



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st October 2023 To 30th September 2024

Charity name: Oxford Amateur Rowing Club
(previously: Oxford Academicals Rowing Club)

Charity registration number: 1196716

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation, in particular through the provision of facilities, encouragement and instruction in the sport of rowing and sculling for the public benefit of the residents of Oxford and the surrounding areas.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We continue to provide a structured and inclusive flexible rowing program to members, which is well received. It is a pleasure to watch the membership grow and their skills and fitness improve. This year we have increased community engagement with a public fundraising event in Oxford's Westgate shopping centre. This gave good exposure to the community to a rowing boat and the opportunity to try a rowing machine.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>This year we provided three learn to row courses benefitting members of the community with access to experience rowing. Many course participants subsequently joined as members and continue to benefit from the structured training, coaching, and the facilities offered by OARC.</p> <p>The racing program continues to allow members to compete at all levels through the year — from novices rowing at their first regatta to Men winning trophies at Henley Town and Visitors regatta, and strong showing at Henley Women's and Masters' Regattas. The programmes offered by OARC improve the health and fitness of members of the community in a supportive, caring, and inclusive environment. This allows them to gain confidence and build the skill of rowing.</p> <p>This year, we sadly received notice that the landlord of our boathouse intended to sell, and required us to vacate our home for over 20 years. We immediately set up a Boat House Task Force to investigate accommodation options and raise funds to secure the club's future on the River Thames. We were hugely successful in our fundraising efforts, and are very grateful to our members and the general public for their generosity.</p> <p>We vacated the boathouse in May 2024. Moving a rowing club and storing a portion of the fleet has been a serious challenge and much of the club pulled together to make it happen.</p> <p>This resulted in a temporary residence over the summer of 2024 in the University College boat house, and subsequently with a much reduced fleet operating a limited service and fleet from City of Oxford Boat Club carpark. As of summer 2024, many promising discussions are ongoing and we are confident that the club will soon be able to continue to operate by leasing land from Oxford County Council on the Isis stretch of the Thames.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	In light of the surprise termination of the clubs tenancy and the subsequent
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		<p>requirement to move the club, a plan has been drawn up by the committee to establish ourselves in a new location. In order to support this, a Boat House Task Force was set up, various accommodation plans were formulated, and costed. Following this, intense fundraising efforts were undertaken, with the target of raising the funds required for the club to continue operating from facilities that we ourselves control in order to secure the long-term future of the club. In aid of this goal, new asset acquisitions were paused, though maintenance and upkeep are continued. Long term goals of replacing aging craft including Men's second VIII and a new Women's IV remain, but are paused.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>The fundraising targets we set were ambitious and led by the requirement to establish the club at a new location. These have been met and exceeded, which means we are able to continue to support our members (including those experiencing financial hardship) in the unique supportive and inclusive environment of OARC, whilst we establish a plan for the new location.</p>
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	OARC's financial position drastically improved throughout this year as a direct result of our fundraising efforts to rehome the club. We closed this year with around £122,500 in reserves (up from ~£34,000 in Oct 2023).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Most of these reserves are earmarked for establishing a new home for the club, and some of these reserves are indeed <i>restricted funds</i>.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£122,451.67
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There is no financial uncertainty about the future of the charity.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We raised roughly £102,500 in donations, mainly from our own members, as well as from members of the public (including GiftAid). This represents a significant increase compared to previous years. Our regular income from memberships, contributions towards training and competition costs, and our learn to row course remained fairly stable at just over £36,000.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Our reserves are held with two separate financial institutions in order to ensure full cover by the FSCS. We expect to require access to these funds at short notice, and have therefore not locked these up in long-term investments or bonds, but in savings accounts with modest returns.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		The charity's activities continue to be supported by a substantial number of volunteers who devote their time to helping others. These volunteers are both from within the club's membership and from the wider community. The charity, its members, and the trustees are most grateful to all who volunteer their time.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Trustees are elected to their post by the members of the club in accordance with the provisions in the CIO's Constitution.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Trustees are appointed ex-officio through their election as club President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Departing officers are responsible for training those who are elected into their roles (with support from other officers of the Executive Committee, where necessary)
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is run by an elected Executive Committee which includes the trustees.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The charity is affiliated with British Rowing in order to provide additional rowing services and opportunities to compete.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Oxford Amateur Rowing Club (until Oct 2023)
Other name the charity uses	OARC, Accies, Oxford Academics Rowing Club (until Oct 2023)
Registered charity number	1196716
Charity's principal address	13 Earl Street OXFORD OX2 0JA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Nicholas Silvester	Chairman of trustees, President		
2	Jonathan Miles	Secretary	Until Oct 23 rd 2023	
3	Natalie Burrows	Secretary	From Oct 23 rd 2023	
4	Dr Sebastiaan van Schaik	Treasurer		
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
None		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information



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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Nicholas Paul Silvester	Dr Sebastiaan Johannes van Schaik
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Position (eg
Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair	Treasurer
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Date

25th of July, 2025

Oxford Amateur Rowing Club
(previously: Oxford Academicals Rowing Club)

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	to	Period end date
	01 October 2023		30 September 2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership subscriptions	18,187.00	-	-	18,187.00	20,429
Learn to Row	7,410.00	-	-	7,410.00	7,298
Member charges - training & competition costs	10,635.33	-	-	10,635.33	10,318
Member charges - private boat registration ¹	-	-	-	-	215
Member charges - purchase of club kit	207.50	-	-	207.50	69
Member charges - misc social events ²	2,233.00	-	-	2,233.00	360
Member charges - other	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising - donations (unrestricted) ⁵	26,176.93	-	-	26,176.93	5,265
Fundraising - donations (restricted) ⁵	-	76,300.61	-	76,300.61	-
Fundraising - grants	500.00	-	-	500.00	1,855
Fundraising - summer party	1,160.00	-	-	1,160.00	1,728
Fundraising - Christmas party	3,214.50	-	-	3,214.50	3,767
Fundraising - raffles	2,248.64	-	-	2,248.64	2,275
Bank interest	565.71	-	-	565.71	198
Charges to 3rd parties: trailering	-	-	-	-	68
Charges to 3rd parties: insurance claims	-	-	-	-	834
Charges to 3rd parties: misc	74.40	-	-	74.40	-
Refund of race entry fees	1,123.42	-	-	1,123.42	697
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	73,736.43	76,300.61	-	150,037.04	55,376
A2 Asset and investment sales					
Sale of fixed assets - boats	-	-	-	-	2,200
Sale of fixed assets - pars	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets - boat parts	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	2,200
Total receipts	73,736.43	76,300.61	-	150,037.04	57,576

A4 Asset and investment purchases	
Purchase of fixed assets - Boats	-
Purchase of fixed assets - Oars	-
Purchase of fixed assets - Coxing/rowing electronics	-
Purchase of fixed assets - Trailer	-
Sub total	-

Total payments	37,046.36
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Net of receipts/(payments)	36,690.07
A5 Transfers between funds	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	33,908.86
Cash funds this year end	70,598.93

-
-
-
-
-

24,447.87

51,852.74
-
-
51,852.74

-
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-
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-

-

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-
-

-
-
-
-
-

61,494.23


88,542.81
-
33,908.86
122,451.67

16,400
-
849
-
17,249

62,222

- 4,646
-
38,555
33,909

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Metro: current account (23-05-80 48141234)	5,490.78	-	-
	Metro: misc savings (23-05-80 48141218)	20,108.15	41,340.46	-
	Metro: misc boathouse savings (23-05-80 53054048)	-	10,512.28	-
	Metro: misc restricted savings (23-05-80 53054129)	-	-	-
	Co-operative bank: community direct account	-	-	-
	Co-operative bank: community 35d notice savings	45,000.00	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	70,598.93 OK	51,852.74 OK	- OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Members' negative squad balances (owed to the club)	3,681.76	-	-
B3 Investment assets	N/A	Fund to which asset belongs -	Cost (optional) -	Current value (optional) -
B4 Assets retained for the club's own use	Boats	Unrestricted	-	89,700.00
	Oars and sculls	Unrestricted	-	4,500.00
	Trailer	Unrestricted	-	2,500.00
	Other equipment	Unrestricted	-	3,600.00
B5 Liabilities	Members' positive squad balances (credit)	Fund to which liability relates Unrestricted	Amount due (optional) 1,757.03	When due (optional)
Signed by the Treasurer on behalf of all the Trustees	Signature	Print Name Sebastiaan van Schaik	Date of approval 23 Oct 2024	
				

Notes

1) Private boat registration for members was charged to members' squad balances this year. It therefore doesn't separately appear as income on these accounts, but is included in payments towards members' squad balances.

2) This year we celebrated Accies' 20th anniversary, for which people bought tickets

3) This includes transaction fees charged by GoCardless (for payment links) and Square (for card payments)

4) Some of the expenses we've incurred on re-homing the club might be recoupable (e.g. a shipping container and a temporary structure), but there is substantial uncertainty on this front. We therefore don't consider them to be assets with value.

5) This year we raised a significant amount of funds through a combination of different fundraising campaigns and donations. Some of these donations are 'restricted funds', which is a concept in charity law that forces a charity to reserve funds for a particular purpose. Other funds are 'unrestricted', and can be spent on anything we like.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Oxford Amateur Rowing Club

On accounts for the year
ended

30 September 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1196716

Set out on pages

9-13

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2024^{YYYY}.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Signed by:

D890D8DE3DE243F...

Date:

24-07-2025

Name:

Roi Amir

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

348A Woodstock Road

Oxford, UK

OX28BZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.