The Brompton Medway Combined Services Boat Club

Annual Accounts and Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ending 31/12/2025

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Number 1204691 registered in England and Wales

Trustees

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) N H Larkin, Founding Trustee appointed 13/09/2023 (Chair 13/09/2025)

Lieutenant Commander (Retired) D A Cokayne, appointed 13/09/24

Mr D B Robinson, Founding Trustee 13/09/2023, re-appointed 13/09/25

Advisers

Colonel (Retired) A R M Wilson, previously Commodore & Chair Board of Trustees Royal Engineer Yacht Club (REYC)

Captain (Retired) J Reid, previously Branch Captain REYC (Chatham)

Captain (Retired) J R Owens, Founding Trustee the Brompton Medway Combined Services Boat Club and previously Treasurer REYC (Chatham)

Warrant Officer Class 2 (Retired) J M Crawford, previously Committee member REYC Chatham Branch

Principal Office

Cambridge House
4 Mansion Row
Gillingham
Kent ME7 5AS

Explanatory Note –Setting up the New Charity & 2025 Transition Arrangements

1. The Brompton Medway Combined Services Boat Club was set up and registered as a charity on 12 September 2023. Its short name is the Brompton Boat Club further abbreviated here as BromptonBC "the Club" or "the Charity", depending on the activity under review. The Object of the Charity is, for the public benefit, the promotion of the efficiency of the armed forces of the Crown.

2. To support the delivery of this benefit, an agreement in principle was reached with another charity, the Royal Engineer Yacht Club (REYC), Registered Charity 1178311, which shared a similar Object, that REYC material assets and leases at Chatham would be transferred to the BromptonBC. These included an austere container-based workshop and storage on MOD-owned land at Upper Upnor, an array of moorings on the River Medway at Upnor, on river bed leased from Peel Ports and Crown Estates, and a yacht afloat used as a clubhouse. These assets at Chatham had been hitherto operated by a branch of the REYC known as REYC (Chatham). REYC (Chatham) was a fully governed and integrated element of the REYC operating under a Rear Commodore (Regions) and Branch Captain, with its own committee structure.

3. Deed of Transfer. In late 2023 a Deed of Transfer was drafted to effect the change of ownership of the assets and leases together with a cash grant to facilitate the operation of the new charity. Assets at Chatham had been depreciated or revalued to zero by the REYC to facilitate the transfer. In anticipation of a timely conclusion of the transfer to the BromptonBC, the REYC (Chatham) Branch was closed with effect from 31 December 2023 and Branch officers provided the trustees and advisers for the new charity. In the event, the Deed was not concluded by the end of 2023 and it was clear that transitional arrangements needed to be put in place immediately for 2024 as continuity was essential to achieve the continued safe operation and efficient management of these REYC moorings. As at 31 December 2025, the Deed of Transfer remained unsigned and these transitional arrangements have remained in place. Both charities continue to work closely together to deliver their charitable objects.

4. Responsibilities in Transition. Responsibilities agreed by both charities in 2024 and extended to 2025 include that:

a. Brompton Boat Club trustees in their capacity as REYC members at Chatham *rather than as trustees* continue to be responsible for the operational management of REYC resources at Chatham and deliver capability on behalf of the REYC until the Deed of Transfer was concluded. Most importantly, all matters were to be conducted in accordance with REYC rules and policies, negating the requirement to formulate separate Brompton Boat Club policies during the transition period.

b. REYC members at Chatham would maintain a simple income and expenditure account, bank account and pay Chatham-related bills maintaining a float of about £3K for that purpose. Surpluses would be remitted to the main REYC account. Financial inspection and audit and reporting arrangements, including the submission of accounts to the Charity Commission, would necessarily remain the responsibility of the REYC.

c. Brompton BC Trustees in their dual capacity as REYC members would negotiate and conclude any forward-looking arrangements essential for the operation of the new charity. This includes negotiating the Service Level Agreement governing access to and support from the MOD regarding MOD-controlled land at Upnor where shore facilities are based.

5. Current Status. At the time of writing (October 2026), the Deed of Transfer remains unsigned (although agreement in principle to the terms was reached earlier in the year). Following agreement at their 2025 AGM, REYC are considering whether retention of the mooring and land-based assets at Chatham (Upnor) might be feasible, cost effective and preferable to divestment.

Objectives and Activities

6. The object of the Charity is, for the public benefit, the promotion of the efficiency of the armed forces of the Crown by:

a. The provision and support including of sailing facilities, equipment and activities for the efficiency and well-being of Service personnel;

b. Providing opportunities for Service personnel to gain additional experience and develop the military virtues of courage, self-reliance, mental robustness, endurance and leadership relevant to their jobs;

c. Improving engagement between the local community and the armed forces:

d. Providing an association which supports the armed forces in general and the Corps of Royal Engineers in particular and enables serving and veteran members to mix together.

7. The Charity provides a firm base, albeit austere, for water-based activity together with moorings for serving and retired Service personnel and civilians who support the object of the Charity. The Club operates on a self-help basis which in itself generates a warm and friendly cooperative atmosphere between civilians and the military improving local engagement. This interaction brings health benefits to involved individuals which seem obvious but are not always tangible.

8. The Club is not currently configured or authorised to provide formal sail training or MOD-sponsored adventurous training activities directly. Nevertheless, the surplus income generated by the effective management of the moorings by the Charity Trustees and Members is available to fund sail training on the River Medway for Service personnel at the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham and at other locations

and Service establishments. Such activities recognisably take individuals beyond their comfort zones to enhance leadership, resilience, teamwork, decision-making, and physical/moral courage, which are crucial for operating under pressure and completing demanding tasks. Thus they enhance military efficiency for the public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

9. The Charity Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission of England and Wales guidance on public benefit when deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

10. In the absence of a signed Deed of Transfer, the Charity Trustees, in their dual capacity as REYC members, focussed on optimizing the safe and efficient operation of the REYC moorings and equipment on behalf of the REYC CIO. This included monitoring the yachts and moorings afloat, and providing volunteer shore-based works parties to maintain both the austere sail-training base facilities at Upnor and to improve slip access to the River Medway. These volunteer works activities provided links between serving soldiers, veterans and civilians contributing to their overall wellbeing.

11. The moorings operation in 2025 generated an excess of income over expenditure of £10,140.29 (2024: £5,227.77) which was credited to the REYC and recorded in its Chatham Fund, a Designated Fund to support the Objects of the REYC at Chatham and, where surpluses permit, elsewhere. Additionally, £1120.00 of members' subscriptions was collected on behalf of the REYC, and accounted for under an REYC-wide basis, rather than credited to the operation at Chatham.

Financial Review

12. The charity holds no cash or assets of value at the end of the accounting period. Figure 1 shows the surplus generated for REYC that would have been available to the Charity had the Deed of Transfer been finalised in 2025.

Figure 1

Total Income	**16,430.92**
Income Mooring Fees	13,769.00
Income Membership Subscriptions*	1,120.00
Income Conservancy Discs	1,541.92
Check total	16,430.92
Total Expenditure	**-5,195.63**
Purchase Conservancy Discs	-1,512.13
Mooring Permits/Licences	-2,482.68
Admin + Mooring Mgr Expenses	-616.11
Insurance	-584.71
Check Total	-5,195.63
Excess of Income over Expenditure	**11,235.29**

13. Reserves Policy. The *Brompton Boat Club Trustees* have determined that the Charity, should it acquire the REYC assets at Chatham, requires a reserve of about £20k, an increase of £5k on the previous year's estimate. This is currently available to the *REYC Trustees* through the Chatham Fund (Designated): 2025 value £37,230.49. The increased costs reflect a measure of inflation but principally an estimate of the cost of commitments to taking up licences and maintenance in the absence of mooring income, not hitherto taken into account. This scenario occurred during Covid 19. Determining the reserves policy is challenging as the moorings infrastructure represents both an asset, should it be transferred as a going concern, and a liability. The worst case scenario upon which the reserves policy is based assumes some cost commitments outlined above together with remediation involving the cost of lifting and disposal of all anchorages, ground chains and mooring tackle and removal of the land based storage containers and equipment.

14. Risk and Risk Reduction Measures. The Charity Trustees have assessed the risk of failure as low. Until a formal Deed of Transfer is agreed and signed, the effect of the transition measures is to continue to manage the moorings under REYC arrangements, effectively placing the Brompton Boat Club charity into suspended animation. All operational matters including income generation and expenditure is carried out by charity trustees in their capacity as REYC members rather than as Brompton Boat Club trustees. Full financial accounting to the Charity Commission for 2025 is provided by the REYC CIO.

Structure, Governance and Management

15. The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) following the Foundation Model. Its governing document is its Constitution. The current version is dated 8 November 2023 (Version 1.3) and incorporates minor administrative adjustments recommended by the Charity Commission at its registration on 12 September 2023.

16. The Charity currently has three trustees two of whom were Founding Trustees. The Charity's Constitution makes provision for the appointment of an additional three trustees as well as a further two trustees within the gift of the Commanding Officer (CO) 1 RSME Regt. Trustees are all provided with the necessary documents on appointment and suitably trained for their charitable role. Their previous experience as officers on the committee of REYC Chatham Branch together with their sailing expertise provides them with the knowledge to support sailing activities.

17. The Trustees recognise that they need to give early consideration to appointing additional trustees and met with the Commanding Officer 1 RSME Regt on 5 November 2025 regarding their appointment, having due regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity. Constitutionally Durrant Troop Commander, 36 Training Squadron, 1 RSME Regiment, who controls military boat training at Chatham is automatically, by virtue of holding that office ("ex

officio"), a charity trustee. Whilst supporting the charitable object the CO declined to appoint trustees given the uncertainty over the Deed of Transfer. Due consideration also needs to be given for succession planning of the existing trustees.

18. The Charity holds no funds as a custodian trustee.

Signed on Original
NHLarkin
N H LARKIN
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired)
Chair Board of Trustees 29th October 2026