# **Fowey River Canoe Club**

## **Annual Report for St Sampson Parish Council 27/05/2025**

#### Achievements for 2024-25

Matthew Collinge and Benji Cabrera had another fantastic year attending the European and World Championships for Sprint and Marathon. Matt attended the first World Cup of 2025 last weekend, on a start line of Olympic paddlers and did fantastically well.

Last Month Steve Riley, one of our coaches, who is currently based at Yeovilton raced 119 miles in the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race taking third place veteran in the K1 event representing the royal Navy and raising funds for the Royal Naval Royal Marines Charity.

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### The Fowey River Kayak Race

Our Annual 2024 Fowey Hasler race (Thank you to everyone in the village who supported this event) is our main fundraiser of the year and gives us the opportunity to showcase our fantastic river to other clubs as part of our regional Hasler racing series. Our race was the only race to have a year-on-year increase in participants; every other race has seen a rapid decline in entries over the last few years as finances are tightened.

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### **Membership and Training**

During 2024, our membership increased, our Friday night junior sessions saw a new group of young paddlers joining the club bringing with them parents who wanted to try the sport. Our under twelve team was the largest in the region last year, with our young paddlers attending 2-mile races as far 'up country' as Tewkesbury, something which we are hoping to build upon this year through fun social time trials and social events. As with all small community clubs we need volunteers to be able to run events, and we are hoping by increasing our junior membership again these 'willing' parents will support us. Our Wednesday morning social group had a group of ten consistently paddling throughout the winter months, and we are hoping to attract more adult beginners this summer.

Our membership like many clubs took a large hit the two years of covid, combined with our younger members leaving to attend university and many of our senior members taking time away from the sport to have families. We have for this reason had to reduce the number of club sessions, suitable for beginners that we run, with just our Friday and Wednesday sessions open to beginners at present.

Fowey River Canoe Club is a small club with a big heart.

If you would like more information, please contact us:

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