

Deep Blue Scuba Dive Club
Trustees' Annual Report
1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Charity Details

Deep Blue Scuba Dive Club
Scottish Charity Number: SC046575
16 West Gorgie Parks, Edinburgh, EH14 1UT
info@deepbluescuba.co.uk
www.deepbluescuba.co.uk

Committee Members

The Committee Members during the year were as follows:

1. Eddie Adie
2. Sarah Gregory
3. Stephen Logan
4. Jeremy Brown
5. Gareth Smyth
6. James Streetley

Objectives and activities

The organisation's purposes are:

- To promote public participation in the sport of scuba diving by training scuba divers, providing opportunities to dive, and generally facilitating, developing and promoting training, knowledge, and understanding of scuba diving and all related activities in, on and out of the water; and
- To advance environmental protection by developing and promoting an awareness of the marine environment and our impact on it through scuba diving and all related activities in, on and out of the water.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The constitution, our governing document, was adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 7th September 2017. It outlines the rules for club operations, and you can find a copy on our website.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Throughout the year, no new Committee Members were recruited except during the AGM. Committee Members must be club members, although the Committee can co-opt additional individuals who are not club members if they possess specialist experience and/or skills that could benefit the Committee.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Committee's objective is to amass adequate reserves to cover at least a year's worth of overhead expenses.

Achievements and performance

Training:

We now have a long-term pool booking at a school in West Lothian and whilst not ideal for an Edinburgh based club, it allows us to provide certainty to prospective clients that we will have the resources required to complete their courses.

During the reporting period from April 2023 to March 2024, we issued 151 certifications, marking a healthy increase from the 120 certifications issued in the previous year.

- 5 Advanced Open Water
- 1 Deep Diver
- 47 Discover Scuba Diving Experiences.
- 33 Drysuit.
- 12 Emergency First Responders.
- 3 Emergency Oxygen Provider
- 7 Enriched Air Diver
- 5EFR Mental Health Awareness
- 19 Open Water.
- 14 Reactivated Divers.
- 3 Rescue Divers.
- 2 Open Water Instructors

Trips:

During the 2023 season, we organised monthly day excursions to St Abbs from April to September. Additionally, there were four one-day trips to Anstruther, targeting Bass Rock and the Isle of May, as well as a day trip to the Clyde. Regrettably, adverse weather conditions forced the cancellation of our planned trips to the Farne Islands in October.

For longer excursions, we conducted our usual 3-day to Lochaline and revisited Orkney on a live-aboard to explore the renowned Scapa Flow shipwrecks from World War I. In February 2024, we organised another successful journey to Egypt, collaborating once more with Diverse Travel and Emperor Divers – all with great participant feedback.

Throughout the year, a total of 58 members made over 150 trip bookings.

The 2024 season has a similar schedule of day trips and includes our first trip on MV Honeydew in Sept 2024 and planning is well underway for 2025.

Membership:

As of 31 March 2024, our membership totalled 92, with 61 men and 31 women; in the previous year ending 31 March 2023, we had 89 members, including 61 men and 28 women.

The gender ratio among members has remained relatively stable this year compared to last, with men constituting 66% and women 33%. This shows a small improvement from March 31, 2023, when the figures were 69% male and 31% female. The club is keen on further increasing female membership and welcomes any suggestions.

Our events are organised by members and volunteers, many of whom are certified Divemasters and Instructors. Their dedication and expertise are greatly appreciated by the Committee.

Financial review

As a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) we prepare accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Comparative figures for the year to 31st March 2023 have been prepared on the same basis and are listed at the end of the report.

Income and receipts

For the fiscal year ending on 31st March 2024, income and receipts are similar to the prior year, totalling £55.2k (compared to £54.5k in 2023). Membership and trip revenues have increased, aligning with the £7k grant awarded in 2023.

Payments and expenditure

In 2024, like many other businesses, we have faced increases in the cost of living that have impacted various aspects (such as air fills, boat charters, and PADI materials), with the most significant rise being in the cost of securing Pool rentals. The Committee are working with West Lothian Council to explore opportunities for reduction in rental rates.

During the year ending 31st March 2024, payments for direct costs rose in tandem with the increase in trips and training, reaching £32.2k (compared to £20.5k in 2023). Overheads, including premises, bills, kit servicing, insurance, van costs, etc., increased slightly to £25.9k due to higher expenses related to kit repairs and motoring. Changes in other overheads were not significant.

As highlighted in last year's report, safety is of paramount importance, prompting the committee to invest £3.3k in new diving equipment, replacing older regulators and some drysuits.

Operating and net position for the year

In summary, the club concluded the year leading up to 31st March 2024 with a financial shortfall. The net deficit amounted to £2.9k, compared to a £10.2k profit in 2023, and the club commenced the 2023-24 period with a bank balance of £17k, down from £23.6k at the start of the previous year. A comprehensive breakdown of Receipts and Payments, along with the Balance Sheet, can be found at the end of the report.

Future plans

As previously noted, the club has been affected by rising cost-of-living expenses during the last reporting period. Consequently, the committee had to raise the charges for our services at the beginning of this financial year.

Throughout 2024, we have maintained a steady level of monthly activities, including a comprehensive schedule of training sessions and both domestic and international trips.

The club faced an unforeseen challenge when the lease on our van was unexpectedly revoked, forcing us to decide between buying the van or entering into a new lease agreement. Given the high costs in the leasing market, the committee chose to purchase our current van, which is now listed as one of the club's assets.

Last year, the club proudly announced that Rob MacKean became our PADI Course Director, and I am delighted to report that we are already seeing the benefits. In early 2024, two new Open Water instructors qualified, with another in September 2024. This expansion is increasing volunteer capacity and reducing the workload on our current teaching staff.

Additionally, our collaboration with the Edinburgh Diving Centre remains strong, and Jeremy has several offers available to ensure our members continue diving.

Throughout the rest of 2024 and into 2025, the Committee will continue collaborating with our partners to provide the standard of training and diving experiences associated with a 5 Star PADI Instructor Development Centre.

A particular focus as we move into 2025 is to explore charity funding opportunities to allow the club to secure further financial stability.

As always, we would like to thank the continued support of all out volunteers and members, without your contribution, the club would not exist.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity Trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Smyth', is written over a blue rectangular box.

Print name

Gareth Smyth

Designation

Club President

Date

30th October 2024

Receipts and Payments Account
 Deep Blue Scuba Dive Club
 For the year ended 31 March 2024

Account	2024	2023
Receipts		
Courses	25,273.35	23,501.00
Fun dives & equipment rental	1,887.00	775.00
Membership fees	5,095.00	3,720.00
Merchandise	829.00	0.00
Other income	4,287.12	11,666.60
Trips - Overseas	950.00	0.00
Trips - St Abbs, Lochaline etc	16,877.00	14,850.03
Total Turnover	55,198.47	54,512.63
Payments		
Direct costs - accommodation & trips	2,229.06	2,826.80
Direct costs - air fills	4,863.38	1,514.20
Direct costs - boat charters	12,682.00	8,222.00
Direct Costs - Merchandise	810.60	0.00
Direct costs - PADI materials & PICs	6,270.24	6,272.78
Direct Costs - Pool rentals	5,342.00	1,646.25
Total Cost of Sales	32,197.28	20,482.03
Gross Profit	23,001.19	34,030.60
Administrative Costs		
Bank Charges	1,099.43	835.93
General expenses	0.00	37.88
Insurance - premises & general	2,886.84	3,330.41
Maintenance	2,698.51	2,955.80
Marketing	1,004.88	460.01
Motor expenses	3,503.80	2,543.56
Office costs	521.16	546.32
Phone & broadband	214.99	435.60
Power	1,138.45	1,073.55
Rent	7,500.00	6,938.09
Repairs and Renewals	1,142.17	466.97
Van Insurance	1,265.50	1,307.93
Van leasing costs	2,968.56	2,932.56
Total Administrative Costs	25,944.29	23,864.61
Operating Profit	(2,943.10)	10,165.99
Other Income		
Donations	0.00	535.00
Total Other Income	0.00	535.00
Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation	(2,943.10)	10,700.99
Profit after Taxation	(2,943.10)	10,700.99

Balance Sheet
Deep Blue Scuba Dive Club
As at 31 March 2024

Account	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2023
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets		
Equipment - cost	41,078.62	37,739.12
Equipment - depreciation to date	(36,822.88)	(36,822.88)
Fixtures - depreciation to date	(580.22)	(580.22)
Fixtures & Fittings - cost	640.22	580.22
Total Tangible Assets	4,315.74	916.24
Total Fixed Assets	4,315.74	916.24
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
DBS HSBC Current	16,206.07	22,171.07
Paypal account	762.95	1,452.55
Total Cash at bank and in hand	16,969.02	23,623.62
Accounts Receivable	1,112.00	800.00
Inventory	788.94	788.94
Total Current Assets	18,869.96	25,212.56
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Rounding	0.50	0.50
VAT	(0.30)	(0.30)
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0.20	0.20
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	18,869.76	25,212.36
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	23,185.50	26,128.60
Net Assets	23,185.50	26,128.60
Capital and Reserves		
Current Year Earnings	(2,943.10)	10,700.99
Retained Earnings	26,128.60	15,427.61
Total Capital and Reserves	23,185.50	26,128.60