The Harbour
Fortrose
Ross-shire
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OSCR
Scottish Charity Regulator
www.oscr.org.uk
Registered SCIO
SC049615

Trustees Annual Report

1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024.

Charity Trustees

Sandra Hogg (Commodore)
David Finlayson (Treasurer)
Marisa Astill-Brown (Secretary)
James Dargie
David Vincent
Mike Wilson
Chris Taylor
Lisa Pattenden (left 09.06.24)
Allison Elder
Paul Briggs

Advisors

Solicitors: Mr Joe Duncan, Solicitor and Notary Public, Anderson Shaw and Gilbert, 20 Church Street, Inverness, IV1 1ED
Bankers: Bank of Scotland
Independent Examiner: Mr David Gibb, 20 Craigard Place, Inverness, IV3 8PR.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered on 16 September 2019 with intention of taking on the assets, liabilities and activities of the unincorporated Community Amateur Sports Club also called Chanonry Sailing Club. It has a two-tier structure with both members and charity trustees.

Appointment of Trustees

The Board, which meets around six times per year, are the charity's trustees. There are three office bearers: Commodore; Treasurer and Club Secretary. In addition, there are up to eight general Board members. Membership of the Board is open to members aged 18 or over. Trustees are elected by the membership at the annual general meeting, which is normally held in December. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of eleven trustees.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Purposes

The purposes of the organisation are:

- The advancement of the public participation in water sports
- The provision of recreational facilities
- The advancement of the heritage of Fortrose harbour

Activities and Achievements

It's been a good year for Chanonry Sailing Club with lots of water sports activity to enjoy, when the weather played ball! We continue to provide great activities for water sports in a fabulous location and attract members from across the Highlands.

Our membership numbers are slightly down on last year but after three years of strong growth we are still in a great position. Interestingly we have gained senior individual members, showing that water sports are attractive at all ages.

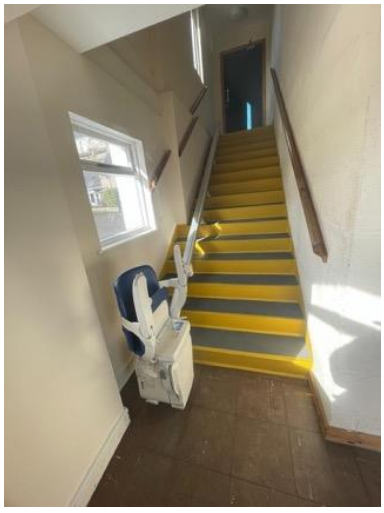
	2024	**2023**
Family	110	129
Individual	73	76
Junior	15	18
Student	3	6
Senior family	16	15
Senior individual	53	33
Club	1	1
Honorary	8	8
Life	1	1
Total	**279**	**287**

Whilst we have welcomed many new members in 2024, we were also saddened by the passing of former members Gib Weir, Derek Young and Robert McIndoe, and members Nigel Friedrichs Braun and Stephen Crockett.

Development Plan

The club has adopted a development planning process to help us continually improve our club. This year we have started to progress some of the bigger projects identified by our Project Prioritisation Process.

This year we have installed an online weather station at the starters box so that members can check conditions before setting out for the club. With a membership from a wide geographical area this has proved very popular.



We have also installed a stairlift to the upper floor meaning that all members and visitors can access all parts of the building.

And we have purchased our second RS Quest dinghy to improve our delivery of training.

In September we held our second Chanonry Conversation. It was an opportunity for members to meet the board, hear about our plans and provide member feedback to help shape the club. The Board presented our priorities and updated members on various projects, followed by a lively discussion where members gave their views about the progress and reflections on activities this season. There were some great ideas for the board to consider, including encouraging volunteering and the possibility of re-branding to reflect our wider water sports offering.

We have a great clubhouse that is the perfect venue for social events and to allow members to come together. Although Paul Briggs stepped down as Social Convener this year, we have managed to deliver catering at all our events. This has been a bit ad-hoc so in November we held a meeting to discuss improving the management of catering at our events. We now have a catering sub-committee and lead and hope to get on a more organised footing next year.

Activities in Support of our Charitable Purposes

Advancement of Public Participation in Water Sports

Events

This year our winter programme was very successful. It included two historical talks by Richard Jenner about the minelaying at sea in WW1 conducted from the Inverness & Cromarty Firths and the D-Day work-up based locally in the winter of '43/44.

We also had a fascinating talk from Dr Francis Williams about the historical distribution of oysters and seagrass locally and the project to restore them in the area.

Social events included our regular Burns Supper and quiz nights. Thanks to all those that helped deliver such great nights out.

Music at the Burns Supper

We had a successful Midsummer Fun Day this year which, despite being curtailed early due to windy conditions, gave members and the public an opportunity to try different water activities including coastal rowing, dinghy sailing and swimming. A great team in the galley made sure everyone was well catered for.

RNLI visiting on our Fun Day

The annual Grenville's Sail/Paddle/Row Swim to Rosemarkie was, as always, a great day out and saw over 40 members sail or row round the point for a lovely lunch at the Beach Café. Many thanks to Helen Robinson for her continued support for this event.

Grenville's Sail sailors, rowers and other club members arriving and having lunch

Sailing

This year was a successful year for dinghy sailing at the club. The club continues to run racing series on Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evenings through the season. There was a slow but steady increase in new faces joining the regular racers on Sundays. This indicates that the efforts put into race coaching sessions led by Charlie Brecknell and Ollie Bull are bearing fruit.

Jostling for position at the start of a club race

All four Sunday series were completed with only a few days lost to weather. Unfortunately, Wednesday evenings have seen the weather play more of a role with either too much or too little wind possibly putting of a few from going afloat. Only seven races were completed out of a possible 20 evenings. Well done to all the series winners. All 2024 results are on the website.

2024 saw the club play host to two of Scotland's premier singlehanded dinghies, the Musto Skiffs and the Solo class, both as part of their traveller series, with the Solo Class visiting the club for the first time in early May. Both events went well with good conditions and close racing. Chanonry SC really has a good reputation for being a very friendly welcoming club and work is going on to encourage other classes to hold events here on our fantastic waters.

Race Officer and helpers on the committee boat for the Musto Skiff traveller event

Sailors battling it out at the downwind mark in the Solo traveller

Chanonry dinghy sailors were also represented on the World and National stage. Three members competed at the Musto Skiffs Worlds held in Weymouth. Ollie Bull finished a creditable 32nd also gaining Third in the youth class. Charlie Brecknell finished 20th in a fleet of 98 boats at the Solo Nationals at Brightlingsea along with several top three places at the Scottish traveller series events.

This year we added a Novice/Improver class to our Dinghy Regatta to the normal fast and slow handicap. There was low wind on both days, but congratulations to those who persevered.

The usual programme of Friday Evenings recreational sailing was generally well attended, with opportunities for new sailors to gain experience with our dinghy instructors.

Next year, we plan to run the usual Wednesday and Sunday dinghy racing series along with a Saturday one-day only Dinghy Regatta giving those from local clubs the incentive to travel to compete without the need for finding overnight accommodation.

The club continues to provide and maintain trots moorings for cruisers and keelboats. While numbers taking up moorings are down there are enough boats to remain viable.

Clubs based in the Inner and Outer Moray Firths are co-operating through an informal grouping called the Moray Yacht Axis to promote yacht racing. This year we hosted one event, the Black Isle Challenge Cup. In the overall MYA season series Ian Cameron in Ruach achieved a third in Class 2.

Thanks are due to all those who have volunteered to help on the water with the various duties and events and especially Safety Boat cover to allow the year's sailing programme to go ahead. A huge thanks must also go to those who have provided Baking for our open events and helped onshore, meaning much needed sustenance was ready when sailors came of the water.

Moving the marks for the Musto Skiff regatta

Stand Up Paddle Boarding

For a few reasons, we were unable to provide any paddle boarding opportunities this year but are looking to see what might be possible next year.

Swimming

Swimming continues to be a popular activity at the harbour with a band of members meeting for a regular dip when the tide is high, and social afterwards. Swimming members have expressed an interest in becoming more involved with the club in a volunteering capacity.

Swimmers warming up after a festive dip

Debbie Cole, RNLI North Kessock Water Safety Officer, delivered a sea safety session at the club, aimed at open water swimming. It included information on cold water shock, how to keep safe and how to look for dangers when visiting new places. The RNLI were grateful for the donations collected on the night.

Rowing

Coastal rowing continues to be a very popular activity at the club with several rowing sessions taking place every week, summer, and winter.

It was Silver Darling's turn to get some TLC this year. Many thanks to Avoch Sea Scouts for use of their shed and to the crack maintenance team.

As well as many local rowing sessions from the club, in all weathers, we also had a lovely mid-summer row to Rosemarkie.

We had a brilliant day rowing with 14 other clubs around the Black Isle from North Kessock to Storehouse of Foulis to support the Scotland the Wave Atlantic rowing team. Chanonry did the event proud providing rib support (thank you Richard, Helen, Mike and Chris) and fantastic baking in the galley at the crew changeover, which raised £180 for the cause.

"Scotland the Wave" row round the Black Isle

Our cox training has been developed and delivered by Richard Jenner since we started rowing at the club. This year Mandie Cran has taken over this role and led cox training for four Chanonry rowers plus two each from Avoch and Alness/Invergordon. Richard and Helen Jenner supported in the rib.

2024 sees the 10-year anniversary of the building of our first St Ayles Skiff, Chanonry Maid. Due to diligent maintenance, she is still as smart as ever. We joined Avoch to celebrate with the 10th birthday of their boat Zulu.

RYA Recognised Training Centre

The formal RYA course training programme followed the pattern established over several years. Informal training also followed the previous Dolphins and Improvers pattern but included more race coaching this year.

Sailors following the RIB during an Improvers session

We ran 2 women only Discover Sailing sessions supported by an instructor paid for by RYA Scotland; the same instructor delivered an instructor continuous professional development (CPD) day.

Discover Sailing for women

A powerboating first was the delivery of the in-house Safety Officer course (twice).

The weather (mainly strong winds) disrupted the programme significantly. But good use was made of the 2 Quest dinghies throughout the season.

Juniors learning the ropes on the Quests during Junior Week

We issued 25 RYA certificates this year; 13 junior dinghy stages, 8 adult dinghy levels and 4 Power Boat Level 2s (PBL2).

While the training centre element of the Club received a 'clean' RYA inspection the club training team have been considering the benefits and burdens of RYA Recognition. Recognition comes with a lot of work for a small volunteer team, however it also comes with a lot of crucial support from the RYA, so on balance we consider the benefits are worth it.

Junior sailors during junior week

The RTC Principal Richard Jenner has been key driver for training at the club. He and Helen Jenner as Chief Instructor Power will retire from their roles at the 2024 AGM. At the conclusion of our AGM, Marisa Astill-Brown will take on the role of RTC Principal, Chris Taylor will take on Chief Instructor Sail and Mike Wilson will take on Chief Instructor Power giving us a strong team to take training forward in the future.

Advancement of the Heritage of Fortrose Harbour

Richard Jenner gave 2 talks in January 2024 to Club members and members of the public. The first talk was about the Northern Barrage (WW1) including a description of activity in the Inverness Firth and Fortrose; the second talk was on the work-up of Force S for D-Day (WW2) and the major impact on the local area and Fortrose Harbour. Around 18 people attended each talk.

With the rising popularity of open water swimming in Fortrose Bay with many swimmers becoming members of the Club and using the Club facilities, there is ongoing research into the history of swimming at the harbour. So far, the earliest record of swimming is a regatta in 1885 and as recently as 1957, water polo was played in the harbour. This information will be added to the written history which will be updated in 2025.

Volunteering

Chanonry Sailing Club relies entirely on volunteers for leadership, management, and delivery of activities, and we have fantastic people willing to give time to do this. Thanks to you all.

Because activities and management are volunteer led and delivered, we can keep membership fees low. The flip side to this is an expectation that members will volunteer in some way. We will continue to promote a wide range of volunteer opportunities so everyone can do their bit for the club.

Special thanks

I would also like to give a special mention to Richard (RTC Principal) and Helen Jenner (Chief Powerboat Instructor) who are stepping down from their respective roles this year. They have been part of the bedrock of Chanonry Sailing Club, since they first joined the club 21 years ago. They have served on the Committee / Board in various voluntary capacities over the years, but also notably in their (also voluntary) roles in the management and delivery of sailing and powerboat training to both adult and junior club members. Richard's role in exploring and sharing the history and heritage of the club and Fortrose Harbour has been, and continues to be, much enjoyed by members of the club and the local community over the years. I'd like to thank them on behalf of all the club members for their service.

Financial Review

Subscription income has slightly increased by £300 and together with boat storage and harbour dues represents the largest source of income for the club. These fees will be maintained at their current level for the forthcoming season.

Training income is slightly down this year and once again the debit side shows an apparent loss due to the acquisition of the second Quest. It is to be stressed that this debit appears against training due to the historical set up of the accounts and it is recognised that the club dinghies are not solely ascribed to the training budget. Training income is still our second largest source of income for which thanks are due to Training Principal Richard Jenner and his team of instructors for running courses which continue to be well subscribed.

Despite some increased costs for equipment the moorings reserve has been increased this year.

There have been some exceptional items of expenditure such as a new VHF, the weather station and maintenance of lawnmowers.

A new stairlift has been fitted and I am pleased to say that this was financed entirely by a very generous donation from a member.

Gift aid reclaim on this and other donations is outstanding but will appear in next year's accounts.

Fuel duty was not claimed within the accounting year as HMRC require a minimum sum to be claimed but a successful claim has been made and the amount will also appear in next year's accounts.

While club finances are satisfactory members should note that the club has now run a deficit for two years in a row and major projects such as the slipway, harbour bar and clubhouse refurbishment will all require additional fundraising.

This year the treasurer has again had the assistance of Louise Allen as book-keeper. Her skill in maintaining the spreadsheet has made it very easy to present clear accounts to the examiner.

As ever, my thanks are due, once again, to David Gibb for his patience with my accounts and for providing us with a formal examination.

Trustees' Priorities

We are working on some more major projects that will take more time and resources to deliver and includes some challenges for the club. These include:

- Repair of the slipway - A project team is working towards a specification and identifying funding opportunities
- Lounge/galley refurbishment - A project team has identified improvements that could make the space more useful and comfortable. We hope that much of this can be done by members over the next year.
- Changing Rooms - these are in much need of improvement. We have some outline plans to re-configure these to improve privacy, accessibility and comfort. However, human and financial resources need to be identified to take this further
- Harbour bar – removal of the growing shingle bar at the harbour entrance is complex and involves licensing to undertake any operations. We will need more human resources and funding to take this forward

The Board meets regularly through the year, fed also by various sub-committees and working groups. The AGM, in December 2023 for this reporting period, is the occasion when the Trustees are elected to the Board by, and from, the membership.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Club Secretary: Marisa Astill-Brown

Date: 14th February 2025

APPENDIX 3

OSCR
Scottish Charity Regulator

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

V2

Report to the trustees/members of	Chanonry Sailing Club
Registered charity number	SC049615
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date: Day 01, Month 10, Year 2023 **To** Period end date: Day 30, Month 09, Year 2024
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.
Basis of independent examiner's statement	My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.
Independent examiner's statement	In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*] 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: • to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and • to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or 2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
Signed:	David A. Gibb — **Date:** 06/12/24
Name:	David Gibb
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Retired Accountant
Address:	20 Craigard Place Inverness IV3 8PR

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

Chanonry Sailing Club

Income and Expenditure Account - 30 September 2024

	General	Training	Social	Skiff No 1	Moorings Fund	**2024 Total**	2023 Total
Income							
Membership dues	10,814	-	-	-	-	**10,814**	10,500
Mooring lease rental	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Mooring lease sales	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Harbour dues	4,777	-	-	-	-	**4,777**	4,875
Sailing Event income	1,551	-	-	-	-	**1,551**	1,635
Craning fees	1,650	-	-	-	-	**1,650**	2,668
Equipment sales	1,600	-	-	-	-	**1,600**	148
Donations/Sponsorship	3,557	-	-	-	-	**3,557**	3,446
Grants received	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	2,500
Sundry income	411	-	-	-	-	**411**	575
Bank interest received	2	-	-	-	-	**2**	4
Training income	-	4,395	-	-	-	**4,395**	6,683
Catering and Social event income	-	-	2,691	-	-	**2,691**	2,583
Room hire	-	-	28	-	-	**28**	80
Crown Estate dues	-	-	-	-	540	**540**	280
Trot maintenance fees	-	-	-	-	4,988	**4,988**	3,534
Skiff grants and donations	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	265
Fuel Duty Refund	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Income Totals	24,362	4,395	2,719	0.00	5,528	**37,004**	39,776
Expenditure							
Craning expenses and insurance	1,739	-	-	-	-	**1,739**	2,164
Maintenance, repairs and replacements							
Clubhouse	3,879	-	-	-	-	**3,879**	3,784
Equipment	12,521	-	-	-	-	**12,521**	7,949
Harbour etc	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Safety boat expenses and fuel	1,183	-	-	-	-	**1,183**	1,984
Sailing and racing expenses	537	-	-	-	-	**537**	471
Rent, rates and refuse collection	270	-	-	-	-	**270**	251
Insurance	6,448	-	-	-	-	**6,448**	5,542
Cleaning	1,022	-	-	-	-	**1,022**	1,151
Electricity	2,019	-	-	-	-	**2,019**	1,623
Printing, postage and stationery	217	-	-	-	-	**217**	132
Website maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Grants re-distributed	-	-	-	-	-	**0**	-
Subscriptions and memberships	895	-	-	-	-	**895**	853
Paypal and bank charges	382	-	-	-	-	**382**	413
Sundry expenses	455	-	-	-	-	**455**	182
Training assets	-	546	-	-	-	**546**	11,775
Training materials	-	612	-	-	-	**612**	1,334
Catering supplies	-	-	882	-	-	**882**	1,866
Licences	-	-	10	-	-	**10**	20
Crown Estate fees	-	-	-	-	770	**770**	600
Moorings repairs and maintenanc	-	-	-	-	3,159	**3,159**	2,600
Skiff expenditure	-	-	-	472	-	**472**	1,814
Expenditure Totals	31,567	1,158	892	472	3,929	**38,018**	46,508
Net surplus/(deficit)	**(7,205)**	**3,237**	**1,827**	**(472)**	**1,599**	**(1,014)**	**(6,732)**

Chanonry Sailing Club

Balance Sheet - as at 30 September 2024

RESERVES

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS			2024 Total	2023 Total
	General	General Reserve	Moorings Reserve	Safety Boat Reserve	**2024**	2023
Opening balance as at 1 Oct 2023	16,888	10,000	3,894	22,275	**53,057**	59,722
Incoming resources	31,476	-	5,528		**37,004**	39,776
Outgoing resources	(34,089)	0	(3,929)		**(38,018)**	(46,508)
Transfer * Note 1	(2,000)	-	-	2,000	-	-
Closing balance as at 30 Sept 2024	**12,275**	**10,000**	**5,493**	**24,275**	**52,043**	52,990

* Note 1 Transfer of £2,000 from unrestricted funds to Safety Boat Reserve in accordance with agreed policy

REPRESENTED BY:	**2024**	2023
Bank of Scotland account	**47,510**	52,654
PayPal account	**4,533**	336
Cash in hand	0	0
	52,043	52,990

Approved by Chanonry Sailing Club Committee

(Commodore) (Treasurer)

(Examiner) 20TH NOV 2024 (Date)