

# **MERSEYSIDE WATER RESCUE - Registered Charity No. 1178185**



## **Trustees Annual Report for the period 01.08.19 – 31.07.20**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the charity is to preserve life in and around water, specifically at the south Liverpool Docks

### **Objectives & Activities**

The main activities are the provision of Safety Boat Cover on Friday and Saturday evenings when the risks to the public have been identified as greatest. The Team also carry out foot patrols to offer safety advice to the public if they feel it is needed. We operate on the inland water of the south Liverpool Dock system. The River Mersey is an estuary, separated from the docks by lock gates & the sea wall. Rescue activities here are carried out by the RLNI, Marine Fire 1 (Merseyside Fire Rescue Service) and the Coastguard. They have the powerful boats and equipment able to cope with the tides and swell of this dangerous waterway.

The charity implements a rolling training program for its members covering first aid, boat handling, casualty recovery, search techniques and communications. We have members qualified as safety boat operators and all members undergo first aid training.

We have undertaken Risk Assessments for all our activities and developed safe systems of work and Standard Operating Procedures which we require all members to observe.

The Charity also provides Safety Boat cover during public events at the dock complex by arrangement with the organisers.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit in the furtherance of these aims.

### **Achievements**

The team have continued the week end duties throughout 2019 and 2020, including the cold, wet and dark winter's nights. In January 2020 we became affiliated with Surf Life Saving GB, the leading water safety, training and awarding organisation in this country. Through our affiliation with SLSGB we have access to DEFRA level training, support with our activities and oversight of standards of equipment. We report incidents we have been involved with through SLSGB and add to the national picture of water safety.

In March we were very fortunate in securing funding from the PH Holt Foundation which allowed us to buy a second boat. The new 'Fun Yak' is smaller than the RIB but still large enough for a casualty, a moulded polyethylene construction which won't suffer puncture like the RIB. Modified Fun Yaks are used by the London Fire service as rescue boats in London Docks. Over the course of the summer, the boat was run in and modifications were made (trim & tilt mechanism, prop guard & fire extinguisher fitted). The Duchy of Lancaster granted us funding toward the modifications of the Fun Yak, repairs & maintenance of the RIB and insurance. We are very grateful for their support.



## Covid 19

The Trustees realised there could be an increase in people suffering from mental health issues during the lockdown beginning in March 2020, and with the full support of the members, the Canal & River Trust and the Police, decided to increase to level of cover to every night. This continued until the middle of June when the lockdown was easing & the decision was made to reduce the cover to 4 evening per week (Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun). The volunteers worked hard during that time. Safety advice was offered on many occasions, including asking people not to swim when they had been drinking and please wear a PFD when you are out in a dinghy. The Police asked us to search the water on two occasions, on two occasions we were asked to remain nearby with the boat while the emergency services helped very distressed people at the water's edge. Large crowds gathered in the warm summer evenings & the team remained on late shift one evening as the dock security teams were anxious about the large number of people and the risky behaviour they were engaging in. Multiple groups of people jumped into the water in the warm weather, we retrieved boats which had been cast adrift and many, many perry buoys. In July we were alerted to a possible suicidal male at the docks. A member of the public informed the team that two people had gone into the River Mersey, the team deployed throwlines, caught them & held them until Marine Fire 1 (Merseyside Fire Rescue's boat) could retrieve them. The man had jumped in the water and his friend had gone in to help. Both people were safely recovered.

## Safetyboat Cover

We ran Safetyboat cover for Liverpool City Council's 'River of Light' firework display in November 2019. We had our qualified Safetyboat operators in the water at all times and landbased volunteers observing the crowds from key viewing points. The afternoon went without a hitch and our social media guru live-streamed the stunning fire-work display on our Facebook page. We were able to earn revenue for the charity's insurance costs.

## Training

One of our volunteers is qualified to teach the use and deployment of throwlines. As well as putting our team through their paces, he has been able to offer training to one of the security firms at the docks. This increases the safety capacity by the water as well as bringing in a donation for the charity.

## Financial Review

Our Financial Report is attached. Our fundraising opportunities changed considerably with the national lockdown, we could not carry out any fundraising events, there was no income from collection tubs in bars & restaurants, and we could not provide safety cover as no events were being run. However, as we responded to the COVID emergency, we became eligible for funding from other sources, namely the Duchy of Lancaster and the Coronavirus Community Support Fund distributed by the National Lottery. The Duchy of Lancaster assisted us with costs relating to our boats and insurance and the Community Fund assisted with Safety Equipment for our members (Dry suits, PFDs, helmets), rescue equipment (throwlines, a reachpole, SAR torches) and training. The funding was received in July 2020 so forms a large part of the reserves shown.

The funding received from PH Holt was a grant application submitted before the lockdown. We also managed to secure funding from the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company's 'Movement For Good' awards, where people voted for their chosen charity. Again, our social media guru excelled herself in encouraging our supporters to vote for us. This funding was also received



in July and forms part of our reserves for the year going forward. The funding was to be used for medical equipment, safety equipment and overheads.

### Reserves

The Trustees and Management Committee understand the need to hold reserves to meet unexpected costs, particularly in relation to the maintenance of the boat and insurance. We aim to hold in the region of £500 for such costs. At the end of the year we held £365 in unrestricted funds and £11,480 in restricted funds. Part of the restricted funding had been donated to meet Boat Maintenance and Insurance costs which was a great reassurance to The Trustees. The majority of the Restricted Funds had been received in the final weeks of the financial year & the Trustees had not yet had the opportunity to spend the funds on the allotted purposes. This was completed by the end of the calendar year.

### Future Liabilities

The Boat used by Merseyside Water Rescue is a 5.5 meter RIB powered by a 40 hp Tohatsu engine. The costs of both the boat and engine were met by the chief trustee, Ian Milburn. The charity retains the option to purchase the boat and engine from Ian Milburn, at fair value, within the next two years. Accordingly, the items do not yet appear in our statement of assets.

The boat was purchased second hand, with a trailer, for the sum of £1,370

The Engine was purchased new in December 2018 for the sum of £5,212

### **Structure Governance & Management**

The charity is a CIO and is governed by a Constitution. The Charity was registered in May 2018

The Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees if the number of Trustees should fall below the required minimum of three, or at any time either as a replacement or an additional trustee.

At every Annual General Meeting, one third of the charity trustees retire from office. The charity trustees are required to retire by rotation. The vacancies arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Members wishing to become trustees are well aware of the work undertaken and organisational structure. New trustees are made fully aware of their responsibilities and given copies of the Charity Commission's guidance.

Trustees are required to declare any direct or indirect financial interest in any transaction.

### Related Parties

The charity works closely with North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS), the Canal and River Trust and Liverpool City Council.

Merseyside Water Rescue is affiliated with Surf Life Saving GB, the leading water safety training and national oversight charity in the UK. SLSCGB membership gives us the opportunity to work to become a National Flood Asset and assist the Emergency Services at times of local and National flooding.

The Charity sits on the Merseyside Water Safety Forum, which brings together representatives from Merseyside Police, MFRS, NWAS, Coastguard, RLSS and other voluntary organisations connected with water safety.

### Volunteers

The Trustees extend their grateful thanks to all the Members who give their time, energy and resources to the work of the Charity. The work of Merseyside Water Rescue would not be possible without the continued commitment of the volunteers.

### **Administrative Information**

Charity Name – Merseyside Water Rescue

Charity Number – 1178185

Charity's Principal Address – 34 The Marion Way, Netherton, Merseyside L30 3TG

### **Names of Trustees**

Ian Robert Milburn (Chair)

Sarah Mansfield

Peter Kenny (from 30.01.2021)

Martin Eccles (resigned 17.11.2020)

### Officers

Secretary - Gary McFarlane

Treasurer - Ruth Milburn

Operations Manager – Lewis Bridson

Medical Lead – Alex Guymer

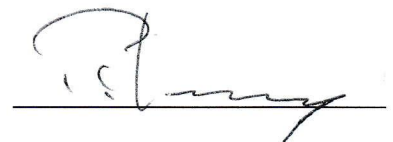
Approved by the Trustees on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021



IAN MILBURN



SARAH MANSFIELD



PETER KENNY





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Meresyside Water Rescue	to (if any) 1178185
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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.08.2019	To	Period end date 31.07.2020
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	2,804	-	-	2,804	-
Safety Boat & Training	245	-	-	245	-
P H Holt	-	4,000	-	4,000	-
Duchy of Lancaster	-	2,000	-	2,000	-
National Lottery	-	9,970	-	9,970	-
Ecclesiastical Insurance	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Other	-	395	-	395	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>3,049</b>	<b>17,365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,414</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,049</b>	<b>17,365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,414</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Boat	750	4,000	-	4,750	-
Boat Maintenance & Fuel	917	-	-	917	-
Equipment	1,204	1,539	-	2,743	-
Medical Equipment	165	-	-	165	-
Insurance	812	196	-	1,008	-
Training	480	-	-	480	-
Subscriptions	-	150	-	150	-
Stationery	130	-	-	130	-
Sundry	83	-	-	83	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>5,885</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,426</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>5,885</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,426</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 1,492</b>	<b>11,480</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,988</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>1,857</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,857</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>11,480</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,845</b>	<b>-</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Bank Balance	365	11,480	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>11,480</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Sarah Mansfield</i>	SARAH MANSFIELD	25.05.21
<i>Ian Micaluan</i>	IAN MICALUAN	25.05.21