

Skylark IX Recovery Trust

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

To be presented at the Annual General Meeting on 22 October 2025

1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Skylark IX Recovery Trust

Charity Number: SC001219

Registered Address: % 1 Quay Street Dumbarton G82 1LG

Website: <http://www.skylarkix.com/>

Independent Examiner/Auditor: [REDACTED]

2. Chair's Introduction

The past year has been one of significant progress and renewed community engagement for the Skylark IX Recovery Trust. Against a challenging backdrop of limited resources, our team, volunteers, and partners have continued to deliver transformative programmes connecting recovery, heritage, and community.

Highlights of the year include:

The production of the Dunkirk Commemorative Concert, commemorating the anniversary of Operation Dynamo and honouring the Skylark IX's historic role. The concert involved a local school, other charities and members of the local community.

A visit from the Lord-Lieutenancy, recognising the Trust's contribution to recovery, community and heritage.

The Trust's nomination for the King's Award for Voluntary Service, a powerful testament to our volunteers' dedication

The engagement of a new Community engagement officer - [REDACTED].

A visit from Neil Gray, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care in the Scottish Parliament.

Development of the Rowing School

Fundraising and planning for representatives of the Trust to travel to Dunkirk for the 8th anniversary of Operation Dynamo

The Trust continues to be inspired by Skylark IX's legacy — a symbol of hope, recovery, and resilience — and to build on that legacy through skills, connection, and community.

3. Structure, Governance and Management

Skylark IX Recovery Trust is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) governed by its constitution. Trustees meet regularly to oversee strategy, governance, and financial management.

The charity continues to work closely with key partners including Alternatives, West Dunbartonshire, The Scottish Maritime Museum (Denny Tank), and local community groups. Volunteers remain at the heart of our activities, providing essential support in delivering our programmes and events.

4. Charitable Purposes and Aims

The Skylark IX Recovery Trust exists to:

Preserve and celebrate the heritage of the Dunkirk “Little Ship” Skylark IX.

Support people in recovery from addiction to rebuild their lives through heritage, craft, and water-based activity.

Our aims for 2024/25, aligned with Corra Foundation funding outcomes, were to:

Provide skills training in heritage craft and water-based physical activities for people in recovery.

Support people to develop practical life and employability skills within a team-based environment.

5. Activities and Key Focus Areas (2024–2025)

The key areas of focus were:

Development and coordination of wood-craft skills workshops at the Denny Tank Museum.

Development and relaunch of the Skylark IX Community Rowing Project.

Strengthening communications between partners, volunteers, and the local community.

6. Achievements and Performance

Participation and Engagement

Over 100 people engaged across projects.

Over 300 volunteer hours recorded.

Over 35 community members regularly involved in Skylark IX Community Rowing (at least 10 in recovery).

Programmes Delivered

Two 12-week woodcraft workshops delivered at Denny Tank Museum.

Two 6-week canoe skills workshops delivered to participants in recovery.

Skylark IX Community Rowing Project successfully relaunched, promoting connection, physical wellbeing, and teamwork.

Online donations platform launched, generating an additional £197.68 in unrestricted income.

Funding

Awarded £11,503 from WDC Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for canoeing programme.

Continued funding from the Corra Foundation, enabling delivery of recovery and heritage projects.

Community and Heritage

Successful Dunkirk Commemorative Concert marking 84 years since Operation Dynamo.

Lord-Lieutenancy visit recognising the charity's role in recovery and heritage engagement.

Nomination for the King's Award for Voluntary Service.

Continued engagement through talks, local heritage networks, open days, and rowing events.

7. Challenges

Balancing multiple roles within our limited volunteer base

Resource constraints – demands on a limited staff time and management capacity.

Funding limitations – reliance on small grants and core Corra support.

Despite these pressures, collaborative working and community commitment allowed the Trust to maintain delivery and impact.

8. Impact

Over 100 people engaged across projects.

Over 300 hours of volunteering recorded.

63% of participants took up additional opportunities (training, volunteering, or further activities).

25% of participants achieved First Aid certification.

100% of participants reported feeling supported in their recovery journey.

Average participant engaged in two or more Skylark projects, reflecting strong continuity and community connection.

9. Looking Ahead to 2025–2026

Our aims for the coming year include:

Oar-building project with Skylark IX rowers and recovery community participants.

Deliver another block of woodwork skills workshops.

Continue to build the Community Rowing Project, aiming for it to become self-led by 2026.

Restart oral history project to capture voices from veterans, recovery participants, and community members.

Prioritise grant fundraising and donor development.

Develop a 2026 strategic vision and long-term sustainability plan.

Strengthen trustee board with additional expertise in fundraising, governance, boat building and strategy.

11. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

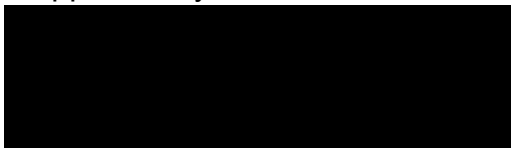
The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to act in the interests of the charity, to ensure that its assets are used exclusively for charitable purposes, and that the accounts give a true and fair view of the charity's financial position.

12. Acknowledgements

The Trustees wish to thank all volunteers, funders, and partners — particularly Corra Foundation, Alternatives, West Dunbartonshire Council, and the Scottish Maritime Museum for their continued support.

Special thanks to the Skylark IX crew, recovery community participants, and everyone who contributes to keeping the Skylark IX story alive.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 22/10/25 and signed on its behalf by:

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the person on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Date: 22/10/25

Paid In				Expenses				Expenses Codes																					
Unit	Description	Pay In Ref	Bank Account A/C	Pay In A/C	Just Giving	Total	Unit	Description	Cheque No	Date Cleared	Bank A/C	Petty Cash	Total	Wages	HMV	Pension	Rent	Insurance	IT Support	Goods For Resale	Transport	Recruitment	Staff Training	Stationery	Materials	Bank Charges	Income Phone	Other	
01.04.2022	Opening Balance		£	40,473.06				Previous year spend not deducted until April 2024 (shown for the purpose of balancing with bank statement)			£																		
18.06.2024	Stylark Concert - Tickets, Buffets, Programmes, Donations	000010	£	873.51		£	873.51	INV 1209 - Alternatives EE Mobile Feb & March 2024	000101	18.04.2024	£	33.88	£	33.88													£	33.88	
02.07.2024	Mary Burch Donation - Dunkirk Trip for Volunteer	Auto Credit	£	100.00		£	100.00	INV 1012 - Alternatives Recharges - Lady Rose Private Workshop	000101	18.04.2024	£	51.40	£	51.40													£	51.40	
12.07.2024	WDC - Wellbeing Fund Grant	BACS	£	267.75		£	267.75	SCVO - Good Moves Community Engagement Officer Recruitment	000101	18.04.2024	£	230.00	£	230.00								£	230.00						
13.08.2024	WDC - Provost's Fund Donation - Volunteer Trip to Dunkirk	BACS	£	300.00		£	300.00	Red Mosquito - Gold II May 2024	000101	18.04.2024	£	39.07	£	39.07						£	39.07								
09.09.2024	DONATION - A Parfery (Gorak Day Evebb)	BACS	£	13.00		£	13.00	Bank Charges to 28.01.2024	000101	18.04.2024	£	0.70	£	0.70												£	0.70		
19.09.2024	DONATIONS - Clyde Fest & Boat Day	000011	£	84.10		£	84.10	Red Mosquito - Gold II June 2024	000101	23.05.2024	£	39.07	£	39.07						£	39.07								
28.10.2024	Carrs Foundation - Year 7 July 2024 - August 2025	BACS	£	23,700.00		£	23,700.00	HMRC Payment - June 2024 Salaries	000223	18.07.2024	£	2.83	£	2.83			£	2.83											
31.10.2024	DONATIONS - Clydeside Festival Weekend	000012	£	31.98		£	31.98	Red Mosquito - Gold II July 2024	000101	18.06.2024	£	39.07	£	39.07						£	39.07								
21.11.2024	Donation - St Madan R.A. Chapter 719	000013	£	669.00		£	669.00	INV 1012 - Alternatives Salary Recharges 3rd Qtr (AB Corral)	000101	18.06.2024	£	1,101.75	£	1,101.75	£	1,101.75													
02.12.2024	Bank Charge RELUND	BANK	£	78.17		£	78.17	True Potential Pension Contribution - July 2024 Salaries	000101	18.06.2024	£	60.84	£	60.84															
10.01.2025	Community Mental Health Phase 3	000014	£	34,700.00		£	34,700.00	Bank Charges to 01.01.2024	000101	18.06.2024	£	1.05	£	1.05												£	1.05	£	48.10
25.03.2025	Mary Burch Donation for Dunkirk Trip	BACS	£	400.00		£	400.00	Red Mosquito - Gold II August 2024	000101	04.07.2024	£	39.07	£	39.07						£	39.07								
26.03.2025	Houston Ink Guild Donation	000015	£	65.00		£	65.00	INV 1061 - Alternatives EE Mobile Phone Charges April-June 2023	000101	04.07.2024	£	82.43	£	82.43													£	82.43	
								HMRC Payment - July 2024 Salaries	000224	19.08.2024	£	2.83	£	2.83			£	2.83											
								A Dohson Salary - June 2024	000101	26.06.2024	£	1,062.47	£	1,062.47	£	1,062.47													
								A Dohson Pension Contribution Returned - June 2024 Salaries	000101	26.06.2024	£	18.01	£	18.01															
								True Potential Pension Contribution - July 2024 Salaries	000101	08.08.2024	£	60.84	£	60.84															
								A Dohson Salary - July 2024	000101	26.07.2024	£	1,053.46																	