

SHOTWICK LAKE SAILING

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2022

Administrative Details

Charity Name:	Shotwick Lake Sailing	
Charity Registration Number:	1110888	
Company Registration Number:	5364039	
Company Registered Address:	16 Hallfield Close Cornist Flint Flintshire CH6 5HL	
Trustees/Directors:	Jeremy Cooper	– Commodore
	William Duffield	– Treasurer
	George Anthony Forster	– trustee
	John Purdie	– trustee
	Leslie Perry	– trustee
Bank:	Lloyds TSB, Foregate Street, Chester	

Structure, Governance and Management

Shotwick Lake Sailing is operated according to its memorandum and articles, as a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. The trustees (directors) were elected to office at an annual general meeting of the company on 15th February 2023. All financial, health & safety and long-term planning decisions are taken by the directors.

Training of directors has been by liaison with Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and self study of literature from Companies House & the Charity Commission. Most have extensive experience of managing a sailing club, being long standing members.

This has been the thirty eighth year of sailing at Shotwick Lake and the sixteenth full year operating as the independent sailing club, Shotwick Lake Sailing.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the club is the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation by the provision of facilities for sailing and associated water sports. Anyone who wishes to take part in sailing or other associated water sport activity should have the opportunity to do so.

The Club has recovered from the impact of the Covid 19 restrictions from February 2022 onwards, particularly since the club is located in Wales but also draws a significant number of its members from the Wirral and Cheshire that are in England.

We have been able to hold two open meetings for the Solo class and Lightning class, and have been able to run one RYA training session or Discover Sailing sessions.

The 'Permit Groups' including Sea Cadets and Scout Groups have been using the facilities during 2022 season.

The Club house has been open and the Galley has been operational since March 2022 with the Covid restrictions being lifted.

Membership

Shotwick Lake Sailing has seen another positive year in 2022, where we have welcomed another 37 members into our community. Overall, our club membership sits at a very healthy 237 individual members (inc. associates) which includes 54 "Juniors" under the age of 18 and our youngest member being 3 years old. Our reach covers mainly Sir y Ddinbych, Sir y Fflint, Wirral & Chester but reaches as far as Anglesey, Oswestry, and further reaches of Cheshire & Liverpool.

Dinghy Racing

Overall, the racing calendar has been very successful, with every series very well attended. We ran monthly regattas for the first time this year which were generally very well received by members. This allowed for more prizes to be awarded and each of the six regatta's was won by a different club member.

We also introduced a junior series for the first time in many years, in total we had 5 juniors take part and all were racing regularly. The juniors raced in a separate series to the adults and had their own start which took place directly after the adult fleet.

The average participation is down from the previous few years (see Fig 1). I believe this is due to a decrease in the number of sailors during the Brass Monkey, which in 2020 saw 20 racers compared to this year which only had 14 and on average only 6.7 per race. This is due to awful weather at the start of the year which will have put many off.

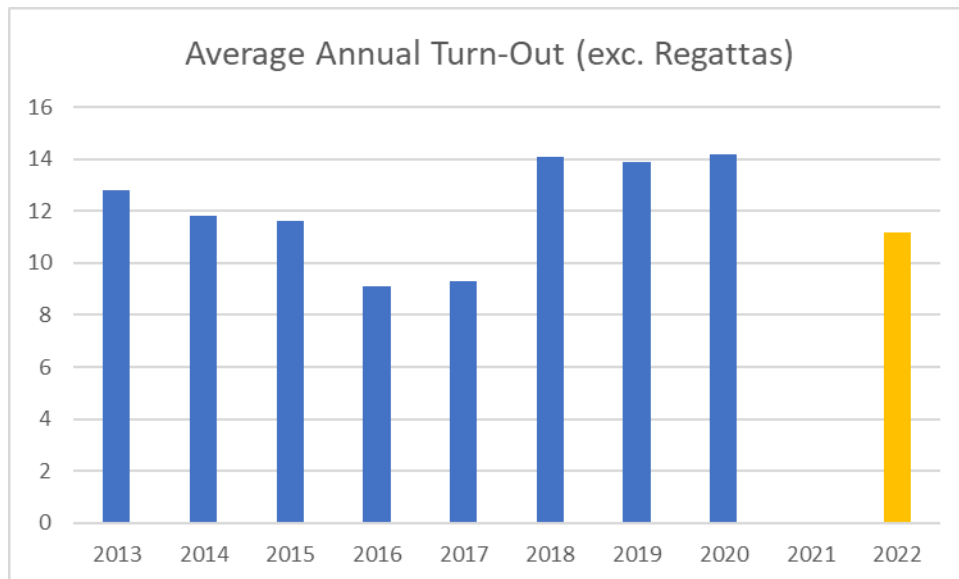


Figure 1: Average Annual Turn-Out (exc. Regattas)

Figure 2 shows the average and total racers per series (exc. Regattas) across the calendar year. The most popular series are the summer & autumn series which is not surprising as this tends to be when the nicest weather occurs. Both afternoon series remain less popular so I intend to look at how these can be improved in the future to attract more interest.

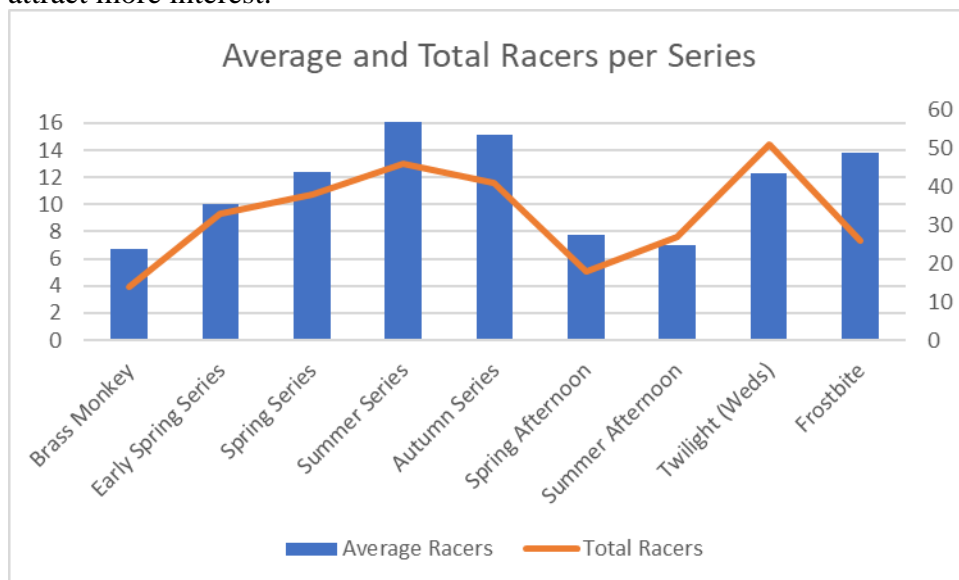


Figure 2: Average and Total Racers per Series

The 2023 Racing Programme is proposed to remain in very similar format to previous years. With two additions:

1. Members voiced that they enjoyed the pursuit race at the end of the year so I intend to make the afternoon race for all 6 regattas a pursuit race.
2. Introducing a “Summer Showdown” day, Date tbc (approx. Saturday in July/Aug) which will be made of short sprint style racing in the morning and a team based long distance/timed race in the afternoon. Followed by a club BBQ and social.

RYA Training

Following our annual inspection, by the RYA, in the Autumn of 2022, Shotwick Lake Sailing retained its RYA Recognised Training Centre status with no formal actions for improvement. This allows us to continue to offer RYA Dinghy Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Seamanship Skills, Use of Spinnakers, Start Racing Youth Levels 1 to 4, Powerboat Level 1& 2, Safety Boat together with Start Windsurfing and Shore-based Navigation courses.

In January we organised a RYA First Aid course to enable our training team members and others to update their qualification. We also held a number of powerboat refresher sessions for those who hold at least Powerboat Level 2 in order to maintain and improve their competence in using the powerboat for training courses, race safety cover and other club activities.

We took a cautious approach to organising other training for 2022 as we gradually came out of the Covid 19 Pandemic and the restrictions and guidance which were still in place early in the year.

However, once restrictions had lifted to an acceptable level, the Friday evening family sessions were re-introduced and these included informal coaching of youngsters. In addition, 12 young sailors were put through the RYA Youth Stage 1 course and all 12 received their Youth Stage 1 Certificates.

In June a Start Windsurfing course took place with 5 participants over two Saturdays. Two of the participants were successful in achieving their Start Windsurfing Certificates. The other three were offered further informal training on Friday evenings to bring them up to the required standard.

At the end of July and running into August two adult Level 1 Dinghy courses were held, each consisting of one theory evening and two days of practical. A total of 8 persons received Level 1 Certificates.

As a permit group, Chester Sea Cadets run youth courses under the supervision of their Senior Instructor, Chris Snow. This year, 4 cadets were awarded RYA Youth Stage 1 certificates and 5 were awarded Youth Stage 2.

During the Summer, the club assisted two members, who had previously been helping with training, achieve the pre-entry requirements for attending an RYA Dinghy Instructor Course. It is good to report that both successfully completed the instructor course and now hold their RYA DI Certificates. They will be a great asset to the club.

It is also good to report that a fairly recently joined member, who has powerboat instructor qualifications, has volunteered to help with powerboat courses thus further strengthening our training team.

In order to bring the future coaching of young sailors on a Friday evening onto a more formal basis, and to help with the provision of RYA Racing Courses, we were pleased that four members volunteered to attend a RYA Race Coach Level 2 Course in December. Once again, the club assisted in ensuring that all four had the necessary pre-entry requirements and all four successfully completed the course.

With regards training going forward into 2023, a Powerboat Level 2 Course is planned for January and is fully booked. This will also include training specific to the use of the powerboat for safety cover.

The rest of the programme for 2023 is currently being planned and, depending on instructor availability, is likely to include youth coaching at the Friday family sessions, RYA Youth Stage 1, RYA Start Windsurfing, RYA Adult Level 1 and RYA Adult Level 2. A RYA Powerboat course will also probably be held in December.

Youth Sailing

This year has been a great year for youth sailing at Shotwick. Friday night training sessions were well attended, with more than nine youth sailors regularly on the water. All the sailors had a great time, improved tremendously, and got pretty good at capsizing!

In the new year, we will be offering more structured training sessions on Fridays and ad hoc training sessions on Saturdays. We will communicate all of this via our youth sailing WhatsApp group (links to this can be found on the club noticeboards).

We aim to do two things with our Friday night youth training: first, we want to improve the confidence of new sailors, give them additional time on the water in a safe environment, and give them the confidence to move on to more formal club racing. As well as that, now that we have four Racing Coach L2 qualified instructors at the club, we aim to help upskill the slightly more advanced Youth sailors.

On Sundays, we ran separate junior sailing races alongside the adult races for the first time in many years. There was a good turnout, and we intend to expand this to include Wednesday night races as well. We also held a very successful CYRC youth event at the club in October with 12 boats in attendance.

Youth club members will continue to be able to borrow club boats for free on a first-come, first-served basis, for both the Friday night sailing and club racing.

This year, we will hold at least one RYA Youth Stage 1 course and our goal is to retain attendees and integrate them into ongoing club activities.

A big congratulations goes out to Thomas Venning, who recently was selected to join the Welsh topper squad!

The committee remains committed to increasing youth participation at the club, and I am very optimistic that the youth scene will continue to thrive well into 2023.

Estates

Regarding the upkeep of our lovely clubhouse and surrounds, lots of 'behind the scenes' work such as emptying the septic tank, checking the quality of the stored hot water for bugs, checking fire alarms and emergency lighting, sourcing and acquiring new benches for the outside seating areas, clubhouse cleaning and endless grass cutting and strimming, safety boat and ride on mower servicing, as well as maintaining the security cameras and lights is all done by various committee members.

This has been another successful year for our well attended and hardworking work parties, with the re-stoning of the main launching area and another substantial launching area having been created in the Northwest corner of the lake (many thanks to "Digger Rick" for his massive contribution in this).

The marks were all recently lifted, cleaned and the securing ropes changed where needed, re-painting of the numbers will be done once the weather is warmer.

The club has purchased a weed cutting machine which, along with the dredging rakes fabricated by Jeremy and Doug, are proving to be very successful in our endless battle to keep our lake clear.

Many of you will remember the huge islands of floating weeds we encountered a few years ago which really affected our racing and sailing!

Over the last two years 90% of the work parties have been taken up by the fishing out and removal of weed from the lake and moving it by trailers to the Southeast corner of the shore where it is left to rot down.

This is a very physical, dirty, and wet job and the volunteers that turn out to help must go home very tired but satisfied after their mornings work. Thank you all very much!

Financial Review 2022

Membership fees and income held up well in 2022 as the club began to resume normal operations. Income from subscriptions was slightly higher than 2021 and exceeds pre-pandemic levels.

Total income was approximately £26,750 an increase on 2021 (£22,000) this increase in income was off set by an increase in expenses reflecting the increased cost of the greater activity in 2022.

As the financial position became clear some "capital" items were purchased to improve the clubs facilities. Principle amongst these were a weed cutter to carry out trials in 2023 to reduce the impact of lake weed on the sailing and VHF radios to improve safety. A laser Pico was also purchased to improve the range of club boats available for use.

Good receipts from membership and relatively conservative expenditure has resulted in a modest surplus of approximately £2,000.

The surplus from 2022 will be used to provide resilience and to continue to develop the club infrastructure for the future. Assuming continued stability, consideration will be given over the next year on how surplus fund will be utilised to increase the resilience of the club. To be considered are; the electricity supply, the provision of female and disability changing facilities, reducing the impact of weed in the lake the development of sailing instruction and the training fleet.

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Shotwick Lake Sailing

See appendix 1

Plans for Future Periods


- Continued support for the North Wales Clubs Committee with regards to sharing and learning and development of sailing in North Wales.
- Be conservative with our finances until the impacts of the current pandemic are known.
- Racing programme published for 2023 season.
- Powerboat refresher sessions will be delivered in January 2023.
- Continue with the scheme which allows youngsters not owning their own dinghy to continue to sail at Shotwick Lake after completion of training. A boat loan scheme has been implemented for junior members.
- Continue Friday evening 'club night' now that restrictions have been lifted with supported sailing and free access to windsurfing kit to those who have completed the Start Windsurfing course.
- We will continue to encourage members to become involved as volunteers to assist with the training and other support to the club.
- Continue to monitor and implement legislation regards child/vulnerable person protection measures.
- The development of sailing opportunities for sailors with a disability.
- Implement 'Discover Sailing' sessions to give opportunities to sail, windsurf or SUP to non-members.

J.P.COOPER

Signed (Commodore) 14 January 2023
Jeremy Cooper

Appendix 1

Shotwick Lake Sailing Club					
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2022					
Incoming Resources	note	2022		2021	
Donations		20		-	
Subscriptions (basic membership)	6	10,960		10,524	
Subscriptions (specific activity/permits)		9,915		8,644	
HM customs & Revenue (gift aid refund)	7	2,470		1,974	
Training Courses		2,100		-	
Grants	8	-		550	
Bank Interest		5		0	
Race entry fees		640		77	
Social events & refreshments 'profit'	9	600		-	
Miscellaneous income		75		675	
RNLI collection by members		-		-	
Boat Loan		-		-	
Total Incoming resources		26,785		22,445	
Resources Expended					
Lake Purchase Legal Fees		-		-	
Training Costs		1,088		666	
Insurances		2,963		2,732	
Club equipment maintenance (general)		7,710		4,752	
Clubhouse warden/cleaner		4,092		2,936	
Safety boat fuel		721		201	
Safety boat maintenance/service	10	959		1,054	
Membership awards & race prizes		738		56	
Publicity		-		-	
RYA/WYA affiliation		-		330	
Instructor training		1,543		75	
Administration		1,396		867	
Bank charges		93		101	
Water supply & effluent removal	11	679		440	
Safety Inspections (electrical/gas and		1,463		461	
RNLI payment of collected money		-		-	
Electricity costs	12	1,188		710	
Gas costs	12	149		52	
Fun Day		-		-	
Depreciation	3b	-		924	
Total resources expended		24,782		16,358	
Net incoming-expended resources	14	2,003		6,086	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 2022						
	note	2022		2021		
Fixed Assets;						
Tangible Assets:	3a		47,500		47,500	
Investments:						
Current Assets:						
Bank (deposit)		9,566		9,561		
(current)		47,377		45,321		
Commodores A/C		-		-		
Cash in hand		-		171		
Galley		179		179		
		57,122		55,232		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	44				
Liabilities:		340		409		
Net Current Assets:			56,825		54,822	
Total Net Assets:			104,325		102,322	
General Funds:						
unrestricted			56,225		54,222	
restricted	5		48,100		48,100	
Total:			104,325		102,322	
<p>The trustee directors are satisfied that for the year ended 31st December 2022 the charity/company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.</p> <p>Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.</p> <p>The trustee directors acknowledge their responsibility for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and ii. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of section 393 of the Companies Act 2006, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as is applicable to the company. These accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. <p>Approved by the trustee directors by distribution of these accounts to the aforementioned on XXth January 2023</p>						
Accounts prepared by: William Duffield,						
Examined by:			Member SLSC			
			Company Treasurer			

Notes to the Accounts for Year Ended 31st December 2022							
1 Accounting Policies							
Accounting Convention							
The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. In preparing the accounts the charity has been guided by the best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015).							
2 Taxation							
As a registered sports charity, the company has been advised that it is not eligible to register for VAT and is not subject to UK corporation tax. All expenditure presented is inclusive of VAT.							
3 Fixed Assets							
a Tangible assets :							
Lake and buildings (at cost)						47,500	
Total Tangible Assets						47,500	
b Depreciation of assets:							
A linear, 7 year, depreciation has been used for all major equipment purchases. All equipment assets are now fully depreciated.							
4 Creditors and Liabilities							
Deposits totalling £340 owed by the club at the year end and a small positive balance with Welsh Water are carried forward .							
5 Restricted funds							
Lake and buildings						47,500	
Volvo eco challenge – rainwater collection system						600	
						48,100	
6 Subscriptions							
Subscription income is split into basic membership (£78 for each adult member, £25 for juniors) and activity costs together with any berthing costs etc. Permit income (from sea scout groups etc) is included in this category. 'Gift aid' can be reclaimed from HM Revenues & Customs on the basic membership element of the subscriptions where the member has indicated compliance with the tax rules.							
7 Gift Aid Refund							
Claims were made to HM Revenues & Customs for 'gift aid' on the basic membership for 2021; A claim for 2022 memberships will be made in 2023.							

8	Grants							
	No grants were received in year.							
9	Social events & refreshments 'profit'							
	As Covid restrictions have been lifted a reduced galley service has been available.							
10	Safety Boat Maintenance							
	The safety boats usage was back to normal in 2022 and the engines serviced in year.							
11	Water Supply and Effluent Removal							
	The cost of effluent removal has increased to slightly less than pre-pandemic levels							
12	Electricity and Gas Costs							
	Monthly usage and costs have increased to near pre-pandemic levels.							
13	Reserves Policy							
	Due to the seasonal nature of the income and the 'out of season' expenditure, the treasurer and trustee directors have agreed that a minimum fund reserve of £4,500 is needed at year-end 2022 to cover the club running expenses during the winter period.							
14	Net incoming-expended resources							
	Membership income has increased in year to slightly more than that in 2019 reflecting members ability to use the lake. Similarly other income streams e.g. training and the galley have resumed all be it at lower levels. A number of pieces equipment have been purchased in year including VHF radios and a weed cutter.							