

Sailability Report 2021

Firstly, can I say a big thankyou to everyone on Sailability this year, the helpers did a fantastic job in trying conditions and the sailors came back in great numbers averaging over 20 for each session.

The 26th May saw the restart of Sailability; we stopped on 5th October 2019. Thankfully whilst all our members were extremely vigilant during the shutdown period only one succumbed to COVID 19. The after effects are still with us and the care homes that come to us have had strict contact rules in place and at times have had to suspend visits totally.

However, on a brighter note from May to October we had a great time, sometimes the sailing wasn't the best due to weed on the foils and the majority of time on the water was in powerboats. The Lugger proved particularly useful and was capable of taking 6 passengers at a time, with the addition of the Wheelyboat and the Committee Boat most people spent a lot of time on the water. The weather also seemed to be pretty good with us getting wet on very few occasions. This year we ran the Sailability at the same time as Junior Sail training and this proved manageable meaning that we didn't have to move to Tuesday evenings, we are hoping to continue in the same way in 2022. Obviously with the situation as it was, we didn't manage to run the Hansa Open either in 2020 or 2021 but we hope to run it in 2022 on Wednesday 13th April.

The season start next year on Saturday 26th March until Saturday 8th October. There won't be Sailability on Bank Holiday Saturdays.

We have kept the membership numbers up well and have had some new members attending to see if they liked it. Lets hope that they join in the new year.

Obviously, the continuation relies heavily on the band of helpers that we have each week, particularly if we are getting more sailing boats

on the water, unfortunately some of our younger helpers have now progressed to University and Colleges around the country which has meant that we have had to rely more on the powerboats, not a bad idea with the weed problem during the year, but it would be nice to get more of the colourful sails out each week. Let's hope that we manage to reduce the weed problem in 2022.

We are again appealing for helpers young and old, If you know anyone on a D of E scheme, Sailability works in well with it and they can all have lots of fun, they don't necessarily have to be club members.

David