

# THE GRAVESEND REGATTA SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1181692

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-01-23

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Cromers Cottage 1  
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**Website** <https://www.gravesend-regatta.co.uk/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ORGANISE REGATTAS ON THE THAMES AT GRAVESEND, TO ORGANISE OTHER RACES, TO PROMOTE FIXED SEAT ROWING, TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN BOATS SUITABLE FOR FIXED SEAT ROWING AND MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FOR USE OF MEMBERS AND OTHERS, TO TRAIN PEOPLE IN FIXED SEAT ROWING AND TO MAINTAIN THE HERITAGE OF THE GRAVESEND REGATTAS.

**Activities:** Fixed seat skiff rowing on the Thames from Gravesend

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Kent

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£5,896	£7,822	-	-
2023-12-31	£8,158	£3,857	-	-
2022-12-31	£2,203	£4,539	-	-
2021-12-31	£2,695	£4,142	-	-
2020-12-31	£11,732	£3,667	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>SHANE CLEAVER</b>	Chair	2019-03-18
Gurkamalpreet Singh		2023-04-15
IAN EDWARD STEVENSON		2019-03-18
Steve Atterbury		2023-04-15

**THE GRAVESEND REGATTA SOCIETY**

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# Accounts

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## Gravesend Regatta Society Trustee Report – 2024 Season

The Trustees of Gravesend Regatta Society are proud to present this report on the 2024 season, a year marked by meaningful tributes, spirited competition, and steadfast community involvement.

### Memorials and Tributes

This year, we remembered cherished members of our Society, **Chris Cushing** and **Mick Ramsey**, whose contributions and camaraderie left an indelible mark on our community.

The **Chris Cushing Memorial Row**, held on 25th August, saw crews row to the old Sea School and back, raising a heartfelt toast to Chris's memory. Earlier in the year, Chris's ashes were laid to rest near the waters he loved, in a ceremony surrounded by family and friends.

On 14th July, the inaugural **Mick Ramsey Memorial Race** took place, a closely contested event that celebrated Mick's legacy as a rower, cox, and committee member. Mick's family joined us to present a new shield to the winners, with heartfelt reflections shared throughout the day.

The **Brian Webster Memorial Row** also returned, with three crews racing in challenging conditions. Thanks to the generosity of TJ's Pub, the event included the presentation of the winners' shield and post-race celebrations that united our members and local community.

### Rowing and Regattas

The season included vibrant activity on the river, highlighted by the **Gravesend Town Regatta** and other events, including a **mini-regatta** and the popular **Christmas Jumper Row**. These gatherings brought members together for competition, celebration, and fellowship.

Our thanks go to our partners, including **Gravesend Rowing Club**, **Marine Volunteer Service (MVS)**, and the **RNLI**, who provided invaluable support throughout the season.

### Fleet Maintenance and Volunteer Contributions

Over the winter months, volunteers worked tirelessly to maintain and improve our fleet of skiffs and support boats. The refurbishment of "That'll Do," now ready for spring testing, was a standout achievement, along with the organisation of the yard. **Kent Sheds** provided additional hands, reinforcing our collaborative approach to keeping the Society's equipment in top condition.

### Seasonal Celebrations and Special Moments

The season concluded with a memorable **Presentation Evening**, attended by the Mayor of Gravesend, Councillor Daniel King, who acknowledged the community's commitment and presented trophies to this year's rowers.

We also celebrated **Ken Miller's 80th birthday**, a testament to the enduring dedication and vitality of our members.

## **Acknowledgments and Gratitude**

We are deeply grateful to:

- **Volunteers and Trustees** for their dedication and hard work.
- **Jason Arthur** for capturing the season's memorable moments.
- **MVS, Kent Sheds, Gravesend Rowing Club**, and other partners for their invaluable support.
- All rowers, coxes, and helpers who contributed to another remarkable season.

## **Looking Ahead**

As we prepare for the 179th Gravesend Regatta and the milestone 180th Regatta, we call upon our members, supporters, and community to help make these events truly extraordinary. These regattas are not just about rowing; they represent the heart of Gravesend's heritage and the spirit of unity that binds us together.

To ensure their success, we need your enthusiasm, creativity, and hands-on support. Whether it's organising events, helping with logistics, volunteering for maintenance, or simply spreading the word, every contribution makes a difference. Let's work together to honor our history and create unforgettable moments for everyone involved.

Join us in making the 179th and 180th Gravesend Regattas a celebration of our shared passion and a legacy for generations to come.

**Statement of Activity**  
**Gravesham Regatta Society**  
January 1-December 31, 2024

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Income	
Membership	1,155.86
Services	4,300.00
<b>Total for Income</b>	<b>£5,455.86</b>
Cost of Sales	
Regatta Expenses	287.95
<b>Total for Cost of Sales</b>	<b>£287.95</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>£5,167.91</b>
Expenses	
Advertising/Promotional	793.12
Boat House Expenses	388.98
Heat and Light	75.55
Office/General Administrative Expenses	326.15
Other Professional Services	102.78
Purchases	100.27
Raising funds	130.00
Travel and Accommodation	91.92
<b>Total for Expenses</b>	<b>£2,008.77</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>£3,159.14</b>
Other Income	
Corporate Sponsorship	400.00
Other Miscellaneous Income	40.00
<b>Total for Other Income</b>	<b>£440.00</b>
Other Expenses	
Aplan	1,675.74
Rates	846.16
Rent	2,147.97
Unallocated Cheques	856.00
<b>Total for Other Expenses</b>	<b>£5,525.87</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-£5,085.87</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-£1,926.73</b>

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## Trustee Report 2023

Trustees of the reporting period : Shane Cleaver, Ian Stevenson, Steve Atterbury, Gurkamalpreet Singh and Craig Mercer

### Introduction:

The Gravesend Regatta Society, guided by its dedicated board of Trustees and volunteers remains steadfast in its commitment to promoting community participation in fixed-seat rowing along the historic Thames at Gravesend. Our objectives, rooted in organizing regattas, maintaining suitable boats, and fostering a rich rowing heritage, continue to shape the core of our mission.

As we reflect upon the 2023 rowing season, we are met with a blend of pride for our collective achievements and a solemn acknowledgment of those we've bid farewell to. In this year's report, we honour the memory of esteemed members, friends and associates who have left an indelible mark on our community. We extend our deepest condolences to the families of Mick Ramsey, Jeannie Baldwin, and Brian Webster, each of whom played a significant role in shaping the legacy of Gravesend Regatta Society.

Mick Ramsey, a former rower, Club Captain, and dedicated Committee member, left an enduring impact on our community. His prowess in both rowing genres, coupled with his leadership in maintaining our skiffs, has left an indelible mark. We remember Mick not only for his rowing triumphs but also for his coxing expertise, a skill that added trophies in equal measure. Mick's passing leaves a void that will be felt by all of us at the Gravesend Regatta Society and the wider community.

Jeannie Baldwin, a cherished friend and supporter, brought joy to our regattas for many years. Her face painting stall was a highlight, enchanting attendees of all ages. Jeannie's warmth and creativity will be sorely missed, and we offer our sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Brian Webster, coxswain and a pivotal figure in our rowing community, left us earlier in the season. The Brian Webster Memorial Race, organised in his honour, stands as a testament to his lasting influence. We express our

gratitude for his contributions to our events and extend our sympathies to his family. we extend our heartfelt thanks to TJ's Pub for their invaluable support in the inaugural Brian Webster Memorial Cup. This newly organised race, dedicated to the memory of Brian Webster, became a reality due to the generous sponsorship from TJ's Pub.

Tom and Iris from TJ's Pub not only sponsored a new plate for the event but also graced the riverside to witness the crews set off. Their presence added a touch of warmth and community spirit to the occasion.

In commemorating the achievements of the 2023 season, we pay tribute to Mike Fitzsimons, a stalwart with a remarkable 50-year journey within our society. His legacy, woven into the fabric of our community, transcends roles, encompassing various contributions and community service beyond the Regatta Committee. As Mike bids farewell after announcing the 177th Gravesend Town Regatta as his last, we extend our deepest thanks for his immeasurable contributions.

#### Community Engagement:

Our members & volunteers actively participated in the Maritime Volunteer Service's Open Day, showcasing the spirit of community service. Taking a skiff along, we reciprocated the support received from MVS, allowing everyone to experience the joy of rowing.

#### Charitable Endeavours:

In a display of unwavering commitment, four of our members embarked on the 4x4x48 challenge, an idea born from one of our more eccentric members and Trustee. With help of volunteers without whom wouldn't be possible, together they rowed 4 miles every hour, for 48 hours, each outing was different as no two tides were the same, nighttime rows presented unfamiliar challenges, but the weather was fair. This ambitious endeavour was not only a physical feat but also a testament to the spirit of community and the dedication our members have for both rowing and charitable causes.

The challenge culminated in a heartwarming presentation where the rowers had the honour of handing over a substantial donation of over £2000 to a fantastic local charity, The Ellenor Hospice. These rowers, volunteers and organisation should feel proud to be a part of such a selfless endeavour.

Challenges include low numbers of participants, this coupled with spells of bad weather resulted in various events being cancelled including the mixed Dartford bridge, the mini regatta being postponed and our flag ship event The town regatta had to be adapted but still showcasing a mini points competition on the Saturday and a time trial on the Sunday. Those who were able to participate events across the season demonstrated great spirit and contributed to the success of each event.

#### New Skiff Naming Ceremony:

The naming of the red skiff, sponsored by Smith's Funfairs and named "Floating Position" in honour of the late Alfie Smith, added tradition and continuity to our fleet. The launch from the New Bridge jetty, with the Smith family on board, strengthened our ties with the local community.

#### Financial Performance:

Gravesend Regatta Society has been blessed with financial prosperity through grants and sponsorships and a record number of registered members. Successful grant applications, notably from the Lower Thames Crossing Community Fund and KCC ensured the acquisition of essential safety equipment and courses. The Safety Boat Course, made possible by these funds, contributed to enhanced safety protocols, underlining our commitment to the well-being of our members.

Sponsorship includes, the three Daws, The Jolly Drayman, Alfie Smiths funfair and Councillor Lauren Sullivan, without these sponsors we would be unable to maintain our boats and equipment.

Throughout the season, our society experienced a modest increase in memberships and volunteers. While this growth is promising, it is imperative for us to continue expanding our membership base. This

strategic growth is essential for the effective distribution of responsibilities, ensuring a streamlined and well-managed operation.

It is worth noting that several pivotal positions within the society, including Treasurer and Secretary, remain vacant. Additionally, we are actively seeking volunteers for our crucial training nights. The success and sustainability of our organisation depend on the commitment and engagement of our members.

Considering this, we extend an earnest invitation to any of our current members who possess the skills and dedication required for these roles. Your active involvement will contribute significantly to the continued success and growth of the Gravesend Regatta Society. We appreciate and welcome your willingness to step up and offer your valuable time towards these essential responsibilities.

#### Acknowledgments and Appreciation:

A heartfelt thank you extends to the dedicated trustees, volunteers, and staff who have been the driving force behind the Gravesend Regatta Society's success. Your unwavering commitment has steered us through challenging times.

Recognition goes to Jason Arthur for capturing the essence of our regattas through his skilled lens. His artistic contributions have allowed us to share the beauty of our events with a broader audience.

We express our gratitude to the Maritime Volunteer Service (MVS) for their continued support, ensuring the safety and success of our events. Kent Sheds' invaluable contributions have strengthened our operational capabilities.

We look forward to getting stuck into a busy season in 2024.

# Gravesham Regatta Society

## Financial Activities

January - December 2023

	TOTAL
Income	
Donations and legacies	-12.47
Membership	860.00
Services	7,310.09
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£8,157.62</b>
Cost of Sales	
Cost of sales	-50.00
Mooring Fees	257.30
Regatta Expenses	-219.94
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>£ -12.64</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£8,170.26</b>
Expenditures	
Advertising/Promotional	156.00
Boat House Expenses	1,367.59
Heat and Light	494.00
Insurances	1,559.25
Interest Payable	-16.87
Paypal fees	12.60
Purchases	283.80
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£3,856.37</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>£4,313.89</b>
Other Income	
Grant Income	560.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>£560.00</b>
Other Expenditures	
Rates	238.34
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>£238.34</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>£321.66</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>£4,635.55</b>

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## Trustees Report to 2023 Annual General Meeting

Trustees for 2022-23: Elected- Shane Cleaver & Ian Stevenson,

Council nominees- Shane Mochrie-Cox, Lenny Rolles and Harold Craske.

The Gravesend Regatta Society continues to thrive thanks to the dedicated efforts of its board of trustees and volunteers, including representatives from Gravesham Borough Council. The society's Charitable Incorporated Organisation is focused on promoting community participation in fixed seat rowing for the public benefit, achieved through organising regattas and other races on the Thames at Gravesend and preserving the heritage of the Gravesend Regattas.

The society's flagship event, The Gravesend Town Regatta, was a success last season featuring participants and support from numerous local organisations. This success prompted the addition of several new races to the calendar, including a lower Thames challenge, two mixed points' regattas held in September and October, and an inaugural time trial event held in November. The society's insurance claims are coming to fruition, allowing them to repair the safety boat engine and replace tools that were damaged in storm Franklin. The motorboat has seen a replacement engine and is expected to be back in the water in the coming months

This season promises to be even more exciting with a diverse race calendar, including the Town Regatta on June 25th and 26th, and various other races throughout the season. The society is grateful for the help they have received from rowers in preparing the boat yard and skiffs for the upcoming season, and for the continued support from their affiliate charity, the Men's Sheds Association. Ronseal's generous donation of wood stain and decking paint has also been a welcome help.

The society encourages everyone to sign up for the next season and offer their support in any way possible and is always looking for new volunteers and trustees to join their team, share the workload, and ensure the society's continued success. The society is grateful for the continued support of Gravesham Borough Council the trustees and volunteers for their commitment to the society's purpose. They look forward to an exciting and successful season ahead.

# Gravesham Regatta Society

## Financial Activities

January - December 2022

	TOTAL
Income	
Donations and legacies	282.51
Services	852.00
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	39.24
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£1,173.75</b>
Cost of Sales	
Mooring Fees	497.98
Regatta Expenses	716.00
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>£1,213.98</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ -40.23</b>
Expenditures	
Boat House Expenses	1,777.35
Computer Costs	144.00
Errors	0.00
Heat and Light	761.67
Insurances	1,275.62
Purchases	260.54
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£4,219.18</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>£ -4,259.41</b>
Other Income	
Grant Income	1,028.56
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>£1,028.56</b>
Other Expenditures	
Rates	163.40
Rent	116.00
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>£279.40</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>£749.16</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>£ -3,510.25</b>

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# Gravesham Regatta Society

## Financial Activities

January - December 2021

	TOTAL
Income	
Donations and legacies	1,185.83
Membership	510.12
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£1,695.95</b>
Cost of Sales	
Mooring Fees	488.39
Regatta Expenses	1,011.95
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>£1,500.34</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£195.61</b>
Expenditures	
Advertising/Promotional	83.42
Boat House Expenses	576.47
Computer Costs	120.00
Heat and Light	359.67
Insurances	1,351.88
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£2,491.44</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>£ -2,295.83</b>
Other Income	
Grant Income	1,000.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>
Other Expenditures	
Rates	150.00
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>£150.00</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>£850.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>£ -1,445.83</b>

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# Gravesham Regatta Society

## Financial Activities

January - December 2020

	TOTAL
Income	
Charitable activities	449.00
Donations and legacies	949.00
Membership	334.71
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£1,732.71</b>
Cost of Sales	
Mooring Fees	361.92
Regatta Expenses	829.99
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>£1,191.91</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£540.80</b>
Expenditures	
Computer Costs	264.00
Heat and Light	394.99
Insurances	1,288.79
Purchases	255.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£2,202.78</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>£ -1,661.98</b>
Other Income	
Grant Income	10,000.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>
Other Expenditures	
Rates	272.73
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>£272.73</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>£9,727.27</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>£8,065.29</b>