



## 2023 CBYA AGM – Chairman’s 2022 Report

We held our **2022 AGM** at the Real Club Náutico Calpe on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022. As many of our members were unable to travel to Spain, we also set up a Zoom conferencing link.

Full details can be seen at: <https://cbya.org/2022/03/08/2022-annual-general-meeting-report/>

The CBYA provides members with the opportunity to get on the water on all types of sailing and power craft throughout the year, weekly and monthly, of course depending on the weather. In 2022 we had around **135 sailing opportunities with over 726 member's sails**, which was much better than the 2021 figures of **108 sailing opportunities with 614 member's sails**. The increased activity was mainly due to reducing COVID concerns. However, the post-BREXIT 90-day stay rule is still having a negative impact on our activities.

Here is a quick summary of our more notable activities and achievements during 2022.

### **The all-CBYA Regatta**

We scheduled our second **all-CBYA Regatta** for 5th and 6th October 2022. Unfortunately, the weather conspired against us, and a Yellow Alert was announced the day before the event! This resulted in the 4 – 5 member-owned cruisers who had planned to join us at El Portet, all deciding to abort. We were also prevented from sailing the TOMs from Calpe to El Portet and back as planned. However, due to an unexpected improvement in the weather, on the first day of the regatta, the **Chairman’s Charity Cardboard Boat Race** did go ahead with four entries competing for the prize. The race was won by **Gillian Ashworth** on **Nautilus II**, who successfully completed the 200-metre course in the quickest time, without sinking. The event raised **€930** for the 2022 CBYA supported charities, €500 of which was donated to Make-a-Smile for their Christmas Bag appeal. A video of the event can be viewed at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZSDXcBuApE&ab\\_channel=CostaBlancaYachtAssociation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZSDXcBuApE&ab_channel=CostaBlancaYachtAssociation)

### **Cruising Charter Holidays**

Due to the on-going pandemic, and the 90-day stay restrictions for non-EU residents resulting from BREXIT, we decided to not schedule a full cruising charter holiday in 2022, but instead organised a **flotilla cruise to Ibiza and Formentera**. The CBYA chartered a **Sun Odyssey 490** from **Náutica Corcho** with a professional skipper, which was joined by **Richard Jones** and crew on **Tricky D**, **Helma Hermans** and crew on **Sunny Spray**, and **John Mackney** and crew with a boat charter from Ibiza. The flotilla didn’t quite work out as planned. However, all participants enjoyed the event.

**John Mackney** is organising a Turkish *gület* cruise during June 2023, which is already fully booked.



### 5-Clubs and Other Regattas

Barry McCrae sold Blade earlier this year, and he and Chris de Boer jointly purchased a **MAT 1070** racing yacht which they sailed back to Calpe from Turkey. They named their yacht **MATador II**. Their yacht was 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the ORC-B class during the 2022 5 Clubs series and won their class in the 2022 RCNC *Trofeo de Navidad* regatta.

**Amanda Topson** has organised a regular charter with CBYA member **Carlos Montes** on his yacht **Tannit**, in order to compete in the **5 Clubs regattas**. The CBYA crew comprises **Monique Neyzen, Karen Gardner, Amanda Topson** and **James Heather**. Carlos has also offered places to CBYA members to crew in other local regattas, and to join him on some special charter trips. **Tannit** finished 7<sup>th</sup> overall in the **ORC Open Class** during the 2022 5 Clubs regatta series.

**Tricky D** only competed in the 5 Clubs Calpe regatta in May 2022.

### Day Charters

**Graham Hustler** continued to do an excellent job in running our monthly day charter cruises, working with **Náutica Corcho**, the Dénia-based yacht charter company that we use. Due to weather restrictions, and reduced crew applications post-BREXIT, there were only **three Day Charters** during 2022, with **23 members** sailing. Hopefully we will see better support during 2023. The day charter fee covers the fun of members getting together to make up a part crew, or others to make up a full “private charter” crew for special events such as anniversaries and birthdays.

### TOMs

**Amanda Topson** continued in the role of **TOMs Co-ordinator**, until stepping down in October this year. She previously also acted as the **CBYA Public Relations Co-ordinator** during which she sourced CBYA promotional material including our excellent flier, and the logo for our CBYA Platinum Jubilee. Amanda contributed significantly during her time on the CBYA Committee, and we were sorry to see her step down as one of our committee members this year. She has also handled the **TOMs Organiser** role, assisted by **Connie Forster and John Mackney**. Many thanks to Amanda for her past contributions to the CBYA.

John Mackney has now temporarily taken on the TOMs Coordinator role. He plans to introduce a **TOMs Organiser rota** in January 2023.

Overall, we managed to sail TOMs **86 times** with **346 crew members** during 2022. This included participation in the TOMs Ladder, a fun Veterans’ Regatta, and a few RCNC regattas.



## Dinghies

**Bob Gordon** decided to retire as the Dinghy Section Co-ordinator at the beginning of November. Bob was our previous CBYA Chairman. Together with Fernando Moneta, he founded the CBYA Dinghy Section in 2016, and helped nurture and grow the group until stepping down this year. Many thanks to Bob for his past contributions to the CBYA.

Since taking over as the Dinghy Section Co-ordinator, **Paul Glavin** has introduced many changes, and is doing a great job in improving sailing safety, and in maintaining the dinghies.

Apart from Paul, and his wife Helen, Bob Gordon, Karen Gardner, Monique Neyzen, Helma Hermans, John Lilley, Alan Bailey, Peter Bird, Peter Steenhuis, and others, all gave up their time to help run the Dinghy Section during 2022.

There were a total **36 Dinghy Day events** with **285 people sailing**.

During the year, we purchased a second CBYA 420 dinghy. We now have two 420s, two Lasers, and the Van de Stadt Stern. We sold the catamaran.

We have also started to introduce Sunday dinghy sailing sessions aimed at families and sail training. I am sure that the Dinghy Section will continue to grow, assisted by Alan Bailey and Peter Jerke's acquisition of a 470!

## Hobie Cats

Summer Hobie Cat sailing was run every Friday afternoon during July and August last year. Bob Gordon took care of the administrative coordination. Monique Neyzen focused on the training of catamaran skippers. Karen, Alan and James became new cat skippers. Thank you to all skippers who made cat sailing possible. We managed to run **6 Hobie Days** with **56 people** participating. Only one cancellation due to the weather.

## Raft Ups & Powerboats

**Peter Bird** continues in the role of **CBYA Powerboat Co-ordinator**, as well as the **Raft-up Co-ordinator**. He also provides the safety boat for most of our Dinghy days. He organised two successful raft-up events during the summer of 2022

## Safety

After some concerns re dinghy day safety, we have now purchased waterproof walkie-talkies for the Dinghy Section, as well as a marine VHF radio. Improvements have also been introduced for recovering people at sea.

## Membership

Due to the post-BREXIT 90-day rule, many of our long-standing members decided not to renew their CBYA membership last year. However, we managed to attract many new members during 2022, which helped to maintain our overall membership level.



Our membership has stabilised at around **300 members** and our Membership Secretary, **Rachel Garnham**, continues to do an excellent job in improving, and maintaining, the CBYA Master Membership List.

We have been encouraging all current and new members to provide/update their membership details, which many of you have now done. If you have not yet done so, please comply. It doesn't take long. We need your updated information in order to effectively run the CBYA. Just go to the home page of our website, click **My Account** to log in, and then go to **Membership Details**.

New members can now complete an on-line application form to join the Association, and pay their subscriptions 'securely' directly to the CBYA bank account. Annual membership renewals will be automatic unless you have previously cancelled your membership, or your payment details need updating.

### **Finances**

As you will note from our audited accounts, the CBYA financial position remains in good shape, despite the aftermath of the pandemic. Our Treasurer, **Saira Mackney**, is doing an excellent job in managing, and accounting for, our money.

### **Social**

Our Social Team, comprising **Gwendoline Holliday** (Social Secretary), assisted by **Julie Benneworth & Stuart Eynestone-Hinkins**, organised many social events during 2022, including the monthly social dinners at Restaurant A Bordo in the Club Náutico Jávea, as well as several *chiringuito* meet-ups in Moraira and Jávea.

These included the following entertaining presentations:

- *Around Cape Horn + Shackleton films* by **Helma Hermans**.
- *Cruising in the Greek Cyclades Islands in 2021* by **the skippers and crew**.
- *2022 Flotilla Cruise* by **the skippers and crew**.

Overall, we ran **18 social events** with **550 members in attendance** during 2022.

Tessa Kloesterboer has now also joined the Social Team in order to assist with setting up social events on the CBYA website and sending out newsletter invitations.

### **CBYA Library**

**Rosalind Miranda** is continuing to host the **CBYA Library**. Full details of our sailing-related book collection, together with instructions as to how they can be borrowed free-of-charge by our members, can be seen on our website. See: <https://cbya.org/cbya-library/>

### **Training**

**Rosalind Miranda** provided a further session of her excellent **astro-navigation** course during the year.



**Rachel Garnham** dedicated several days to checking out **prospective new TOMs skippers**.

### Charity

Our supported 2022 charities were again **Make-a-Smile** and the **IVSH Bomberos**. We raised **€1500** for them during 2022.

### Merchandise

**Saskia Dormaar** has kindly taken on the role of our **CBYA Merchandise Coordinator**. She has done an excellent job in handling back orders and getting our Christmas merchandise order placed.

### Awards

Due to COVID, no award presentations took place in 2020/2021. However, CBYA awards for 2022 will be presented at the **CBYA Awards dinner on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**. The CBYA Trophy Room can be viewed at <https://cbya.org/trophy-room/>

### Website Up-grade and Revamp

Due the ongoing growth of the CBYA, new measures have had to be introduced in order to help us manage our activities. These include the earlier introduction of our XERO accounting system, and more recently a full up-grade of our website to ensure that only currently paid-up members join our sailing events, to reduce the use of cash payments, and to improve our ability to monitor our sailing and social activities.

We completed phase 3 & 4 of the CBYA website up-grade during 2022. In addition to being able to apply, pay and join the CBYA via the website, it is now also possible to book and pay for events, and order merchandise, via the website using a debit/credit card. Despite a few teething problems, the system appears to work well. **John Mackney** has been extremely helpful in assisting members to use the new system when required. The website up-grade work was completed by CBYA member **Fernando Moneta** and his Company, **Lovatech**.

### Volunteering

CBYA sailing events are organised by the hard work and effort put in by members of your Committee, and other volunteers, to provide these sailing opportunities, which include racing and cruising, with dinghies, Hobie Cats, TOMs, 5 Clubs, charter cruises, raft-ups, and our annual charter cruising holidays.

Our Club operates with volunteers, and we rely on their support.

The Committee members are also volunteers, and they all work hard to keep the CBYA running smoothly. Apart from myself, the current Committee Members are: **Neil Robertson**, Vice Chairman, **Sue Eynstone-Hinkins**, Secretary, **Saira Mackney**, Treasurer, **John Mackney**, Boating Officer, and **Gwendoline Holliday**, Social Secretary. The Committee is supported by **Richard Jones (5 Clubs Regatta Co-ordinator)**, and **Rachel Garnham (Membership Secretary & Training Officer)**, who are both Honorary Members and advisors to the Committee.



Other volunteers include:

- **Chris de Boer**, TOMs Ladder Organiser
- **Graham Hustler**, Day Charter Co-ordinator
- **Peter Bird**, Powerboat and Raft-up Co-ordinator
- **Paul Glavin**, Dinghy Co-ordinator.
- **Monique Neyzen** , Hobie Cat Co-ordinator.
- **Julie Benneworth**, **Tessa Kloesterboer** and **Stuart Eynestone-Hinkins**, CBYA Social Team members (who support **Gwendoline Holliday** in her duties as Social Secretary).
- **John Mackney**, Assistant Webmaster
- **Saskia Dormaar**, CBYA Merchandise Co-ordinator
- **Amanda Topson**, TOMs Co-ordinator (resigned in October 2022)
- **Bob Gordon**, Dinghy Co-ordinator (resigned in November 2022)
- **Dave Proctor**, Public Relations Co-ordinator (resigned in December 2022)

We are always looking for help to run our Association, and it would be great if more members would volunteer to assist. You don't have to sit on the committee, or be a full-time resident in Spain, as we are keen to promote job-sharing. Currently we are looking for a volunteer to act as our **Charter Holiday Co-ordinator**. We also need a new **Public Relations Co-ordinator**. If anyone would like to help out in running, or helping to run, any CBYA sections and/or events, please contact me, or a member of the Committee.

The CBYA is also promoted on **Facebook**, with both an open community page and a closed group page. We also have **Instagram** and **YouTube** accounts. In addition, we provide up-to-date weather information, a "**For Sale & Wanted**" page, and a wealth of other information about the Association.

All this information can be accessed via the CBYA website ([www.cbya.org](http://www.cbya.org)).

Our finances and membership levels are good, and we have been able to maintain most of our activities during 2022. I am sure that, with support from our members, the CBYA will continue to grow and thrive during 2023.

I have now served on the CBYA Committee for over 11 years. This term includes 3 years as TOMs Co-ordinator, 4 years as Vice-Chairman, and 4 years as Chairman. As I feel that I have long passed my "sell by" date, I will be stepping down as Chairman at our 2023 AGM. However, I will of course continue to assist in the running of our Association in a non-official capacity.

Happy New Year.

**Hugh Epsom**  
**Chairman**  
January 2023