

NSSC Directors' reports for the year 2018

Overall Report

2018 was a year of consolidation and rationalisation for the club. Our volunteer resources are limited and there's so much to do so we have to ensure that we only tackle those things that we can do properly. Top of that list is sailing, its enjoyment in general and the pleasure everyone gets from improving their skills and pitting their wits against others in racing. We ensured that Sailing Week and Cadet Week were properly run and we're sure everyone who participated had a good time. Cadet Mondays were also as popular as ever with barely a square yard on the pond free of a boat and a smiling face. The advent of Family Weekends at Piddinghoe and Seaford were a success with a genuine buzz of enjoyment across our sites.

The concentration on sailing and over-arching financial considerations meant that we had to stop the venture of running the Galley at Seaford. That's now been sub-contracted to Teresa Dirrane who is running an efficient, friendly business that's bringing-in critical money for NSSC. We also had to hold a General Meeting to put the club's finances onto a firmer foundation by loading the 2017 accounts with a large loss so we could move forward on a stronger financial basis, and the results for 2018 show the first fruits of that.

In 2018 we started the slow process of re-building our social programme. This is not going to be easy. Families have so many calls on their time these days and we need to move forward carefully, trying to engage our membership.

Safety comes first, second and third in our priorities. After the incident during Sailing Week when two of our safety boats were beached, the board has risen to the challenges that were forced on us and started the process in 2018 of raising the skill-level of our sea-based safety crew.

We move forward to 2019 with a firmer foundation and a friendly environment where our sailors, and their friends and families can thrive.

Secretary Report for 2018

The initial task for the new Secretary in 2018 was to implement the GDPR (new legislation protecting personal data) requirements across the club. This was completed on time providing us with a robust environment to protect us from non-compliance penalties.

The state of TGSL (the wholly-owned subsidiary of NSSC running the Galley under the previous regime) had to be assessed. Once the closure decision had been made, there was a very high workload (continuing to the present day) to shut it down. Contractual obligations existed between TGSL and NSSC which needed to be unravelled. The TGSL work had a knock-on to more fruitful activities like issuing monthly Mainsheet newsletters which had to be temporarily suspended.

Monthly board meetings have been opened to members (when non-confidential material is discussed), but the take-up of this has been low.

A "code of conduct" was issued covering alcohol-related behaviour and is being implemented rigorously.

The club's IT infrastructure (website, Windguru, webcam and club calendar) have been maintained but are creaking and due for major overhaul and expansion should the manpower be available.

Membership Secretary Report 2018

Membership Type	2017	2018
Family Sailing With Duties	86	90
Family Sailing No Duties	29	26
Individual Sailing With Duties	60	78
Individual Sailing No Duties	11	11
Family Social With Duties	26	23
Family Social No Duties	7	3
Individual Social With Duties	26	41
Individual Social No Duties	1	1
Junior Cadet	37	11
Senior Cadet	2	3
Student	18	9
Plumpton Students	16	17
Life Member	22	21
Total Units	341	334

Overall whilst we have members leaving and new members joining the figures remain largely the same. There is a disparity with the Junior cadets and students which may be because of the way that they have been accounted for in 2017.

Sailing Secretary Report 2018

	Number of boats		Number of Sailors	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Jan	98	125	122	132
Feb	81	79	93	91
Mar	14	11	18	14
April	152	124	168	152
May	134	219	161	292
June	112	214	134	260
July	129	122	159	154
Aug	285	129	376	164

Sailing week	120	168	148	218
Sep	156	127	179	171
Oct	116	96	144	125
Nov	143	105	150	114
Dec	70	100	70	107
Total	1610	1619	1922	1994
weekly average	16.1	16.19	19.22	19.94
weekly average less SW	16.6	16.1	19.7	19.7

2018 saw a significant increase in the number of boats and sailors attending races. August of course includes the Sailing week which does distort the statistics and to get the average figure I have assumed that there are two races each week for 40 weeks of the year and 10 weeks when there is only one race. During the year we lost 9 days sailing because of the weather, unfortunately these included the two long distance races and one middle distance race.

Treasurer's Report 2018

A very challenging year, firstly we had to address issues with the 2017 accounts, which resulted in a general meeting later in the year where the club decided to consolidate a loss and pay off some older capitalised depreciating items.

The grant application for Piddinghoe re-build is costing the club £3600 a year as all the expenditure was capitalised over 5 years by the previous board.

The legal fees to contest the Ramblers' Association application to make our lane at Piddinghoe a restricted byway cost £4200 in 2018, that has not been capitalised by this board.

The new board have not capitalised anything in 2018.

A concerted effort to ensure all invoices were paid was made and resulted in £10k of income.

The work load on the Treasurer has been reduced as the purchase ledger function has been shared out.

It was found that TGSL was not paying the £2500 rent set out in the service level agreement, income from the bar and galley rental was only £100 a month. The galley and bar were put back to franchise and the full rent has been received since 16th August, enabling the finances of the club to improve. A newly formed Social Team have been meeting regularly and have put together a programme of events for the coming year.

The projected trend income for both 2018 and the preceding year was down as rental income from TGSL was not as expected.

Memberships are now being paid by direct debit, that will have an effect on cash flow, the Webcollect system allows more online payments but that has had a knock on effect to purchase ledger and bookkeeper functions, both of which now have increased workloads. A third bank account has been created solely for membership related income to simplify coding.

NSSC Training report for 2018 Simon Suter Training Director

Three RYA dinghy sailing courses were held in the year and 19 new sailors achieved Level 1 and 2, learning their skills in the Sport 14's and Toppers

Seven PB2 courses were held using the RIBs and Ark, with 25 new helms qualifying. Some were members and others were from outside the Club.

Two RYA First Aid Courses produced 16 First Aiders

Tasters for Schools and Communities at Piddinghoe have proved popular and 195, mainly young people, had their first go at sailing and being on the water.

Cadet Training with Jo West at the helm was well attended on Monday nights, with up to 100 youngsters in 54 boats on the water each evening, and the more experienced taking part in race coaching on Saturdays.

The overflow of youngsters wanting to sail, were catered for by holding children's sailing sessions on Saturdays, with Penelope Duncan and her training team working hard.

In the Autumn we decided it would be useful for members who had recently taken Level 1 and 2 courses to have access to supervised sailing. Since then we have had a safety boat on the water and help available on Saturday mornings for all members. We plan to continue this throughout the year with boats available to hire.

Women on the Water continued running on Thursday evenings from May to November encouraging new members.

Plumpton College students came down on Wednesdays as part of their watersports training, 12 gained their RYA PB2 certificate, and 6 achieved their RYA Dinghy Instructor certificates. 4 were able to help out with Cadet training on Mondays and Cadet Week. Past Plumpton students have joined as members and took part in Sunday Racing.

WOW continues on a Thursday evening, complemented by **ASS**, (Assisted Saturday Sailing), on Saturday mornings from 10.00 with a rescue boat, help, advice and dinghy hire for novices to practice their skills, or more experienced helms to have fun.

RC Newhaven

Last August a potentially serious incident on the sea, initiated the setting up of a sub committee, with a brief to review our current sea safety practices, and report to the NSSC Board.

The sub committee considered both our current sea boat maintenance procedures, together with training of our Safety Boat Skippers:

1. A full maintenance/repair/upgrade schedule for the two ribs and Ark with budget costs of approx. £8K was agreed, in order to get the boats in the best condition possible condition for the 2019 season. The work was undertaken during the winter period when Ark and Ribs are out of commission.
2. The sub committee identified that the current requirement of just a PB2, was inadequate for our Safety Boat Skippers. As a result, experienced members of the club were asked to contribute their ideas to a training plan dubbed the "Seaford Sea Safety Skippers" (4S) scheme.
3. The sub committee also produced a Skippers handbook, which includes the training plan and acts as a guide to the new minimum requirements of Safety Skipper skills. The training plan undertakes classroom work followed by practical training/upskilling and assessment on the sea given by sub committee appointed trainers.
4. The sub committee will run the scheme annually

The board have now ratified the committee recommendations that sea safety boats can only skippered by a 4S Skipper. This is now club policy and Race Officers are required to check qualification in advance of sea racing.

The 4S upskilling days have proved very popular, we currently have 32 4S Skippers in the club and a waiting list of 12 for further training dates.

April 2019