



DAB PLUS ANNUAL REPORT 2014

GARY LAING

TRAINING MANAGER



“ It has been a busy year for DAB Plus Driver Training. In my 4 years with the organisation I have been fortunate to be involved with the development of a training department that offered the MiDAS suite of courses, to a training company seen by many organisations and businesses as the “Go To” provider offering a wide range of road safety training solutions. During this development period it has been important to stay focused on our core strengths, those of the organisation and of the trainers, while continuing to develop our training portfolio.

Midas is one of our core courses and continues to be one of the main streams of income. A great deal of work has gone into streamlining our Midas database, allowing us to identify more easily those delegates who require refresher training. With the assistance of Bill Michie and Alan Brown, we run Midas induction and refresher training on a monthly basis.

Over the last year, all 3 Midas DAT trainers have successfully completed their refresher training.

Our fleet training programme has also been very busy. We have run 12 winter drive presentations to companies such as Dana, SSE and the Marine Lab and 2014 has seen an increase in our UK road familiarisation courses on the previous years.

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DABPLUS MISSION STATEMENT

DAB PLUS EXISTS TO SUPPORT DIAL-A-COMMUNITY BUS AND BY DOING SO, TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY.

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D1 training continues to bubble away. With the changes in driving licence entitlements we are finding that more and more organisations are now enquiring about our D1 training. Although the costs of around £1000 per driver has put a few organisations off, we have 2 drivers from Torry Academy and 3 drivers from the Princes Trust who are due to start training as soon as they have passed their theory tests. Congratulations to Gordon Reid and Lynne Dalgarno on passing their D1 tests, both at the first attempt.

The addition of the SIF funding has been an important step towards the continued development and the future viability of DAB Plus Driver Training. It has enabled us to purchase the following:

- Dual Control Learner car
- Brake Test Reactor
- Qwizdom (audience response system)

It has also allowed us to develop our new website.

SIF funding has also allowed us to attend a number of networking events throughout the year and we are very excited to be taking stands at two of Aberdeen's major networking events.

September ACVO Big event;

This event will be a unique opportunity for Aberdeen's 3rd sector organisations, businesses and public sector partners to connect, challenge and change. It offers several different activities ranging from a conference to a "Give it a try" arenas for families, volunteers and people of all ages and abilities.

October Granite Expro;

This event is aimed at businesses of all sizes, and from all industry sectors across the North East Scotland, providing them with a platform to exhibit, network and cross-sell to both fellow exhibitors and visitors. It's expected that around 1200 visitors and 130 businesses will attend this event.

Both events are ideal platforms for DAB Plus Driver Training to showcase our Road safety training solutions and allow us to network with other organisations and businesses.

Future development

In January 2015 we run the first of our pilot schemes (Driving Ambition) with Ellon Academy. This is a 2 day road safety presentation covering the following subjects:

- Safe Driving/Observations and Anticipations of a Road User
- Theory/Hazard Perception interactive inputs; thereby encouraging early training for the Theory test.
- Basic car controls/mechanics; how to look after your vehicle and stay legal.
- Driving Instruction input.
- First aid

There are a number of other schools looking at this pilot scheme.

Our monthly newsletter now has a circulation of nearly 300 and has been opened in places as far a field as Thailand..... not bad for a small but growing training company located in a village some 30 miles from Aberdeen. ”

ALAN BROWN

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



“ There are two certainties in the Dial a Community Bus/ DAB Plus Driver Training organisations; that they are well established in the, now extended, community and that they regularly seek and face change to ensure longevity of the Organisation which benefits so many.

Those who have watched the Organisation grow over the years, may recall me in various guises; for those newer to the Organisation, let me introduce myself.

I am Alan Brown, soon to be the latest member of the DAB Plus Driver Training team when I retire after 30 years as a Police Officer. When I say latest, that's a bit of a misconception, as I've already been part of DACB for over 20 years.

I started as a volunteer driver, then provided some Road Safety training. I became a MiDAS Driver Assessor/Trainer and shortly after was invited to join the Board. I later became a Director, Vice Chair and then Chairperson of DACB/DAB Plus. I helped establish DAB Plus, our Social Enterprise, to provide essential funds to run DACB when grant funding reduced. I assisted DAB Plus grow into what we have today; DAB Plus Driver Training, and now I have been offered a staff position as Training Development Manager, when I retire from 'the day job' in December.

Working closely with our training team, I will help deliver training programmes, develop and enhance current courses, add new ones and help create a strong future for the Organisation.

I passed my D1 minibus test some time ago, which will allow me to assist our Training Manager teach D1 learner drivers, enhancing our capacity to deliver this skill.

I am training to become an Approved Driving Instructor which will allow expansion of our core business into teaching learner car drivers.

I have recently been working within DAB Plus, assisting to deliver 'lunch and learn' driver awareness presentations. We have already built a strong client base of commercial companies and are working to further expand our customer network.

As Road Safety is at the core of DAB Plus Driver Training, we are discussing with Aberdeenshire Council methods to deliver a form of the Driving Ambition project, in which I was involved when this was undertaken by the Police, to senior school students. We have agreed a pilot with Ellon Academy and hope to extend this into all secondary schools.

The future will undoubtedly bring more ideas, changes, success and, hopefully, profit, ensuring Dial a Community Bus can enjoy many more years of growth and community support.

Retirement should infer calm and easing back...it seems at DAB Plus, this is unlikely to be the case! This is a new chapter for me; all I can say is... bring it on! ”

ACCOUNTS; DABPLUS



“ The turnover for DAB Plus has increased 7% in 2013/2014 with Training Department having more than doubled their sales, going from £9711 in 2012/2013 to £20674 in 2013/2014. This is in part due to the introduction of new safety presentations and driver familiarisation training which has been developed due to the hard work of the Training Dept. There are a few new projects in the pipeline for the coming year so turnover should continue on an upward curve in the future.

We transferred the Fiat MPV as a gift to Dial-a-Community Bus in September thereby reducing the overheads incurred by the vehicle. We have purchased a new Learner Car this Financial year to be used by DAB Plus Driver Training. This has partly been funded by a mixture of grant and loans through the SIF fund managed by Social Investment Scotland.

DACB and DAB plus are very grateful for the support from SIF since it has helped pump prime the Organisational Change from grant funding dependence to a more self-reliant charity and a business oriented social enterprise

The shire schools continue to churn out a profit year on year being valuable contracts to DAB Plus, and although Private Hire does not a large turnover, we do make a healthy profit on it.

All the above contributed to the £2300 gift that we made to Dial A Community Bus from the profits. ”

Jayne Fraser



	Notes	5.4.14		5.4.13	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5		3,004		7,788
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	9,937		31,918	
Cash at bank and in hand		91,131		26,208	
		101,068		58,126	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	7,740		19,566	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			93,328		38,560
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			96,332		46,348
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	8		(46,443)		(13,000)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES	9		(105)		-
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	10		(38,969)		(22,624)
NET ASSETS			10,815		10,724
RESERVES					
Income and expenditure account	11		10,815		10,724
			10,815		10,724

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2004.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2014 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities or:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.