TEES ROWING CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Dear Members

Please send any feedback and/or articles (preferably with a photograph) to Elizabeth Bostock, Assistant Secretary.

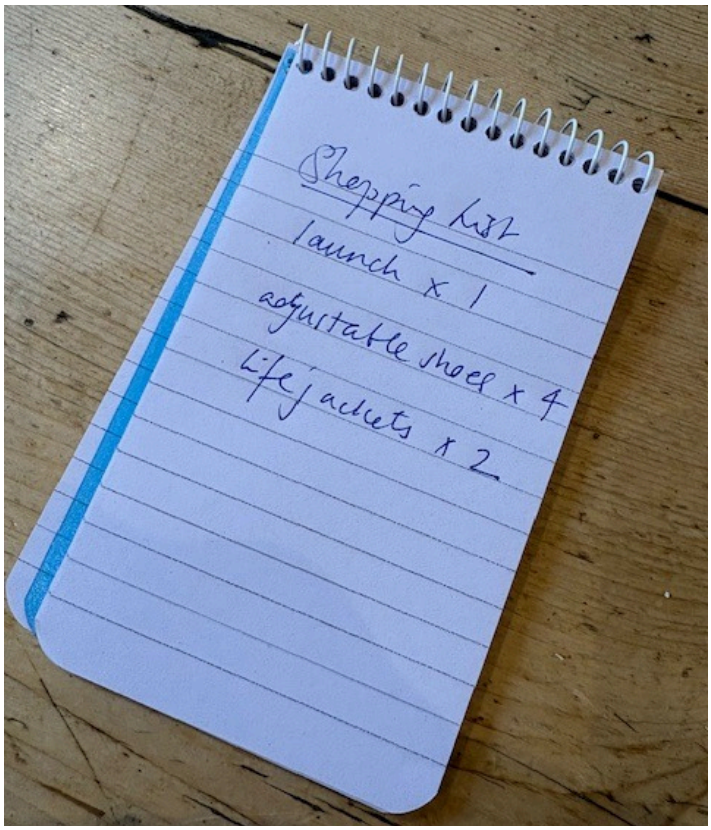
Moneypenny - the new launch

The new launch is ready for use by the club's trained launch drivers. Read the instructions in the launch and the Launch Safety Checklist on the club's website. Photo: Club member John Lund taking her for a spin.

She has been named in accordance with the club's tradition of choosing launch names with a James Bond theme.

The launch was funded by a grant from the National Schools Regatta Charity and Tees RC Regatta.

NB. Please ensure the engine is raised to go both up and down the slipway. She also requires the application of a belt to prevent her slipping off the trolley.



Shopping List

Lucy Radley is compiling a shopping list of equipment needed by the club, from large items such as a replacement for the Banana launch to smaller items such as shoes.

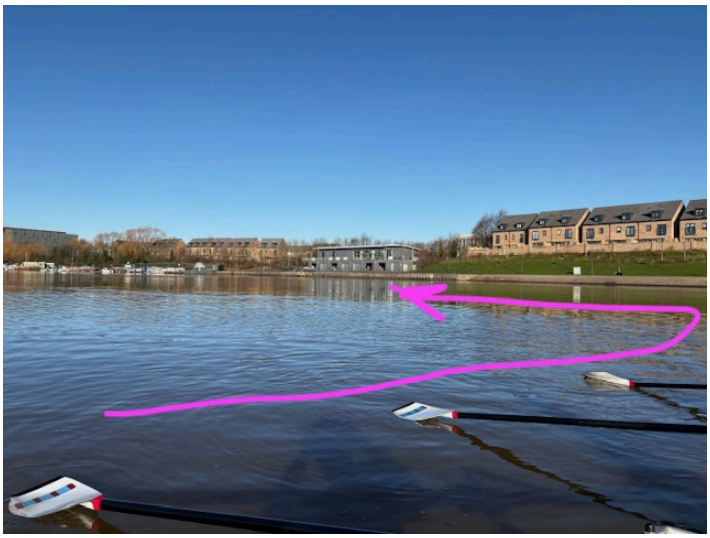
If any members have a particular suggestion, please send it to Lucy with rationale and approximate costs if possible.

A fund-raising committee sub-group is being set up which will develop proposals for how funds are raised and allocated and will report back to the committee.

Capsize and Cold Water & Hypothermia and Drills

Bangers, Beer & quite possibly Bingo - £500 raised

And yes, there was bingo. Thanks go to Liz Leigh, Jill Patterson and their many helpers for organising a lively gathering on a dark January night. With bingo, a raffle and a bar expertly run by Richard and Marion Olver, a little over £500 was raised for club funds - thanks to the 60+ people who came along to make the event such a success.



Returning to the pontoon

All rowers and coxes are reminded to follow the circulation pattern when returning to the club after an outing. If you are unclear, details are in the Safety Code Navigation Guidance.

You should deviate from the pattern only in an emergency (medical/equipment failure/extreme weather). If you are in a hurry, it is courteous to ask crews turning ahead of you for their permission to land first.

The water is very cold at this time of year and hypothermia is a real danger if you fall in. The main principles following a capsize, as outlined by British Rowing, are:

- Get free from the boat
- Get out of the water
- Get off the water

All BR members are asked to complete two short (and free) modules on British Rowing website (links below). The club's Safety Adviser, with the support of the committee, requests that all coaches complete these courses if they haven't already.

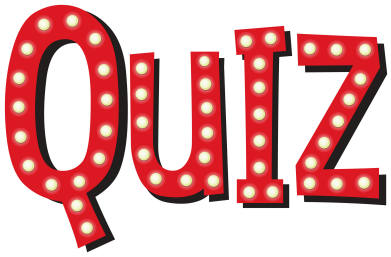
Capsize Drill

Cold water and Hypothermia

Non-BR members can find a YouTube video for the BR capsize drill here and a 'Could you survive in cold water?' video by RNLI here.

Watch out for an email about the next practical capsize drill at a local swimming pool - provisional date: 22nd March. Sessions will be run for both juniors and adults.

Each club member is responsible for their own safety and that of others.



Dates for your diary

Spring Head - A 'Private Match' between TeesRC, Yarm School, InfinityBC and Dame Allen School on Sunday 8th March 2026. Organiser: Steve Heath

Tees RC AGM - Sunday, 29th March at 10.30am

Peas, Pies and Quiz on Friday, 17th April at 7pm. Bar and raffle. Friends and family welcome.

Who are TRUT?

by Richard Olver, Chair of Tees Rowing Club and a Director of TRUT.

The Tees River Users Trust (TRUT) is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, run by representatives from the clubs based at the River Tees Watersport Centre —Tees Rowing Club, Tees Valley Dragons and the Wheely Boaters. A representative from Stockton Council also regularly attends meetings.

TRUT was established to support and coordinate the safe, fair and responsible recreational use of the River Tees Barrage Reach (between the Tees Barrage and the Princess of Wales Bridge). It acts as a practical link between river users and the Navigation Authority/River Master, helping ensure that all clubs can operate smoothly and

the area as a venue for regional, national and international events.

Importantly, TRUT provides the legal and organisational framework that would be difficult for individual clubs to manage alone. By holding the lease, managing shared buildings and facilities, employing staff, and overseeing contracts, compliance, maintenance and insurance, TRUT acts as the single accountable body for the site.

This structure allows each club—including TRC—to focus on what matters most: running the sport, supporting members and growing participation. TRUT's role is to safeguard and strengthen our

Tickets £12. Watch out for an email nearer the time. Organiser: Rosie Cooper from the Recs.

Tees Regatta Saturday, May 16th 2026 - all hands on deck during the week to set up the course and over the weekend. Organiser: Steve Heath

Learn2Row taster days, weekend courses and an 18-30 L2R are all being planned for the spring. Organisers include: Graham York, Kristi Eddy and Johnnie Cooper.

Northern Cancer Alliance grant The club has been awarded a grant from the Northern Cancer Alliance to support people recently diagnosed with cancer through learning to row. The special L2R sessions will also include a significant social element. We would love as many members as possible to be involved with this worthwhile venture, starting in April. Volunteers can just join the social part and/or the rowing part. Please contact Gillian Bentley or Iona Macleod if you are interested in helping.

Minihead dates 2026

March 15th

June 28

July 26th

August 16th

September 27th

October 25th

November 29th

December 20th

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shared base on the Tees, ensuring long-term stability for all.

In short, TRUT and TRC's interests are aligned. We are all working towards the same goal: a thriving, well-managed river environment that supports our members and the future of rowing on the Tees.

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