



Steady Rebuilding

2021 was a year of steady rebuilding for the Trust. A large part of this was helping to re-establish visitor confidence in restarting activities, suspended for many of our most vulnerable visitors for over a year due to the continuing pandemic.

With mitigating measures such as perspex screens on the motor cruisers and the continuation of social distancing and face coverings remaining in place, we were able to welcome back increasing numbers of visitors.

The number of activity sessions that we were able to deliver increased from 529 in 2020 to 943 in 2021 and the associated number of visitors that we were able to welcome back on the water rose from 1313 to 2484, still significantly lower than in a 'normal' year for the Trust when we would expect to welcome around 5000 visitors.

Our small team of professional staff were supported in getting visitors back on the water by our wonderful team of volunteers, almost all of whom were able to return to volunteering during the year.



Boats

During the year, thanks to donations and various Covid recovery and business resilience grants obtained in the latter part of 2020, we were able to introduce two new activities. This was due to the purchase of three Hansa 303 dinghies, small keelboats specially designed for disabled sailors and three locally built pedal launches.

Due to the requirements of social distancing during 2020 we were largely unable to take novice sailors on the water in our larger 20ft yachts, but the Hansa 303 mini keelboats were ideal for first time sailors. With a length of around 10ft, they are small enough to be sailed solo by complete novices, supported by our instructors in the accompanying safety boat.

The pedal launches enabled two visitors, or a visitor accompanied by one of our instructors, to enjoy socially distanced gentle exercise in the wonderful natural surroundings of the Broads. The pedal launches provided an ideal restorative for mind and body for people emerging from the long-term effects of lockdown and isolation.

During the year we also developed a hand cranked pedal adaptation for one of the boats to enable hand pedalling.