

Commodore's Report 2023

Hello All,

Welcome to my 1st report as Commodore.

Thankfully we are well out of covid and have had a full year of sailing and events, even with the driest summer since 1952, we completed our junior, sailability, racing programmes (unlike many clubs in the region).

I had my 15mins (2mins) of fame in 2022 when I appeared on BBC northwest tonight, promoting our premier sailability group, which is growing from strength to strength. All fleets have seen a growth in numbers. Friday training/cruising, chilling nights have been well attended and it's something I will be promoting more and more for the oncoming season.

We managed a fantastic training programme with impressive figures:

First Aid - 21, Powerboat - 12, Safety Boat - 1, Dinghy L1 & L2 - 24, Dinghy L3 - 7, Dinghy Instructor 7, Youth L1 & L2 - 2. A big thank you to all the instructors/volunteers who made this possible.

We welcomed 44 new members to the club across all aspects of sailing, which is a good number, but on the downside, we said goodbye to 47 members. We need to get this number down and retain our members and the committee will be working on a solution to the turnover.

Bolton sailors from all fleets (including juniors) have travelled the length and breadth of the country in racing events and done Bolton proud. One of the main northern events is the senior travellers which our very own Andrew Flitcroft lifted the winner's trophy.

John Moulton travelled to 'the big smoke' where he received a RYA lifetime achievement award from Anne, Princess Royal. Well done and greatly deserved and thank you for everything you do for us all at Bolton.

So, on to 2023. Last season it was the year of... 'it's not what my club can do for me but, what can I do for my club'. This year will be 'gain, maintain and retain'

Gain membership.

Maintain Membership,

Retain our membership,

Hope to see you all soon at the AGM in February and the working parties in March.

Frank McMullen

Commodore

Bolton Sailing Club