



This is the Commodores report for our financial year 2022 January 1st to December 31st with a follow on for Jan 2023 to the present.

The year 2022 was partial treading water but also making progress in several areas in the now “Post Pandemic” world.

Finance

Our accounts show that we made a deficit of £6.9k but with depreciation removed we had a cash surplus of £5.4k which gives us the wherewithal to carry on.

Bar sales were up substantially on 2021 figures and matching 2018 sales but with a much better margin. Membership income is also up.

As with 2021 funds raised seem to have met the needs of rising costs. As seen globally, the energy crisis has placed its demands on DYC. We fortunately have a reasonable tariff, but some inefficient systems are putting pressure on the coffers. The bar cooling system was replaced November delayed because of difficulty in gaining access due to the harbour works. We have established that we are ideally situated for photo voltaic panels. We obtained quotes and did the maths. The indication is that a 8-10KW capacity should handle the baseload of ventilation and beer cooling needs with ease over the summer months. Due to the difficulty in gaining access because of the harbour development this project was put on hold.

2022 Activities during this year to date.- There are many to thank sorry if I miss some. Big thankyou's go to:-

- The spreadsheet king was hard at work cajoling scheduling publishing our active programme of events then making sure they happen both on and off the water. So a big thank you to Steve Bedder. He also spent many a happy day with Frank Nickless and others grinding polishing refurbishing club boats
- In full support of all things DYC, Huw Jones Williams along with securing a large capital grant for new sailing boats was consistently there race officering sorting securing saving so big thanks to him.
- David Mason needs special mention for his efficient processing all things membership.
- We had (after numerous false starts) the GP National Championships. Big thanks to John Tildesley for fronting this and the numerous helpers he managed to draw in.
- Clemarsh friends returned in good numbers. Many thanks to Robin Druett for fronting this and the many helpers.
- The Police bike ride returned in reduced numbers but still substantial volume. Many thanks to Bar helpers bottle collectors and others who helped especially Dan Stevens Terry Loftus and Kate & Phil Knight. Big thanks to Team Green who did all the catering and a big thanks to the Aberdyfi Advertising and Improvements Committee who donated £2500 towards our new cooker. We now have a well-equipped galley making meals easier to cater for.
- Mike and Liz Ball and Phoebe Crossley need a special thanks for their service on the board making things happen.
- Team Caldwell Crossley need numerous big thanks for Easter/Fortnight/ Topper week events and training. Plus sorting the logoed clothing.
- The Queens Jubilee was celebrated in style with a grand Flotilla and royal tea party Cakes Galore big thanks again To “Masterminds” Steve Bedder and Jo Hickson tea party queen with her hoard of happy helpers.
- Social media has taken a leap into the 21st Century Big thanks to queen of the keyboard Karren Lloyd.
- A PAT testing Frenzy took place in the spring checking all our electrical stuff. Big thanks to Darren Lloyd loaned his lads who certified hundreds of bits of kit condemning a few in the process keeping us safe.

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- All the many club trophies are under new curatorship. So big thanks to Team Fisher/Hickson for taking this on.
- The harbour wall project produced many a pondering, not the least was "will it /won't it/when will it start". It was a relief that when it rescheduled to this Autumn. At the time of writing things are progressing well. The building is in the firing line of potential damage and we are monitoring things closely. More big thankyou's to the boat movers who did sterling work shifting hundreds of craft racking and accumulated junk into the car park.
- Through an initiative instigated by Huw Jones Williams, Steve Bedder Jo Hickson, Karen Babington and others, a broader based "team based" structure was developed to support the traditional roles of Commodore Treasurer etc. This doesn't replace our constituted structure but support it.

Membership Overview

From a pre-pandemic peak of 243 memberships, dropping to below 220 in 2019, numbers are now increasing and we are back to a membership level of 238 for 2021. A successful 2022 will see the level above the 2018 figure. Members paying boat fees follow a similar trend. This follows an improvement in our structures with better communication channels and specific targeted events to encourage membership. The level of our Social membership continues at approximately 35 to 36% of the total. Big thanks to David Mason for continually having his finger on the membership pulse.

The successful introduction of payment by direct debit, used by 33% of our membership, has helped the club both in financial and administrative terms. Please consider this alternative to help us further.

So 2022 very much a year of holding our own and gaining ground in some areas.

2023 Going into this year we found ourselves with lots of projects on the go

- The harbour wall :- This was an interesting time with a few dramatic moments. It was the biggest project Aberdyfi has had for many years. Overall it has been a great success. We have to report that Gwynedd Council was very supportive towards us throughout the process. A full dilapidation report was done at both the start and end of the construction process. Monitoring will continue over the next year or so as the structure settles. At no cost to us we have a new entrance ramp and steps. Our old rickety shed is being replaced at Gwynedd CC cost with something resembling a Swiss chalet. Structural issues were revealed with movement of the building. This has been addressed with injection of structural foam. We have now have benefits of improved facilities. One disappointment is that the slipway was not rebuilt due to finance constraints but a management plan is being developed.
- Better communication has been achieved with the monthly newsletter WhatsApp groups. Thanks to Karen and others for this.
- The planned management structure of the club, :- spreading the load and getting things done, has been enacted and is an ongoing project.
- Building the training section :- More on the water. More PB2 courses than ever have been run starting in mid winter overcoming the restrictions of launching use of the club house due to the harbour project. With team Stevens, not only producing their own sailors of the future, but also being very proactive in scheduling powerboat and sailing courses to meet the growing demand
- The big long term project of building our local base has started with help from Gwynedd sports development officer, the Outdoor Partnership and masses of enthusiasm from Steve Bedder, Huw J W and our new Chief sailing Instructor Kate Stevens

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- Our big events of Chelmarsh and Police Bike ride could not have been so successful without some splendid volunteers
- In an ever litigious world and improving safety and standards we have developed our "Standard Operating Procedures and policies" which can all be viewed on line and signed as having been read. It is never easy to achieve a culture shift but these documents are important. If they don't work we can adapt and improve. They are there not to restrict what we do but to support and protect us.
- Developing the social base :- More enjoyable events are being planned. We are a volunteer led club and opportunities exist for more involvement here. Bringing village takeaway tucker has become increasingly popular as has the child friendly atmosphere with the stash of toys and games curated by Jo. However It would be good to see us producing our own Pizzas and food and our bins not overflowing with cardboard boxes. The police bike ride showed what is possible with nearly 350 very tasty meals being served in a 4 hour window.
- Externally a refurbish and improve the fabric of the clubhouse is still ongoing. Due to Concerns of the safety of the glass panels (a couple of which had shattered) these were replaced with coated Polycarbonate. These might go milky in time but wont shatter with potentially devastating consequences.
- As more training is taking place the need for teaching space increases. This is for both power and sail and plans for increasing range with the addition of 1st aid, VHF Wing foiling and dare I mention "personal Watercraft" in the pipeline. The "lookout space needs a makeover" and will be transformed in the near future.
- Managing rising energy and other costs :- Cutting cost saving waste is important and high on our agenda.
- At the time of writing we have two grant applications pending. One for putting PV panels on the roof and one for a new rib. Fingers firmly crossed.
- A full program of events is planned for the summer and well into the Autumn. This includes "Return of Boardwise" and RS 300 nationals. So, as Ian Dury said, many " Reasons to be cheerful". (google it)

Yes we have been trading water in some areas but a lot of good work being done. These initiatives, we hope, will help us maintain and develop our membership and be a thriving club. Enormous thanks go out to the many volunteers who have supported us. The usual plea is that more are needed to support the key roles.

At last years AGM I said that I hoped I would be able to fully hand over the baton of commodore and treasurer. My six year stint has seen 4 prime Ministers come and go. Now going into my 7th year this is the longest in DYC history as Commodore and treasurer . More than ever I feel the time has come to hand over but no one has come forward. My commitments here and elsewhere have produced what is more than a full time job.. At the AGM in 1993 I got voted on to the committee in my absence. I do not know how it happened. 30 years later I do not know how to be voted off except by someone stepping forward or doing something naughty! There have to be willing volunteers out there... any ideas?