

Liberton Vaulters

Trustee's Annual Report and Accounts

Liberton Vaulters Trustee Annual Report January - December 2025

Liberton Vaulters Charity Number: SCO49937
SCIO Constitution with self-appointing trustees

Website www.libertonvaulters.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/libertonvaulters
Email: ej_beach@hotmail.com
Telephone: 07460133833



Mrs Liz Beach
C/O 7 Ironmills Road
Dalkeith
Midlothian
EH22 1LJ

These are our Trustees as detailed below:
(Left to right)

Shona Haggie
Donna Mack
Clive Beach
Liz Beach
Claire Hill



The Organisation's purposes are as set out in our Constitution:

To provide local young people, especially those facing challenging circumstances, the opportunity to participate in Equestrian Vaulting and help them develop positive life skills, and fulfil their God given potential.

Liberton Vaulters is a vaulting Group affiliated to British Equestrian Vaulting (BEV) and Scottish Equestrian Vaulting. It began after observing the emotional struggles of local young people in a nearby area of deprivation and seeing how a positive enjoyable activity outdoors with horses had a beneficial effect on their attitudes and behaviour.

Main Activities

- Weekly three hour vaulting session which consists of field management and horse care on a rotating basis, grooming, tacking up the horses, a short reflective thought for the day, warm up, stretches, gymnastics and practice on both a steel barrel and live horses, perfecting compulsory moves, developing freestyles to music, working for award badges in compulsory, freestyle and horse care levels.
- Meet up during the week with volunteer adults and young people to help with care and exercise of the horses.
- Regular optional social events to build community and provide emotional support for vaulters and volunteers.
- Annual Demo/Open day for vaulter's family and the local community.
- Participation in a National Competition.

As in previous years our aims are:

Helping young people manage their mental health and well being
Helping young people maintain physical fitness
Building character and resilience
Developing a supportive community and a sense of belonging
Focusing on the whole person, physical, emotional and spiritual health
Providing fun, freedom and laughter and respite from problems

Activities in 2025

Our vaulting sessions continued regularly on Saturdays throughout the year with the benefit of both outdoor and indoor arenas to suit every eventuality of Scottish weather! Despite some periods of ill health of one of our two seasoned mares, for the most part they both continued to give reliable service and much enjoyment to our vaulters and especially benefitted from our younger, smaller vaulters.

Younger new vaulters also gave us the advantage of being able to continue to work on and compete with a squad routine which is set to music with six vaulters working closely as a team - a significant challenge of quick succession, trust and co-operation, and aiming to be in harmony while considering Ruaha's welfare at all times!

This year we chose Simon and Garfunkel's 'Bridge over Troubled Water' as our backing music with two small 'flyers' taking the role proficiently of the silver girl.



Our social events following on from vaulting sessions included the usual high standard of food, an Easter egg hunt, reflective talks, live music, games and videos, quizzes, and a beach trip to Yellowcraigs with the horses in September. Our Advent Party included a poem written and read by a Trustee and a lucky dip.

June was a busy month with the National Vaulting Competition on the 7th June. The very next Saturday we held a Demo/Open Day giving a narrated display of the sport of vaulting, with individual, pairs and squad routines accompanied by music for each. This was followed by home baking, tea, coffee and juice for all, with a 'have a go on the Barrel' opportunity and a lucky dip.



Alongside these regular activities we have had a young adult with mental health issues benefit from coming with a relative for equine assisted learning experience.

Another young lad not in education or employment helped us with some fencing repairs and improvements while waiting to begin a Rehab programme. This proved to be mutually beneficial.

Safeguarding and Training

Our coaches have fulfilled their CPD (Continuing Professional Development) requirements and all our volunteers have been disclosed thanks to Volunteer Scotland's excellent service. CPD also includes keeping Safeguarding training and First Aid up to date.

Two of our older vaulters attended a BEV Training day in Fife in February which also included a training session for coaches updating us on BEV rule changes.

The lead coach attended a seminar on 'How to Engage Neurodivergent Individuals'. Some training was given early in the year to a school leaver who was applying for Equestrian Courses at Colleges and required video evidence and a reference.

One volunteer and one vaulter are working towards their BEV level 1 coaching qualification which involves demonstrating competency in coaching vaulters, lunging horses and completing twenty hours of a log book of coaching practice.

Development

In December we heard that we have been approved by Edinburgh Council's accredited pathways to offer Equine Assisted Learning sessions to school pupils who may struggle with more formal styles of learning. We hope to offer this service on a small scale for local school pupils next year one morning a week during school terms.

For the time being, we have decided not to look for another horse due to the increase of work and cost this would involve. We may need to retire our two mares in the not too distant future which would have implications for the continuation of vaulting sessions with them.

Financial Review

Again, we have benefited from regular generous donations from individuals allowing us to continue to provide vaulting sessions at greatly subsidised rates, although we did need to raise the contributions from participants by a small amount due to increasing costs.

We are also very grateful to adults who have volunteered to give their time regularly to help with the daily care and routine of looking after the horses during the week, as well as volunteers helping out at vaulting sessions.

We transferred £6000 from the sale of a horse to a low interest savings account which gives us a buffer for our finances going forward.

Please see below our Statement of Accounts:

Liberton Vaulters: January to December 2025

A. Statement of Receipts and Payments

Receipts

Donations	£ 8,524
Interest	£ 10
Total Income	£ 8,534

Payments

Horses (roughly 20% of cost of e.g. feed, shoeing, vet, insurance)	£ 950
Groom (self employed)	£ 4,730
Training and BEV/SEV membership and competition entries	£ 918
Other (catering, travel, clothing)	£ 1,126

Total Expenditure £ 7,724

Net Surplus/deficit for year £ 810

B. Statement of Balances*

Balance at start of the year £ 7,310

Surplus/deficit for year £ 810

Balance at end of year £ 8,120

* the opening and closing balances include the receipts from the sale of a horse in 2024, most of which (£6,000) has been invested in a low interest savings account

Signed by two Trustees:

Clive Beach

Print Name CLIVE BEACH

Tanya Cowan

Print Name TANYA COWAN

Date: 19/5/26

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 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 Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's 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:
- (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;
 - and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with 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.

Frank Dixon

Frank Dixon

20 Buckstone Loan, Edinburgh EH10 6UD

17 April 2026