

Borders Water Rescue Team

Scotland · Charity number SC043718

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2013-01-21
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	1 Sweethope Kelso TD5 7RZ
Website	www.bwrt.org.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the saving of lives'

What the charity does: Borders Water Rescue Team provides a water-related search, rescue and recovery service to benefit the public and save lives. The Team also facilitates public and community events by providing water safety cover and undertaking community group education on water safety

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The organisation's purpose is to provide a water-related search, rescue and recovery service to benefit the general public and save lives.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Scottish Borders
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£41,765	£22,030	-	0
2024-02-28	£37,979	£26,269	-	0
2023-02-28	£25,591	£18,896	-	0
2022-02-28	£42,361	£5,482	-	0
2021-02-28	£6,348	£6,789	-	0

Borders Water Rescue Team

Scotland - Charity number SC043718

Accounts

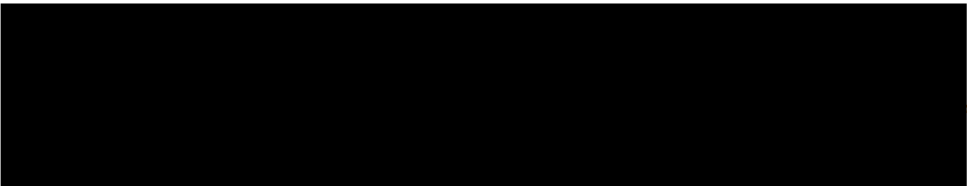



2024-2025 Accounts

Borders Water Rescue Team

REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For Year Ended 28th February 2025

Scottish Incorporated Charity No SC043718

Border Water Rescue Team AGM Meeting	
AGM meeting minutes	
Date:	2nd February 2025
Time:	2 pm
Location:	Kelso Royal British Legion, Roxburgh Street, Kelso
Present:	
Apologies:	
Declaration of interest:	None
Agenda items	
1	Review of actions from previous meeting N/A
2	Approve minutes of previous AGM meeting, 4 th February 2024. No questions or amendments. Minutes approved by  , seconded by  .
3	<p>Trustees Report (Year 2023/24) – AGM, 2nd February 2025</p> <p>Welcome to the 2025 AGM for the Borders Water Rescue Team. We are completing our 12th year as a registered charity and 27 years as a team. The team have continued to be active in it's charity objectives in educating and keeping people safe in and around water. We have also continued our 6 aims which were set by the trustees 2018.</p> <p>Recruitment of new members. The team is always open to new members but as the team was at full strength last year, no active recruitment drive was made. Due to natural movement and ill health, the trustees will support the management team to bring in new members in the coming year.</p> <p>Promotion of the team & Maximise partnership. Trustees have promoted the team during the year. Network events with the MOD, PAWS and Rotary were attended to strengthen our connections. Continued strong links with local emergency services keeps our te am in high regard. Membership of the SMR (Scottish Mountain Rescue) is still ongoing.</p>

	<p>Events. Events support continues to keep the team busy throughout the summer. The events trustee has continued to work with colleagues like Swim Safety, Still Going Strong/Go Swim and Ride Out Committees. Their continued requests confirm that we are the preferred safety organisation to cover their water events. We look forward to continuing these connections in the coming years.</p> <p>Fundraising is our lifeline. Trustee and team members have been very active in the year in fundraising activities. The Berwick Swim took place for the first time, which was a big success and in conjunction with Galashiels Rotary, allowed the new sledge to be purchased. The team were in attendance at Kelso Farmers Market & Border Union Show, with a successful raffle. Santa's Sleigh finished off the year.</p> <p>Search and rescue is our core. Call outs are what we do but we all hope there are few situations where our help is require. Thankfully call out were not in abundance during the year but this can change instantly due to natural and manmade forces, so the team must be ready to react to any and all situations. This is the reason the team exists. Whether we are searching for missing people or rescuing flood victims, the trustees will continue to provide equipment and training to our members for all eventualities.</p> <p>Once again, we would like to say thank you to each and every volunteer who makes it possible for the team to be held in such high regard with other voluntary teams and emergency services we work with. We all bring something different to the team and our strengths all lie in different places, this is why in the trustee's eyes we think we function so well.</p> <p>Thank you one and all from your trustees. Heather Winterbottom 2nd February 2025</p>	
4	<p>BWRT Treasurer Report 2023/4</p> <p>AGM Finance Report (Covering year 1st March 2023 to 29th February 2024)</p> <p>The Receipts & Payments account shows a net profit for the year to 28th February 2024 of £11,677 (£6,695, 28th February 2023).</p> <p>Income:</p> <p>Only one grant was received in the year. £1,500 was received from Charity Begins at Home to cover training activities. Sponsorship:- £300 (£300 2022/3)</p> <p>Major donations in the year:- £750 Mainhouse Charitable Trust, £5,000 Mrs S Bowring, £3,000 Berwickshire Charity Truck Run, £5,612 Berwick Open Water Swim, £1,700 from Tough Mudder, £3,300 from Total Warrior, £4,082 Raffle, £3,090 Border Ride-outs, £1,100 Sunlaws Development and Santa's Sleigh 2023 £3,317.</p> <p>The trustees wish to thank all the members who gave their time to earn these amazing amounts of money for the team.</p> <p>Expenses:</p>	

	<p>The expenses in the year were greater than 2022/23. There were capital equipment purchases in the year which included, inflatable rescue tube, mega sled, new suits & equipment.</p> <p>Vehicle running costs are inline with prior year. 2k on team uniform/clothing. Sundries and fundraising expenses increased due to the fundraising activities undertake in the year.</p> <p>Bank Balances:-</p> <p>The statement of balances shows a total balance at 28th February 2024 of £81,578 in comparison to £68,909 the previous year. This is split between restricted funds of £20,863 (£10,000 retain for expenses, restricted grants/donations £10,863) leaves unrestricted funds of £60,724.</p> <p>Accounts to Feb 2024 were audited by an independent qualified party, approved by Trustees and signed on the 27th November 1924 and the return was submitted to OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator).</p> <p>Accounts circulated to members via the team private page on 19th January 2025.</p> <p>██████████ Treasurer</p>	
5	<p>Team Leaders Report - 2023/4</p> <p>Well that's been another quick year, I feel we are quite settled in our leadership group!!.</p> <p>This year has been a quiet on for callouuts, only x2 and x2 standbys. All the border teams are quiet apart from Tweed with Glentress.</p> <p>Training</p> <p>We welcomed our 6 new trainees in and you are all progressing well and will be qualified yellow helmets in a couple of months.</p> <p>We have some re certs for our SRT's later in the year which I'm looking into our options and will talk to them about this.</p> <p>Training on the whole is always well attended.</p> <p>Thank you to ██████ for keeping training on point and we now have our first female instructor ██████ in training!!</p> <p>Thanks also must go to ██████ who likes to keep pushing the team hard for fitness and every Sunday makes us accountable for our weeks effort.</p> <p>The team are looking in to getting our own drone, this will require pilots, if this is something of interest to you please let me know.</p> <p>Fundraising</p> <p>This has been a massive year for fundraising, thank you everyone for your help. Let's do it all over again next year!!.</p> <p>I was approached by SMR to put in an application to join and be partially funded by SMR but our application was unsuccessful . We shall try again!!</p> <p>Lastly thank you to ████████████████████ for all the behind the scenes work they do, a thankless task but very much required!, it doesn't go unnoticed.</p> <p>AOB Very last thing!!</p>	

	<p>██████ you have had a rough year but staying in the fight has got you through it, WELL DONE!!!</p> <p>Team Leader BWRT ██████</p>	
6	<p>Constitutional matters arising</p> <p>New and re-election of Trustees.</p> <p>No new Trustees have come forward and all trustees are willing to stand for another 12 months The team voted unanimously to re-elect all the present trustees.</p>	
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>██████, has been working on team fitness for many months. He has put forward proposal for a more formal fitness initiative and the costs involved. This proposal is to be taken to the trustees at the next trustees meeting.</p>	
8	<p>AGM Business Meeting closed at 2.30 pm</p>	
9	<p>TEAM REPORTS</p> <p>Social Media Report – February 2025</p> <p>It has been another settled year for the social media team with a steady stream of posts during this time.</p> <p>This year has seen another successful media strategy for the Santa Sleigh and his new sidekick, the Grinch, with the use of reels helping to increase the team's Facebook reach.</p> <p>Looking at the FB estimated viewing figures from Jan 24 to Jan 25, we have continued to increased our numbers with a typical post reaching between 5000- 12000 people. With the top 5 performing posts of the year all in excess of that range and were Santa sleigh related posts. These event posts have also helped increased our FB followers and interactions by local community groups particularly from the more outlying villages/towns such as Denholm, Morebattle and Gala.</p> <p>The most viewed post was the announcement of our Santa Sleigh schedule which was viewed over 76,000, reaching over 27,000 accounts. This post greatly contributed towards the increase in new followers.</p> <p>Our Grinch arrest reel was our 5th most viewed post with almost 20,000 views, with an accumulated watch time of 2days ,13h. However the most interesting information is that about 80% of the views of this post where by non followers. Typically our posts are seen by 70% of our own followers and</p>	

30% non followers. Therefore increasing the number of reels will definitely be an aim for this year.

In conclusion, the social media team has a steady set of platforms which we can continue to move forward with however it's important to still look at new ways to develop the teams online profile over the next year. I wish to thank all those in the team who contributed this year to help get us this far.
Sent from my iPad

Website needs updating. Agreed that the media team will prepared and ready in approximately 6 months. If it's decided that the website, going forward, needs to be redesigned, there is still 5k in restricted funds for the purpose. [REDACTED] asked to provide costings to be brought to the Trustees also later in the year. This may need to include outsourced costs for the design.

The media team are looking for a 4th member. If any member is interested, please contact [REDACTED] for further information.

Training Officers Report – February 2025

Much has been achieved during my first year as your training officer. Given that there was no proper report for last year's AGM, I have gone back to November of the previous year for completeness.

In November 2023, both [REDACTED] completed their SFR SBA for recertification. [REDACTED] completed his SRT qualification and [REDACTED] all completed their SRT SBA for recertification. Just after the last AGM in March 2024, [REDACTED] completed their SRT SBA for recertification.

In June of last year, 8 of us went up to Pinkston to complete the Rescue from Vehicle in Water (RVW) course with Howie Crook - [REDACTED]. It is our intention to go back to Pinkston again this summer when local river levels are too low for sensible training. Having successfully completed my instructors refresher course in July, down in Carlisle, I am able to teach the RVW course within the team.

Looking forward, there are 7 team members embarking on their SFR training next month including [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is also joining us! Both Ian and Andy are in need of SRT SBAs for recertification and those SRTs that missed the RVW course should get the opportunity to catch up this summer. Also, [REDACTED] has agreed to work towards her instructor qualification, which will be on-going during the coming year.

[REDACTED] needs a special mention at this point for his enthusiastic encouragement of team fitness - the team is in much better shape as a consequence. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, thank you to all of you for continuing to make training a safe and engaging activity which we can all enjoy, whilst still being mindful of the reason why we do it!

Next Training – night exercise 1st March 2025

First aid Report February 2025

It's been a very quiet year in one way and very successful in another. Firstly as of July last year the team had every team member qualified to do First aid (our newer members all passed there course), so well done to all.

It was a quiet year regarding first aid events as we had a few cancellations (mainly being the 4 obstacle events that were cancelled by floors castle)
We had Roxburghe rocks in august bringing in £550

Followed by chain bridge to Berwick swim in September (no monitory value for first aid as combined with safety cover)

Edinburgh riding of the marches in September that was meant to bring in £1000 but because they got into financial problems, the 3 combined medical teams got a reduced amount and we got £320.

That's £870 in total this year instead of the £3750 that we were expecting to bring in for first aid events.

So even though financial last year was very disappointing it also provided us with a lot of positives;

1- The whole water team are all qualified to operate doing first aid to a high standard.

2- During 3 events this year the team was called upon to provide emergency assistance to 2 very seriously injured or ill casualties. As normal the team members involved in each incident rose to the occasion as expected.

The first was a cardiac arrest at Tough Mudder Scotland and our team were straight onto the chest giving 8 minutes of CPR till medical team arrived with AED, a very positive outcome and one very lucky person we were on hand.

Secondly we stopped along A68 near St Boswell to a cyclist that came off there bike, with possession head and spinal injuries, as we were on our way to Peebles for an Event, a team member stayed with the casualty along with bystanders to make sure casualties was in the best hands when handed over to Ambulance (Casualty had broken bones in his neck)

3- Then during the Edinburgh riding of the marches in September, we had 3 casualties that we took to Hospital for treatment.

1st casualty had a broken lower leg in 3 places.

2nd casualty had soft tissue injury, nothing broken.

3rd casualty had a small fracture to the coccyx (lower back/spine)

So we had a very successful year with what we treated and how we operated as a team when doing this.

It is very satisfying as a trainer when we help someone and do it well and it makes it all worth while. Well done everyone for your efficiency and professionalism.

We have just ordered 2 new defibs which we will receive soon and also 2 x first aid bags with other vital fracture/ spinal equipment are ready and waiting on approval. So in the bigger picture, what looked like a disappointing year ended up a very successful year.

One very happy medical officer.

██████████
DTL & Medical Officer

Events Co-ordinator report 2025

It has been a very busy year for events once again and I'd like to start by thanking each and every one of you for volunteering your time and energy to make it a very successful year. In particular I'd like to thank Graham for taking on the coordination of all 13 Santa Sleigh Events as well as the Go Swim provision. Fantastic effort ██████████ and sorry I couldn't be much help!

	<p>In total we covered 34 events; 13 Santas, 5 involving young people, 4 river crossings, 4 Go Swim events, 2 major sporting events, 2 First Aid provisions, 3 money collections and the epic River Tweed Sponsored Swim. There were a couple of frustrating cancellations. Melrose Ride out was cancelled due to river levels and Inflatable Insanity at Roxburgh Castle was cancelled twice due to the inflatables being stuck in transit. Even so we would have had them covered if they'd gone ahead so thank you for volunteering and I hope you enjoyed your weekends off!</p> <p>We have built really strong alliances with the organisers and we expect many of these events to be repeated in the coming year. I'm still waiting on confirmation for most but as an indication Total Warrior asked if we'd put it in the diary for 2025 about 3 weeks after the 2024 run. However some events have dropped off the calendar so there is always room for new opportunities to arise. I know [REDACTED] has plans to build on the Wild Swimming sponsored events but more of that when we have details. Please let us know if you spot any new opportunities to provide water safety cover, to spread the word about water safety or to raise funds for the team. The more money we raise, the more money we can spend on equipment, kit and training and the stronger the team will grow.</p> <p>I have already started creating some events for 2025. Please keep an eye out for new listings and please take the time to indicate whether you are available or not as soon as possible. I also appreciate a 'maybe' response if you're not sure. At least then I know you've seen it and are not just ignoring me!</p> <p>Thank you once again for your support for all the events and let's do it again next year.</p> <p>[REDACTED] - Events Co-ordinator</p>	
10	<p>AOB – Team</p> <p>The team is looking to purchase our own drone and licenses. Grant/fundraising funding is being sourced at present. If any one is interesting in learning and getting licensed in drone flying, please discuss with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] will need to renew his license in May 2025.</p> <p>Bob is to announce that [REDACTED] are now members of the Coast Guard. [REDACTED] is now a member of Berwick RNLI. Congratulations to everyone.</p>	
11	Meeting closed at 3.31 pm	
Signed:	[REDACTED]	<p>Date: 2nd February 2025</p>

**Borders Water Rescue Team
Receipts & Payments Account**

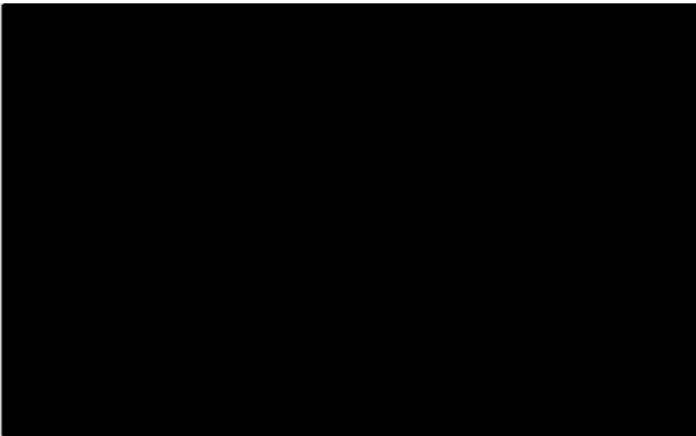
For Accounting Year Ending February

	2025	2024
Receipts		
Grants Received	-	1,500
Emergency Services Reimbursement of Costs	-	-
Fundraising	9,239	8,274
Donations + £2 Rounding	26,790	27,029
Sponsorship	240	300
HMRC VAT	4,421	-
Bank Interest Gross	1,075	845
Unallocated	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	41,765	37,948
 Payments		
<u>Payments for Charitable Activities</u>		
Equipment Capital	9,186	
Equipment Repairs & call-out fees	1,679	
	<hr/>	
	10,865	16,895
Insurance	2,317	1,600
Clothing	693	2,339
Training Expenses	3,225	469
Travel Expenses	57	370
Professional	-	469
Sundries incl Fundraising expenses	1,717	2,009
Vehicle Running Costs	3,156	2,119
Unallocated	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,030	26,269
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Shortfall / Surplus for Period	19,735	11,679
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Unrestricted General Fund		
Balance at financial year end	66,177	54,045
Restricted Fund		
Balance at financial year end	15,408	15,863
Surplus for Period	19,735	11,679
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Balance at financial year end	101,320	81,587
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Borders Water Rescue Team
Statement of Balances at financial year end

	2025	2024
Royal Bank of Scotland Current Account	12,373	4,715
Royal Bank of Scotland Deposit Account	88,937	76,862
Paypal Account		
Cash In Hand	10	10
Unpresented Items		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	101,320	81,587
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Unrestricted Fund (Note 1b)	<u>85,912</u>	<u>65,722</u>

These accounts have been approved by the Management Committee on 25/11/25
and signed on their behalf by:



Borders Water Rescue Team

Independent Examiners Report to the Committee

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 28th February 2025

Respective Responsibility of Management Committee & Examiner

The charity management committee are responsible for the presentation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulation does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the account records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts present with those records. It also includes consideration of unusual items or disclosures in the account and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

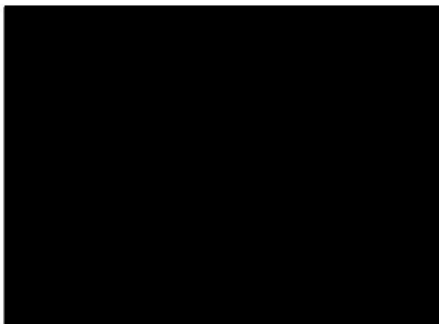
Independent Examiners Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 44 (1) of the 2005 Act & Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounting Regulations, and
- To prepare accounts which record the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



2024-2025 Accounts

Borders Water Rescue Team

Notes on Accounts for Period 28th February 2025

1 Accounting Policies

A Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2002 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The preparation of the account on a cash basis continues to be applied in the current year.

B Funds

Unrestricted General Fund

The general fund comprises these funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charities objectives.

2 Trustees Remuneration & Expenses

Trustees are not remunerated and no Trustee received remuneration of Trustee expenses during the period.

No contracts for services have been entered into with any of the Trustees.