am of the opinion that the accounts represent a true and correct position of the Charity.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Parr".

Michael Parr
Independent Examiner