

CUBC's Pulling Together Fund: Supporting high-performance rowing at Cambridge

Proudly wearing Cambridge blue is a feeling like no other - knowing that you have put in the hours to compete in the Boat Race and represent Cambridge at the highest level, and doing so with close friends built along the way.

Not only does each crew create its own legacy, but there is also a huge amount of history behind Cambridge, and it's amazing to be part of this. The strokes taken by our members 10, 30, or 50 years ago still impact our experience rowing for Cambridge today.

Just as success in the boat is achieved through the energy of every member of the crew, we're asking all of the members of our community to invest in the Club's future, today.

Preparing six race-ready crews, and ensuring we have the right equipment and support to train and to race, requires substantial investment each year.

By making a gift you will be investing in our future, improving the experiences of student-athletes on and off the water. And you will ensure that every crew is as well-prepared as possible to beat Oxford.

Your participation will demonstrate to current and future Cambridge rowers that there is a strong community behind us – full of rich traditions and sharing a common goal.

As we celebrate the tremendous progress we're making in the present, we want to thank you in advance for your investment in the Club's future.

Your 2023-24 Presidents,

Seb Benzecry | Men | Jesus

Jenna Armstrong | Women | Jesus

Ben Jones | Lightweight Men | Magdalene

Lauren Britten | Lightweight Women | Magdalene

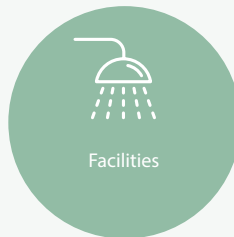


The course ahead

Whilst our student-athletes are excelling on the water, we are seeking to address new challenges behind the scenes. Our commitment to providing our rowers a rigorous and formative experience remains firm. But to do that we need your support.

- In 2023-24 the Club will spend approximately £720,000 in operating costs and approximately £125,000 in refreshing boats and equipment, giving a total expenditure of £845,000.
- Our key principles are that budgets and staffing levels for men and women are the same, student subscriptions are equal, and we are committed to improving the standards of equipment across all squads.
- The costs of delivering one of London's most iconic sporting and cultural events with 250,000 spectators has increased significantly over the last 20 years, resulting in lower levels of income for the Club.
- To meet the challenge, we have put in place plans to diversify revenue to ensure we have a financially sustainable future – including inviting our community to support us.
- The University has now also committed £100,000 per year to the Club for ten years, in addition to supporting us in other ways.

Your investment in the Pulling Together Fund will fund the following priorities:



Travel and accommodation. Every year, we rely on, and are incredibly grateful for, those who host our student-athletes. Even with that support, travel and accommodation are still expensive. Your gifts will fund athlete transportation to and from Ely, Henley, and other regattas, and to London for Tideway week, as well as accommodation at many of these events. Your support also subsidises the annual winter camp, so students only have to contribute a small portion of the cost.

Coaching and support staff. Exceptional coaching is crucial to winning Boat Races. We produce some of the best rowers in the world and our coaches also help develop valuable life skills such as collaboration, resilience, teamwork, perseverance, and discipline. Our current coaches continue to raise the standard, having delivered at the U23, Senior, and Olympic levels. We're also identifying and developing new coaching talent to further strengthen the programmes. Your gifts will allow us to stay competitive, attracting and retaining the best talent.

Training and equipment. In accordance with our status as a world-class programme we must provide our athletes with the tools to succeed. We are committed to improving the standards of equipment and have developed a five-year plan to bring all fleets up to a consistent level. Your support allows us to provide new ergs, telemetry systems, gym equipment, and performance testing technology.

Facilities. Maintaining excellence on the water requires a top-class training environment. Ensuring the Ely and Goldie Boathouses remain up to scratch means your gifts will be used for their maintenance and improvement.

Student-athlete wellness. Our rowers also benefit from the latest research in physiology, osteology, nutrition, and sports psychology thanks to a dedicated team of professionals. Your investment in this area will allow us to protect and support the mental health and physical wellbeing of student-athletes.

Student hardship. Many of our students receive subsidies from their colleges to help cover some or all of the costs of student subscriptions. Where that support doesn't exist, or where there is a gap, the Club works with students facing financial hardship to ensure that cost is not a barrier to trialling, reinforcing our emphasis on equal access.

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“It would be impossible to train the way we do without the generous support of our donors. From funded transport to and from training, to amazing facilities, funded kit and fantastic volunteer coaches as well as our wonderful London hosts, our CUBC experience truly would not be the same without them.”



Carys-Ann Earl
Blondie 2023 | Caius

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“World-class facilities, equipment and coaching enable hard, consistent training to translate into even more boat speed. It is these elements that often separate gold medallists from the rest of the field. Ours is a sport where races are decided by the fractions of seconds that we find both on and off the water.”



Ollie Wynne-Griffith
Blue Boat 2022 | Olympic Bronze Medallist,
Tokyo 2020 | Peterhouse

Ways to give



Make a recurring gift

Recurring gifts – either on a monthly or yearly basis – are the best way for you to provide sustainable support for our student-athletes and coaches.



Make a one-off gift

Any gift, no matter how large or small, will help us grow our world-class programmes. Participation is our primary aim.



Create a legacy

Please consider joining those who have already made CUBC a part of their estate plan and a beneficiary in their will. Including the Club in your will is a powerful way to show your commitment to the longevity of the Club today, tomorrow, and for generations to come. Legacy gifts are exempt from inheritance tax. Get in touch with Sarah-Kate Roberts to share your wishes.



Make a non-cash gift

If you are interested in giving a non-cash asset, consider giving a gift of shares. Gifts of appreciated securities often offer you tax advantages. For more information on gifts of shares, property or other non-cash assets please visit our website or get in touch with Sarah-Kate Roberts at sarah-kate@cubc.org.uk.



Select us as your charity of choice on easyfundraising.

Easyfundraising is a free platform that allows us to earn when you shop online at more than 7,000 brands. Everyone from John Lewis & Partners, M&S, Trainline, Deliveroo, Booking.com, and everything in between. For every order you make, we will receive money directly from the brand - so it does not cost you a penny. Simply register as a supporter using this link: cubc.org.uk/support and download the app.



With thanks in advance for your involvement,

Sarah-Kate Roberts

Head of Philanthropy and Communications



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“I decided to support CUBC through the Pulling Together initiative with a regular monthly gift to express my gratitude for all the positive experiences I gained from rowing for CUBC. The recent unification of the Club, the parity this now affords all the athletes and rowing programmes, the new governance structures and the greatly increased transparency of the Club’s finances were all fundamental to my willingness and my decision to start giving. Please consider joining us. By pulling together we can give the current and future student-athletes the best experience and the best opportunity to win every Boat Race, every year.”

Charlie Green

Goldie 1986 | Alumni Engagement Committee Chair

For more information, please contact:

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Photo credits: We would like to thank the following photographers for their contributions to the Club and to this brochure: Nordin Catic, Ben Tufnell & Row 360, Getty Images, Keith Heppel.

