



# **Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club (SC049939)**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2022- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**



## Charity contact information

Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club SCIO

Also known as Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club,  
or simply Wigtown Bay CRC

'Cairnsmore' Rosie's Brae,

Isle of Whithorn,

Newton Stewart,

Wigtownshire,

DG8 8LT

Telephone 01988 500330

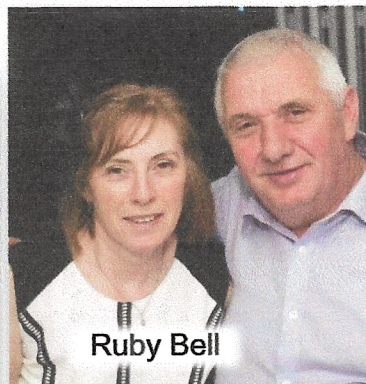
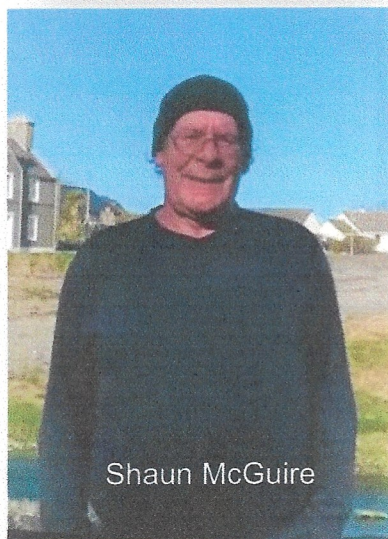
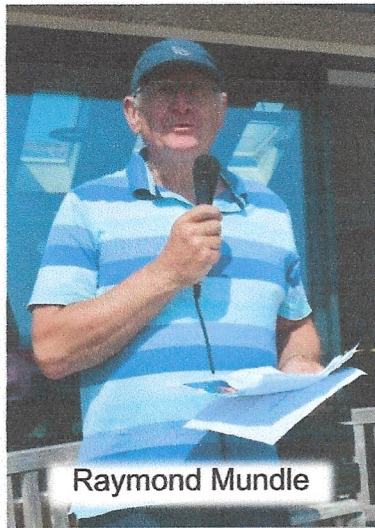
Email [wigtownbaycoastalrowing@gmail.com](mailto:wigtownbaycoastalrowing@gmail.com)

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/wigtownbaycoastalrowing>

Website [Wigtown Bay CRC \(wigtownbaycoastalrowing.org\)](http://wigtownbaycoastalrowing.org)



## Charity Trustees



## Objectives and activities

Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club, at the Isle of Whithorn, builds, maintains and rows coastal rowing boats. Our club is for everyone, without exception. All ages and abilities are welcome to become involved.

Our aim is to promote our coastal rowing heritage in an inclusive and positive way. Everyone can learn new skills, build and maintain boats, and row, joining in with us to maintain good physical and mental health, to socialise or to support and fundraise.

- Celebrating our heritage, we promote and support the building and use of coastal rowing boats in the Wigtown Bay area, centred on the Isle of Whithorn.
- Encouraging all to participate in sport, we promote coastal rowing as a healthy activity, which can be done safely by people of all ages at a level suited to their competence, experience, and state of fitness. In addition, providing unique opportunities to be close to nature and wildlife.
- Providing recreational facilities, we encourage everyone, of all ages, to take part in the activities offered by the club.

This year we created over 1000 rowing opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, took part in the Skiffeworld Championships at Kortgene Netherlands, and took Breagha on tour competing at the Nith Raid, Bell Raid, Prestwick Regatta, and Carrick Exciseman's chase. We rowed our coastline from Garlieston, Port William and Luce Bay, with half our 72 members getting out on the water over the year. Our amazing volunteers have organised beach cleans, and community activities, and for our Regatta we worked alongside Isle of Whithorn Youth Group, Isle Futures, Isle of Whithorn Heritage Group, Whithorn Rebuild, Newton Stewart Sub Aqua Club, Darren Cross & volunteers from across the Machars.



## **Structure, Governance and Management**

Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). We achieved SCIO status on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020, having been constituted as a club on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Our official title is Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club SCIO, we are registered SC049939.

A copy of our Constitution is available on request. Please contact our Secretary through our website, Facebook page or email.

### **Members**

Our club consists of members and a board of charity trustees. Full membership is open to anyone 16 years and over who has an interest in coastal rowing. Junior membership is open to children under 16 years. We decide our membership subscriptions for adult and juniors at our annual general meeting. Our constitution allows us to set those subscriptions at nil. Members have responsibilities that include taking decisions on changes to the constitution of the club, and electing Charity Trustees annually.

### **Board of Charity Trustees responsibilities**

Our Board of Charity Trustees has responsibility to ensure our club complies with our constitution. We must report annually to the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), incorporating accurate, independently examined, accounts.

Our Board also has a duty to maintain a register of members. If a member or Trustee requests a copy of the register, the request, if reasonable, must be met within 28 days. If the request is from a member, the register copy provided will have addresses removed.

Minutes of meetings must be kept by the Board. The minutes should include the names of people present and be signed by the chair of the meeting.

The Board must keep a register of Charity Trustees, and update that register within 28 days of any change. Any person can make a request to have a copy of the register of the board of charity trustees.

Our Board of Charity Trustees has a duty to act with the care and diligence which it is reasonable to expect when managing the affairs of another.

Our constitution outlines specific responsibilities for Charity Trustees where there is a conflict of interest, breach of duties, and in line with a code of conduct under Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005.

## Annual General Meetings

Annual General Meetings are quorate with one quarter of the membership present, voting by proxy, or attending by video or audio conference. Proxy votes are given to board members in advance of the AGM. All members are entitled to one vote each.

## Charity Trustee Recruitment and appointment

A full member aged 16 or over, at the time of appointment, is eligible to become a Charity Trustee. Someone who is disqualified under the Charities and Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 or is an employee of Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club SCIO cannot be elected to our Board of Charity Trustees.

We can have a maximum of 9 Charity Trustees on our board. A maximum of 7 elected, and 2 co-opted by the Board. Those co-opted could be from the membership, or non-members co-opted for their specialist experience or skill, or because they have been nominated by the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association. The minimum number of Charity Trustees is 3.

The Board once elected, appoints office bearers of Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary, and other office bearers as required.

Our current Board of Charity Trustees were elected at our AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 or subsequently co-opted to the board from members.

Our Club will flourish if our Board of Charity Trustees consists of enthusiastic members, sharing different skills, ideas, and experiences. Any member interested in finding out more about the role of a Charity Trustee can contact our Board for more information.

Additional information can be found on the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator website, and via Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations.

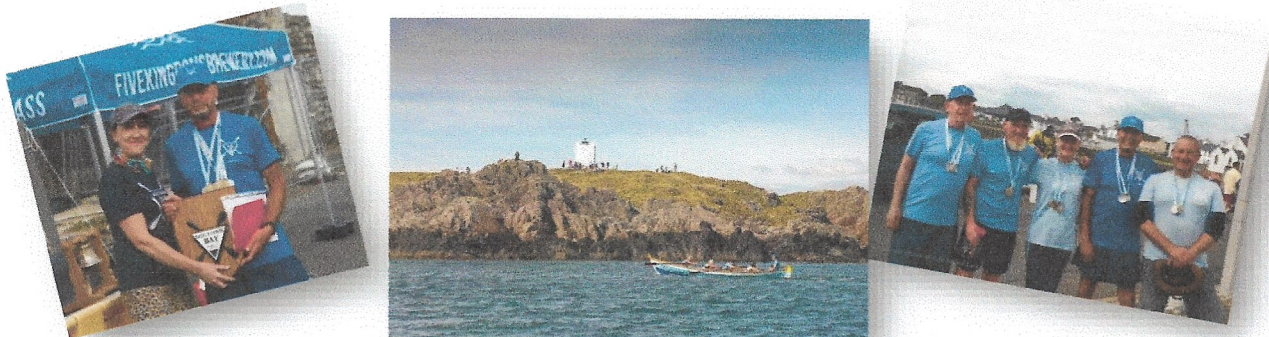


## Achievements and performance

In 2022-23 we built on the success of 2021-22, making the most of any good weather to get Breagha out on the water, for fun and for training for competition at local and international level. Led by Rowing Captains Becki Castle and John McGuire we took part in Skiffieworlds at Kortgene, Netherlands, combining crews with Stranraer. With heats for over fifty clubs, we never came last, were represented in the Women's 60+ final, and came second in our Open Mixed heat to the eventual World champions Dundrum. At Prestwick Regatta we came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, with 6 clubs competing, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Nith Raid at Dumfries. In the Bell Raid at Annan the following day, we came first. We competed in the Exciseman's Chase at Carrick.



Our own Regatta was, despite our best efforts poorly attended by local rowing clubs. However, Stranraer supported our event, and we enjoyed fierce friendly competition. We were mere seconds behind Stranraer in the Garlieston to Isle Houston Quaich race, and won 6 out of 11 sprint races, with one dead heat. These sprint races were for different age and gender categories creating chances for all our club members to compete. As our club is growing, it was fantastic to enable newer rowers to experience the feeling of competition in our home waters. We had help again from Andy Rendle from SCRA, and 40 volunteers to make the Regatta weekend happen. Our family fun weekend events included a village wide TattieBogle Competition, stalls, and free children's activities.



Our open rows and training row sessions continued throughout the winter months. Our volunteer coordinators and coxes have kept us on the water. John, Vikki, Hamish, Pete, Dru, Sue, Caroline, Tina, and Becki, give their time to ensure that we can row safely.



Our social events bring members and friends together. We raised funds to attend Skiffieworlds, with socials at Stranraer and Whithorn. Our cake stall and tombola at our Regatta raised much needed club funds. A fantastic longer social row with a break at Monreith beach was a huge success.



This year we worked with the Isle of Whithorn Youth Group to create an Amazing Summer Fun experience for children of the Isle and surrounding villages. We obtained funding from D&G Summer Fund and volunteered when needed alongside the regular Youth Group Volunteers. Youngsters designed their own 8-week programme of activities.

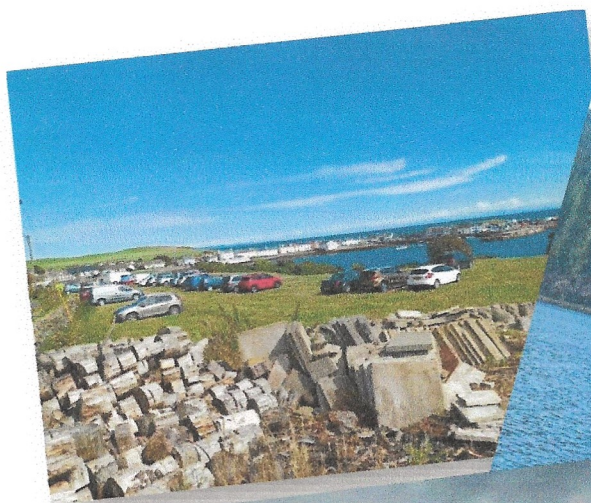




We purchased a canvas garage with money we raised at our regatta and were able to do some valuable maintenance on Breagha, thanks to club volunteers. The generous donation of sufficient money to buy a bespoke cover for Breagha has made her far more resilient to the weather. We finally took delivery of a new set of oars, funded partially by grant monies obtained in YE2022, and shall be testing them out soon.

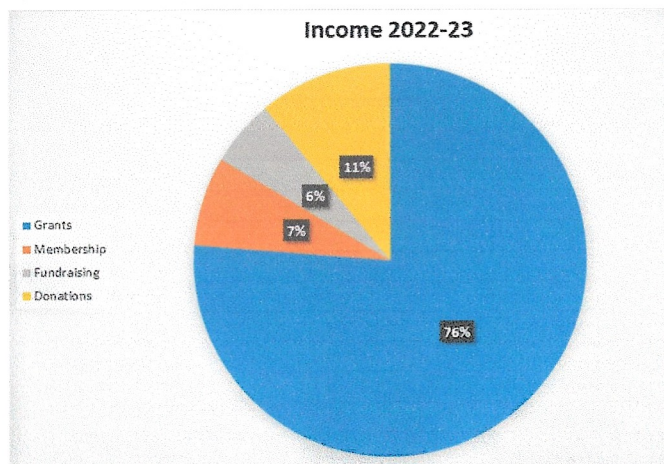


Despite raising all the funds to construct a boatshed for our club and Newton Stewart Sub Aqua Club and having the support of the Steampacket Hotel Co Ltd, we found out in September 2022 that we had failed at Govt Minister level to obtain planning consent. Our joint application with the Steampacket Hotel Co Ltd had been refused on the grounds of SEPAs objection concerning flood risk to the creation of new accommodation, namely the campervan managed parking element of the joint application. In October 2022 as trustees, we decided to still pursue the Community Boatshed element of the planning application. We have the generous donation of the land on which to build, from Tonderghie Holdings, and the support of the SportsScotland Facilities Fund, and South of Scotland Enterprise. At the time of writing, we have yet to resubmit for planning consent, with our amended proposal, however we have the support of key statutory consultees.



## Financial review

Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club SC049939 BANK



### Grants

£18,942.88



Coop Local Causes Fund\* £1860.50  
 IoWCC Events Grant\* £150  
 IoWCC Resilience Grant\* £288  
 D&G Amazing Summer Fund\* £2192.75  
 IoWCC Jubilee Grant\* £200  
 Wigtown Community Shop £300  
 SOSE\* £4042.63  
 D&G CMH&WF\* £9909

\* Ringfenced monies

### Membership

£1807

### Fundraising

£1365.82

### Donations

£2717.14

**TOTAL £24,832.84**

## Income

We started the year April 2022 with a bank balance of £4414.98.

Donations £2,205.86, the largest from Tonderghie Holdings of £1030.96 contributing to the architect's costs for our joint planning application 21/1817/FUL with Steampacket Hotel Co Ltd, and NSSAC, for the community boatshed project. The largest for routine club activity being a very generous donation of £500 from club member Louise Wilson. Trustees, for general club activities have donated a total of £684.08.

We raised £1365.82 with our regatta cake stall, and January 2023 social, and membership fees brought in £1807.

Our greatest income this year has been from grants; a total of £18,942.88. Wigtown Community Shop gave us £300 which we can spend on any club activities.

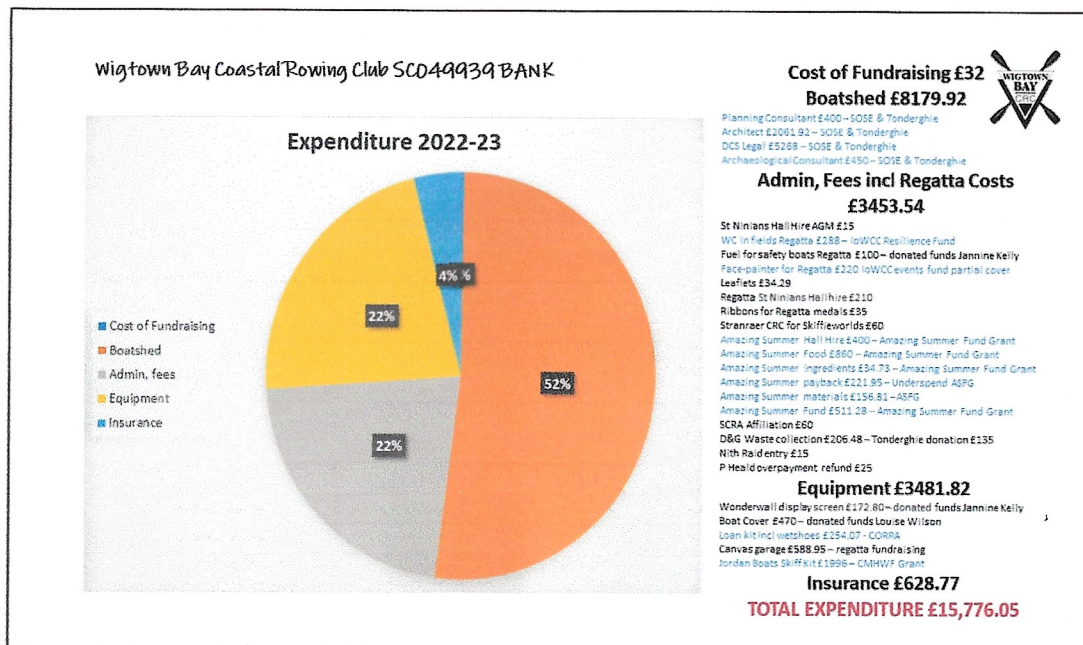
Isle of Whithorn Community Council provided us with three grants over the year, £200 from the Jubilee fund, £150 from the events fund, and £288 from the resilience fund. These monies were ringfenced to provide free children's activities at our regatta, helping us make it a family fun weekend, and providing additional toilets for visitors for that weekend. South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) gave us £4042.63 towards professionals and planning costs for our community boatshed project.

We obtained £2192.75 from the D&G Amazing Summer Fund to be able to put on activities with the Isle of Whithorn Youth Group throughout the summer. We returned £221.95 underspend.

We carried forward £407 from CORRA funding from last year, and right at the end of this financial year we have been awarded £9909 by D&G Community Mental

Health and Wellbeing Fund to work cooperatively with Isle of Whithorn Growing Space and build our second skiff.

Total income for YE2023 £24,832.84



## Expenditure

Our largest expenditure for YE2023 was on the Community Boatshed Project; £8179.92.

We obtained promised funding in 2022 sufficient to construct a community boatshed at the Isle of Whithorn. We had a combination of private and grant investment, conditional on obtaining planning permission and quotes from construction companies. Our planning application with the Steam Packet Hotel Co Ltd was unsuccessful. Trustees voted in late 2022 to continue with the project and to continue to work cooperatively with Newton Stewart Sub Aqua Club. Financially the project has grown significantly due to the rising costs of construction in the last 3 years. We no longer have the private investment, albeit we are very grateful to still have the land that we were gifted for the project. We have an outline spend expectation, of £500,000, using a design and build calculation.

We had to 'return' £50,000 promised by D&G Regionwide Coastal Benefit fund round 2 as they were unable to extend their deadline for spending to allow us to reapply for planning permission. We have applied for £80,000 in round 4.

We have the support of SportsScotland Facilities Fund, with £50,000 promised still. We have the support of South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) and are creating interest with other potential funders.

We have some way to go to achieve the funding target, however, we are striving towards it as a club, so retain the dedicated restricted fund moving forward.

In YE2023 we contributed £1245.83 towards planning and design costs from unrestricted club funds, match funding the donation from Tonderghie Holdings of £1030.96, and funds raised through the COOP Local Good Causes fund £1860.50, and SOSE £4042.63.

Our next largest expenditure was towards the Amazing Summer Fund activities with the Isle of Whithorn Youth Group, a total of £2184.77, and administration costs, including putting on our regatta. We also paid £206 for the uplifts of our waste bins in Cairn field, and returned an overpayment for membership of £25, resulting in an overall expenditure of £3453.54.

We spent £588.95 on a canvas garage to enable us to repair Breagha, using money raised by the regatta cake stall, and stalls hire, and bought some loan warm weather gear, wet shoes and lifejackets for £254.07, and a display screen for £172.80.

Our favourite expense this year has been on a bespoke boat cover from Stitch and Awl. Thanks to our incredibly generous club member Louise Wilson who donated all the funds for this purchase. It has transformed rowing sessions and helps Breagha face the elements.

Our most exciting recent spend has been on the latest Jordan Boats skiff kit £1996, to enable us to build a second skiff in 2023-24; totalling £3481.82

We spent £32 on room hire for fundraising, and £628.77 on insurance for club activities.

Total Expenditure for YE2023 £15776.05

Balance remaining £13471.77; with a significant proportion of those funds, £8128.93, identified for our 2<sup>nd</sup> skiff project.

## **2023-24**

Our focus over the next 12 months is to demonstrate how we shall sustain a community boatshed once constructed, and raise funding for the construction of that boatshed, once we have achieved planning consent. Fundraising for the boatshed will be factored into our Fundraising Strategy for 2023-24.

For day-to-day club activities, retaining our membership fees at the current rate, with our existing membership numbers provides us sufficient to cover our insurance and accounts inspection costs, with some monies for maintaining Breagha. Our Fundraising Strategy will also focus on supporting the rebuilding of our drystone wall, and regatta and travel funding.

## **Reserves**

We plan our membership subscriptions to cover existing insurance and accounting responsibilities and agree that we can raise additional funds through membership, and appropriate fundraising activity. We have no ringfenced reserves. We intend to keep this under review considering changes to our assets.

## Future plans

### 2023-24

We shall build a second skiff with funding obtained from the D&G Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund, as part of the 'IoW 2<sup>nd</sup> skiff and Growing Space combo launch' project. Reinvigorating our inclusive 'Men's Shed' ethos.

We shall continue to organise regular sessions for both leisure and competitive rowers with a view to engaging as many people as possible in regattas and events and encourage the competitive spirit. We plan to launch again in different locations including Port William, Garlieston, Loch Ken and further afield.

We will encourage rowers of all ages to take part to improve fitness, and technique, and get closer to nature. We aim to increase confidence in rowers, to enable more to cox, by promoting our cox development programme throughout the year.

We shall continue to beach clean, host and take part in local community activities, and encourage club socialising. We will plan and host our third regatta on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 encouraging family fun and bringing more coastal rowing clubs to the Isle of Whithorn.

Working in partnership with Newton Stewart Sub Aqua Club, we aim to obtain planning permission and funding for, and begin construction of a Community Boatshed in the Isle of Whithorn.

Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club welcomes everyone to find out more and join in with our club activities. People are our foundation.

"Build her strong and true and she will carry you home."



*R Mundle*  
Vice Chair Raymond MUNDLE

*Vikki*  
Secretary Vikki REAY-MARTIN

Date 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023