

Treasurer's Report

Financial Year - FY2024 – (01-01-24 – 31-12-24)

As you are all no doubt aware, this is my last Treasurer's Report, due to the fact that I have resigned as Treasurer to the PPCoGB. I hope that during my relatively short tenure as Treasurer I have applied sound financial management to the benefit of the Members of the Club and I leave the Club on a sound financial footing.

Once again, thanks are due to Zoe Stirk, our long suffering auditor, without whose help and advice this process would be significantly more difficult.

As usual, here are the headline figures. The club is in a healthy financial state, showing a profit on the year of **£426.70**. We have a total of **£13,949.59** in terms of cash at the bank, cash in hand and physical assets (allowing for accruals).

These figures are slightly skewed from the previous year owing to the fact that I carried out a full stocktake of the club merchandise, based on the declared retail value and included it in the accounts. This figure will benefit the annual profit figure as it is shown as an asset. We have not had an accurate report of the club merchandise for a number of years now, relying on estimates. A number of items of merchandise are significantly over valued and significant depreciation will need to be applied over the coming year in order to manage the value of the physical assets in a more compliant way.

I have also succeeded in reducing the accruals for this year, which makes the accounts significantly easier to prepare. My thanks go to everyone submitting requests for payments in a timely manner.

Membership

As always, the membership is what keeps the Club afloat. In 2024, membership subscriptions were **£846.27** this is a decrease from FY23 (£1047.11) and indeed slightly below FY 22 (£857). The drop in membership subscriptions is slightly worrying, as it is what keeps the club solvent.

Club Show

This was our second year holding the Club Show in partnership with the Bath Championship Show, once again the accounts show that the Show made a loss overall, this year the loss was significantly reduced to **£91.33**. It should be noted that this loss would be greater were it not for donations.

Following on from the previous year's 'lessons learned', we ran a Tombola rather than a raffle. Whilst the admin was significantly reduced the profits were hardly eye-watering - **£12.00**. The question to be asked is whether the amount raised, either by Tombola or Raffle is worth the effort involved?

It is difficult to see how the Club Show is ever going to be a profit making exercise, when the money received from Fosse data for entries does not even meet the amount paid to the Bath C.S. for the use of their facilities. The Club either needs to dramatically increase entries, or work harder to promote a Raffle, Tombola or merchandise sales.

Maybe, the Club should accept that the Club Show is a service provided to its members and it will always run at a loss. Our primary task being to ensure that the costs are kept to a minimum and we provide value for money to our members.

Discover Dogs

If the measure of success for Discover Dogs is the amount of interested visitors we had over the three days, then this was a successful year. The days that we were on the stand could not have been better attended, and it seemed that we were getting visitors much later into the day. We were as busy at 4:30-5:00 as we were in the middle of the day. Even on the Sunday, where in previous years we had been able to start the take down at 3:30, we were still greeting people at nearly 5:00.

The stand looked resplendent in its new livery, we received many positive comments, both in person and on social media. When we are a small dog amongst much larger hounds, having the impact of a clearly designed backdrop helps to draw the eye of the passer-by. My thanks go to Matt Pilott for his skill and hard work in creating the new banners. The other benefit is that the stand now takes significantly less time to set up and take down, this also reduces the need for military grade adhesive solutions and therefore reduces the cost.

I would like to thank Ann Boyles and Chaos, Hollie Tongue, Matt Pilott and Freddie for giving up their time to help running the booth, this for very little reward, other than the happy smiling faces of our visitors, and some free dog food this year, courtesy of Royal Canin. Betty Judge and crew manned the booth on the Saturday.

The Pod Post

Two editions of the Pod Post were produced in 2024. As always they were well received by all, and I had several comments from new members as to the quality of the content and the overall product.

I would like to thank Hollie Tongue and Matt Pilott, Daisy Marino and Debby Crockford for their continued commitment to producing a quality product.

However, the Pod Post is still the Club's biggest expense. The cost of printing, and especially the cost of postage are far and away the largest call on the Club's funds. Your committee decided that for 2025 they will change the approach to communication with members. In the place of two Pod Posts, a single Year Book will be produced, a physical publication produced to the same standards as the Pod Post and probably with a slightly higher page count. This will be supplemented by a twice yearly emailed newsletter to all current members. This will reduce the costs of publication and postage and will reduce the workload on those preparing the content. It is also hoped that the Year Book will provide a more rounded product with show results, top dog etc. and potentially even advertising as well as the usual informative and entertaining content.

The Club remains on a sound financial footing, making a small profit over the year whilst providing high quality services to the membership. I would like to thank the membership for their continued support and particularly members of your committee for all their hard work.

Good luck for the future.

Nigel Crockford

Immediate Past Treasurer

Portuguese Podengo Club of Great Britain