



FOSO POCO
Cork 21st July,
2021

Cathy
Buchanan

Meitheal Mara Crosses Green House 1998 - 2021

- Community boat yard
- Training centre
- Social enterprise



Naomhóg (Co. Kerry currach)

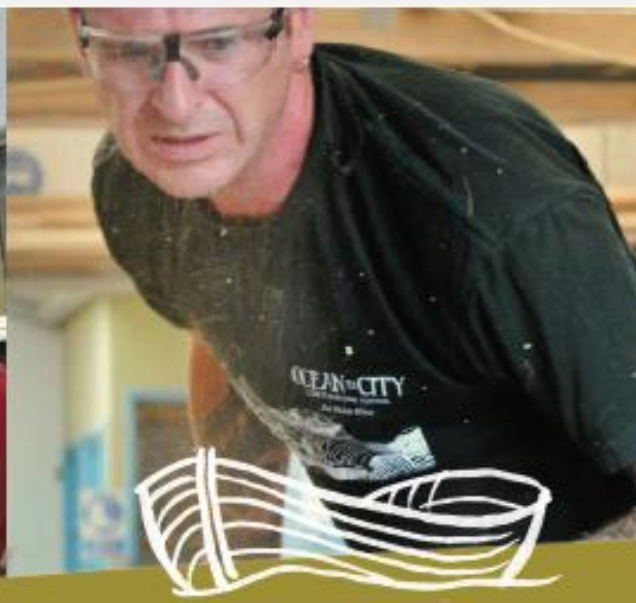




COMMUNITY work & training

In Meitheal Mara we promote and foster maritime culture and traditional skills, using boatbuilding, woodcraft and seamanship as the means to help both groups and individuals to learn, progress and develop. We provide work and training for young people and adults through to retirement, and sometimes beyond. Our approach is inclusive and based on mutual respect.

Training is tailored to suit needs, abilities and time-scales through a variety of programmes. We work closely with other local youth, education and community organisations to achieve positive outcomes. Funding partners include Cork Education and Training Board, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, the Port of Cork, Cooperation Ireland Cork, the Health Services Executive, Pobal, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, the Department of Education, and the Department of Social Protection.



BOATBUILDING & woodcraft

Meitheal Mara's workshop is at the heart of what we do.

Our workers specialise in building traditional Irish currachs, particularly the magnificent Kerry-style naomhóg and a variation on the 2-person hazel rod currach used on the north coast of Donegal. We are widely recognised for our success in the use of currach building to develop team work and personal effectiveness skills. We work with groups of young people and adults from diverse and sometimes challenging backgrounds.

We also provide repair services such as sanding, painting, restoration and maintenance of currachs and wooden boats. We build wooden boats too, and have developed one-off designs with our youth and community partners for all kinds of groups, events, exhibitions, documentaries and films, including *Irish Design 2015* and *The Game of Thrones*.

The team in the workshop also produces the Meitheal Mara range of hand-made woodcraft: bowls, toys, model boats, bookshelves, tables and stools.



SEAMANSHIP rowing & sailing

The ethos of Meitheal Mara is to get people on the water, especially those who would not otherwise have the chance to do so. Young people on our *Bádoireacht* programme learn how to row, sail or paddle, and to become comfortable with handling boats. They might even build their own currach, or compete in an international seamanship contest in our flagship, the 38-foot Bantry longboat *Fionnbarra*.

Meitheal Mara's workers learn water safety and boat handling skills as part of the regular workshop routine for the River Lee clean-up service and also carry out work for film and television companies.

Our partner organisations Naomhóga Chorcaí, Cork's currach club, and Cork Dragons, the dragonboat club for breast cancer survivors, work with us to promote Cork's growing reputation as a leading centre for community boating.



MARITIME culture & activities

Meitheal Mara is also actively involved in celebrating Ireland's rich maritime heritage and in promoting and fostering maritime culture and activities locally and overseas.

The high point of our calendar, *Ocean to City - An Ras Mór* is Ireland's largest and most inclusive rowing race, and the anchor for the week-long Cork Harbour Festival each June. The 18-person crews in our regular Dragon Boat Challenges bring the colour and buzz of sprint racing to Cork city centre. A gentler pace of travel is encouraged in our *CORKunavigation* guide for those who want to paddle the Lee right around Cork. We support the annual Rebel RAID for small boats and are partners in the proposed Cork Harbour Blueway.

Members of our staff and Board are often consulted for their expertise and take part in documentaries, research projects and publications, including the *Traditional Boats of Ireland* and *Glorious Galway* books.

As well as inspiration, getting people and boats afloat requires good development planning and physical infrastructure. Meitheal Mara has a long history of advocacy, particularly for improving access to the water, based on submissions to local authorities, policy papers, research seminars and consultations.

Workshop



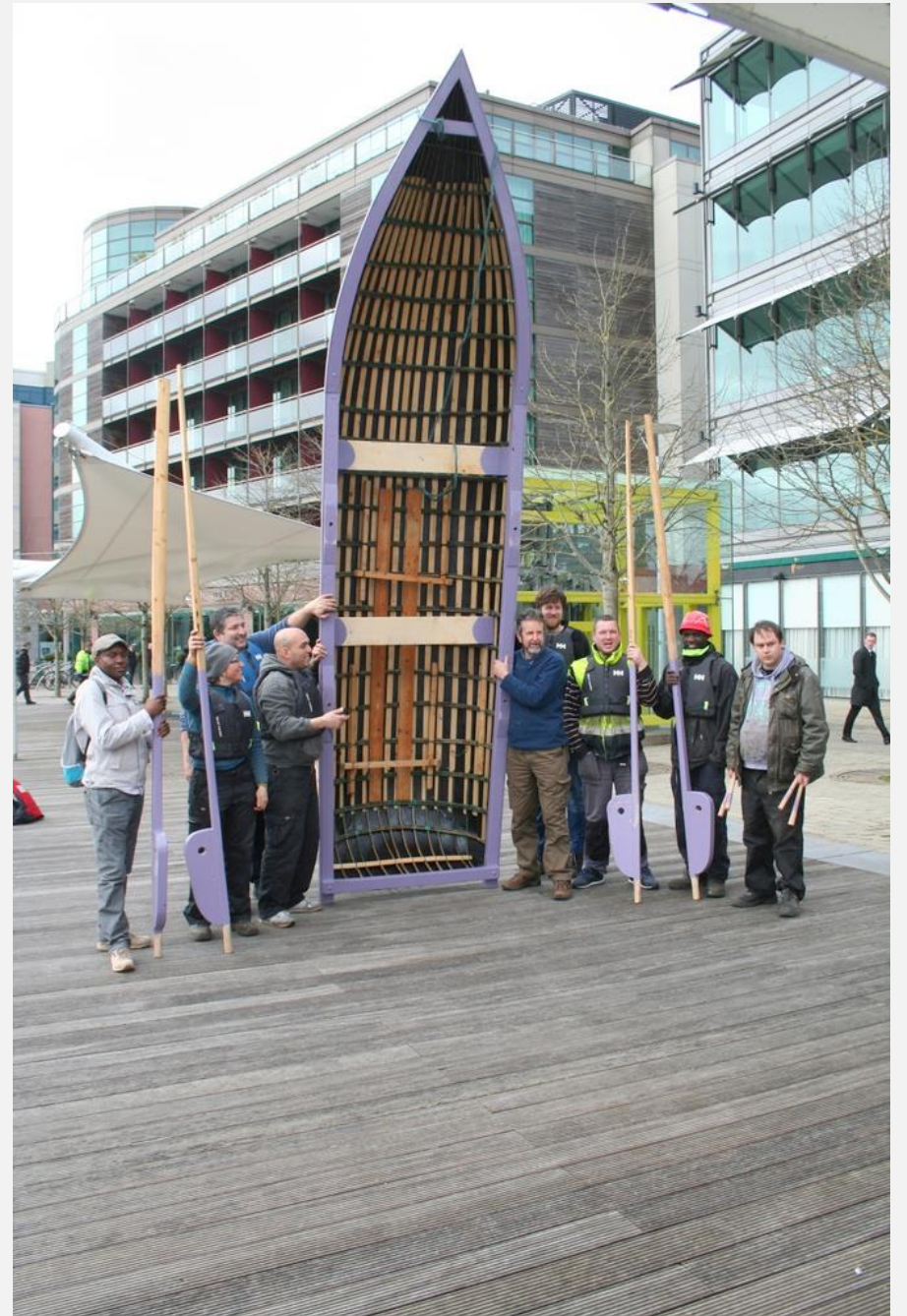
Workshop



Workshop and river



FOSO POCO Cork 21-7-2021



Bádoireacht



Cork Harbour Festival & Ocean to City 2019

- Cork 2005 European Capital of Culture – legacy event
- 585 Ocean to City participants
- 26% overseas
- 544 Dragon Boat Challenge participants
- 5,640 Cork Harbour Festival participants
- 24,373 CHF Spectators
- 31,198 CHF Spectators & Participants
- 1,345 Bed Nights
- € 101 K total income
- 73:27 public:revenue



People

- Board:
 - 9 members of Board
 - 12 additional members of Board Committees
 - 9 members Bádóireacht Council
- Staff
 - 5 full-time
 - 6 part-time
 - 12 CE participants
- Volunteers
 - 7 additional year-round
 - 350 Cork Harbour Festival & Dragon Boat Challenges



People

- Naomhóga Chorcaí:
 - c. 120 full time members
- Cork Dragons
 - c. 90 full-time members
- Meitheal Mara Men's Shed
 - 12 – 20 members



MEITHEAL MARA PARTNERS & SPONSORS



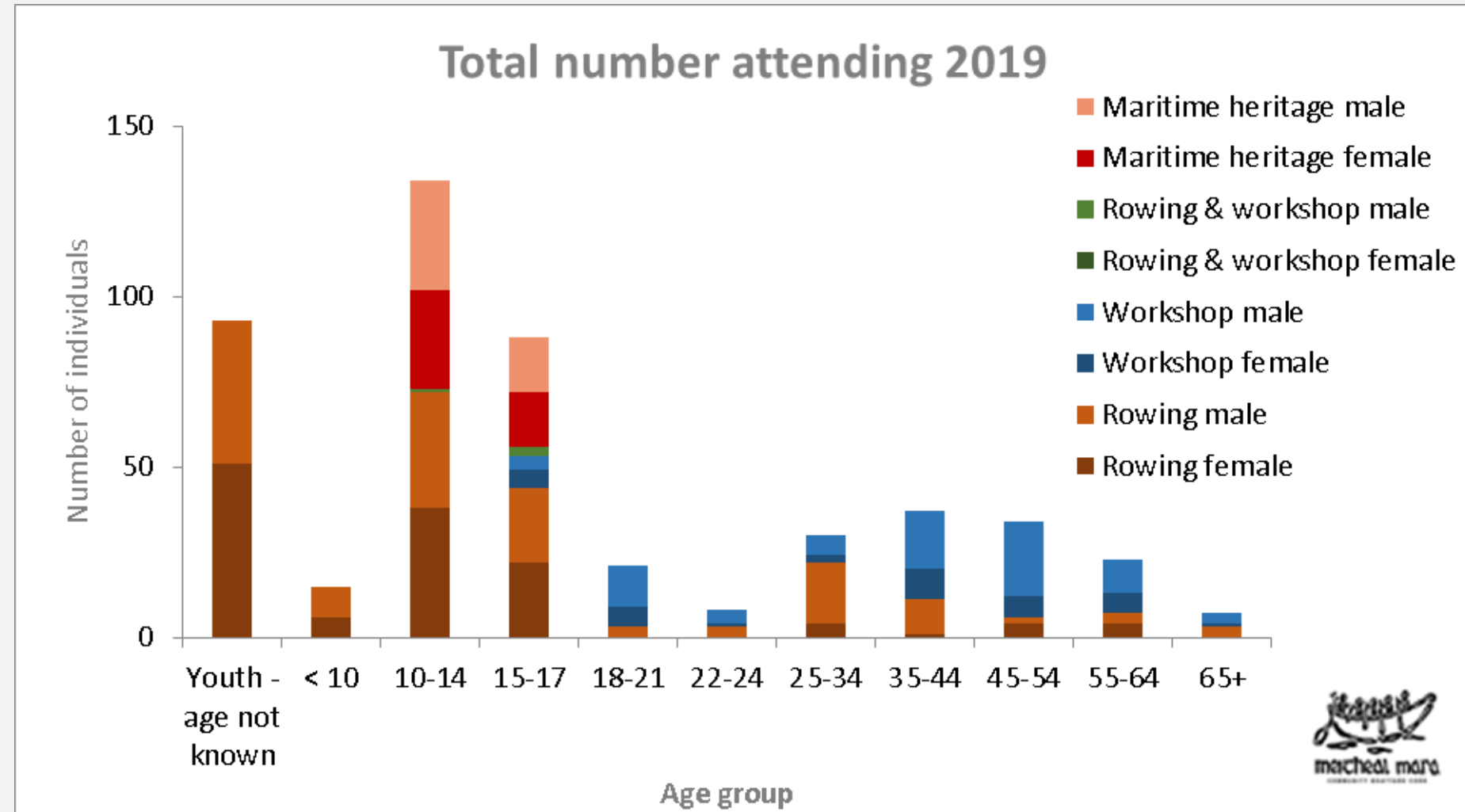
Albaola
An Garda Síochána
Aontas
Atlantic Offshore Adventures
Atlantic Sea Kayaking
Ballyphehane-Greenmount Foróige
BAM
Bishopstown Foróige
Boyne Boat Tours
Camden Fort Meagher
Carey's Tool Hire
CESCA
CESCA
Chantiers Trémasset
Churchfield Community Trust
CIT Blackrock Observatory
City Links
Civil Defence
Clarion Hotel
Cllr Kieran McCarthy
Clowater Developments
Cobh Heritage Centre
Cobh Tourism
Colaiste Dhalbheid
Colin Glen & Poleglass Youth Centre
Common Purpose Cork
Cooperation Ireland Cork
COPE
Cork Arts 'n' Education
Cork City Council
Cork City Fire Brigade
Cork City Marathon
Cork County Council
Cork County Council
Cork Cycling Festival
Cork Dragons
Cork Education & Training Board
Cork Environmental Forum
Cork Ghost Tour
Cork Harbour Marina
Cork Independent
Cork Missing Persons Recovery
Cork Nature Network
Cork Opera House
Cork Simon
Cork Singers' Club
Cork Volunteer Agency
Cork YAP
Corinne Leland, Artist
Department of Children and Youth Affairs
Department of Education and Skills
Department of Social Protection
Doyle's Shipping Group
Dr John Murphy
EcCoWell Cork
ECO Adventures
Euclides

European Union
Evening Echo
Fáilte Ireland
Féile an Phobail
Focus Penrose Wharf
Foróige Chorcaí
Foróige Douglas
Goldberg's Pub
Goldefish Events
GP Woods
Great River Race
Headway
Hillhall Regeneration Group Youth Project
HSE
Idle Hour Pub
IMERC
Irish Canoeing Union
Irish Coast Guard
Irish Examiner
Irish Heritage Trust
Irish Naval Service
Irish Red Cross
Irish Search Dogs
Kinsale GYDP Youth Project
Lantern Community Project
Life Centre
Mainport
Mallow Search & Rescue
MaREI
Marine Transport
Mayfield Community Arts
Mayfield Community School
Mayfield NYP
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
Morgenster Tall Ship
Musgrave Retail Partners
Naomhóga Chorcaí
National Learning Network Midleton
National Maritime College
Neptune Kayak
O'Callaghan Properties
Orienteering & Hillwalking Clubs
Passage West Maritime Festival
Phoenix Kayak Club
Pobal
Port of Cork
Port of Cork
QQI
RNLI Crosshaven
Rocket Man
Royal Cork Yacht Club
Sail Cork
Sail Training Ireland
Sail Training Ireland
Shandon Boat Club
Solidarity Trust Fund
Spike Island

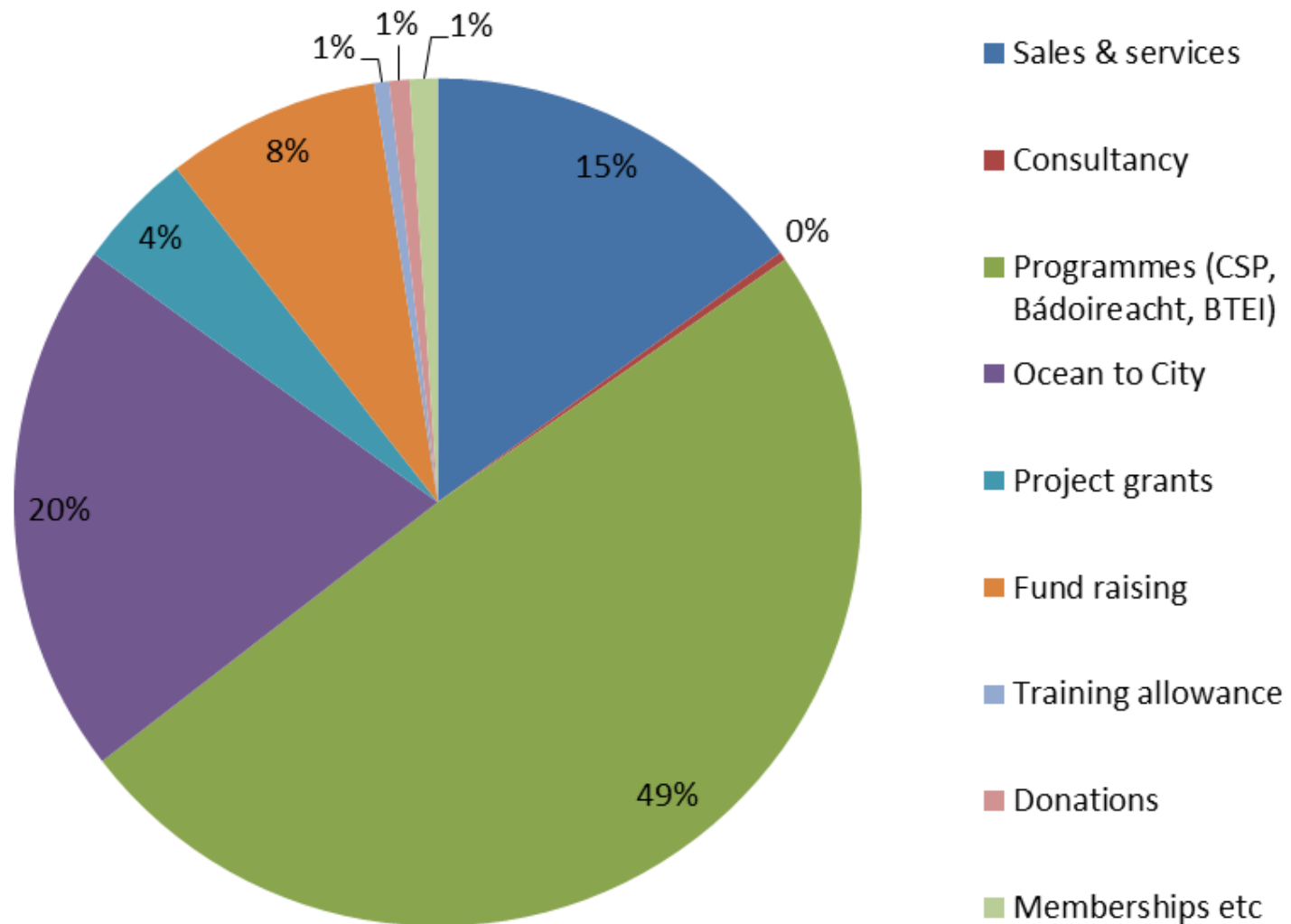
St John's Ambulance
Swell Surf School
TACT
The Drascombe Association
The Heritage Council
The Rebel Plunge
Titanic Experience Cobh
Togher Youth Development
Tourism Ireland
Traditional Boats of Ireland
UCC, Dept of History
Vibes and Scribes Lee Swim
Volunteers x320
Wandesford Quay Gallery
Waterstones
What's the Story? Storytelling
Whazon
Whitegate Rowing Club
YMCA
Youth Advocacy Programme
Youth Work Ireland Cork

Training & progression

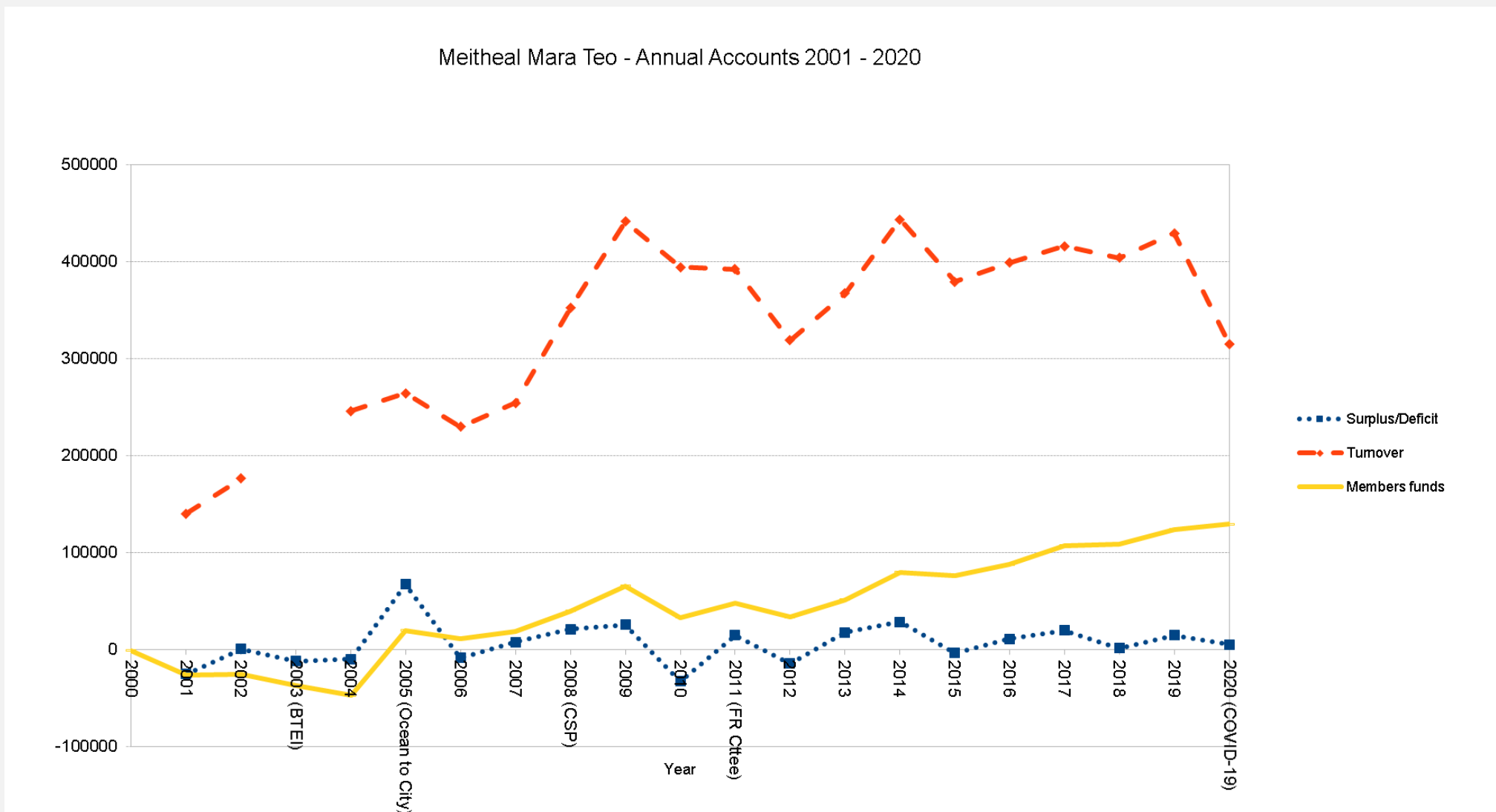
- Age groups from 12 to over 65 years
- Female and male
- All abilities and backgrounds
- Woodwork, wood turning, personal effectiveness – QQI Level 3
- Boat building, rowing and seamanship – preparatory



Sustainability – income sources



Sustainability 2001 - 2020



Meitheal Mara Crosses Green House 1998 - 2021

- Thank you !

