**Club Reports 2022**

**Lakeland Canoe Club 2022**

Yet another very active year for us, made trickier by a rain-less March to August in our region.

In 2022 (so far) we have had 237 event days on our club calendar which is the hub of our activities. It is looking like we will break our record again this year.

Thanks to some part funding from Cumbria Canoeists we engaged the services of Sean McGrath and Dan Wilkinson to deliver whitewater safety and rescue sessions in which 12 members took part. We also arranged in house WWSR training for advanced rescue skills (Mike H), Open canoe (Rob Gregory) and Sea kayak (Sten Sture).

Under the guidance of Mike Hayward, we have utilised our leader self-review program, for river, sea and open boating. This was given the thumbs up from BC. To date, 40 members have taken up the offer to become recognised club leaders. Without the enthusiasm of these we would not have a club calendar, so a big thanks to them all.

Thanks to Mike Powell for his continued enthusiasm leading our pool sessions and his endeavour to keep our polo sessions going. Mike P, along with Eric Dewhurst and John Speakman continued to organise our successful ‘Paddling Film Festival’, 6 excellent films alongside some of our own club efforts were absorbed by an eager audience of 218.

Thanks again to Sally Soady, we have a series of ‘Be Inspired’ winter talks running from September to March, to which all are welcome.

Longer trips visited the West coast of Sweden, Kayaking French Alps, Open boating Finland, Sea kayak NE Scotland and have Border river week in November.

For each calendar event we endeavour to publish a trip report which is published on our website and Facebook.  This continues to work well, informing members about trips and helping to advertise what we do. New members quote ‘busy calendar’ and ‘trip reports’ as the two reasons for joining. Our membership continues to grow and we just passed 181 for this year.

We would take this opportunity to thank all those that have helped our club stay active this year. We also thank Cumbria Canoeists for their continued support, both financially, pointing members our way and contributing to our calendar of events.

LCC Committee

Penrith Canoe Club 2022

It’s been a great year for Penrith, here are some of the highlights

* We’ve grown our membership base from 25 members to nearly 70
* Introduced a new Women and Girls session which now makes up 15-20 of our new members
* Invested in our coaches, putting 7 coaches through their Core Coach and 4 passing their Polo Coaching Course
* Ran a Polo Coaching Course
* Set up a new venue at Killington Lake for the Cumbria region - more to come
* We have 5 youth members now training with at the GB Development weekends at Liverpool
* Purchased some new boats
* Had two teams in the national league Div 2 and 3
* Have teams in the regional league
* Continuing to make a big push on new members
* Looking at ways to support members with cost of living, like family subscriptions and not increasing fees for this winter

**Duddon Canoe Club 2022**

General club activities have not been attended as well as before lockdown. Weekly pool and Dock base sessions have continued as have monthly family trips to lakes and canal.

Outings on the sea / estuary have been arranged on an add hoc basis.

A very successful summer camp was held at Thurston OEC on Coniston Water.

Training and assessment for the touring award and canoe award has taken

place.

Members have attended first aid, safeguarding and core coach training. The latter in preparation for polo coach training which was cancelled. Over the summer months youth groups and community groups attended sessions at the docks and pool. About 100 start award certificates were awarded to members of scout and guide groups.

Non-paddling activities included making a giant Mary Poppins for the Ulverston Lantern Procession and organising the parking at North Lonsdale Agricultural Show(for which we get a donation to club funds).

A core group of members continue to give members the opportunities to develop skills and interest in the many aspects of paddlesport.

**John. Coaching organiser DCC**

**Copeland Canoe Club – Nov 2022**

We continue to work closely with The Outdoor Partnership (TOP) where we managed to secure several paddleboards which have been very popular and have attracted new members into the club.

We ran the 16th annual Sea Quest event in Sept over the three estuaries at Ravenglass with over 35 competitors taking part. The event raised £300 with the proceeds going towards a pocket-sized defibrillator and Ukraine Kids charity.

Our pool sessions have recently restarted over the winter months and are proving popular across a wide variety of ages, with a high number of females participating. We have successfully introduced an on-line booking and payment system.

We have seen an upturn in members over the last 12 months given the previous trend was a decline over the last few years to now over 100 members.

The club continues to run a busy summer and winter programme of trips to cater for all levels of kayaking across rivers, lakes and sea paddling with on average 20 paddlers participating per trip.

Several coaches / members have led and attended the Cumbria Canoeist sea kayaking events over the last year. We have a number of new and active coaches which is helping to spread the load across the volunteer network.

We welcomed a new role onto the committee “ShePaddles coordinator” over the last 12 months with an active and enthusiastic group to encourage more females to participate in the sport. This has achieved a significant increase in the numbers of females participating across a wide age group.

Looking forward over the next 12 months, areas of focus remain on:-

* Coach and members development / retain / recruit as a priority
* Continue to provide structured training / event plan for the sessions to align club activities to members needs development and wide varied activities.
* Review and apply for the new Quality club accreditation – in flight.
* Continue to have fun in a safe environment!!

The success of our club and thanks is down to the support we get through the committee members, coaches, volunteers and parents who have and continue to support the club which is recognised and very much appreciated.

Mark

Club Chairman

PS: the **“Whitehaven Coastal Project”**
The steelwork on the building is up and the slipway is usable. It’s still not clear on who is going to operate this facility and whether we will get a look in. Our contact is Clare Bryant from the Outdoor partnership.

Will be disappointing if we don’t get some storage and use of the facility but expect that the operator will be running it commercially. **Will keep you posted.**

**Sedbergh & Dist Canoe Club 2022**

The other Mike is currently in Nepal, so I’m not sure you’ll get a reply for a while.

It also means he won’t be at your AGM and unfortunately I’m already committed on that evening.

With regards to SDCC not a great deal is happening at present. Dave resigned as Secretary and myself and Mike are keeping it ticking over as no one else appears to want to take over the reins of running and developing the Club.

No formal activities have been running, but there has been a few impromptu evening paddles at Killington on sunny summer evenings.

With no great interest in the Club and a small membership (although we have not charged membership fees since 2020) **I think the sad conclusion is that the Club will probably fold**. I would then anticipate kit being sold and proceeds returned to the appropriate parties.

So in a nutshell I think that’s probably where SDCC is at present.

Mike Millington

Sedbergh & Dist CC

**Carlisle Canoe Club Cumbria Canoeists AGM 2022**

Looking back to the end of last year the Club renewed its affiliation to British Canoeing with 112 members, almost double the 62 of 2020 which was significantly impacted by COVID.

We are looking at 118 paid up members this year so post COVID memberships seem to have recovered. For the most part, Club activities are now free of COVID restrictions. Where Club members have concerns, these are respected.

Also at the back end of the year four Club members took part in a WWSR course and the Club held two Christmas paddles, one on Derwent Water and the usual Lazonby-Armathwaite trip, both were well attended.

The Club paddled at the Sands rapid most Saturday mornings through the winter, with a couple of excursions to the Border Esk.

Pool sessions through the winter were very well attended. These included a series of skills/rescue demonstrations at the start of sessions to inspire learning. We ran a fun session for the kids supported swim group who use the pool before us. They loved it!

The annual sponsored roll took place raising £285 to help a children’s cancer charity. The last night at the pool was given over to working with sea boats and open boats which was something different to round off the pool season and was enjoyed by those who attended.

In February, 12 people from the Club attended a 2 day first aid course run by Lakes First Aid. Everyone enjoyed it and the Club would recommend LFA to anyone.

Also in February the Club was proud to be awarded British Canoeing Quality Club status. This was the result of a lot of work by several committee members and indicates that the Club has good quality operating and safety procedures in place.

Our British Canoeing representative came to a Club session in May to present us with a Quality Club plaque.

At the end of April, the popular Tiger boat race, hosted at Derwent Water marina, was back on the calendar after being cancelled for the past couple of years due to the COVID pandemic. The Club fielded some enthusiastic paddlers but alas, no silverware!

Through the summer, the Club welcomed a constant stream of new starters to the Club, with 35 people going on to take out full memberships.

On the social side, Club members enjoyed a river bank BBQ in the summer and the last evening on the river was marked by a get together at the Turf Tavern.

On the water, Club members have continued to support open water swimming events throughout the summer. A group of 6 members attended a 2 day WWSR course based on the Sands rapid and the river Brathay and around 7 members have done the FSRT course.

Lake trips through the year included a sea boat day on Derwent Water, the annual Ullswater paddle in memory of Jim Wilson and a family day, again on Derwent Water with members paddling multiple types of craft for a family friendly day out.

River trips through the year seemed to be thin on the ground due to low water levels but a few members managed the odd scrape down Lazonby – Armathwaite and also an evening paddle from Armathwaite - Wetheral which ended under the stars. Since the rivers have filled up again Club members have paddled the river Annan, Greta, Caldew and Nith.

Looking to the future, the Club is working to develop the general paddling skill base in the Club and have partnered with Antony at Border Kayaks who is running a series of white-water skills sessions through the winter. Also, to increase the number of qualified coaches and leaders at the Club, a number of members are being supported to obtain the required training and qualifications and **the Club would like to recognise and thank the regional team (Cumbria canoeists) for their support and assistance in this area.**

Jamie Brown, Chairperson Carlisle Canoe Club, November 2022

**Ulverston Canoe Club 2022**

See News Letter

**West Cumbria Canoe Club 2022**

To follow?