

# VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1178077

## Details

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**Other names** VISA

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2018-04-24

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Pocklington Hub  
First Floor  
3 Queen Square  
London

**Phone** 07920144614

**Email** [info@visa-gb.org.uk](mailto:info@visa-gb.org.uk)

**Website** [www.visa-gb.org.uk](http://www.visa-gb.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTEREST OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE OBJECT OF EMPOWERING AND IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THOSE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE IN NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES THROUGH THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND EVENTS AND PARTICULARLY, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY THE PROVISION OF OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES TO ENABLE THOSE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SAILING.

**Activities:** The Visually Impaired sailing Association is run by blind and partially sighted sailing enthusiasts to help others to enjoy the freedom of sailing. Our aim is to empower, motivate and encourage both blind and visually impaired people to join a team sailing yachts, chance to enjoy getting stuck in and be involved in something that is great fun and has significant benefits for wellbeing.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£26,051	£23,930	-	-
2024-03-31	£34,413	£22,479	-	-
2023-03-31	£24,995	£19,972	-	-
2022-03-31	£19,886	£23,135	-	-
2021-03-31	£10,731	£6,774	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anilkumar Kanani	Chair	2019-10-01
Adrian Higginbotham		2024-11-18
Alan Mckee		2019-04-02
Deirdre Jane Jones		2020-07-06
Simon David Maycock		2024-11-18

**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1178077

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# Accounts

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

### 1. Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** The Visually Impaired Sailing Association (Visa-gb)

**Registered charity number:** 1178077

**Charity's principal address:** C/O Pocklington Hub, 3 Queens Square, London WC1N 3AR

**Patron:** Pip Hare

### 2. Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Anilkumar Kanani	Chairman and Treasurer	Appointed Chairman 18 November 2024 Treasurer until 1 April 2025	
Tim Sandford	Chairman & Operations Manager	1 April to 18 November 2024	
Sue Hogge	Vice Chair and Membership Manager	1 April to 18 November 2024	
Dee Jones	Vice Chair and Membership Manager	Appointed Vice Chair and Membership Manager 18 November 2024	
Stuart Curl	Treasurer	1 April to 30 June 2024	
Alan McKee	Visa-gb Ethos Manager		
Adrian Higginbotham	Treasurer	Appointed Trustee on 18 November 2024 and Treasurer 1 April 2025	
Calvin Laidler	Operations Manager	Appointed 18 November 2024	
Simon Maycock	Volunteers Manager	Appointed 18 November 2024	

### 3. Description of the charity's trusts

**Type of governing document:** CIO – ASSOCIATION Registered 24 Apr 2018

**How the charity is constituted:** Association

#### Trustee selection methods:

Appointed by one member or Trustee recommending an individual for the role of Trustee with an endorsement by second member or Trustee.



#### **4. Charity's objectives and activities**

Our main objective is to provide opportunities for visually impaired (blind and partially sighted) adults to participate in offshore sailing as part of a full crew member with the aim of improving their lives through empowerment, encouragement, confidence building and social inclusion.

#### **5. The Charity's people**

The Charity is run by visually impaired sailing enthusiasts to help other visually impaired adults to enjoy the freedom of sailing. The Trustees are supported by sighted and visually impaired volunteers, including experienced and qualified sighted sailors.

Between them the Charity's current Trustees have over 50,000 nautical miles and over 75 years of sailing experience under their belt, sailing in both local and international waters. Their experience include taking part in races such as the Fastnet, Round the Island, Cowes Week and crossing oceans making them well qualified to support and develop sailing programmes that benefit other visually impaired adults. The Trustees also have a wealth of experience and expertise running businesses and working in the private and public sectors.

#### **6. Achievements and performance**

This accounting period was another very active year building on what we have delivered in the past. We are delighted that we were able to sail in Wales for the third time with the help of Thomas Pocklington Trust and Whirlwind Trust, who part funded this event. We also had a flotilla of four yachts sailing in Scotland. Both these events continue to build on one of our key objective to hold sailing events around the Great Britain. Trips held in 2024 included:

- an event designed to train new volunteers in supporting visually impaired sailors,
- sailing in Scotland with four yachts;
- sailing in Wales with two yachts
- taking part in the annual Sailing Vision Trust event;
- sailing in the South West of England and the Solent thanks to the continuing support of UKSA; and
- sailing to the Channel Islands.

We delivered 67 sailing days providing sailing for more than 50 participants, many of them new to sailing.

The Trustees would like to thank our members, all our volunteers including those supporting us on onshore, and the skippers for their continued support. They all help Visa-gb keep on sailing. We continue to grow our members and volunteers and more new members benefiting from the freedom of sailing.

The wonders of technology, emails and Teams, also helped us to keep in touch with members and volunteers.

During the year we focused on continuing to build our sailing activities designed to encourage people who have not sailed before to have a go. We also started to record the positive impact sailing has on individuals taking part through interviews, some of which are on our website. There is a marked improvement in self confidence and wellbeing as a result of sailing with Visa-gb, which not only has a positive impact on individuals but their family and wider community.



We also worked with organisations that support young adults, such as Victa and TPT to plan and deliver events specifically for young adults (18 to 25). Thanks to funding from The Powell Family Foundations we were able to design two events to be delivered in August 2025.

Achievements include:

- We have continued to increase our membership and volunteers over the year through increased marketing activity, interviews on radio and our presence on social media.
- We delivered 67 sailing days in 2024 around the Great Britain and Channel Islands
- Demonstrating ability over disability.
- Improving confidence and self-belief.
- Delivering sailing to more new visually impaired adults so they can enjoy the freedom of sailing.
- Engaging with more sailing clubs and visually impaired associations throughout the UK.
- Creating a community of visually impaired adults through WhatsApp groups and social media posts
- Building a sustainable organisation to help continue to deliver more sailing opportunities for visually impaired adults in the future.

Our achievements in 2024 are best expressed by our participants:

‘Being stuck on a boat is paradoxically liberating as a VI. When on board, I don’t need a cane. I feel my way around and everything has a home so where you put something is where it will be when you want it next time. When out on the water, and I am at the helm, it is down to me to keep our course straight by judging the feel of the wind on my face. I am in charge of a 42-foot 8-tonne craft. How great is that?’

‘My first sailing event with Visa-gb was amazing and exceeded my expectation !With an exciting itinerary, a fabulous boat, and a fantastic skipper and crew I and my new found friends were set for an exhilarating adventure. I was drawn to Visa-gb as I am partially sighted, and whilst being an experienced sailor, I struggle sailing with sighted crews in sailing clubs who sometimes are not open to having a visually impaired sailor on board. This was lovely as it was an accommodative and safe environment with understanding skipper and crew who fully support their visually impaired and blind sailors.’

## **6. Financial review**

The Charity is a non-profit making organisation and does not intend to hold large reserves but enough to be able to plan and announce in advance a number of events every year. Membership of Visa-gb is free but members are required to contribute for the cost of their participation in events we deliver. They are also free to make donations if they wish.

### **Financial Year April 2024 – March 25**

The Accounts for 2024-25 have been prepared and examined and approved by an independent examiner. A copy of the accounts and the independent examiner’s report are attached.

In summary the accounts show that the income for the year was £26,051.33. This is made up by Donations of £12,009.33 and Sailing Payments of £14,042.00. The main donations and grants were from Steven Sims - brother of the late Keith (Lofty) Sims who was a founding member and former Trustee of Visa-gb (£3000), Thomas Pocklington Trust (£3000), The Prince of Wales Trust (£1,000) and James Barlow (£1,000). A number of our members raised or donated a total of £5009. Funds raised were through poetry recital (Patrick Adams) and walking (Andrew Windsor).



Expenditure for the year was £23,930.36. The largest costs were for chartering yachts (£18,274.09), victuals (£2,044.65) and fuel and berthing (£1,057.71).

More details can be found in our accounts.

### **7. Declaration**

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report and the Annual Accounts prepared by the Treasurer and examined by the independent examiner.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

**Signature(s):**

*Akanani*

**Full name(s):** Anilkumar Kanani

**Position:** Chairman, Visa-gb

**Date:** November 2025

**THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	12,009.33		19,592.32	
Sailing payments	<u>14,042.00</u>		<u>14,820.23</u>	
		26,051.33		34,412.55
Activities for generating funds				
Fundraising				
Other (incl. refund yacht charter deposit 2021?)				
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		26,051.33		34,412.55
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising and publicity				
Charitable activities				
Travel (incl Volunteers)	1,508.73		1,315.94	
Charter fee	18,274.09		14,353.64	
Membership fee	0.00		323.00	
Fuel/Berth	1,057.71		1,077.52	
Insurance	0.00		1,792.36	
Computer & Software	696.00		868.66	
Crew cost (food)	2,044.65		2,087.01	
Other	49.18		661.16	
		23,930.36		22,479.29
Carried forward		<u>2,120.97</u>		<u>11,933.26</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>37,749.28</u>		<u>35,628.31</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		5,324.84		13,629.00
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		32,424.44		21,999.31
Signed by Treasurer and Chairman	<i>Akanani</i>	30-Nov-25		



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Visually Impaired Sailing Association		
On accounts for the year ended	31/03/2025	Charity no (if any)	
	Set out on pages 1 and 2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Katy Harding Date: 11 May 2025

Name: Katy Harding

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CPFA FMAAT

Address: 4 Highfield Court, Station Road  
Sutton Coldfield,  
West Midlands B73 5LB

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No disclosures required.

**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1178077

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# Accounts

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

### 1. Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** The Visually Impaired Sailing Association of Great Britain (VISA-GB)

**Registered charity number:** 1178077

**Charity's principal address:** C/O Pocklington Hub, 3 Queens Square, London WC1N3AR

**Patron:** Pip Hare

### 2. Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Tim Sandford	Acting Chairman & Operations Manager		
Anilkumar Kanani	Governance & Compliance		
Alan McKee	Trustee		
Dee Jones	Trustee		
Stuart Curl	Treasurer	June 2024	
Edward Kitchen	Trustee and Charter Manager	1 April 24 to October 2023	
Sue Hogge	Membership Sec		

### 3. Description of the charity's trusts

**Type of governing document:** CIO - ASSOCIATION Registered 24 Apr 2018

**How the charity is constituted:** Association

**Trustee selection methods:** Appointed by one member or Trustee recommending an individual for the role of Trustee with an endorsement by second member or Trustee

### 4. Charity's objectives and activities

Our main objective is to provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired people to participate in offshore sailing as part of a full crew member with the aim of improving their lives through empowerment, encouragement, and confidence building.

### 5. The Charity's people

The Charity is run by blind and partially sighted sailing enthusiasts to help others to enjoy the freedom of sailing.

Between them the Charity's current Trustees have over 40,000 nautical miles and over 75 years of sailing experience under their belt sailing in both local and international waters, with trips that include cruising for beginners, racing such as the Fastnet, Cowes Week and crossing oceans making them well qualified in the support and development of sailing programmes to benefit other visually impaired



adults. The Trustees also have a wealth of experience running businesses and working in the private and public sectors.

## 6. Achievements and performance

We experienced an active 12 months and were delighted to return to Milford Haven, Wales, for two separate trips thanks to the support of the Whirlwind Trust and the Thomas Pocklington Trust (TPT). The second trip included additional days to encourage new members to try sailing for the first time. With support from TPT we were also able to enter two boats into Sailing Vision Week in Falmouth. In July we had a joint venture with Metro Blind Sports and UKSA for a week of sailing in the Solent. Our thanks go to UKSA who help in the supply of yachts for a number of highly successful trips from their base in Cowes, their support enables us to add variety to our normal charters by offering short sails right through to cross channel passages.

One notable achievement for Visa-gb is our ability to provide a safe and secure environment for both men and women to sail together. Our sailing membership is now showing equal numbers of male and female sailors plus an increase in the number of female sighted volunteer crew.

The Trustees would like to say thank our members, volunteers, the skippers and fundraisers for their support. The wonders of technology, emails and zoom, also helped us to keep in touch. They all help Visa-gb keep on sailing. By the end of the accounting period we increased our volunteers and visually impaired sailors once again.

During the year we focused on continuing to build our sailing activities which included the introduction of more day sails, these are designed to encourage people who have not sailed before to have a go.

We continue to report on the positive impact sailing has on individuals taking part through interviews, testimonials and trip reviews, some of which are on our website. There is a marked improvement in self confidence and well being as a result of sailing with Visa-gb which not only has a positive impact on individuals but their family and wider community.

Achievements include:

- Increasing membership & volunteers. We have continued to increase our membership and volunteers over the year through increased marketing activity.
- We delivered **68 sailing days** in 2023 around the UK.
- Benefitting **45 visually impaired adults**.
- Demonstrating ability over disability.
- Improving confidence and self-belief.
- Engaging with more clubs & associations.
- Building a sustainable organisation.

A special mention must be made about members fundraising activities. In February Andrew Windsor, who first sailed in Milford Haven, raised well over £1000 by walking 10,000 steps a day through the dark and wet days of February. Our friend Nikki, of Pembrokeshire Cruising, swam a mile raising £1000 and Patrick Adams, a long term sailor and raconteur sang sea shanties and told tales to a packed house in Ledbury village hall raising a further £1000. In times of financial pressure and tight budgets this has made a big difference to our charity so a heartfelt thanks from us all.

To read a report about one of our trips please follow this link: [sea-vision-wales-milford-haven-september-2023](#)



It was in great sadness we learnt of the death of Keith 'Lofty' Sims, a founding member of Visa-gb. Lofty died whilst visiting family in the Philippines. For those that had met and sailed with Lofty knew him as a larger than life character, he was a real believer in all the of good sailing, and being a part of a crew, will do for anyone with a visual impairment. His fundraising activities became something of a legend. Lofty is much missed by all that knew him and, thanks to the generosity of his family, his legacy will help keep his spirit alive and kicking within the heart of Visa-gb. Here's a link to learn about Lofty's Legacy: [loftys-legacy](https://loftys-legacy.org)

## **6. Financial review**

The Charity is a non-profit making organisation and does not intend to hold large reserves but sufficient to be able to plan and announce in advance a number of events every year. Membership of Visa-gb is free but members may be required to contribute for the cost of their participation at events we deliver. They are also free to make donations if they wish.

### **Financial Year April 2023 – March 24**

The Accounts for 2023-24 have been prepared and a copy will be lodged with the Charity Commission. In summary they show:

*Income for the year was £34,412 and was made up by Donations of £19,592 and Sailing Payments of £14,820.*

*Expenditure for the year was £22,479 and the largest items were Charter £14,353, Food £2,087, Insurance £1,792, Fuel and Berth £1,077, IT £868 and Volunteer Expenses £1,315.*

*We started the year 1 April 2023 with cash in the bank of £23,695 and we ended the year 31 March 2024 with cash in bank of £35,628.31. This excludes liabilities post 1 April 2024 of 13,629.00.*

## **7. Declaration**

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report and the Annual Accounts prepared by the Treasurer. The accounts have been approved by an Independent Examiner.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full name(s):** Tim Sandford

**Position:** Chairman, Visa-gb

**Date:** November 2024

**THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
Incoming resources from generated funds	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations and Grants	19,592.32		14,396.00	
Sailing payments	<u>14,820.23</u>		<u>10,598.78</u>	
		34,412.55		24,994.78
Activities for generating funds				
Fundraising				
Other (incl. refund yacht charter deposit 2021?)				
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		34,412.55		<u>24,994.78</u>

**RESOURCES EXPENDED**

Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising and publicity				
Charitable activities				
Travel (incl Volunteers)	1,315.94		784.37	
Charter fee	14,353.64		13,965.56	
Membership fee	323.00		290.00	
Fuel/Berth	1,077.52		1,708.86	
Insurance	1,792.36		142.00	
Computer & Software	868.66		823.88	
Crew cost (food) Other	2,087.01		2,249.75	
Other	661.16		8.01	
		22,479.29		19,972.43
Carried forward		<u>11,933.26</u>		<u>5,022.35</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>35,628.31</u>		<u>23,695.05</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Charter fee due in 2024	13,629.00			
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		21,999.31		23,695.05



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Visually Impaired Sailing Association

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31/03/2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

**Set out on pages**

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2024**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

*KHarding*

**Date:**

24/08/2024

**Name:**

Katy Harding

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

CPFA FMAAT

**Address:**

4 Highfield Court, Station Road

Sutton Coldfield

West Midlands B73 5LB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

No disclosures required

**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1178077

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# Accounts

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

### 1. Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** The Visually Impaired Sailing Association of Great Britain (VISA-GB)

**Registered charity number:** 1178077

**Charity's principal address:** C/O Pocklington Hub, 3 Queens Square, London WC1N3AR

**Patron:** Pip Hare

### 2. Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Dee Jones	Chairman		
Sue Hogge	Vice Chair and Membership Manager		
Anilkumar Kanani	Governance & Compliance		
Alan McKee			
Tim Sandford	Operations Manager		
Eddie Kitchen	Charter Manager		
Stuart Curl	Treasurer		

### 3. Description of the charity's trusts

**Type of governing document:** CIO - ASSOCIATION Registered 24 Apr 2018

**How the charity is constituted:** Association

**Trustee selection methods:** Appointed by one member or Trustee recommending an individual for the role of Trustee with an endorsement by second member or Trustee

### 4. Charity's objectives and activities

Our main objective is to provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired people to participate in offshore sailing as part of a full crew member with the aim of improving their lives through empowerment, encouragement, and confidence building.

### 5. The Charity's people

The Charity is run by blind and partially sighted sailing enthusiasts to help others to enjoy the freedom of sailing.

Between them the Charity's current Trustees have over 40,000 nautical miles and 75 years of sailing experience under their belt sailing in both local and international waters, with trips that include cruising for beginners, racing such as the Fastnet, Cowes Week and crossing oceans making them well qualified in the support and development of sailing programmes to benefit other visually impaired adults. The Trustees also have a wealth of experience running businesses and working in the private and public sectors.



## 6. Achievements and performance

We experienced a very active 12 months and were delighted to sail in Wales for the first time helping to achieve a key ambition to hold sailing events around the UK. Trips held in 2022 included the Royal Escape Race, Round The Island, Sea Vision Wales, West Country & the Isles of Scilly. Thanks to the continuing support of UKSA we were able to put on a number of trips in and around the Solent, including day sails from Southampton to encourage those that have not sailed before.

We had a notable achievement in the Round The Island Race by winning the ISC International Trophy for the first boat with a disabled crew to cross the finish line.

The Trustees would like to say thank our members, volunteers, the skippers, minute takers for their support. The wonders of technology, emails and zoom, also helped us to keep in touch. They all help Visa-gb keep on sailing. By the end of the accounting period we had over 70 volunteers – the highest number since the organisation started in 2009.

During the year we focused on continuing to build our sailing activities which included the introduction of more day sails, these are designed to encourage people who have not sailed before to have a go. We also started to record the positive impact sailing has on individuals taking part through interviews, some of which are on our website. There is a marked improvement in self confidence and well being as a result of sailing with Visa-gb which not only has a positive impact on individuals but their family and wider community.

Achievements include:

- Increasing membership & volunteers. We have continued to increase our membership and volunteers over the year through increased marketing activity.
- We delivered **66 sailing days** in 2022 around the UK.
- Benefitting **43 visually impaired adults**.
- Demonstrating ability over disability.
- Improving confidence and self-belief.
- Engaging with more clubs & associations.
- Building a sustainable organisation.

Our achievements in 2022 are best expressed by Adele a first time volunteer Sea Vision Milford Haven:

*‘The trip was amazing, I learned so much about others and myself too. Seeing the positive transformation of the Visually Impaired crew was humbling and incredibly rewarding. The Skippers were so patient and understanding of the Visually Impaired crew needs when sailing. Nothing was too much trouble I will support and advertise Visa-gb as best as I can going forward’*

And by Nathalie who has sailed with Visa-gb for some years:

*‘The reason why I like sailing with Visa is because you are valued as yourself. We all get a chance to have a go at all aspects of sailing, and no matter how good or bad you are you are never judged or looked down upon by anyone. We all have a good laugh and it is a good way to make new friends as well as learning new skills.’*



## 6. Financial review

The Charity is a non-profit making organisation and does not intend to hold large reserves but sufficient to be able to plan and announce in advance a number of events every year. Membership of Visa-gb is free but members may be required to contribute for the cost of their participation at events we deliver. They are also free to make donations if they wish.

### **Financial Year April 2022 – March 23**

The Accounts for 2022-23 have been prepared and a copy is attached. In summary they show:

Income for the year was £24,995 and was made up by Donations of £14,396 and Sailing Payments of £10,599. The main donations were from the RYA who donated £3,911 and £2,860 and Thomas Pocklington Trust who donated £2,625 and £5,000.

Expenditure for the year was £19,972 and the largest items were Charter £13,966, Food £2,250, Fuel and Berth £1,709, IT £824 and Volunteer Expenses £784.

We started the year 1 April 2022 with cash in the bank of £18,673 and we ended the year 31 March 2023 with cash in bank of £23,695.

## 7. Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report and the Annual Accounts prepared by the Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full name(s):** Dee Jones

**Position:** Chairman, Visa-gb

**Date:** November 2023

THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	14,396.00		12,774.86	
Sailing payments	<u>10,598.78</u>		<u>7,082.22</u>	
		24,994.78		19,857.08
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Fundraising				
Other (incl. refund yacht charter deposit 2021 only)				28.75
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>24,994.78</u>		<u>19,885.83</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising and publicity				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Travel (incl Volunteers)	784.37		616.72	
Charter fee	13,965.56		15,592.25	
Membership fee	290.00		260.00	
Fuel/Berth	1,708.86		1,873.57	
Insurance	142.00		874.00	
Computer & Software	823.88		165.17	
Crew cost (food)	2,249.75		3,178.37	
Other	8.01		574.66	
		<u>19,972.43</u>		23,134.74
<b>Carried forward</b>		<u><u>5,022.35</u></u>		<u><u>(3,248.91)</u></u>

*SAIC*

THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
 BALANCE SHEET  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Tangible Assets		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors and prepayments				
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>23,695.05</u>		<u>18,672.70</u>	<u>18,672.70</u>
<b>CREDITORS: falling due within one year</b>	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>23,695.05</u>		<u>18,672.10</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u><u>23,695.05</u></u>		<u><u>18,672.10</u></u>

*Signature*

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**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1178077

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# Accounts

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

### 1. Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** The Visually Impaired Sailing Association of Great Britain (VISA-GB)

**Registered charity number:** 1178077

**Charity's principal address:** 9 Goldwell Drive, Newbury, RG14 1HZ

**Patron:** Pip Hare

### 2. Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Anilkumar Kanani	Chairman	Resigned October 21	
Dee Jones	Chair	Appointed January 22	
Sue Hogge	Vice Chair and Membership Manager		
Anilkumar Kanani	Volunteers Manager	January 22	
Alan McKee			
Tim Sandford	Cruising Co-ordinator		
Eddie Kitchen			
Stuart Curl	Treasurer	Appointed January 22	
Lorraine Dodge	Marketing Manager		
Dee Jones			

### 3. Description of the charity's trusts

**Type of governing document:** CIO - ASSOCIATION Registered 24 Apr 2018

**How the charity is constituted:** Association

**Trustee selection methods:** Appointed by one member or Trustee recommending an individual for the role of Trustee with an endorsement by second member or Trustee

### 4. Charity's objectives and activities

Our main objective is to provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired people to participate in offshore sailing as part of a full crew member with the aim of improving their lives through empowerment, encouragement, and confidence building.

### 5. The Charity's people

The Charity is run by blind and partially sighted sailing enthusiasts to help others to enjoy the freedom of sailing.

Between them the Charity's current Trustees have over 40,000 nautical miles and 75 years of sailing experience under their belt sailing in both local and international waters,



with trips that include cruising for beginners, racing such as the Fastnet, Cowes Week and crossing oceans making them well qualified in the support and development of sailing programmes to benefit other visually impaired adults. The Trustees also have a wealth of experience running businesses and working in the private and public sectors.

## 6. Achievements and performance

We experienced a very active 12 months and were delighted to reinstate some of the trips postponed due to COVID. Trips held at the start of the year were still subject to restrictions which meant crew numbers were down. The Royal Escape Race (4), Round The Island(4), Sea Vision (32), Scotland (19)

The Trustees would like to say thank our members, volunteers, the skippers, minute takers for their support. The wonders of technology, emails and zoom, also helped us to keep in touch. They all help Visa-gb keep on sailing.

During the year we focused on rebuilding our sailing activities which had been on hold due to Covid. Time was spent making sure we had the right protocols in place to manage the ongoing threat of Covid so all participants felt as safe and secure as possible.

Achievements include:

- Increasing membership & volunteers. We have continued to increase our membership and volunteers over the year through increased marketing activity.
- We delivered **64 sailing days** in 2021 around the UK.
- Benefitting **59 visually impaired adults.**
- Demonstrating ability over disability.
- Improving confidence and self-belief.
- Engaging with more clubs & associations.
- Building a sustainable organisation.

Our achievements are best expressed by our visually impaired sailors:

*'Sailing with Visa-gb is like nothing else, it's very special. Your sight loss is not seen as a barrier and the sighted crew are absolutely great at explaining and letting you have as much hands on experience as possible the patience is outstanding and they are great company too, ' Diane . (Royal Escape Charter 2021)*

## 6. Financial review

The Charity is a non-profit making organisation and does not intend to hold large reserves but sufficient to be able to plan and announce in advance a number of events every year. Membership of Visa-gb is free but members may be required to contribute for the cost of their participation at events we deliver. They are also free to make donations if they wish.

### Financial Year 2021-22

The Accounts for 2021-22 have been prepared and in summary show:

- An income of £19,886 and an expense of £23,135 leading to a deficit of £3,245.
- Income – this included £5,562 Lottery Grant, £3,000 Maven Wealth, £2,000 Strategic Solutions, £7,082 Crew Payments, Charity Shop £1,000



- Expense - this included £15,592 Yacht Charter, £3,178 Food, £1,874 Fuel and Berthing, Volunteer travel £617 and Overheads £1,874
- The overhead costs have increased on prior year primarily due to increased insurance costs. The overhead costs included Insurance £874, RYA affiliation £260 and IT £165.
- The cash balance on 31 March 2022 is £18,673

Given income is less than £25,000 then the accounts will not require a “review” by a third party accountant.

## **7. Declaration**

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report and the Annual Accounts prepared by the former Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full name(s):** Dee Jones

**Position:** **Chairman**, Visa-gb

**Date:** November 2022

THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	12,774.86		5,000.00	
Sailing payments	<u>7,082.22</u>		<u>1,495.00</u>	
		19,857.08		6,495.00
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Fundraising				
Other (incl. refund yacht charter deposit 2021 only)		28.75		4,236.42
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>19,885.83</u>		<u>10,731.42</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>				
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Travel (incl Volunteers)	616.72			
Charter fee	15,592.25		1,075.00	
Membership fee	260.00			
Fuel/Berth	1,873.57			
Insurance	874.00		142.00	
Computer & Software	165.17		359.88	
Crew cost (food)	3,178.37			
Promotional video			3,935.68	
Sundry Expenses			61.00	
Refunds of crew sailing payments (2021 only)			1,200.00	
Other	574.66			
		<u>23,134.74</u>		<u>6,773.56</u>
<b>Carried forward</b>		<u>(3,248.91)</u>		<u>3,957.86</u>

**VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1178077

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# Accounts

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# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

## 1. Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** The Visually Impaired Sailing Association of Great Britain (VISA-GB)

**Registered charity number:** 1178077

**Charity's principal address:** 55 Pelham Road, Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 4LT

## 2. Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Anilkumar Kanani	Chairman		
Sue Hogge	Vice Chair and Membership Manager		
Keith Simms	Fundraiser	April to December 2020	
Alan McKee	Volunteers Manager		
Tim Sandford	Cruising Co-ordinator		
Eddie Kitchen	Treasurer		
Lorraine Dodge	Marketing Manager	Appointed July 2020	
Dee Jones	Fundraising Manager	Appointed July 2020	

## 3. Description of the charity's trusts

**Type of governing document:** CIO - ASSOCIATION Registered 24 Apr 2018

**How the charity is constituted:** Association

**Trustee selection methods:** Appointed by one member or Trustee recommending an individual for the role of Trustee with an endorsement by second member or Trustee

## 4. Charity's objectives and activities

Our main objective is to provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired people to participate in offshore sailing as part of a full crew member with the aim of improving their lives through empowerment, encouragement, and confidence building.

## 5. The Charity's people

The Charity is run by blind and partially sighted sailing enthusiasts to help others to enjoy the freedom of sailing.

Between them the Charity's current Trustees have over 40,000 nautical miles and 75 years of sailing experience under their belt sailing in both local and international waters, with trips that include cruising for beginners, racing such as the Fastnet, Cowes Week and crossing oceans making them well qualified in the support and development of sailing programmes to benefit other visually impaired adults. The Trustees also have a wealth of experience running businesses and working in the private and public sectors.

## 6. Achievements and performance

Looking back a year ending March 2021 we have experienced some turbulent times due to Covid 19, as individuals and members of families and communities. We have all been tested in different ways. And Visa-gb was not exempt from this time of disruption. We had to push back all of our trips to 2021.

The Trustees would like to say thank our members, volunteers, the skippers, minute takers for their support. The wonders of technology, emails and zoom, also helped us to keep in touch. They all help Visa-gb keep on sailing.

During the year we published our first marketing plan 2020, the start of a new decade of empowering visually impaired sailors.

Aims and achievements include:

- Increasing membership & volunteers. We have roughly doubled our membership over the year, and volunteer numbers are growing.
- Delivering more sailing trips around the UK
- Benefitting more visually impaired adults
- Demonstrating ability over disability
- Improving confidence and self-belief
- Engaging with more clubs & associations
- Building a sustainable organisation

In September of 2020 we made our first promotional film. Its purpose was to introduce our organisation to a broader public. We would like to thank UKSA (UK Sailing Association) for their generosity letting us use their boat for filming and Tesco for funding the project

In this year, we also welcomed Pip Hare to Visa-gb as our patron. Despite Pip being so incredibly busy with the Vendee Globe, she was able to give us exclusive interviews, personally endorsing our new film and we look forward to more joint ventures in the future.

## **6. Financial review**

The Charity is a non-profit making organisation and does not intend to hold large reserves but sufficient to be able to plan and deliver two to three events every year. Membership of Visa-gb is free but members are required to contribute for the cost of their participation at events we deliver. They are also free to make donations if they wish.

In 2020/21 financial year the Charity received grants totalling £5,000 from Tesco Bags for Life scheme to produce a film of what visually impaired sailors do on a typical Visa-gb trip. This film was completed in January 2021 and distributed to over 200 organisations.

The total receipts in 2020/21 were £10,731.42. We spent £6,773.56. The Charity ended the financial year with a cash asset of £21,921.61, all of which is already committed for the events in 2021 mentioned above.

## **7. Declaration**

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report and the Annual Accounts prepared by the former Treasurer.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full name(s):** Lorraine Dodge.

**Position:** Trustee, Visa-gb

**Date:** November 2021

THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SAILING ASSOCIATION  
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	5,000.00			
Sailing payments	<u>1,495.00</u>			11,086.94
		6,495.00		
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Fundraising				
Other (including refund yacht charter deposit)		4,236.42		30,162.40
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>10,731.42</u>		<u>41,249.34</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>				
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Postage, printing and stationary, management fee			128.75	
Accommodation/Travel			1,978.30	
Charter fee	1,075.00		17,969.31	
Membership fee			125.00	
Meeting cost			398.70	
Insurance	142.00		142.00	
Computer & Software	359.88		887.70	
Crew cost			2,063.37	
Volunteer expenses			749.78	
Promotional video	3,935.68			
Sundry Expenses	61.00		451.18	
Sunbscriptions				
Refunds of crew sailing payments	1,200.00			
		<u>6,773.56</u>		<u>24,894.09</u>
<b>Carried forward</b>		<u><u>3,957.86</u></u>		<u><u>16,355.25</u></u>