



The Harbour
Fortrose
Ross-shire
IV10 8TP

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www.chanonry.org.uk



Trustees Annual Report

1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023



The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Charity Trustees

Sandra Hogg (Commodore)
David Finlayson (Treasurer)
Marisa Astill-Brown (Secretary)
James Dargie
David Vincent
Mike Wilson
Chris Taylor
Lisa Pattenden
Allison Elder (as of 02.12.22)
Graham Bull (as of 02.12.22; left 12.09.23)
Paul Briggs (as of 15.08.23)
Claire Scott (left 15.08.23)
Diarmid Hogan (left 02.12.22)

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



Rowers having a peaceful row whilst junior beginner sailors learn how to be towed

Activities and Achievements

Chanonry Sailing Club continues to go from strength to strength, with a growing membership and high levels of activity across our water sports activities. We are a friendly, volunteer led club with many members freely giving their time so that all can enjoy their time on the water.

Our membership continues to grow and is probably the largest it has ever been, and 12% more than 2022. The club continues to be attractive to families and, with our multi activity membership model we can offer something for everyone.

	2023	2022
Family	129	95
Individual	76	68
Junior	18	22
Student	6	6
Senior family	15	12
Senior individual	33	45
Club	1	1
Honorary	8	6
Life	1	1
Total	287	256

Whilst we have welcomed many new members in 2023, we were also saddened by the passing of Marjorie Taylor. She was a long-standing member and the wife of George Taylor who was the Harbourmaster for 44 years. She enjoyed her sailing, was a stalwart of RNLI fundraising and was always ready to help at the club.

Development Plan

This year we are continuing to follow a development planning process to help us improve our club. Our goals of increasing membership and widening our activity base are already bearing fruit. Our focus this year has been on volunteering, member engagement and financial planning. And we have an ongoing safety review to ensure we can run our wider range of activities as safely as possible.

The Chanonry Conversation, held in March and facilitated by the RYA Scotland Development Officer North Brian Pahlmann was a relaxed, member's evening, with purpose. It gave members a chance to catch up over some coffee and cake and for us all to share ideas that could help improve our club.

Members had loads of positive things to say about the club including its friendliness, great facilities, and outstanding training. However, there are always things that could be better, and members felt improvements could be made to the slipway, changing rooms and toilets, greening the club, provision of Wi-Fi, more social time after activities, a web cam and weather station and comfier seats in the clubhouse. There was also consensus that an introduction session for new members would be very well received.

We have also had a club survey open which shows a very high level of satisfaction at 90%. It showed training was important to members and there was an interest in volunteering although people were unsure how to start.

I'm pleased to report that we have already made progress on some of the items listed. We now have Wi-Fi available in the clubhouse. This has also enabled us to get a mobile Point of Sale device for cashless paying at events. We also held our first Induction event for new members in May.

The session covered things like access to the clubhouse, where to find things, how to borrow and rig club dinghies, club kit, what to wear, how to book and anything to do with membership and volunteering opportunities. It was very well received and will be repeated regularly.

John Paul Stevens led volunteers on the external painting of the ground floor and balcony. It's looking so much better. Huge thanks to all that helped.



Painting the outside of the clubhouse

Quest Dinghy

A priority for the Board was for replacements for our two ageing Wanderer dinghies to support our training programme and as club boats. The training team chose the RS Quest as a spacious, durable, stable and low-maintenance dinghy which will enable us to deliver more advanced RYA sailing courses with more efficient instructor to student ratios, and with dinghies with more advanced technical set-ups. They also provide safe, stable dinghies for family groups and trapeze excitement for more experienced sailors.

With some funding allocated from club funds we applied for several grants and were grateful for funding from the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation and the Highland Council Ward Discretionary Fund. Members were also very generous with their support and donations. However, we only managed to secure enough funding for one dinghy, which was delivered in July in time for the junior courses.

The Quest has more than met expectations and we are hoping to secure funding to purchase a second Quest by the end of this calendar year.



Junior Week sailors; and racing the Cold Turkey in the new RS Quest

Activities in Support of our Charitable Purposes

Advancement of Public Participation in Water Sports

Events

2023 had the most active winter programme we've had for years with something for everyone. The annual Burns Supper was great fun and raised funds to buy new oars for our St Ayles Skiffs. We had several film nights with various themes including swimming, paddling, and rowing. Members also shared their interests and skills in a series of evening sessions including reading charts, youth sailing, racing rules, local weather and tides and life jacket maintenance. A three-part programme looking at the harbour's heritage was well received by both members and the public alike.

We had a two very successful Fun Days this year in June and September. These events gave members and the public an opportunity to try different water activities including coastal rowing, dinghy sailing, swimming and paddle boarding. A great team in the galley made sure everyone was well catered for. It was also an opportunity to raise money towards the two Quest dinghies and we are grateful to members and the public for their support and donations.

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 for a lovely lunch at the Beach Café. Many thanks to Helen Robinson for her continued support for this event.



Grenville's Sail/Padde/Row/Swim

Sailing

2023 was a good season for dinghy sailing with a full racing schedule and plenty of opportunities for recreational sailing and learning.

The Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon dinghy racing series were well attended but not yet back at the numbers of some previous years before the pandemic. But nevertheless, there

were some great tussles on the water, especially in the emerging Solo fleet. Initiatives like the Improver sessions and race coach led Skills Development sessions will hopefully lead to more members racing next year.



Summer evening dinghy racing and recreational windsurfer

Some of our sailors have also been travelling further afield. Club junior Ali Taylor put in a very creditable performance at the Scottish Laser Radial (ILCA) Championships and Ollie Bull attended the Scottish Musto Skiff traveller circuit and the World Championships in Garda, Italy; and Charlie Brecknell regularly showed good form on the Scottish Solo Dinghy Circuit.



Club Dinghy Regatta

The 2023 Chanonry Dinghy Regatta and Musto Scottish Skiff Traveller in August was a big success with 15 Musto skiffs and nine dinghies in the handicap fleet taking part. This was followed by the Ness Cup which saw nine dinghies and cruisers competing together.



Musto Skiff Traveller

Cruiser events included the Black Isle Challenge Cup and Cruiser Regatta. Congratulations to Chanonry skipper Gregor Fisher who won the overall MYA series in his boat Carefree. Several members also attended West Highland week and took part in the Round the Isle (of Wight) race.



Racing cruisers

You can check out all the series and regatta winners at <https://www.chanonry.org.uk/2023.html>. Well done to all that took part.

Recreational sailing on Wednesday and Sundays (alongside the racing) and Friday evenings have been hugely popular. It's a great opportunity for members to get together on the water, have fun and improve their skills. Many thanks to the volunteer safety boat crews and race officers who allowed these events to take place and to the sailing sub-committee for organising things so well.



Summer evening recreational sailing

Stand Up Paddle Boarding

This year our club coaches Graham Bull and Claire Scott offered Beginner, Recreational and Intermediate SUP courses.

The beginner courses were aimed at those not yet confident on SUP, covering all the basics needed to get you up, standing and paddling. The block of four sessions led by Claire were fully subscribed but the weather did not always play ball.

Graham led some recreational Club SUP sessions on Friday nights as well as intermediate sessions focussing on coaching support for more experienced paddlers.

We also provided beginner SUP training at the September Fun Day which was popular.



Fun day SUP activities

Due to pressure of other commitments Claire stood down as SUP lead in August.

Swimming

There has been a considerable increase in swimming activity over the summer months from sailing club members, other local swimmers, and visitors. They all enjoy the good swimming conditions the shelter of the harbour offers.



Swimmers enjoying a summer evening swim

Members benefit from the access to changing areas, showers and the clubroom to make a hot drink and have a blether. This is even more attractive over the winter months.

Rowing

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



Rowing throughout the year at all times of day

This year saw a lot of work taking place to refurbish and improve both St Ayles Skiffs. Chanonry Maid was repainted, and new footplates fitted. The rowers organised the Burns Night festivities and the proceeds paid for a new set of commercially made oars from Northern Ireland. These are longer, well balanced and should be more competitive than the shorter oars. We also changed the rowlock system on both boats which have proved much more robust. Many thanks to Anatole Beams, Steve Bramwell, Richard Cherry and others who have put many hours into improving the skiffs.

As well as many local rowing sessions from the club, in all weathers, we also had a lovely mid-summer row to Rosemarkie, rowed on Loch Glass with Strathpeffer District Community Rowing Club as part of the Lochdown 2023 Challenge, took part in Avoch Regatta (with the newly formed North Kessock Coastal Rowing Club) and Strathpeffer Regatta.

Rowing sessions depend on having suitable competent coxes to be responsible for the safety of the boat. This year we trained six new coxes. Many thanks to Richard and Helen Jenner for supporting this training.

2024 sees the 10-year anniversary of the building of our first St Ayles Skiff, Chanonry Maid. Expect some festivities!

RYA Recognised Training Centre

Chanonry Sailing club is an RYA Recognised Training Centre (RTC). It delivers an amazing level of training for a small, volunteer led club. This year has been the busiest on record, with the biggest instructional team for 20 years. We issued an incredible 58 RYA certificates (36 dinghy and 22 powerboat).



Junior Stage 1 sailors taking to the water on their first solo sail

The club joined OnBoard, an RYA initiative aimed at 8–18-year-olds. It provides a framework and useful resources, and we received 2 days of free instructor mentoring.

A new Quest dinghy (Mara) has been purchased to replace one of the ageing Wanderers. This has been a great addition to the training fleet, and we hope to purchase a further Quest soon. We were also grateful for the donation of a Topaz dinghy.



The new RS Quest and other boats ashore at lunchtime during junior week

Looking ahead, we have developed a one-day club safety officer course which contains the essential practical skills for dinghy rescue found in the RYA safety boat course but also includes modules on the responsibilities and management requirements of being a club Safety Officer.

Richard Jenner has announced he will stand down as the RTC Principal and Chief Instructor Dinghy in September 2024 at the conclusion of the dinghy training season. The club is indebted to Richard for all his years in this role. A continuity plan has been developed and we are sure that the RTC has a bright future.

Huge thanks to all our volunteer instructors for their time and enthusiasm delivering the following programme and bringing on the next generation of sailors. Their contribution to the club is immense because, as well as delivering courses and sessions, the instructors spend time on their own training, course preparation, administration and boat rigging and maintenance.

In 2023 we provided:

- 11 scheduled Dolphins sessions to 31 juniors
- 10 Improver sessions to 20 sailors
- 5 race coach led Skills Development sessions to 5 sailors
- 6 days of formal adult dinghy training
- 15 days of formal junior dinghy sailing
- 3 Powerboat Level 2 courses (6 days)
- 1 Safety Boat course



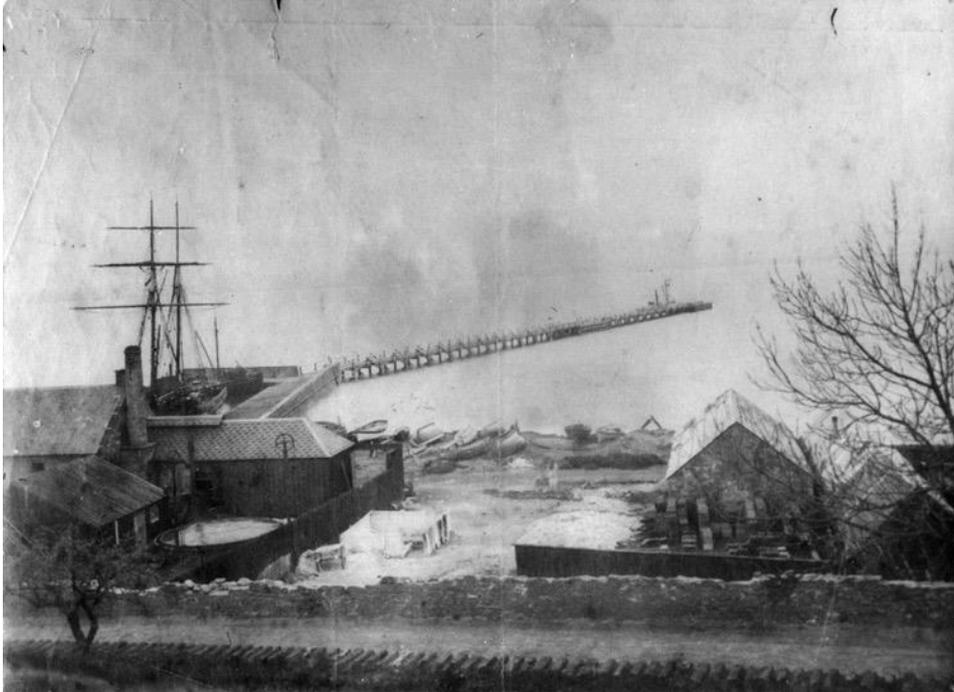
Dramatic evening rainbows over our junior Dolphin sailors preparing to get on the water

Delivered by the Volunteer Instructor Team of:

- 5 Senior Instructors, including RTC Principal and Chief Instructor Dinghy
- 4 Dinghy Instructors
- 1 Assistant Dinghy Instructor
- 7 Powerboat Instructors, including Chief Instructor Powerboat
- 2 Race Coach Level 2

Advancement of the Heritage of Fortrose Harbour

Five different talks were given to promote the heritage of Fortrose Harbour. The first 4 were a series delivered in January at the club and were open to both members and the public. There were 18 to 20 attendees for this series. The fifth talk was delivered in Inverness in April to around 30 members of the Inverness Loch Ness Rotary Club.



A view of the harbour circa 1890 showing the wooden pier and a trading schooner

Extensive research of the British Newspapers Archives was conducted in the period with much new material gathered which will be incorporated in a re-issue of the written history of the harbour in the winter of 2024/25; the written history is available to all via the club website.

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.

With a growing membership, and to make the club work, we need to make volunteering a membership commitment and make better use of the skills of our members. The return of allocations for safety boat and race officer duties has worked well this year. We are considering how we can widen this to other volunteer opportunities such as catering and event management.

Defibrillator Campaign

Last year we successfully fundraised for a Public Access Defibrillator for Fortrose Harbour. The charity Lucky2BHere provided the defibrillator in February and in April delivered Emergency Life Support Training to 14 members and local people.

Financial Review

There has been a substantial increase in membership subscriptions. Subscription rates have been held for several years, notwithstanding the changed charging structure. The board has decided to increase subscriptions and boat storage charges by 10% for next year.

Training income is 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. It is to be noted that the acquisition of the RS Quest has been wholly attributed to "Training" but it is to be emphasised that this is for accounting convenience as this, and the other dinghies, remains an asset for the whole club.

Moorings have not had full uptake this season but there have been no exceptional maintenance costs. The moorings reserve accrues in anticipation of such costs being required in the future.

The defibrillator was successfully installed with the help of Lucky2BHere who also provided a first aid training session for members. The defibrillator is now registered with the emergency services. There will be a modest ongoing cost to replace disposables every few years.

The value of designated funds was seen this year with the urgent purchase of a new outboard for one of the rescue boats at a cost of just over £7,000. £2,000 has been allocated to the RIB reserve to continue building this up in anticipation of further expenditure.

Our legal action against the owners of the abandoned boat, Miss Adventure, was successfully concluded before coming to a full hearing at the Sherriff Court. Thanks are due to harbourmaster James Dargie for his diligence in both preparing the case and representing the club at online court hearings. The club recovered £554.94 in this case.

A donation page was set up to raise funds for new training dinghies. In addition to members' generous donations, funds raised from fun days have been attributed to the "Quest" fund. The club also benefitted from a donation of £2,000 from the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation and £500 from the Highland council Black Isle Ward Discretionary fund. The sale of one of the old Wanderers was also attributed to the Quest fund. The first Quest is in service and a decision has been made to proceed with the purchase of a second. Gift Aid will be recovered for a proportion of the donations.

This year the treasurer has had the assistance of Louise Allen as book-keeper. We are immensely grateful to her for her help and skill at maintaining the spreadsheet.

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

Trustees' Priorities

Some of the priorities identified by club members, such as slipway repairs and changing room upgrades, are not so easy to fix and require financial and other resources from the club. So, the Board has embarked on an Initiative Prioritisation Process to identify the most important and deliverable projects and help us plan projects over the coming years.

Currently top of the list is the purchase of a second Quest dinghy to replace an ageing Wanderer. Grant applications are in progress to help fund this and members have been generous with donations.

Repair to the slipway is a critical project as it is important to all water users at the club. We have started scoping the project so we can better understand what's involved and the costs. It will not be cheap, and we will likely require external funding support.

Improvements to the changing rooms are also on the radar and we need to do work to understand what we need to do to make them suitable for the wide range of users we have. Again, this will have significant resource implications for the club.

Other projects being scoped out are a web cam/weather station, internal and external painting and interior improvements, storage improvements, accessibility, and removal of the harbour bar.

The Board wants to continually improve the club, our equipment and our facilities. Member views remain very important in deciding how we go forward and we aim to progress projects in line with the prioritisation process and when financial and human resources are available.

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: 31st March 2024

APPENDIX 3



		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				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year	To	Day	Month	Year
	01	10	2022		30	09	2023
Set out on pages							
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*]						
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>have not been met, or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. 						
Signed:	<i>David A.B. Gibb</i>			Date:	30th NOVEMBER 2023		
Name:	DAVID A. B. GIBB						
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	RETIRED ACCOUNTANT						
Address:	20 CRAIGARD PLACE						
	INNERNESS 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 2023

	<u>General</u>	<u>Training</u>	<u>Social</u>	<u>Skiff No.1</u>	<u>Moorings Fund</u>	<u>2023 Total</u>	<u>2022 Total</u>
Income							
Membership dues	10,500	-	-	-	-	10,500	9,758
Mooring lease rental	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
Mooring lease sales	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
Harbour dues	4,875	-	-	-	-	4,875	5,290
Sailing Event income	1,635	-	-	-	-	1,635	1,018
Craning fees	2,668	-	-	-	-	2,668	1,855
Equipment sales	148	-	-	-	-	148	-
Donations/Sponsorship	3,446	-	-	-	-	3,446	1,995
Grants received	2,500	-	-	-	-	2,500	1,089
Sundry income	575	-	-	-	-	575	934
Bank interest received	4	-	-	-	-	4	-
Training income	-	6,683	-	-	-	6,683	7,797
Catering and Social event income	-	-	2,583	-	-	2,583	1,377
Room hire	-	-	80	-	-	80	38
Crown Estate dues	-	-	-	-	280	280	320
Trot maintenance fees	-	-	-	-	3,534	3,534	3,560
Skiff grants and donations	-	-	-	265	-	265	-
Fuel Duty Refund	-	-	-	-	-	0	425
Income Totals	26,351	6,683	2,663	265.00	3,814	39,776	35,456
Expenditure							
Craning expenses and insurance	2,164	-	-	-	-	2,164	1,711
Maintenance, repairs and replacements							
Clubhouse	3,784	-	-	-	-	3,784	540
Equipment	7,949	-	-	-	-	7,949	2,464
Harbour etc	-	-	-	-	-	0	680
Safety boat expenses and fuel	1,984	-	-	-	-	1,984	1,669
Sailing and racing expenses	471	-	-	-	-	471	728
Rent, rates and refuse collection	251	-	-	-	-	251	202
Insurance	5,542	-	-	-	-	5,542	4,956
Cleaning	1,151	-	-	-	-	1,151	786
Electricity	1,623	-	-	-	-	1,623	1,065
Printing, postage and stationery	132	-	-	-	-	132	205
Website maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	0	326
Grants re-distributed	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
Subscriptions and memberships	853	-	-	-	-	853	811
Paypal and bank charges	413	-	-	-	-	413	661
Sundry expenses	182	-	-	-	-	182	5,432
Training assets	-	11,775	-	-	-	11,775	2,741
Training materials	-	1,334	-	-	-	1,334	5,334
Catering supplies	-	-	1,866	-	-	1,866	1,085
Licences	-	-	20	-	-	20	30
Crown Estate fees	-	-	-	-	600	600	560
Moorings repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	-	2,600	2,600	2,720
Skiff expenditure	-	-	-	1,814	-	1,814	180
Expenditure Totals	26,499	13,109	1,886	1,814	3,200	46,508	34,886
Net surplus/(deficit)	(148)	(6,426)	777	(1,549)	614	(6,732)	570

Chanonry Sailing Club

Balance Sheet - as at 30 September 2023

RESERVES

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS			2023 Total	2022 Total
	General	General Reserve	Moorings Reserve	Safety Boat Reserve		
Opening balance as at 1 Oct 2022	26,167	10,000	3,280	20,275	59,722	59,152
Incoming resources	35,962	-	3,814		39,776	35,456
Outgoing resources	(36,109)	0	(3,200)	(7,199)	(46,508)	(34,886)
Transfer * Note 1	(2,000)	-	-	2,000	-	-
Closing balance as at 30 Sept 2023	24,020	10,000	3,894	15,076	52,990	59,722

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

REPRESENTED BY:

	2023	2022
Bank of Scotland account	52,654	59,722
PayPal account	336	-
Cash in hand	-	-
	52,990	59,722

Approved by Chanonry Sailing Club Committee

_____ (Commodore)

David AB
_____ (Examiner)

Donna
_____ (Treasurer)

22nd November 2023
_____ (Date)