



Annual Report

Year ended 30 November 2020



**Celebrating 13 years
2007 - 2020**

Charity number SC 038870

Company number SC 332979



**Dumfries & Galloway Life
Charity Of The Year 2012**

Sports Driving Limited

Report of the trustees for the year ended 30 November 2020

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ending 30 November 2020. A year in which Sports Driving was awarded **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service** in recognition of the "outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities".

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: SC 038870

Company number: SC332979

Principal Office: Cleuchheads, Balgray, Lockerbie DG11 2RN

Bank: The co-operative bank plc, PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP.

Directors and trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The trustees serving during the year and since the year end are as follows: B Hodgson; K Porteous; R A Flexney; L J Pern; J Fergusson; K Mackay.

The board of trustees administers the charity and generally meets every eight to ten weeks. The trustees last met as a group on 13 December 2019 virtual meetings were held during 2020.

Governing Document

Sports Driving Limited is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21 October 2007. An updated memorandum and Articles of Association is to be presented for approval at the next AGM. It is registered as a charity with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. Anyone over the age of 18 can become a member and there are currently 146 members [156 in 2019], 21 of whom have a disability.

Appointment of trustees

Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General Meeting and serve for a period of one year. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and decision-making processes.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the risks the charity may face.
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
- Regular review of the charity's reserves policy.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- [1] The provision of facilities for sports driving for children and young people in need and people with a disability or health problems in order to promote fulfilment and benefit to their mental and physical health from sports driving and associated activities.
- [2] The provision of facilities for sports driving for children and young people in need and people with a disability or health problems as a basis for educational and learning purposes.
- [3] The encouragement and assistance of research into the effect of sports driving for the aforesaid purposes.

The main **objectives** continue to be the accumulation of funds to ensure the ongoing involvement of existing participants and provision of "try driving" sessions to interest new participants and the generation of publicity through attending appropriate events to raise the profile of charity. The **three major areas of activity** are: provision of training programmes to groups from schools and other organisations; provision of lessons for individuals wishing to develop their skills, including entering driving competitions; and providing information and fund raising at appropriate events.

Sports Driving is a member of **horsescotland**, the governing body for equestrian sport in Scotland, the **Third Sector Dumfries & Galloway**, voluntary sector interface organisation for Dumfries and Galloway and of **sported**, a national charity transforming lives of disadvantaged young people.

In achieving the objectives, successful **working partnerships** have been formed with other voluntary organisations, groups and schools. Sports Driving has agreed a formal partnership with **Chariots of Fire Equestrian Centre CIC**.

The trustees are grateful to a small, dedicated group of **volunteers** who raise funds and enthusiastically assist with group training sessions, enabling provision of more sessions than otherwise would be the case. It would not be possible to offer the participants such a wonderful experience without the help of these generous people. The Rotary clubs in Lockerbie, Annan, Dumfries and other community groups regularly make generous donations to support our activities.

Funding and support

Grants have been received from Baillie Gifford; The Hedley Foundation; The Holywood Trust; Localgiving Magic Little Grant; Bruce Wake Charitable Trust; Hugh Fraser Foundation; St James Place Foundation; Sportsman's Charity; Stafford Trust; PF Charitable Trust (Foundation Scotland) to fund programmes of pony driving activities, equipment and livery.

National funds were established to support third sector organisations with the negative impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic on fundraising. Consequently, grants were received from the CAF Emergency Fund and Third Sector Resilience Fund (Corra Foundation) to meet ponies' livery costs.

Donations were received from many generous supporters to support the ponies and to purchase essential equipment. A member of staff at TK Maxx Dumfries nominated Sports Driving to receive a donation from the TK Maxx and HomeSense Foundation. The local Rotary clubs in Dumfries, Lockerbie, Castle Douglas and Annan have donated funds for a new wheelchair accessible carriage and give ongoing support. Local companies support the charity with generous discounts on equipment and services and in some cases provide their labour without charge. McDougall Commercials supplied a tractor unit to enable our drivers to attend the indoor competitions held at the beginning of the year. Halliday Welding & Fabrication and Lowther mechanical Engineering both ensure the tractor unit and both trailers are roadworthy and keep rolling. To make monetary donations easier and convenient for supporters we have a page on an online donation site www.localgiving.com/sportsdriving and receive donations from supporters' online shopping for purchases made on smile.amazon.co.uk and via www.easyfundraising.com a website that arranges donations from a wide range of online retailers.

Fund raising activities by trustees and volunteers were not possible because of the restrictions in place as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. Successful fundraising appeals on Localgiving.com raised essential funds for ponies' livery.

Achievements and performance

To ensure the safety of our drivers and the coaches and to comply with the required restrictions in place throughout the year because of the COVID 19 pandemic, our activities were significantly reduced.



Localgiving.com
smile.amazon.co.uk

easyfundraising
feel good shopping



Twelve of our drivers competed in the novice class at 4 indoor driving competitions held in November 2019 and February 2020. However, the National Indoor Championships at Keysoe in Bedfordshire planned for April were cancelled. Our drivers were unable to compete during the summer as all events were cancelled, including the arena challenges usually held at Chariots of Fire EC.

We were unable to run activities for many months during the year and this is reflected in the numbers. We supported a total of **81** people through the year, with **373** lessons to individual drivers with disabilities. A total of **33** group sessions were provided for members, clients and pupils of our partner organisations:

- ✓ **Queensberry Learning Centre** in Dumfries and **Lockerbie Learning Centre**.
- ✓ **Quarriers & Parents Inclusion Network** - weekend sessions were provided for groups of youngsters and their families from **Sanquhar, Stewartry, Galloway** as well as **Dumfries and Annandale** when allowed.

Financial Review

The principal funding sources were private donations and grants from funding organisations and charities. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the trustees wish. The trustees operated a policy of keeping available funds in an online bank account.

The reserves on 30 November 2019 were £2862.76. In calculating reserves, the trustees have excluded from total funds the restricted income funds of £41519.69. These funds are for activities and therefore have accumulated as activities were reduced.

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the company's external examiner is unaware; and
- As the directors of the company we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's external examiner is aware of that information.

By order of the trustees:



Brenda Hodgson
Chairperson

Our thanks to these organisations for their support:



Cleuchheads, Balgray, Lockerbie DG11 2RN

