

The Great River Race

London's River Marathon 16th September, 2023



GRR would like to thank this year's sponsors:











Welcome to the 2023 Great River Race



I became President of the Great River Race in January 2012 the year of the London Olympic games. I was a Waterman and Lighterman and had ancestors who had been 'bargees' on the Thames so had a great interest in the river. I was already patron of the Thames Barge Driving Trust and I felt that many Londoners had forgotten how important the river was, being as it is, and always has been, 'the lifeblood of the city'. The GRR seemed to

me a perfect platform to bring the Thames into the public eye.

As regards the Olympic Games there was a great deal of talk from the government about a legacy involving much greater participation by the public in sporting/healthy activities. I was already aware of the GRR and I did not know of any other event that had so many such participants. Around 3000 - a truly remarkable figure. The race encourages more young people to participate in fixed seat rowing.

What became clear to me over the years was how much the participants enjoy the race. It is an uplifting experience for all those involved. This aspect of mass participation in an inspiring event is so important in the world we live in and one of the reasons the GRR remains important today.

The administration of the event is now on a sound basis run by a recently formed charity, the Great River Race Trust, managed completely by volunteers.

The GRR has always encouraged youngsters to take part in the event with reduced entry fees for under 18s, but now it is a charity with the charitable objectives of funding new fixed seat boats for youth organisations we hope to see even more young people enjoying this challenging sport.

Next year's objective is to increase financial support for juniors taking part and get more young people on the water in the GRR 2024.

Admiral the Rt Hon Alan Lord West of Spithead, GCB DSC PC President, GRR



The Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames has long had a close association with the Great River Race. The Company is over 500 years old and the race reflects the time when London Bridge was the only bridge across the Thames and the only way to cross was by boat. Watermen rowed passengers across the river in their wherries and that's why the GRR crews today carry a cox and passenger in addition to their rowers.

Many of the GRR trophies have been donated by Past Masters of the Company and others by the Company itself. As this year's Master I feel privileged to join you on the 16th of September to award these trophies.

Ted Gradosielski Master of the Company of Watermen & Lightermen of the River Thames



The Great River Race has come a long way since the first race 35 years ago, when just 61 boats participated. Today it is a truly international event, this year attracting entries from as far afield as Canada and New Zealand, with of course the usual amazing support from the Netherlands.

For seasoned fixed seat rowers and paddlers, this is an all-out race to see just how quickly they can cover the 21.6 miles from Millwall to Ham. For some it is a simply a chance to row under Tower Bridge and the other 27 London bridges, and to get a chance to race right through the centre of England's capital city. For others it is a golden opportunity to raise funds for their chosen charity. Whatever 'floats your boat', you are all extremely welcome.

Last year's GRR was just two days after the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and as a mark of respect, racing was cancelled. None the less, some 1500 entrants

took part in a memorial river procession, following the nautical tradition in displaying mourning ribbons on their flag staffs.

This year sees two significant changes: The first is that the race is now under the control of a newly formed charity, the Great River Race Trust, and is managed entirely by volunteers, to whom go my heartfelt thanks. The second is that boats will be timed via a smart- phone app, FOLLOW MY CHALLENGE, which will also allow family and friends, as well as interested spectators, to follow the progress of the crews.

Jeremy 'Rass' Randall Chairman, GRR



My father, Mike Turk, started the race with Stuart Wolff in 1988. I'm pleased to continue to support GRR as Race Director.

I've taken part in all sorts of boats, including a shallop, dragon boat, Oxford College boat and even a Viking boat - which dad persuaded my brother and I would be an exhilarating outing...until we realised it was 5 tons of boat! Not our fastest time.

I now lead the technical side, from liaising with the Port of London Authority and Richmond Council to the practicalities such as arranging the positioning of the floating pontoons at the Start, and placing marshalling buoys. On race day you'll find me launching boats off the pontoon to make sure all competitors get on the water on time.

In future, I'd like to see more 'races within the race' such as more Cornish crews competing against each other, and perhaps a corporate league, but the main thing is that everyone here enjoys themselves. Not like the stag crew who were delivered to Millwall to discover that they were entered in the Great River Race...but had never rowed before! They set off gamely but they only got as far as Tower Bridge where their boat was found tied to the foreshore below the nearest pub!

Richard Turk Race Director, GRR

The 2023 event

The below is an estimated timeline for the 2023 event. Please visit the GRR website for more information.



Racing for glory…& fun!

The Great River Race is an event for traditional and traditional-style boats, powered by a minimum of four oars or paddles; sliding seats and riggers are now allowed. Each boat must be coxed and, in keeping with the Watermen's role as the taxi drivers of the River Thames, must carry a passenger. The fastest boat overall wins the Challenge Trophy of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames.

Boats leave the start line on a pursuit basis with the slowest first. It can take an hour for all boats to start. Each boat is given a handicap number, which is how many minutes after the start of the race the boat actually crosses the start line. For example, if the race starts at 11:30am, and a boat crosses the start line at 11:30am, it would have a handicap of 0. But if a boat crosses the starting line at 11:45am, it would have a handicap of 15.

If both boats travel at the same speed throughout the race and finish fifteen minutes apart, then neither has made up any time on the other. But if the second boat were to finish only five minutes behind the first, they would have completed the course ten minutes faster than the first boat.

This year we are using electronic timing for the first time, using the "Follow my

Challenge" app, which will allow us to work out the timings and winners more quickly.

Great River Race Volunteers

The Great River Race could not happen without the generous support of volunteers. Here are a few talking about what they do to keep the event running...



Irene Randall - GRR Entries

Until May last year I knew very little about the Great River Race. My, how that has changed! Someone said to me that they needed a bit of admin support and could I help? I've been a rowing wife for many years, interested in all sorts of rowing events, so happily agreed. I had no idea what would be involved.

Processing the entry forms was only the beginning, followed by booking tows and craning, invoicing, not to mention producing parking permits for Ham and Millwall. This year we have the introduction of electronic timing to add to the mix. I have learned a lot!

One of the loveliest things I learned is how enthusiastic and warm the GRR community is. Many crews have entered over decades and wouldn't miss it. People

make their way from all over the world to take part. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again this year!

Mark Edwards - GRR Handicapping

I started at the Richmond Bridge Boathouses as a 14 year old apprentice and now I lead the team of traditional Thames boatbuilders based there. In addition to the hundreds of wooden boats that we've has restored and constructed over the years, including Thames skiffs, punts, cutters, shallops and wherries, we've been lucky enough to be involved in many unusual projects such as building a rowing boat for the first ever Atlantic race in 1997; a wooden submarine based on the original 17th-century version by Cornelius Jacobszoon Drebbel; and of course the Gloriana, which led the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant in 2012.



I have been involved with the Great River Race for many years, and some of the craft we've built will be taking part in this year's race!

Now I lead the handicapping team. With so many different types of boats taking part with different numbers of crew members, boats have to be awarded handicaps to ensure fair play.

Russell Bracegirdle - GRR Millwall

I've been working with the Great River Race since I retired, and now my work starts about 3 months before the race - organising ambulance support along the 21.6 miles of the race and security for competitors' boats and vehicles at Millwall and Ham. I also liaise with the owners of the Millwall Slip, the Canal & Rivers Trust. The Trust is responsible for clearing the flotsam and jetsam that accumulates there and always makes sure to tie in one of these biannual clearings with the Great River Race. This is



hugely appreciated, as it makes boating the 250 crews possible, and from the Wednesday of race week you will see excavators busy clearing the way.

On Thursday, the first of the hundreds of metres of floating pontoons arrive. These are clipped together to form the pontoon that is used to launch the boats. This year there will be more than 120 metres of pontoon(!), and it will run down to the water and round the corner to make it easier for crews to get their boats into the water.

On Friday crews start to arrive to get their boats off trailers and leave them on the slipway overnight. Trolleys are made available, but crews must have their own manpower to unload. There is security on site on the Friday night. On Saturday there is a 90 minute window in which to launch nearly 250 boats! I wish everyone a great race.



Vic Griffiths - GRR Campsite

Sea Scouts have had a long association with the Great River Race starting with the 14th Richmond Sea Scouts who entered their first boat in the second GRR, in 1989.

Richmond is not the cheapest place to stay, and as GRR grew, Petersham & Ham Sea Scouts provided the first camp site. But after 4 years, the site was already too small, so we moved to our current home, the Thames Young Mariners site.

On the night before the race we house well over 400 campers and can take up to 25 camper-vans or caravans.

The whole campsite has been described as a mini-Glastonbury, with a BBQ and music by the Blues Band and Dutch Brass Band Tartouffe, who have been playing at the GRR for some years, on the Friday night; and breakfast on the Saturday and Sunday mornings. The campsite team, lead by Tim Grebot, organises Explorers to serve the food and clear up, with the Scout leaders doing all the cooking. Normally the team starts cooking breakfast between 4 and 5 in the morning!

I have been pleased to work with the Thames Young Mariners over the years and thank them for all they have done to look after the Great River Race crews.



Chris Dunn - GRR Safety Boats

Each year, Northern Exposure Rescue (NER) provides safety boat support to the Great River Race, with a team of 70 volunteers.

Volunteers are recruited during the 12 months leading up to the GRR, and on the day work together, receiving instructions from the PLA. Chris Lowe and myself operate safety control, working with the London Coast Guard and PLA to ensure our safety boats are spread out among the 250 boats taking part in the race, and are ready to respond to any incidents.

Over the years there have been some interesting moments, such as the viking long boat stopping to buy more beer, and having to teach a stag party how to row! It's a very long day - usually starting at about 5am to launch and brief

ahead of the race, and not finishing until 8pm - but it's a great event to be part of, and we wish all crews this year a safe and enjoyable event.

Lauren Hughes - GRR Social Media

Last year I managed to combine the two loves of my life by volunteering to help the Great River Race. I set up, and now manage, the Trust's Facebook Page - which now has over 900 members and an active GRR community.

I've been honing my knowledge of of social media for over 12 years professionally, and now I can unite this with the rowing community I am part of to support the success of the GRR.

Two years ago, I moved to the coast and found a new hobby, Coastal Rowing. Since then I have been rowing competitively in and around Essex in a number of

different fixed seat boats, everything from a Harker to Celtic Long boats. Every weekend you will find me at my home club, Lower Thames, and my crew will be joining you in getting our feet wet at Millwall to take part in this year's race!





Carrie Cooke - GRR Press and Media

I joined the Great River Race team of volunteers this summer, and have been liaising with media to increase the coverage of the event, and making this magazine you are reading!

I rowed the race myself several years ago, and had a fantastic time. I'm sure I came second in my category..but I can't seem to find the proof, so perhaps my memory is a little rose tinted!

I volunteer with various rowing events and charities, including the Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager, another annual event showcasing the history and traditions of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames, and I'm really pleased to be involved with GRR now.

I'm wishing everyone a fantastic day on the water.



HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The Queen Elizabeth II Memorial River Procession, 2022

The 2022 Great River Race was scheduled for Saturday 10th September.

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the event became a memorial procession, as a mark of respect.

Over 1500 people took part, rowing the Great River Race course, from Millwall to Ham. They were asked to wear appropriate clothing, and fly a small piece of black cloth or ribbon from their ensign/flag. The event proceeded in silence, and no times were taken.

(Photo courtesy of Tim Koch, <u>heartheboatsing.com</u>)



Thames Festival Trust

Climate cabaret, exhibitions, river events and more in the Totally Thames 2023 programme!

Thames Festival Trust is delighted to present London's annual river festival, Totally Thames 2023 - a monthlong season of river and river-related events along the 43 miles of the River Thames riverfront in London, from Hampton Court Bridge in the west to the Dartford Crossing in the east.

The festival will feature art installations and exhibitions, performances including a climate cabaret, foreshore walks, talks, boat trips, river races and more this September, particularly focusing on sustainability and protecting the environment and ecosystem of the river.

This exciting annual celebration of the Thames is back for its 27th year with an all-new look: each weekend will see a festival hub in a different London riverside location with events and activities, and there will be further events across London all month long.

"The Thames is a constant source of inspiration and delight. Our festival's twenty-seventh edition features river races, mudlark finds, art exhibitions, foreshore performances, and a not-to-be-missed commission, 'Saltley Geyser' from installation artist David Cotterrell, it's a spectacular eruption of water!"

- Adrian Evans - Thames Festival Trust Director
In addition to Totally Thames, Thames Festival Trust
also delivers a year-round programme of heritage and
education work. Our flagship arts education projects
Rivers of the World and The Story of Water are
delivered in partnership with the British Council.
Highlighting the value of art-based learning and of
placing professional artists in schools, these projects
have been applied in over 500 schools all over the UK
and in 40 countries overseas.





Check out what's on at Totally Thames 2023 on our website @ www.thamesfestivaltrust.org/whats-on/

GRR 2023 Crew Stories

We're wishing everyone taking part a fantastic day! Here's a little more information about some of the crews in this year's event.

E002: Roxanne

We are crossing the Atlantic to take part in the famous Great River Race (we thought we would fly rather than row this time). We are members of the Ayle of Quinte Skiffe Club which is situated in Prince Edward County on the northern shore of Lake Ontario, Canada. The club was started 10 years ago by a group of enthusiastic retirees who thought a great idea to while away the long winter months would be by building a couple of St. Ayle's Skiffs. We now have three boats which we row between May and September, after the ice melts and before the lake freezes over. As far as we know we are the only skiff club in Canada. The ages of the crew that will be rowing in the GRR are between 68 and 77 years. Our club has competed in the Skiffie World Regattas in Strangford Lough, N. Ireland (2016), Stranraer, Scotland (2019) and Kortgene in the Netherlands (2022). We are very grateful to Paul Down from Bristol who is providing us with a St Ayles skiff to row in the GRR which is giving us the opportunity to savour a once in a lifetime experience of rowing the Thames.

E012: Messing About

Messing About is a bright kingfisher blue Salter's skiff. She has done 19 Great River races since 2001. Kat & Nick Syfret own the boat, and she is kept on a trailer in our garden, so that she can be towed or manhauled to the nearby Thames for picnics, and GRR rowing practices!

We are the Pangbourne Water Rats: The name and that of the boat inspired by Wind in the Willows, as we all live in or near Pangbourne. John South is the founder member - he named our boat and crew, as he found out about the race, and was keen to enter it. He knew we had a boat, but we were on holiday in Denmark. We came home, and found he had entered us and our boat! We had no idea what he was letting us in for, but we were hooked, and love doing the Great River Race, despite swearing never to do it again at some point during the race or the practices, or the journey driving the boat to London, which is a nightmare. The crew usually consists of John, Nick & Kat, and Matilda Oppenheimer, who was co-opted about 14 years ago. We are hoping to raise funds for the Halo Trust again this year, as the need for the de-mining of current and former war zones is greater than ever. The link to donate is here if you would like to.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/ pwrforhalo

Last year we were boat number 1 in our late Queen's memorial procession. Nick's mother made our flag in 2001, and we fly it proudly in her memory. We also fly the Diamond Jubilee pennant as we took part in the Diamond Jubilee procession in 2012. We must be one of the most 'senior' crews taking part in the race, as we are all now officially pensioners!

E013: Ceridwen

Aberystwyth Mixed Veterans - rowing in our Celtic Longboat, Ceridwen -the Welsh Wizards! Well, we can conjure up a lot of experience anyway.

Our team comprises 2 couples plus 2 more friends. It includes a professor, an artist, a local historian, an amateur opera singer, a keeper of parrots and a man who can turn his hand to anything. We have been

rowing together for many years now, some of us going back to GRRs of the late 90s, and we have rowed across the Irish Sea a few times as well, but the downside to all this experience is that we are not as young as we were, but we may surprise everyone yet...!

E017: Evert Deddes

Our team with boat "Evert Deddes" is travelling 350 Kilometres from the other side of the channel to come to this race. This is a very special occasion for us. In normal circumstances we would not have the funding for such a race. However this year we have a lot of sponsors with us, which make it possible to join up.

We are a young team with people between 17 and 24. We are a team that is named after and run by the shipping and transport school in Rotterdam. Most of our team members are student maritime officers. So as you can imagine we feel at home on the water.

Our club joined the race 3 times before. But this has been a long time ago. So we are very excited that we have the chance again to make this beautiful journey.

E021: Messack

Hello. We're a crew of women from Truro River Rowing Club in our 40's to 60's. We have been training hard to get ready and can't wait for race day, as this has been a long held ambition for most of us. We will be racing in Messack, built in 2009 by Andrew Nancarrow, and currently up for sale.

As part of our challenge, we are raising money in order for our club to buy a new gig. So if you would like to support us,

then please click on the link. See you soon!

https://gofund.me/1355bdfa

E026: Findlay Macdonald

Cinque Ports Rowing Faversham's Findlay McDonald is a St Ayles skiff, crewed by The Good The Bad and a Cox. The club was formed just over a year ago, an adjunct of the community Boat Building project, itself a reminder of the towns maritime past from boat builders to privateers.

Our boats are crewed by some rowers who were total novices a year ago which makes our entry even more of an adventure.

E027: Lena Reekie

Lena Reekie is one of two of our beautiful St.Ayle's skiffs entered in this year's Great River Race and is named after the founder of Faversham's Nautical Festival. As Cinque Ports Rowing Faversham our ambition is to play a key part in restoring our town's nautical heritage; and as the crews of Lena Reekie and Findlay Macdonald to inspire those following in our wake!

E100-103, 109: Various

The 4th Streatham was founded in 1913 and we are now one of the largest and most active Scout groups in London.

As a Royal Navy recognised group nautical activities are at the core of our annual programme. From our boathouse in Putney we run a range of water sports for our scouts, including fixed seat rowing.

The 4th Streatham Sea Scouts were among the first organisations to take part in the race back in 1989. Since then the Great River Race has become a goal for our scouts to work towards throughout the year. Some of our older members have been involved for up to 28 years which really goes to show what an integral part of our lives the race has become.

We can't wait to enter with more scouts than ever this coming September.

E113: Oxygen

Discharged Seamen are a cocksure, spunky crew who have been coming from behind for over 20 years to beat stiff competition as we are suckers for the GRR and we have hardly missed a year in all that time.

This year the crew is Ian the gig (myself), Gordon the bite, Richard the count, Rob the cash, Warren the survey and Alex the climb (my son!). With an age range from 73 through to 32 we are indeed an eclectic bunch!

E158: Floyd

Oar We There Yet?

A novice crew - first GRR and first race!

In a newly repurposed Lough Sheelin boat from outboard to rowing! All crew are regulars at Fitbox Gym Queenborough.

Years of theory on the Rowing Machines is now coming to the reality!

E159: Soul of Sunbury

Our crew, Four Feisty Ladies, is a group of skiffers from the Sunbury Skiff & Punting club. We are all late 50's early 60's. This will be our first significant event together. Two of us are relatively new to the sport. But we are feisty females and determined to succeed. We are doing it as a personal challenge and to raise funds for Cruse Bereavement, because all of us have suffered loss (who hasn't). It affects us all and some cope better than others.

E169: Jayne Campbell

We are a crew from Burnham On Sea in Somerset. We are part of Burnham's Sailing Club and will be rowing our very first Great River Race in our GRP gig, Jayne Campbell.

The gig section was formed in 2015 and has steadily grown in numbers over the years. We competed earlier this year at the World Championships in the

Scillies, which was an amazing weekend.

We are sending a men's crew to London with Andy coxing us, and Julie is our designated passenger. The super 6 from Burnham are Lyndon, Ashley, Tony, John, Matt and John. All members of Burnham Gig club with a passion for rowing in their spare time. The guys are looking forward to rowing the Thames, which will be a very different challenge than rowing in the waters of Burnham On Sea.

We are fund raising for Love Musgrove in Taunton Somerset, Julie is currently a patient, after a recent breast cancer diagnosis, and has been so well looked after. We would like to give something back while we take on the challenge of rowing the The Great River marathon row.

E182: Magwitch

Thames Barbarians is a pilot gig club, based at Gravesend in Kent (the other end of the Thames). We have a mixed crew this year, rowing in Magwitch, our wooden racing gig. The crew includes Danny Clarke who last did the Great River Race 30 years ago. He says:

"Its been a few years, 30 to be exact! As a Sea Scout with the 5th Lewisham Scout troop and later a Tideway adventurer, I have many happy memories of rowing on the Thames at Putney as a boy.

In 1992 & 1993 our leaders entered a number of youth teams into the Great River Race rowing our heavy yet robust Home Counties Gigs. I'm expecting a far quicker race this time around with an experienced crew rowing our very own Cornish Pilot Gig – Magwitch.

It's great to be back!"

E211: Ynys Mon Pembroke Paddlers

In the early 90's there were no coastal rowing clubs in North Wales. In 1996 a group of enthusiastic rowers decided to form a club which became Trireme Ynys

Mon Rowing Club. The name was borne of a founder members involvement in the Greek Navy and rowing fraternity. In the early days rowers borrowed boats and travelled to Mid and South Wales to compete.

In 1999/2000 our current Pembroke was built by the Strawson family in Llaneilian on the north coast of the island. Our aluminium seat brackets were produced in the local secondary school metalwork classes by Dewi Strawson. Dewi has subsequently raced in every Great River Race since its inception. Our boat was named 'Y Gogs Eto' which translates to 'The North Walians again' which is a tip of the hat to their early successes.

At 24 years old our Pembroke is still entered in competitive races including the Montford challenge, Puffin Island race and of course the Great River Race.

E230: Madsat

This will be the 3rd year that I have taken part in the GRR, following on from 2015 and 2018. I say "taken part in" as the word competed doesn't really apply!

I run MadSat Raft Team and the vessel we will again be entering is a"superraft". This may appear a very pretentious name, but it differentiates us from fun rafts and white-water rafts.

MadSat, as a team, have been in existence since 1989 and each year we race against other super-rafts on rivers such as The Wye, The Avon, The Tamar and The Fal, on canals such as the Grand Union and out onto the sea, over distances between 6 miles and 70. In this time we've raised in excess of £42,000 for charity.

All super-raft teams must construct their vessels within strict guidelines, such as length, width, barrels used etc. It's a bit like Formula 1 in this regard, but without the speed and glamour! By the nature of our design, there is no way we'll keep up with certain watergoing vessels, but we won't be the slowest either.

Anyone seeing our rafts won't believe they'll float, often describing them as baked bean tins strung together. But they're tried and tested, as are the crew paddling them, and, just as in 2015 and 2018, we'll be giving it our all.

Wishing the best of luck to all competitors.

GRR 2023 Supported Charities

Coast Guard Foundation (US) *supported by* New Bedfordshire Rowers

Man Down Cornwall supported by Caradon Pilot Gig Club

The Halo Trust *supported by* Pangbourne Water Rats

The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity, RNRM Sports Lottery *supported by* Culdrose Pilot Gig Club

Mayoral Charity *supported by* Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers / DSPC

RNLI *supported by* Worshipful Company of Barbers, WivGigs Rowing Club, and the Blackwater Rowers at Stone

de Droom van schalwijk (the dream of Schalkwijk) *supported* by Roeiploeg Utrecht

Stand Up To Cancer *supported by* Penzance & Newlyn Pilot Gig Club

Petersham and Ham Sea Scouts *supported by* The Skiff Club BOSP *supported by* Trinity House

Neuroblastoma UK supported by AGC

Nelson Sailability *supported by* Atawhai Dinghy Cruising Squadron

RNLI (Teignmouth) and MS *supported by* Shut Your Breaks
1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts

Prostate Cancer UK *supported by* 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scouts

Cruse Bereavement supported by Sunbury Skiff & Punting Club

RNLI (Burnham on Crouch)

Geen supported by Roeiclub Oudendijk

London Cornish Pilot Gig Club

Kids Matter

Mind *supported by* Coastal Rowing Academy Club and Expo Technologies

Hope and homes for children supported by Skerry Friends

The AHOY Centre

Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity Centre

CRASH supported by Green Design Ltd

Great River Race News

<u>New website</u> - This year we have a new website which should make it easier for competitors and spectators to find the information they need. We will continue making improvements, so do let us know what you think: https://greatriverrace.org.uk/

New timing - This year, we are using the "Follow My Challenge" app to time the race. The app uses the GPS chip in a smartphone to track crew locations in real time, accurate to one second, and display this on the race map. All crews must download the app in advance of the race, and more information an be found at: https://greatriverrace.org.uk/race-timing/

Parking at

<u>the campsite</u> - To maximise space at the campsite, no cars are allowed to park on the site but Riverside Drive is a very long road and very safe to park vehicles on, and we do have a drop off point just inside the gate to off load all equipment.

<u>Dates</u> - Next year's Great River Race will take place on Saturday 21st September, 2024, so put the date in your diary...and see you there!

And finally... good luck to all 2023 crews from

