



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
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Incoming resources from generated funds		
Receipts		
Donations	14,396.00	12,774.86
Sailing payments	10,598.78	7,082.22
	24,994.78	19,857.08
Activities for generating funds		
Fundraising		
Other (incl. refund yacht charter deposit 2021 only)		28.75
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	24,994.78	19,885.83
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating funds		
Fundraising and publicity		
Charitable activities		
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
	19,972.43	23,134.74
Carried forward	5,022.35	(3,248.91)

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

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

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