

Shandon Community Association

Annual Report 2021-2022



**Northern Sparkles Cheerleading
Finding ways to train during
Lockdown.**



Charity Registration 1136615

Shandon Community Association

The objects of the Association are to:

- Promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Kenton and the Kenton Bar area the neighbourhood without distinction of sex, orientation, race or of political religious or other opinion, by association together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisation in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the condition of life for the said inhabitants.
- Establish or secure the establishment of a Community Centre and to maintain and manage the same in furtherance of these objects.
- Promote such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined.

The Mission of our Association is:

- To provide a range of opportunities for children, young people and families to build self confidence, develop new skills and improve their health and wellbeing.
- To improve the quality of life for residents living in the area.
- To promote a sense of community spirit.



Chairperson's Report.

I am pleased to report, despite the uncertainty of the COVID lockdown, a very successful year for our organisation. The 2020/21 Cheerleading season got off to a relatively good start. Training continued as normal and lots of new members joined our squad, particularly mini age girls which was very encouraging and there was a great buzz at sessions until March 2020 when the COVID Pandemic hit. A devastating time for the whole country and particularly for our athletes who were facing the possibility of not being able to train. Some of our athletes trained 10 hours a week. Not only was it important to try to find a way to keep the girls active and communicating with each other, the financial impact was a real concern for us. Following discussions with our coaches we came up with the idea of Zoom training sessions, we were not sure how this would work, but decided to give it a go. To our amazement the zoom sessions were a huge success. We ran weekly sessions and were overwhelmed with the commitment from our athletes and parents, it wasn't easy training in their homes due to limited spaces but our athletes and parents made it work. We also brought in guest coaches to run sessions which were a huge success. These coaches focussed on technique and performance and they were a huge success with our athletes. They awarded certificates to two of our athletes.

The feedback from parents was very encouraging as they felt the moral of the girls greatly increased during the lockdown period. When restrictions lifted to allow small groups to meet outside, we organised training on the school field, one of our parents was the caretaker and he was more than happy for us to do this. The first session was truly magical, seeing the girls together with their coaches, they trained in all kind of weather.

As our annual awards could not take place due to COVID we used the zoom sessions to give out 2 prestigious awards, our Sportsmanship Award, which is voted on by each of our athletes and the Outstanding Commitment Award which is decided by the Committee. Our coaches also gave out awards to individual athletes for their hard work and commitment during the zoom sessions and we posted certificates and medals out to the lucky winners.

The zoom sessions also provided the opportunity for us to have a bit of fun and to raise some fund for our squad. We organised bingo and quiz sessions which were a huge success and a lot of fun.

Lockdown was finally lifted and we were able to get back to training and started to plan our first competition of the season. There was a huge buzz in the sessions everyone glad to be back and a number of new girls joined us which was great for the continued development of our squad.

We managed to get some fundraising in via the zoom sessions and from parents organising individual raffles for hampers etc. Our fundraising efforts this financial year was a staggering £4,478 a huge amount of money which will support the development of our squad and organisation.

To the delight of us all we managed to attend two competitions. British Cheerleading Association Blackpool in December 2021 and Future Cheer Manchester February 2022. As always coming away with many awards. We have the most hard working and dedicated coaches and athletes and I am proud to be part of this squad. I look forward to the year ahead and playing a part in the development of the Association and our cheerleading squad NSC.

Sarah Niblo.

NSC Crystalz Our Mini Squad



Our mini squad hard at work and enjoying every moment of their session . They are an incredibly committed group and are the future of NSC. Not long after these photos were taken we were thrown into lockdown due to COVID.

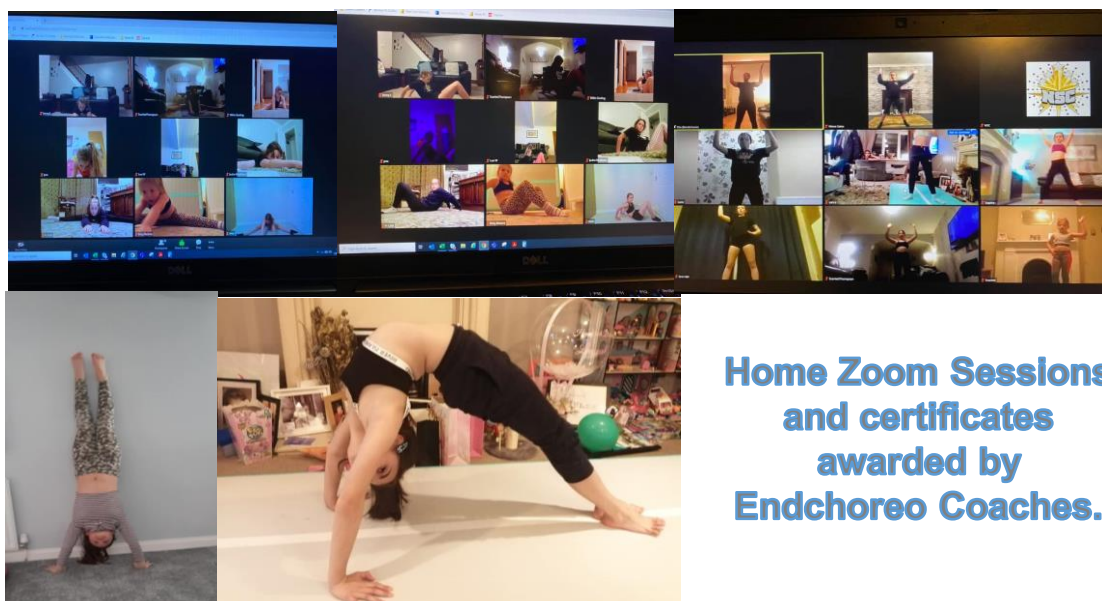
Below are two of our recently qualified coaches. Millie and Jennifer are our mini group coaches. As an organisation we pride ourselves on giving our senior athletes the opportunity to become part of our coaching team and funding them to become qualified coaches.



Lockdown Zoom Training Sessions.

The COVID lockdown hit our squad extremely hard and had a very negative affect on our athletes. They went from training 3 or 4 times a week to doing absolutely nothing. We knew that this would impact on their mental health and their fitness levels and felt that we needed to think outside the box and come up with a way to engage with them. After discussions with parents and coaches we came up with the idea of zoom sessions which could be run in their homes. We set about getting this up an running fairly quickly and weekly zoom sessions were introduced. Most of the girls took part in them, to be honest it wasn't an easy task due to space in their homes. They were however productive and a great deal of fun, and meant that the coaches and our athletes could see and talk to each other. We also brought in Ella from ENDchoreo who facilitated a couple of the zoom sessions for us and sent award certificates through the post to a couple of our athletes, who were delighted.

The zoom sessions were a great success so much so that we decided to have sessions that were a bit more fun orientated and included parents. We organised quiz nights bingo sessions which were a great deal of fun and many of our parents took part in them. It was a great way to stay in touch with everyone and we truly believe they had a very positive effect on our athletes mental health.



**Home Zoom Sessions
and certificates
awarded by
Endchoreo Coaches.**



Some of our Lockdown ward Winners

NSC Medals



We have our own NSC medals so we decided to utilise them during lockdown and give awards and certificates to girls who went that extra mile whilst training at home. These were sent via post which was a great surprise to them.

NSC have an annual awards night we call it The Choscars. It has always been a fantastic night of celebration acknowledging the hard work of our coaches and athletes and the support of our parents. Unfortunately due to lockdown we were unable to have this event. We didn't want the year to pass by without giving any awards. We felt two particular awards that are given out annually should still be awarded. The Sportsmanship Award, which all athletes vote on via a secret ballot, and the Outstanding Achievement Award which is decided by the Committee.

We organised for all our athletes to register their secret votes for the Sportsmanship Award. The winner of this award was Lexi Brookes, a very worthy and deserving winner. The second award was for Outstanding Achievement. Maisie Cuthbertson was the deserving winner of this award.

Lexi Brookes



Maisie Cuthbertson



Lockdown Training

When lockdown started to lift and we were able to get outside we organised sessions on one of the school fields. The dad of one of our athletes was the caretaker and he was more than happy for us to use the field. Athletes brought their tumble tracks and our coaches facilitated training sessions for them. Everyone was so pleased to see each other and they worked in all kinds of weather, they were just happy to be out and able to train together.



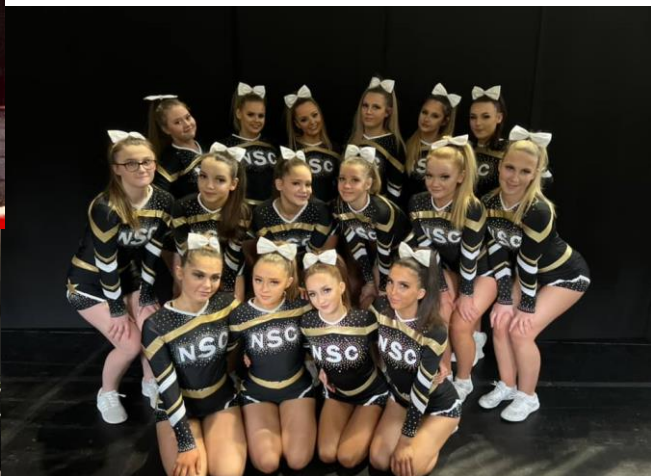
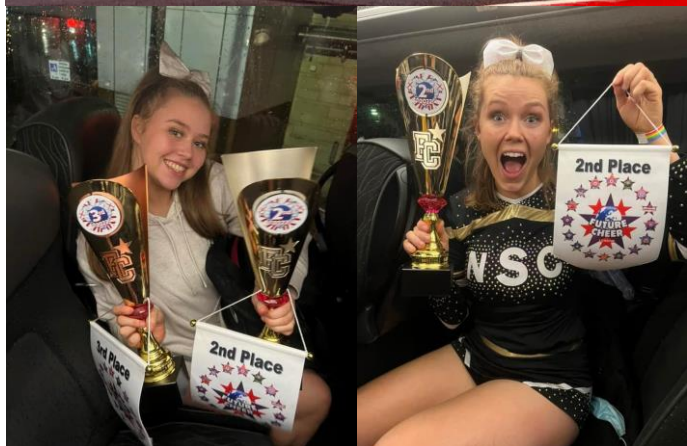
Competitions 2021-2022 Season.



British Cheerleading Association.
Blackpool - December 2021.



Future Cheer - Manchester
February 2022



Farewell from all at NSC



A fitting presentation given to Maisie and Mya who have been members of the squad for many years. They left to concentrate on their GCSE exams.

Thank you both for being part of NSC we will miss you. Wishing you both the best of luck from your Sparkles Family!



Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who has supported NSC particularly through the lockdown period.

- To our coaches who work endlessly for our squad
- To our parents, who give up so much of their time to support our fundraising activities and events.
- To everyone who has contributed to our fundraising it is so appreciated.
- To our athletes who train so hard and are totally committed to being the best cheerleaders they can be – We are so proud of you all.

Registered Charity No. 1136615

Income			Expenditure		
	31.3.22	31.3.21		31.3.22	31.3.21
	20765.00	10,470.00	Cheerleading Coaches	8767.00	4033.17
			Services	3756.63	1655.51
	4478.83	4,013.99			
Memberships	2165.00	1,160.00	Equipment	293.92	2492.64
	15423.00	600.00	Stationery & Postage	519.03	698.11
vs	3280.14	1,021.73	Fundraising Events	1574.69	2373.19
	260.00	1,055.00	Cheerleading hire	3325.00	800.00
			Cheerleading Comps	12782.66	315.00
	500.00		Costumes	5971.19	1231.03
			Miscellaneous	1184.47	877.56
			Sundries	246.41	166.42
			Bank charges		6.75
	<u>46,871.97</u>	<u>18,320.72</u>		<u>38,421.00</u>	<u>14,649.38</u>
			Balance c/fwd 31.3.22		
			Bank	11196.26	2777.27
1	3189.47	-481.87	Petty cash	444.18	412.20
	<u>50,061.44</u>	<u>17,838.85</u>		<u>50,061.44</u>	<u>17,838.85</u>

Auditor J. Cappeck

Chair

Committee Member J Niblo

Registered Charity No. 1136615

Income

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500.00

18,320.72

-481.87

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3756.63	1655.51
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293.92 2492.64

519.03	698.11
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246.41	166.42
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6.75

14,649.38

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444.18 412.20

17,838.85

Auditor

Committee Member

Conformity with books of account, bank statements

50

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