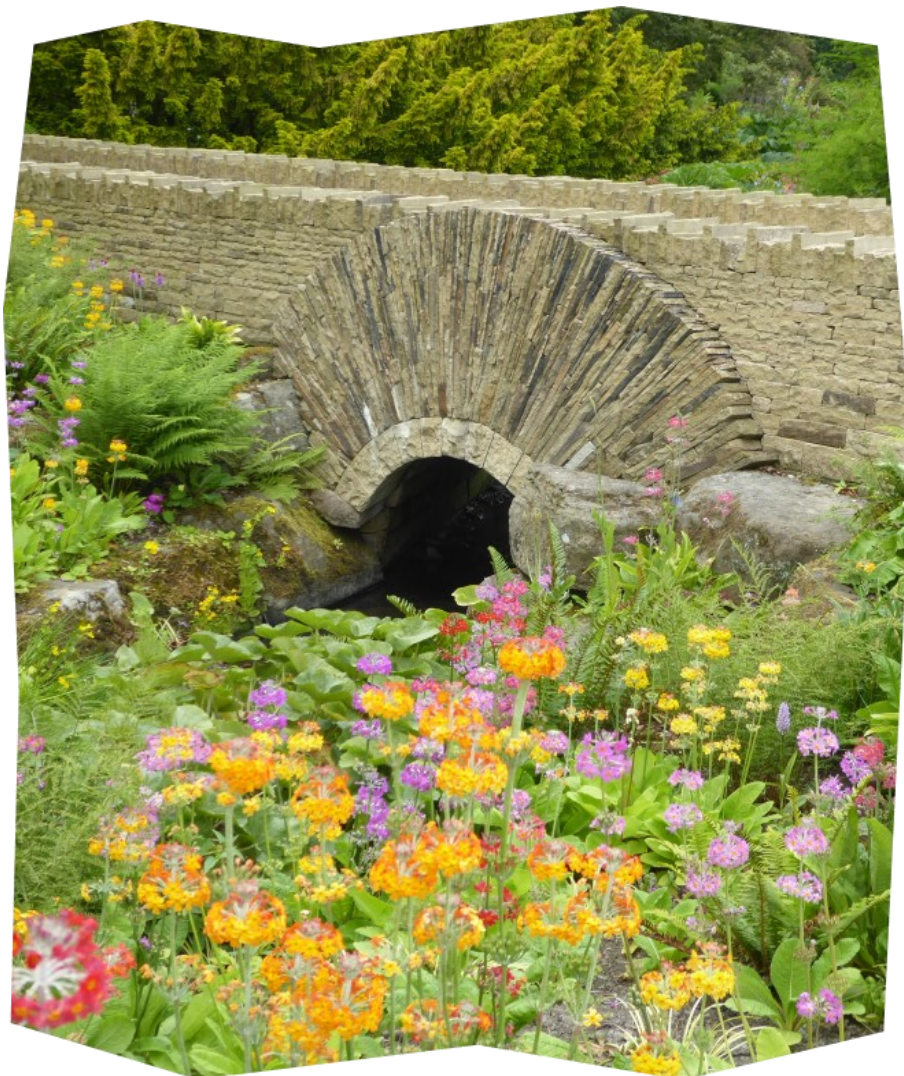


ANNUAL REPORT AND SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2021 - 2022



Friendship Bridge, RHS Harlow Carr Garden

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DSWA, Lane Farm, Crooklands,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7NH
www.dswa.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 289678

Office Bearers

PATRON	HRH The Prince of Wales 2006 - Her Grace, The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire 1990 - 2005
PRESIDENT	The Lord Cavendish of Furness DL 2008 - Bryan Hough LCG 2005 – 2008 Ken France 2002 - 2005 Bryan Hough, LCG 1999 - 2002 Terry Eggleshaw, MBE 1994 - 1999 Ramsay Rainsford Hannay 1989 - 1994 Mrs E Murray Usher of Cally, OBE 1968 - 1989 (part as convenor)
VICE PRESIDENTS	Brian Jones Bill Noble Tom Norris Chris Stephens
CHAIRMAN	Paul Clayton 2020 - Ray Stockall 2013 - 2020 Alan Devonport 2010 - 2013 Richard Love 2004 - 2010 Paul Webley 1994 - 2004 Terry Eggleshaw MBE 1983 - 1994 Eric Boyes 1982 - 1983 Peter Wilson Retired 1982
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	Tracey Blackwell
CRAFT SKILLS CO-ORDINATOR	Andrew Loudon
TREASURER	Linda Clarkson

Current Honorary Life Members

J R Bown, I K Dewar,
J Riddick, F E Shields OBE, FRAGS,
Mrs J Simpkins, P Webley

DSWA Trustee Board Members (Sept 2021- Aug 2022)

Tracey Blackwell	Andrew Loudon
Paul Clayton (Chairman) (appointed March 2022)	Cuthbert Noble
Brian Hartley	Lydia Noble
Peter Isherwood	Jack Taylor (appointed 2022)
Pamela Kirkup (appointed 2022)	Emma Yates (resigned 2022)

Four Trustee Board meetings are held during the period covered
by this report

Banks

HSBC Bank plc,
331 Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1NJ

Solicitors

Milne Moser, Solicitors,
Westmorland House, The Square,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7QJ

Insurers

NFU Mutual Insurance Society Limited,
Prospect House, Meadow Bank Business Park,
Shap Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 6NY

Introduction

Welcome to the latest annual report for the Dry Stone Walling Association, covering the period mentioned above.

We start by extending our good wishes to His Majesty The King, on his accession to the throne, whilst also acknowledging that it is a time of sadness and change. The DSWA has been privileged to have Prince Charles, in his role as The Prince of Wales, as its Patron and we wait to see if this can be continued.

After almost two years of events being cancelled or postponed due to the pandemic, the Royal Garden Parties were once again back up and running. DSWA has been fortunate enough to receive an invitation for a representative to attend these events and we were delighted to be able to offer the place to Sally Fielding from Dorset, who enjoyed the day at Buckingham Palace in May.

Small changes at the DSWA office in that it is now closed on Fridays. We are also pleased to welcome Kate Dymock as our new Training & Education Coordinator, who is full- time and takes over from Linda Clarkson who has retired from that role. However, Linda is still involved with the Association in her role as Treasurer.

Governance

At the Annual General Meeting in March, we said farewell to three of our long-standing Trustees, Gordon Hicks, Ray Stockall and Trevor Wragg and extend our thanks to them for their help and commitment over the years. We were pleased to welcome Pamela Kirkup on to the Trustee Board as a new Trustee and also to have Jack Taylor returning for a further term of office. The Association co-opted Cuthbert Noble on to the Trustee Board for a one- year period, which brings the number of Trustees to ten. However, during the year we were sorry to receive the resignation of Emma Yates for personal reasons. We extend our thanks to Emma for her contribution to the work of the Trustee Board during her time as a Trustee.

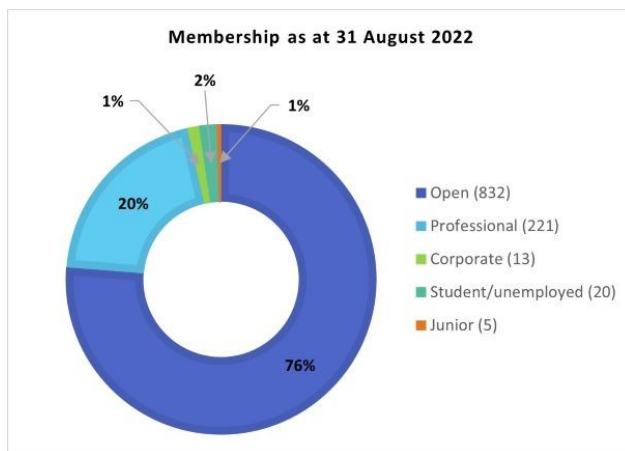
Meetings of the Trustee Board have continued as a mixture of in-person and Zoom links, which works well and means that the opportunity of becoming a Trustee opens up to those members not close enough to the office to drive to meetings. We hope this will encourage members to consider putting themselves forward as Trustees in the future.

The Association continues to receive, and act upon, regular free advice and guidance issued by the Charity Commission and strives to adopt best practice wherever possible.

Membership

There has been a small increase in members during the period covered by this report, which is encouraging. Most of the change comes in the open membership category, whilst the professional and corporate listings remain much the same as previous years. Subscriptions is one of the main sources of ongoing funding for the Association and there is a continued need to encourage people to join and support the work that we do, even if they do not wish to get actively involved in practical walling. By joining as an open member, that support is valuable and there are opportunities to help out at branch level with tasks other than actually walling. Joint membership for two open members at one address is also available, which still benefits the DSWA but saves a small amount of money for the household.

Corporate members are important to the Association and we have tried hard to offer opportunities for them to promote their businesses and for branches to establish links with corporate members in their area.



The Dry Stone Walling Association is registered with the HMRC Gift Aid Scheme and is able to claim 25p per £1 of membership and/or donations if members sign up to the scheme. This generates a significant sum of money each year, at no extra cost to the members. For the tax year ended 5 April 2022 the Association received over £9,000 which is from subscriptions of just over 600 members who are registered with the Gift Aid scheme. Members are encouraged to join if possible if they are eligible to do so.

The Association is very grateful for support from branches that have made transfers during the year. Cheshire Branch generously funded the cost of reprinting the *Walls in the Landscape* leaflet as well as the update/reprint of the little booklet, *Building & Repairing Dry Stone Walls*. Cumbria Branch was able to fund the spring issue of the *Waller & Dyker* and colleagues in Wales covered the cost of the general information leaflet for 2022. There have been other general transfers from the following branches which are likely to be used in the training budget, Dorset, Lancashire and South West England.

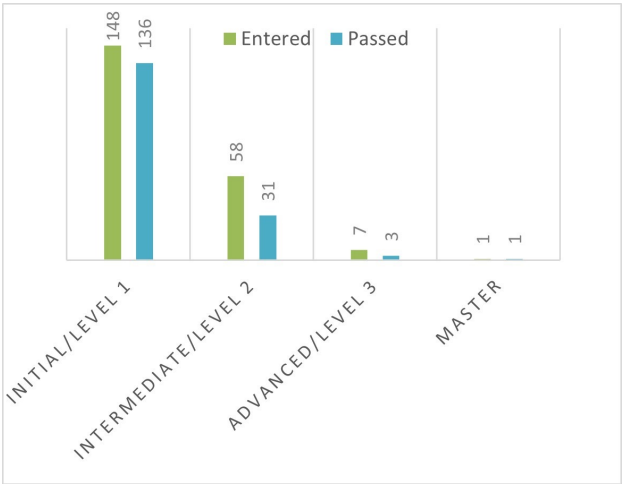
Quarterly Zoom meetings between branches have continued as a way of networking and sharing ideas and best practice. Topics for discussion are submitted by branches and the meetings are hosted by one of the Trustees. Ideas and suggestions are then followed up.

The DSWA website continues to be a valuable tool for members and others, seeking advice and guidance on all matters dry stone walling related. There is a wealth of information available for educational purposes and the on-line shop offers books, tools and merchandise. The Association also has Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, all of which help spread the word about the work we do, which in turn fits with our charitable purpose “to advance education in the craft and heritage of dry stone walling for the public benefit”.

Training & Education

This year has seen the return of training in person and courses have been in high demand, with waiting lists for the four-day courses at Crooklands and the branch two-day beginner courses being testament to the level of interest these training opportunities generate.

It is encouraging to see an ongoing number of people seeking a qualification in dry stone walling and most of the attendees on the courses at Crooklands take part in, and are successful in, the assessment on the fifth day. An on-line course booking system for the four-day courses at Crooklands is now up and running which helps with the admin side of things.



Most of these candidates are entering for the Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications but we have also had one or two working towards the higher levels. We extend our congratulations to James Kidd who was successful in achieving his Master Craftsman certificate in April.

Dry stone walling is available to people of all ages and abilities. We were pleased to welcome trainees at Crooklands who had hearing difficulties but nothing that a sign language interpreter could not address and we were very pleased that both people achieved their Level 1 qualification at the end of the week. Similarly, South West England Branch was able to offer a visually



impaired student the chance to attend a beginner training course. Accompanied by a full-time carer, he successfully completed a section of wall by the end of the weekend and had thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

As mentioned earlier, the Association was very pleased to welcome Kate

Dymock as its new Training & Education Coordinator. She has settled in well and takes forward the training work that was started by Linda Clarkson. She will also have responsibility for test days and certification.

The Rural Skills Hub project is progressing well and there have been a number of community experience days hosted by branches as part of this initiative. Northumbria Branch organised taster days for the National Park Young Green Leaders as well as community days in County Durham, whilst the Otley & Yorkshire Dales Branch hosted an event for the local Alzheimer's Society. As well as dry stone walling, the Rural Skills Hub is working with the National Hedgelaying Society and has been coordinating training for that traditional craft too. Funding for young people to be "apprenticed" to professional wallers and hedgelayers has enabled up to six trainees to benefit from a placement provider for a year, during which time they work towards achieving one of the qualifications in either craft. The project runs for an eighteen month period and will come to an end in March 2023. It is hoped that further funding might be found in order to continue some of the work as a lasting legacy to the project.

Other community based projects have also taken place with Dorset Branch offering a team-building day for Defra vets and Wales Branch hosted a beginner training event for volunteers of the Friends of Cardiff Reservoirs, an event which is to be repeated next year. In North Wales members had the chance to build a traditional clawdd wall under guidance from Sean Adcock and members in Central and South East Scotland continue with the building of walls on the training site in Fife.

South West England Branch was fortunate enough to receive funding from the National Grid Community Grant for volunteer training, some of which has been used to provide beginner training to National Grid staff, who are allowed work time to pursue environmentally useful activities. Dorset Branch also completed a curved wall incorporating lettering at its regular walling site at Tyneham.



At a national level, DSWA had its annual External Quality Assurance visit from Lantra, to ensure that all Assessors are working to a common standard and that procedures are in place to address health and safety and welfare issues during test days. It is encouraging to report that this was successful and thanks are recorded to everyone involved not only in the day itself but also in all the background work done beforehand.

The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership Project has now come to an end but it is hoped that DSWA will continue to have links with that area for future training opportunities. The Association was able to offer training to six young apprentices at the North York Moors National Park with funds left over from the Prince's Countryside Fund project. The trainees were successful in gaining their Level 1 qualification and can use their skills to benefit work within the national park.

Publicity

Publicity comes in a variety of forms and this year we have seen a number of new and unusual opportunities. In May, members of the Ellwood Branch held a 24-hour walling event to raise money for the Ukraine, which proved very successful and not only raised much needed funds for those in the war-torn country but also raised the awareness of dry stone walling. Well done to everyone who was involved in the walling, not to mention those providing “background support”.

One of our members had an article published in the British Dental Journal and dry stone walling also featured in a new book about traditional crafts in Somerset by Kate Lynch. There were some brief TV stardom moments for colleagues in Derbyshire when the Canal Journeys programme included dry stone walling for the presenters.

Dry stone walling competitions have taken place around the country and included generous prizes from some of our overseas members. This resulted in one lucky person making a trip to Canada to experience dry stone walling over there. Photo shows competitors from the walling competition held at Penrith Show, organised by the Cumbria Branch.



The Friendship Bridge built at the RHS Harlow Carr garden near Harrogate was awarded a Certificate of Merit under the Pinnacle Award Scheme and a presentation was made in June to those who worked on the project. Dry stone walling also featured at other garden events including the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and congratulations are extended to those members involved in ward-winning gardens.

Fife Doors Open Days events were attended by members from Central and South East Scotland Branches and numerous shows and fairs play host to dry stone walling displays and competitions, including Weardale Show, Haddington Agricultural Show and Sherborne Castle Country Fair.

South West Scotland Branch hosted a joint branch event as part of the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership project and constructed a section of traditional Galloway dyke, incorporating a cattle trough.



In the far north of the country, Northstone Stone Fest took place again this year. Coordinated by George Gunn, the event offers a mixture of community build for a dry stone walling project, illustrated talks and visits and helps promote walling to a range of participants from far and wide.

All in all, a broad range of publicity over the year; there are no doubt opportunities that have not been reported on or that the Association is not aware of. We do rely on members sending in details of activities or events so as to try and gain as wide a perspective on the craft as possible.

Finance

Subscriptions were increased by small amounts from January 2022 and it is encouraging to see that this did not have a major impact on membership numbers, with over 200 new members joining during the period covered by this report. There are always some memberships that are not renewed for whatever reason. As at the end of August the Association had almost 1,100 members.

The Association was grateful to receive a donation of £500 from the Curry Fund of the Geologists' Association to allow a reprint of the "Geology for Wallers" leaflet, which gives a useful insight into the different rock types found throughout the country.

There continues to be a steady stream of sales of books, tools and merchandising, all of which help generate a small amount of income.

Bookings for the four-day training courses includes payment at the time of booking and it is encouraging that most of the bookings are used and refunds not issued. The on-line booking system has improved the

processing of these applications. Likewise, the test day assessment can now be booked and paid for on-line, streamlining the admin process.

DSWA branches continue to hold independent bank accounts which are operated under designated powers afforded to the branch officers. However, all monies are reported to the Charity Commission in the full year end accounts for the Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain.

Risk Management

The Trustees have agreed that, in the light of price increases over the last few years, a minor increase in the reserves would be prudent. The major risks which the charity might face have been reviewed and the Trustees believes that regular reviews of the controls over key financial systems, combined with the small increase in reserves will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational business risks faced by the charity and continue to establish systems to mitigate significant risk.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Trustee Board I would like to thank everyone for their continued support for our craft and hope to meet some of you during the year.

Paul Clayton
DSWA Chairman

Financial Report for Year Ended 31 August 2022

The charity's income decreased from £279,716 in 2021 to £241,042 in 2022. However, most of the increase seen in the previous year related to restricted funds which were used in the current year. Expenditure increased from £169,543 in 2021 to £226,607 reflecting these restricted projects. Overall, charity funds increased by £14,435 in the year, of which £34,904 related to unrestricted funds, increasing reserves to £512,590.

Branch funds remain buoyant and a number of branches have made transfers to central funds. These monies have been allocated as per branch requests if specified; general transfers will help facilitate the recruitment of a full time Training & Education Coordinator.

Restricted funds projects have continued under the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership, including the delivery of beginner courses, a walling week and production of a video. This project comes to an end in October.

The Rural Skills Hub project, funded by the Defra Green Recovery Challenge Fund, is proving successful in offering a central point for advice, support and funded training on traditional boundary skills of walling and hedgelaying.

In accordance with Charity SORP guidelines, branch activities and monies held have been integrated into the full accounts. Branch bank accounts are held independently and are not readily available to the National Association.

Reserves Policy

Under charity law, the Trustees are obliged to define the charity's policy for holding reserves to ensure the continuation of the charity's activities. The policy enables the charity to meet its legal objectives, provide confidence to donors seeking to give financial support to a prudently controlled charity and to ensure that the reserves are at a level sufficient to discharge all the charity's obligations in the event that it should cease its operations. This is not considered likely in the foreseeable future, so the reserves which the charity will maintain are those needed to fund ongoing monthly costs and future development. The Trustees have decided that the charity should seek to have accessible reserves of a sum equal to no more than 12 months general running costs and £70,000 has been designated for this purpose. It is recommended that all branches should apply a reserve equivalent to 12 months of the branch operating costs.

Linda Clarkson
Treasurer

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain
Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	74,098	563	4,262	78,923	84,111
Charitable activities	58,618	7,792	84,321	150,731	180,211
Other trading activities	8,166	-	1,598	9,764	11,970
Investment income	-	-	36	36	15
Other income	-	-	1,588	1,588	3,409
Total Income	140,882	8,355	91,805	241,042	279,716
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	(123,818)	(47,266)	(55,523)	(226,607)	(169,543)
Total Expenditure	(123,818)	(47,266)	(55,523)	(226,607)	(169,543)
Net income/(expenditure)	17,064	(38,911)	36,282	14,435	110,173
Gross transfer between funds	17,840	(200)	(17,640)	-	-
Net movement in funds	34,904	(39,111)	18,642	14,435	110,173
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	239,968	102,311	155,876	498,155	387,982
Total funds carried forward	274,872	63,200	174,518	512,590	498,155

All of the Charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts. Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	14,812	17,421
Current assets		
Stocks	16,045	17,755
Debtors	1,047	3,071
Branch bank accounts **	174,075	155,433
Cash at bank and in hand	321,088	312,760
	512,255	489,019
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14,477)	(8,285)
Net current assets	497,778	480,734
Net assets	512,590	498,155
Funds of the charity:		
Branch funds	174,518	155,876
Restricted funds	63,200	102,311
Unrestricted funds	274,872	239,968
Total funds	512,590	498,155

** Money held in branch bank accounts is held independently by the branches and cannot be readily accessed by Head Office.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts. Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Summary of Branch Annual Returns to DSWA For Year 2020-2021

The information provided below is intended as a brief synopsis of the returns made by branches to DSWA. If the annual return has not been submitted, the financial figures have been extracted from the branch accounts, which are submitted separately.

BRANCH	M/ship 01/01/21	M/ship 31/12/21	New Recruits	Opening bank bal £ 1/09/20	Closing bank bal £ 31/08/21
Central Scotland	51	54	14	8,034	7,859
Cheshire	34	43	9	9,575	10,977
Cotswold					
Cumbria	84	105	21	14,686	15,252
Derbyshire				15,591	23,565
Dorset	43	45	2	8,589	14,903
Ellwood				1,350	1,210
Isle of Skye				442.00	442.00
Lancashire				9,109	9,397
Mid-Lancs	7	7	0	8,551	8369
Northumbria	25	27	4	4,162	4,682
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	152	134	14	18,902	12,660
Pennine	14	12	1	1,925	2,163
South East Scotland	32	41	9	3,101	2,001
South West England	74	97	23	8,134	13,105
South West Scotland				4,747	5,176
South Yorkshire	25	37	7	3,141	3,278
Wales (North & South)				7,131	4,805
West Yorkshire	52	39	3	7,573	7,878

NB Events, etc shown below cover the period January to December 2021
(many events were curtailed due to the Coronavirus pandemic)

BRANCH	No of events held	No of Courses held	No of Course Particip'ts	No of Branch Competition Particip'ts	No of Demos held
Central Scotland	12	5	30	0	1
Cheshire	5	2	24	0	1
Cotswold					
Cumbria	8	4	34	0	1
Derbyshire					
Dorset	84	3	41	0	0
Ellwood					
Isle of Skye					
Lancashire					
Mid-Lancs	3	3	11	0	0
Northumbria	20	17	47	4	2
Otley & Yorkshire Dales		5	68	0	3
Pennine	8	3	6	0	0
South East Scotland		3	27	0	1
South West England		5	77	0	1
South West Scotland					
South Yorkshire	0	5	25	0	0
Wales (North & South)					
West Yorkshire		5	44	0	0

DSWA Branch Honorary Officers 2021—2022

Branch	Chairman	Hon Secretary	Hon Treasurer
Central Scotland	Kate Armstrong	Bob Pawson	Dorothy Findlay
Cheshire	Jack Taylor	Jack Taylor	Liz Cottle
Cotswold	Chris Ingles	Linda Brailsford	Richard Ingles
Cumbria	Stephen Atkinson	Patrick Lacey	Joe Bowman
Derbyshire	Carl Hardman	Jon Earnshaw	Alan Malia
Dorset	Wendy Manning	Carole Reeves Phyllis Warren	Iain Pullen
Ellwood	Lydia Noble	Luke Powell	Cuthbert Noble
Isle of Skye	Hector Nicolson	Hector Nicolson	
Lancashire	Chris Bolshaw	Paul Clayton	Gill Bolshaw
Mid-Lancs	Neil Kerr	Neil Kerr	Brenda Hayman
Northumbria	Paul Foster	Pam Kirkup	Neil Weddell
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	Peter Bull	Colin Alexander	Rona Dailey
Pennine	Eric Fort	Peter Walker	Pamela Smithies
South East Scotland	Richard Love	Dave Taylor	Donald McInnes
South West England	Barry Angell	Chris Waite	James Orme
South West Scotland	Nic Coombey	Linda Wilson	Jak Kane
South Yorkshire	Gary Helliwell	Paul Clegg	David Brookes Mick Booth
Wales	David Cope	Brian Lock	Colin Brown Nigel Spiers
West Yorkshire	Trevor Womack	Shared duties	Chris Hanwell

DSWA Membership Records - Overall View

Calendar Year	Total All Members	New Members included in totals	Total Open	Total Prof	Total Junior/ student	Total Corporate	Other
1968	55						
1999	1239	279	956	238	7	24	14
2000	1326	335	1039	237	7	28	6
2001	1122	144	845	233	12	21	11
2002	1233	331	945	248	12	20	8
2003	1317	335	1004	267	7	25	14
2004	1468	422	1151	267	11	23	16
2005	1470	407	1177	234	22	24	13
2006	1484	408	1179	248	17	28	12
2007	1456	426	1156	256	12	25	7
2008	1416	387	1117	263	12	24	7
2009	1301	309	1000	256	18	21	6
2010	1204	215	909	242	12	20	6
2011	1194	163	894	261	10	23	6
2012	1209	147	903	269	12	25	6
2013	1100	164	780	282	8	24	6
2014	1054	141	774	249	7	18	6
2015	1084	185	808	240	12	18	6
2016	1040	151	780	230	7	17	6
2017	1042	178	787	228	6	15	6
2018	1045	171	785	220	20	14	6
2019	1154	194	869	239	28	13	5
2020	1047	88	774	233	22	14	4
2021	1128	139	853	232	22	17	4
2022**	1095	245	832	221	25	13	4

** Current year figures are to end of August only.

