



KESWICK Mountain Rescue Team

A Registered Charity Number 509860

Annual Report
2000

Keswick Mountain Rescue Tea



Cover Painting: "Cat Bells" painted by local artist Venus Griffiths

Note: Venus has donated the picture, 406mm x 206mm, (approx. 16" by 11½") to the Team in order to help raise funds. If you wish to make a bid for the print, you can do so by sending it in writing to the treasurer. The highest bid received by the end of 2000 will be accepted.

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team 2000

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Radio Officer: Bill Booth
Transport Officer: Allan Alcock
Equipment Officers: Chris Francis
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Report Editor: Peter Little
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Chris Higgins
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Forecourt Attendant
Retired
National Park Ranger
Outdoor Pursuits Instructor
Sales Manager
Hotelier
GP
Solicitor
Teacher
Research Assistant
Head Teacher
National Trust Warden
National Park Ranger
Outdoor Pursuits Instructor
Chartered Builder
Builder
GP
Head Teacher
Teacher

Robin Humphreys
Andy Jones
Peter Little
Brian Martland
Malcolm Miller
Phil Newton
Mike Nixon
Simon Noble
Des Oliver
Dr. Will Ponsonby
David Pratt
David Robinson
Jill Sharpe
Brian Spencer
Keith Stephenson
Chris Strutt
Ian Wallace
Lance Waudby
Dr. Peter White

Cashier
Police Constable
Pharmacist
Retired
Head Teacher
Retired
Retired
Teacher
Retired
GP
Teacher
Shop Manager
Medical Representative
Retired
Joiner
Student
Retired
Delivery Driver
GP

The Team responded to callouts throughout its area of responsibility, throughout the twelve months, and with a good range of actual callout times across 24 hrs. There was, as usual, a big cluster of incidents initiated between 1pm and 5pm.

There have always been accident "black-spots" – for instance Sharp Edge on Blencathra, which this year had five callouts. Cat Bells, the subject of our cover painting by Venus Griffiths, did not, rather unusually, feature in 1999. An unusual location, and "out-of-area", was that of incident number 5: Coire an t'Sneachda in the Cairngorm Mountains. See report by Paul Carter.

The type of callout covered the usual spectrum, with searches, lower leg injuries, and climbing/scrambling incidents to the fore.

Along with the usual reports, there is included an account by one of our casualties. A further account, by team member Chris Higgins, relates his misfortune while skiing in Scotland. Neil Dowie reports on the Sty Head stretcher box, and Robin Humphreys writes about rescue "USA-style". To the tips included within the latter article, I felt I must add the classic quote of E.Whymper, (always worth remembering when you're on the fells!):

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

"Climb if you will but remember that courage and strength are naught without prudence."

I hope that the report gives a good insight into the varied work the Team undertakes over the course of a year.

Thanks to Paul Horder and Rebecca Carter for their help in its preparation

Peter Little



Coire an t'Sneachda (Photo: Peter Little) Popular winter playground in the Cairngorm Mountains, Scotland, and venue for winter training by team

1999 has seen the Team called-out on 67 occasions, the quietest year for 5 years. This figure does not, however, include the 27 alerts involving 1 or more Team members which did not develop into a full call out, or the 7 animal rescues during the year. We were most surprised not to have any rescues over the Christmas and New Year period, the first time for many years that this has happened.

Unfortunately there were 4 fatalities during the year. On 7 days we had 2 callouts in the same day, and on 1 Saturday in September, we had 6 callouts, the busiest ever day for the Team. (Incidents 44-49)

Once again, my thanks go to all the Team members, for their total commitment and enthusiasm throughout the year, even when going out for the sixth time on the 4th September.

Potentially the most serious incident in the year was the avalanche on Great End in January, (incident 2) where initial reports were that there could be up to 15 casualties. It is comforting to know that we are able to call on the services of adjacent and RAF Teams training in the area when needed. We had 90 rescue personnel involved from Keswick, Cockermouth, Penrith, Wasdale and RAF Leeming, along with a helicopter from RAF Valley. Fortunately the number of casualties was overestimated in the initial reports. This incident has resulted in the development in the Keswick Team of a major incident planning document – hopefully it will never need to be put into practise.

In contrast to this incident, probably the most unnecessary callout, that of a walker on Great Gable with all the correct equipment....and a mobile phone. Having lost contact with the rest of her group, she sat down, dialled 999 and waited

to be shepherded from the fell, expecting the Team to go up and walk her off. This we did, sometime later, when eventually we were able to call her back, only to find out that the rest of her group were drinking in the pub, totally unconcerned. (Incident 58) The responsible use of mobile phones, to report an accident, is always of great benefit to the casualty minimising the time taken to call out the Team. The use of mobiles in circumstances such as this incident continues to be frustrating.

An area of significant development within the Team this year has been the increased training and purchase of safety equipment for white-water river rescue. The River Greta, amongst others, is becoming increasingly popular for whitewater canoeing, especially when in flood. We were involved in a search for a missing canoeist in 1998 which resulted in the decision to obtain further training and equipment for such incidents. Several members of the Team now have varying experience at different levels as rescue technicians. A substantial amount of safety equipment has been purchased for this specific purpose. It is interesting to note that the first training course, due to be held in North Wales, had to be cancelled due to a shortage of water. The course was subsequently rearranged to a balmy day in January on the River Tees!

On various occasions we are asked by television companies to become involved with programmes and documentaries. This year was no exception. We were approached, back in the spring, by the BBC who were making a documentary about Mountain Rescue in the Lake District, the rescues, and the people involved. We agreed to take part. For some 4-6 months, we carried a video camera with us on rescues

and practises, at all times watching our language whilst filming! Footage included several real rescues, one or two training incidents and some excellent film of an RAF Helicopter Evaluation exercise with RAF Boulmer, which demonstrated, as ever, the skill and expertise of the RAF crews without whom our job would be so much more difficult at times. We were therefore very disappointed as a Team when the documentary was finally screened. It seems that the idea behind the programme was changed almost entirely during the making from that which was explained to us at the outset, with almost no film of rescues or training from any of the Teams involved being included in the final programme. We didn't have any editorial power in the making of the programme, nor did we see it prior to it going out on TV. As a Team, if we had, we would have requested that the Keswick Team footage and input be removed from the programme prior to transmission. No doubt it will be some time before we are asked again by the BBC! It must be stressed that we do have an excellent relationship with the local and regional press generally, without whose support and straight reporting we would not receive the backing that we do from the general public.

My thanks as ever go to all Team members, wives, husbands, families and friends for the unending commitment and enthusiasm to the Team. My thanks to all officers and officials for all their work that goes on behind the scenes to keep the Team running as smoothly and efficiently as it does. My thanks to the other Teams who have assisted us during the year on various incidents and to the RAF helicopter crews who have yet again proved to be invaluable on many occasions through the year. A special

word of thanks to the officers and officials who have chosen to stand down this year. On behalf of the Team, our thanks for all the work over the years.

Finally, enjoy yourselves on the hills and crags of the Lake District and elsewhere. If you are unfortunate to have an accident or the like, call us via the Police. All I would ask is that you ask yourself "do I really need a Rescue Team to get me out of this?" or can I manage myself or with my companions. Stories are made of rescues, experience comes from adapting to one's situation, with experience gained from resolving a problem. However, if you do need us, do not hesitate to call us out, that is why we are here.

Mark Hodgson, Team Leader

1999 has been a busy year for the equipment officers and seen a considerable number of changes relating to both team members' personal kit and technical rescue equipment. These changes have been brought about by a number of factors, as explained below, but all of the changes should assist the Team and, thereby, benefit the casualty on the hill.

Personal Equipment

To enable the Team to budget more accurately from year to year a policy of reviewing / replacing the various items of personal kit on a four yearly cycle has been implemented. This allows for the purchasing of items such as waterproofs, hats & gloves, thermal underwear, etc. to be spread across this four year period. Therefore, rather than suffer the major expense of replacing many of these items in a single year we can now spread the cost. In addition, now that we purchase forty or so items to equip the whole team at once, suppliers of clothing are more willing to offer us bulk order discounts, thereby reducing our overall expenditure.

During 1999 we purchased windproof shell tops for each team member as well as a fibre pile winter smock for those colder callouts! Team members were also given the opportunity of an allowance towards a pair of summer footwear if they wished, although less than half the Team made use of this. During the final months of 1999 we reviewed an immense number of waterproof jackets and trousers as our current kit is very tired and is due for replacement at the end of 2000. It was a difficult task to find anything suitable. Obviously, the fabric needs to be

waterproof and exceptionally tough. We need a wide size range, with pockets both large in size and in number (hat, gloves, maps & compass, high-energy snacks, spare batteries, face shield for resuscitation, etc. all need pockets). The hood needs to accommodate a helmet and head torch and have a visor to protect the face. The cut couldn't be too short and we ideally needed the option of bibs or overtrousers. Gradually we whittled away at items we considered unsuitable, for what we chose- keep your eyes peeled come October.

Technical Equipment

The vast majority of technical climbing and crag rescue equipment has recognised service lives. Ropes and slings need replacing after a maximum term of five years whilst most metal items are, according to the manufacturers, good for ten years at the most. During 1999 we have replaced all of our dynamic climbing ropes and nylon slings, as our existing stock was at the end of its' life. Furthermore, whilst checking our static ropes we have recognised that the majority of these will require replacement by the end of 2000. Ropes, along with much of the technical hardware, provide us with continual headaches, though all for very valid reasons. Equipment must be visually checked before **each and every use**, after each use as it is repacked, and at recognised service intervals. Each time any rope or hardware is used or inspected this is recorded in a log.

Much work needs to be done 'post rescue' to ensure the readiness of the team for any subsequent callout. Equipment

Equipment Officers' Report 2000 *continued...*

needs logging, stretchers are hosed clean of mud, wet kit put in the drying room, oxygen bottles checked/replaced, radios and torches put on charge, ropes repacked etc. etc. as well as the necessary paperwork and computer entries associated with the rescue. It is not the case that we return from a callout at 2.30 in the morning, for example, and all run straight home to bed.

We have also had to replace much of our winter rescue equipment to comply with recent guidelines. Equipment for snow and ice belays as well as ice axes and avalanche probes have been renewed. Further to this the Team has purchased 15 avalanche transceivers to be worn by team members when they enter an avalanche prone area. This follows on from an incident in Central Gully on Great End earlier in the year when over eighty rescue personnel attended a suspected major avalanche incident and were working in potentially very hazardous conditions.

In reviewing a search for a missing canoeist on the River Greta as well as a realisation that more and more canoeists are using this river with an associated potential for a callout, the Team recognised the need to expand its' white water rescue equipment. Insufficient buoyancy aids, helmets and throwlines had been available either to effect a rescue or indeed provide sufficient personal protection to rescuers. This situation has now been rectified both by purchasing some of these items and also by making contacts with local providers of watersports activities who are willing to lend any necessary items to the Team. Their assistance in this is greatly appreciated.

Ongoing work is that of routine maintenance to more general items such as hand lamps and head-torches which are forever blowing bulbs or submitting to gremlin activity in one form or another. Stretchers require servicing, load testing and certification and a number of our's have been sent away through 1999 for such work. Yes, 1999 has been a very busy year.

Chris Higgins

Training Report

The last year has seen new training officers continuing with the good work of their predecessors.

The core of the work has been in developing and revising the skills of the existing team members and also the new probationary members of the team.

Several members have been assisted to do courses away from the team training nights in areas specifically relevant to the team's work.

The main area of the work has been in developing the core training areas to provide a solid base of skills for the team members to work from allowing specialisms to take place in key areas of our work.

Training with new equipment such as avalanche transceivers and new crag equipment has also been a priority.

Our thanks must go to the team doctors for organising the running of the M.R.C. first aid course towards the end of the year.

Thanks must also go to all the team members for their undying enthusiasm and commitment to the training process turning out every week to attend the sessions and provide constant input of new ideas and techniques.

Martin Bell

Winter Training February 1999 – Cairngorms

Every year twelve team members are sent to Glenmore Lodge for a weekend's winter training, as our winter weather is unreliable we find this invaluable experience. As newly appointed co training officer I was more than a little worried that I'd be able to organise realistic training for the team.

Basic plan, Saturday personal skills, belaying, avalanche theory, climb out of Coire cross plateau back to lodge for famous tea and cakes. **So here goes.**

Saturday morning, weather perfect, snow showers possible out on plateau, average wind speed 60 mph gusting to 80 mph. Walk into Coire an T Sneachda through deep snow and begin first skills session, after only a few minutes a climber falls from a gully above us, to land almost at our feet. **Realistic or what?** Forget step kicking, all run to casualty who appears to have a broken leg and minor head injuries, climber's partner arrives there's a rescue kit in the coire bottom. Its frozen together, much pulling and beating later the kit is removed and delivered to the casualty site where he is loaded onto the stretcher ready for evacuation. A mobile phone is borrowed and after lots of trying a helicopter is summoned which duly arrives and removes casualty to Hospital. **Back to plan.** Continue day as if nothing has happened a good day is had by all with lots learned, experience gained etc. Unfortunately get back late all tea and cake are gone, blame bad planning by me.

Weekend over well I know now I'm not up to the job even with divine intervention they handled this job using foreign frozen kit, poor communication's, and with a large sprinkling of novice winter mountaineers effortlessly.

A humble training officer – Paul Carter

Styhead Stretcher Box GR: NY 218095

Following the decision to renew the Styhead Stretcher box (reported last year), it was felt that this was of little value unless the equipment there could be of real use to those in need. Previous attempts to stock the box with First Aid equipment have suffered from vandalism and neglect. However, as it has always been this team's philosophy to encourage groups to evacuate their own non-serious casualties, the box has now been restocked with the necessary equipment. This re-stocking will also assist our team by making additional equipment available higher on the hill.

We are pleased to say that apart from some puerile graffiti, the stores have suffered no thefts. Neither has there been any call on the equipment; the only time it might have been used, the evacuation party was met at Styhead by our team, the party being unable to continue having become exhausted from carrying a young casualty down the length of the Corridor Route! The future provision of this facility will depend on the ongoing respect and goodwill of all walkers and climbers. If you use any stock or move the stretcher, please inform Keswick Police so that items may be returned or replenished.

Note: The stores include NO DRUGS or MEDICATIONS.

Neil Dowie

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team



The new stretcher box at Sty Head was installed with the assistance of an RAF helicopter. (Photography: Mike Nixon)

1 16 January 1999 16:08

Carlside, Skiddaw

A party of students was overtaken by poor weather and a girl (19 yrs) was suffering from mild hypothermia. A situation which could have become more serious was averted when a passing walker managed to coerce the group into starting a descent. They met the Team shortly afterwards.

2 17 January 1999 14:14

Central Gully, Great End

An avalanche swept the gully, falling over or through several climbers. It caught 5 people in its lower reaches. 2 injured managed to make their way off unaided, and another 2 uninjured tended to the only stretcher case. This incident was reported as 15 avalanched climbers. Accordingly, 89 rescuers and a helicopter attended!

3 13 February 1999 21:50

Grisedale Tarn

Shouts and whistles were heard in the mist by 2 walkers late off the hill. A search involving 3 teams and 2 search dogs found nothing except a report by another walker who had met 2 frightened people descending very late. Very icy underfoot.

4 17 February 1999 15:40

Dale Head, Gable Crag Pillar

A walker (28 yrs) slipped and broke his tibia and fibula.

5 20 February 1999 10:30

Coire an t'Sneachda, Central Gully

A climber (32 yrs) slipped and fell 250' while gearing up. He ended up among boulders where 12 Keswick MRT members had assembled for some winter training. The

climber sustained various multiple injuries consistent with his fall. He was taken by helicopter to hospital in Inverness.

6 18 March 1999 15:21

Coledale

An elderly lady was blown over by the wind while walking. She sustained a broken arm.

7 27 March 1999 16:41

Hindscarth

A man (58 yrs) experienced chest pains. He was taken by a RN helicopter to West Cumberland Hospital.

8 3 April 1999 20:40

Helvellyn & Dodds

Request from Patterdale MRT to assist in search for overdue group of 4 D of E boys. Located at Red Tarn.

9 6 April 1999 14:13

Puddingstone Bank, Watendlath

A woman (50 yrs) slipped on wet grass and broke her ankle.

10 11 April 1999 18:35

Blackmoss Pot, Langstrath

A man (39 yrs) slipped on wet grass while coming off Sergeant's Crag, sustaining ligament injuries.

11 11 April 1999 23:50

Sail Beck, Buttermere

Request from Cockermouth MRT to assist in search for young woman (25 yrs) overdue at Youth Hostel. She was located in a taxi!

12 15 April 1999 18:29

Comb Gill

A walker heard shouts for help. A search found nothing. False alarm with good intent.

13 17 April 1999 13:17

Hindscarth - Dale Head Ridge

A fell runner sustained a badly gashed thigh. A helicopter training in the area was able to take him to hospital.

14 1 May 1999 20:22

Thirlmere Eliminate, Castle Rock

A climber fell while leading the 2nd pitch, sustaining head and chest injuries. He was given medical assistance on the ledge before being lowered from the crag. He was in Spain a week later!

15 11 May 1999 19:19

Sharp Edge, Blencathra

2 men (38 & 50 yrs) became cragfast as they tried to complete the ridge in wet, greasy conditions. They raised the alarm by mobile phone.

16 16 May 1999 14:09

White Pike, Clough Head

2 paragliders collided while spiralling in thermals. Some observers say they fell 300'. They both landed heavily and received remarkably light injuries. Another person injured her ankle when running for her mobile phone. After receiving medical assistance, all 3 casualties were airlifted by RN helicopter.

17 28 May 1999 17:28

Stake Pass area

Man in party of 28 walking the Cumbria Way broke his ankle. His informant walked us up Greenup Gill to the accident site only to find his companions had improvised his evacuation via Stake Pass!

18 29 May 1999 16:45

Castle Crag area

A man (24 yrs) was reported missing by his friends while bivvying in Millican Dalton's Cave. An extensive search, found his sleeping bag by the river followed by his body in a deep dub, the following day.

19 30 May 1999 15:26

Sharp Edge, Blencathra

A man (30 yrs) was pulled off the Edge by his collie on a lead. He fell about 25' receiving head injuries and lacerations. He was airlifted by helicopter and his companion and 2 dogs were escorted to safety by the team.

20 3 June 1999 9:50

Swinside area

A man (46 yrs) was reported missing from home in NE England. His car was found and a thorough search was made of the local area with 2 MRTs and search dogs. Evidence suggested the man may have gone on a camping trip, so the search was suspended.

21 6 June 1999 14:46

Honister Pass

A request from Ambulance Control to assist with a lady with a broken ankle.

22 12 June 1999 14:01

Falcon Crag area

A lady (78 yrs) collapsed while walking.

23 13 June 1999 13:37

Latrigg

A 15 year old boy fell runner collapsed on reaching the summit!

24 20 June 1999 12:52

Meadows by River Derwent

A man (60 yrs) jumped over a small puddle and landed badly, breaking his ankle.

25 26 June 1999 13:38

Skiddaw - Littleman area

A lady slipped and broke her ankle. She was airlifted by a helicopter which was diverted from a local public display.

26 26 June 1999 14:08

Langstrath - Cam Crag Ridge

A man (54 yrs) slipped and fell 100' while descending, sustaining suspected wrist, back and pelvic injuries. He was taken, in tandem with our previous casualty, to Whitehaven Hospital.

27 6 July 1999 21:31

Eagle Crag, Greenup

A climber was scrambling when he dislodged a large flake of rock. He fell to the next ledge where another rock hit him. He fell 200' and sustained fatal injuries.

28 7 July 1999 17:59

Little Calva - Hause Gill

A lady slipped on grass and injured her ankle.

29 9 July 1999 15:19

Watendlath valley

A request to assist the ambulance with a casualty.

30 10 July 1999 14:54

Langstrath valley

A lady (39 yrs) fell from a stile and broke her ankle which became wedged in some rocks.

31 10 July 1999 15:10

Castle Rock - Agony

A climber (37 yrs) fell from the first pitch and sustained cuts and bruises.

32 11 July 1999 13:41

Castlehead, Keswick

A man (47 yrs) collapsed and died while walking.

33 12 July 1999 16:51

Helvellyn - Wythburn track

A man slipped on loose stones and injured his ankle.

34 12 July 1999 18:30

Glarumara - near Blackmoss Pot

A lady (64 yrs) slipped on a greasy rock and fell 10' into a rocky stream bed. She sustained a broken arm and pelvic injuries.

35 16 July 1999 13:33

Walla Crag - Cat Gill

A woman (49 yrs) slipped on path on descent and dislocated her tibia and fibula. She was wearing trainers.

36 31 July 1999 20:45

Red Pike, Buttermere

A request from Cockermouth MRT to provide medical assistance. The Team Doctor was airlifted by helicopter to a pregnant woman.

37 3 August 1999 12:12

Gate Gill, Knitting Haws

A young lady (19 yrs) slipped 20' into the gill while scrambling. She sustained a bruised pelvis and ribs.

38 4 August 1999 15:28

Castle Crag

A lady slipped and gashed her head. She had managed to walk some way down.

39 18 August 1999 16:08

Sharp Edge, Blencathra

A young couple became cragfast in cold and wet conditions.

40 22 August 1999 16:41

Taylorgill, Seathwaite

A woman (73 yrs) slipped and injured her arm and face.

41 25 August 1999 18:22

Longband Crag, Greenup

A party of 7 teenage girls become stuck in steep group

while descending at the end of their walk. 3 were walked off and the others needed to be extricated from their position, including another who went to their assistance.

42 29 August 1999 15:45

Sourmilk Gill, Seathwaite

A lady (39 yrs) slipped on wet rock and broke her tibia and fibula.

43 29 August 1999 18:49

Green Gable - summit cairn

4 D of E students succumbed to the unseasonal weather. They were shepherd off by 2 Teams and a rescue helicopter.

44 4 September 1999 12:27

Sharp Edge, Blencathra

A male fell runner (39 yrs) slipped and fell 150' down a gully. He sustained chest, arm and leg injuries. After treatment at the scene he was winched into a helicopter.

45 4 September 1999 13:20

Scales Tarn, Blencathra

Reports were received of a 10 year old girl suffering from a sprained ankle and being separated from her family. She was assisted and reunited.

46 4 September 1999 14:08

Helvellyn

A man suffered a heart attack at the top of the Wythburn path. The Team attended and he was airlifted by helicopter to hospital.

47 4 September 1999 15:32

Ullock Pike

A paraglider broke his leg. As the Team was busy with the above incidents, Cockermouth MRT was called to assist. The helicopter also attended!

48 4 September 1999 16:30

Dock Tarn

A woman walker suffered a locked knee. By this time, the helicopter was worth its weight in gold. The Team attended but was not required. She was flown to hospital.

49 4 September 1999 18:26

Walla Crag

A poor take-off resulted in the pilot of a paraglider (19 yr old girl) tumbling down the sheer front of the crag. She sustained cuts to her leg.

50 7 September 1999 06:30

Castle Rock

Search for suicidal missing person. Later found in Wigan!

51 7 September 1999 15:44

Stonethwaite valley

Request to assist the ambulance crew with the recovery of a Dutch walker (46 yrs) who had sprained his ankle.

52 8 September 1999 00:01

Langstrath

Search for walker separated from his companion. After an all-night search he walked in at first light!

53 10 September 1999 18:24

Harrop Tarn, Thirlmere

A girl in a D of E group aggravated a previous ankle injury when trying to get a mobile phone signal to report an aggravated ankle injury!

54 11 September 1999 13:10

Dale Head Tarn

A girl in a D of E group was blown over by the wind. She bruised and grazed her knee and elbow. The group was also overwhelmed by the poor weather.

55 11 September 1999 15:30

Scope End, Hindscarth

A lady (47 yrs) slipped on wet grass and injured her ankle as the Team was returning from the previous incident (same valley!).

56 21 September 1999 16:50

Grains Gill

A lady (56 yrs) slipped and broke her ankle.

57 26 September 1999 13:28

Latrigg summit

A lady (74 yrs) slipped and injured her ankle.

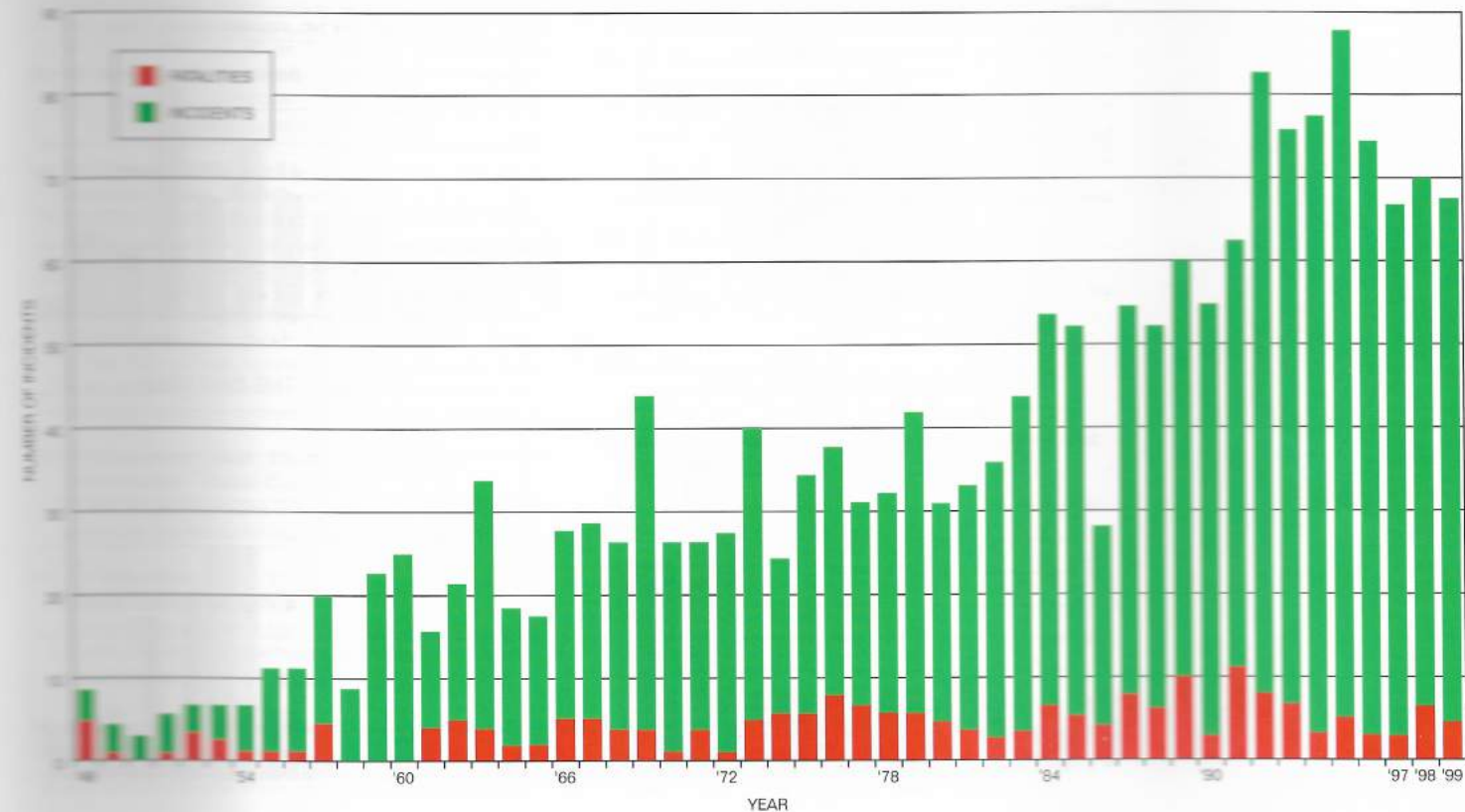
58 9 October 1999 19:14

Great Gable

A lady became separated from her party on the summit. She got lost in mist and called on her mobile phone for help. Unfortunately, we could not contact her. We later were called again and found her near Westmorland Caim at about 9 pm.

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM INCIDENTS - 1948-1999



Keswick Mountain Rescue Team



The injured Chris Higgins awaits rescue.
(Photo: Colin Doumer)

I am writing this with a different perspective on Mountain Rescue than I had three weeks ago. I now have the advantage, (although I consider it a major disadvantage) of experiencing mountain rescue as a *casualty*.

A fall whilst ski touring in Scotland, the audible *crack* from my left leg and the pain, the sweat inducing, stomach turning of it that lets you know it's broken. Shivering isolation while my companion goes for help, just me!.... there's just me on the side of this big, big mountain. All the why's and what-if's that you ask. I know it will take time to get to me, but this long!.... My friends fallen.... maybe. Just maybe we are both in trouble or perhaps there's another, more urgent job on, delaying my rescue. How much longer will it be? Shadows grow, white turns to blue turns to grey, wind on my back. Orange plastic little comfort.

Passers-by stop and just sit with me. Emotional rescue..... I am not alone. We joke at the irony of it, of all people to be rescued. Ha! The wait drags on. False hopes dashed. Helicopter engines materialise as transatlantic crossings, high white on blue, happy holidays! When will they come? This is long enough. Feet numbed and always, pain. Sit still, don't move that leg! Waiting....

Thump..thump..thump..thump.. Lights cutting the grey and, in the doorway, olive drab overalls waving. People stand as Ys and loose items are hastily stuffed away. Spindrift thrashing hale-storm rescue. Winchman spinning on his wire, my wire, the link I have been craving.....I am rescued!

One of the reasons for my joining Keswick Mountain Rescue Team was that, both in my job as an instructor or in my own time, I spend the majority of my waking hours on the crags and mountains or paddling the rivers of the U.K. I considered

that I might, one unfortunate day, need to be rescued and felt that I should, as it were, open a savings account and accrue some 'rescue credit'. As you can see above I have made a withdrawal and as I sit with my leg in plaster, propped on cushions, I am reflecting on the work I have done as one of the quartermasters and as a member of K.M.R.T.

The hours of checking and repairing equipment, the missed meals, being pulled from sleep for an all night search, sodden feet carrying stretchers across backs, aching backs and the general disruption, all now seem worth while. In fact, I will now embrace these 'sacrifices' because I now know the loneliness of the casualty, the anguish that encroaches as you wait, because all you can do is wait, and the euphoria of rescue. Oh! and I also know of the general ridiculing and metaphoric leg pulling that a casualty receives in the aftermath of such an incident!

Chris Higgins

A Casualty's Account

The lady casualty in callout number 42 has kindly provided the following report of her experience that day. Her rescue featured in the BBC-TV documentary noted in the Team Leader's Report.

On Sunday August 29th, 1999, I set off with my family for a day's walking with the aim of climbing Green Gable, and the possibility of going on to Great Gable if the weather held out. Unfortunately, as with so many Lakeland days, half way through the morning the clouds arrived, and when we reached the top of the mountain the rain progressed from drizzle to a steady downpour. Having reached our initial goal, we decided the sensible thing to do would be call it a day and head for home.

With the car park in sight, I lost my footing on a stretch of very slippery rock and landed very awkwardly. It immediately became clear to us that my left leg was very badly broken and I would require help to get down from the mountain and off to hospital. Realising our predicament, a fellow walker called for the Mountain Rescue team, leaving us to get our family down to safety.

When the Mountain Rescue team arrived, they very quickly assessed the situation and each member of the team seemed to know exactly what to do. The doctor administered a welcome dose of pain relief, and did whatever he could to make my leg comfortable and ensure that I was safely and securely strapped onto the stretcher. With lots of reassurance we made the extremely difficult descent to the bottom with a minimum of discomfort.

It is hard to express your feelings about such a dreadful experience as this. When I dwell on how impossible it would have been to get down from the mountain without the help of the Mountain Rescue team it brings a lump to my throat. However by way of postscript, I would like to add that my leg is now well on the way to recovery, and I'm looking forward to many more enjoyable days out on the fells.

Rescue U.S.A. Style

Jen and I were lucky enough to have the opportunity to go Backpacking in the Bridger Wilderness. Located in The Wind River Range Wyoming, it is an area of some 430,000 acres, more than 2,900 lakes, between 8,000 & 12,500 feet. Rescue there if needed is organised by Tip Top Search & Rescue, part of the County Sheriff's Office, it is a voluntary organisation financed by public donation, just like us. Quite a surprise when one thinks of the American culture of Ambulance chasing lawyers and blame litigation. Nice to know that there are people

in similar environments who think in the same way. Rescue first, no payment required, and blame no one.

In the small pamphlet supplied before entering the wilderness by The Ranger Station in Pinedale, there were some useful tips, here are just a few:

Be Prepared – Be personally fit, well informed, and have good kit.

If you are Lost –

1. The most important step is to first ADMIT you are lost, to yourself or your companion. Stay where you are, accept the situation, do not panic.
2. Use whatever equipment you carried or material nature has provided for shelter from the elements.
3. Fight the urge to panic, using your head is an important Survival Tool. *"The mind is like a parachute, it only works When it's open"* (Sir James Dewar).

Equipment – Survival Kits are nothing more than a collection of resources. Know what is in your Kit, and how to use it.

When talking to the local Rangers it became obvious that rescues were a very different thing from what you might expect in the Lake District. Their rescues generally take about 2 to 3 days from the first request for help. So it was said in all seriousness by the Rangers, "if you can't accept that, then don't go in".

By comparison, if you are ever unlucky enough to have an accident in the Lake District, and require our services, it may well seem ages before we arrive, but most of our resources take about 2 to 3 Hours, think on, in the Great American Wilderness it's Days!

Robin Humphreys

SUBLETTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



EMERGENCY SURVIVAL

P.O. BOX 701, PINEDALE, WY 82941

EMERGENCY 911

PINEDALE OFFICE 367-4378

MARBLETON OFFICE 276-5448

*Sublette County Sheriff's Department
Emergency Survival Pamphlet –
Emergency Survival in Wyoming*

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team meets the RNLI



In the summer the Team was invited to join the RNLI at Workington for training. A group of team members duly participated! Keith Stephenson is shown being rescued and at the helm! Photographs: Keith Stephenson/Mark Hodgson.

Collection Box Sponsors

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

Thank you to all Collection Box Sponsors for your support in 1999. If you would like to support the team by having a box, please contact the Collecting Box co-ordinator Brian Spencer on telephone 017687 72531.

Acom House
Allerdale House
Anderville Guest House
Argosy
Armthwaite Hall
Askew Rigg
Bank Tavern
Barclays Bank
Barrow House Y.H.A.
Batty & Co., Wigton
Bay Tree
Beckstones Guest House
The Beeches Guest House
Birch How
Bonshaw Guest House
Boots The Chemists Ltd.
Bookends
Borrowdale Hotel
Bowfell
Braithwaite Court H.P.B.
Brierholme Guest House
Brookfield Guest House
Caffle House, Watendlath
Call of the Wild
Camping and Caravan Club
Site
Cars of the Stars
Cartwheel Guest House
Casablanca Bar
Castle Inn
Castlerigg Hall Camp Site
Chaucer House Hotel
Chitlee Guest House
Clarence House
The Coffee Shop
Coledale Hotel
Compass
Comer Shop

The Cornish Pasty
COWELLS
Craglands Guest House
Crosthwaite Garage
Crow Park Hotel
Cumberland Pie
Cumbria Hotel
Cumbrian Properties
Dalegarth Hotel
Dale Head Hall Hotel
Daresfield
Derwent Bank H.F.
Derwent Cottage
Derwent Club
Derwent House
Derwent Jewellers
Derwentwater Caravan Park
Derwentwater Marina
Dog and Gun
Dollywaggon Guest House
Douglas Jewellers
Easedale Hotel
Eel Craggs
Eiger Sports
The Electric Shop
Elliotts
Fawsley House
Fernside Guest House
Field and Stream
Fine Designs
Fims
Flock Inn
Focus Photography
Four In Hand Hotel
Gale Hotel
George Fisher
George Hotel
Golden Lion Inn

Great Little Tea Shop
Great Wall
Greystoke House
Grove House Gallery
Glamara C.H.A.
Glencoe Guest House
The Grange
Grange Bridge Cottage Cafe
Grange Cafe
Greystones Guest House
Gypsy
Hazel Bank Hotel
Hazelmere Guest House
Hazelwood Guest House
Hedgehog Hill
The Heights Hotel
High Lodore Farm Cafe
Hikers Outlet
C and CA Holmes
Honister Mine
Douglas Memorial Camp
Horse and Farrier
How Keld
Ivy House
Java Junction
Kaigerli Guest House
Keswick Lodge
Keswick Golf Club
Keswick Mountain Bike Hire
Keswick Mountain Sports
Keswick Outdoor Clothing Co.
Keswick Park Hotel
Keswick Y.H.A.
King's Arms
King's Head Hotel
Kitchin's Cellar
Kylesku Guest House
La Primavera

Ladstock Hall Hotel
Lairbeck Hotel
Lakeland Pedlar
Lakeland Sheepskin
Lake Road Inn
Lakeside Caravan Park
Lakeside House
Lakeside Tea Gardens
Langstrath Hotel
Lattrigg House
Laurel Bank Guest House
Leather Head Hotel
Linneth Hill Hotel
Lodore Swiss Hotel
Longthwaite Y.H.A.
Luchinis Ices
Lynwood Guest House
Lyzick Hall Hotel
Low Manesty Caravan Park
Mary Mount Hotel
Medical Centre
Middle Ruddings Hotel
Midland Bank
Mill Inn, Mungrisdale
Moot Hall
Monic
Morrell's
National Trust - Lakeside
The Necessary Angel
Needle Sports
New House, Rosthwaite
Newton Rigg College
Newtons
Nichol End Marine
Oddfellows
Pack Horse Inn
Parkgate
Police Station

Priorholme Hotel
Rainbow
Rathbones
Rathbones Outdoor Wear
Ravenstone Hotel
Ravenstone Lodge Hotel
Ravensworth Hotel
Rembrandt Cafe
Richmond House Hotel
Rickerby Grange
Rock and Roll
Rock at the Warehouse
Rock Shop
Rohan Ltd
Rosthwaite General Store
Rowe Opticians
Royal Oak, Braithwaite
Royal Oak Hotel, Rosthwaite
Salutation Inn
Sandon Guest House
Saw Mill Cafe, Dodd
Scawdell Guest House
Scarfell Hotel
Scotgate Camping Site
Seathwaite Farm Cafe
Seatoller Farm
Seatoller House
Scales Farm Cottage
Sherara Guest House
Silver City
Silverdale Hotel
Skiddaw Grove Hotel
Spar Grocers
Speddings
Spuds & Things
Strathmore Guest House
Sundance Foods
Sunnyside Guest House

Swan Inn, Thornthwaite
Swinside Inn
Swiss Court Hotel
Tam Hows
The Sick and the Wrong
Thimbeck Guest House
Thirladown
Threshers
Touchwood
Trekters Cave
Treby and Bolton
Twa Dogs
Tynemouth Lodge Hotel
The Theatre by the Lake
Underscar Hotel
Village Shop, Braithwaite
Village Shop, Portinscale
West View Guest House
Whinlatter Forest Tea Room
White Horse Inn
The Wild Strawberry
Winchester Guest House
Wine Rack
69 Wordsworth Street
Yeoman Outdoors
Yew Tree Cafe
Yew Craggs



Brian Spencer

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team (hereafter referred to as 'the Team') is an unincorporated association and is established by constitution adopted on 20th March 1980. It is a registered charity, number 509860.

The main object of the team is for the public benefit, to relieve suffering and distress arising therefrom, among persons and animals endangered by accident or nature hazards within the area of Great Britain and particularly on the mountains of Cumbria and the vicinity of Keswick.

Address of Charity: Lakeside Car Park
Lake Road, Keswick
Cumbria, CA12 5DJ

Trustees:	M Fanning	(Chairperson)
(Executive	M Guy	(Secretary)
Committee)	A F Jones	(Treasurer)
	M Hodgson	(Team Leader)
	P Horder	(Team Member)
	D Pratt	(Team Member)

The above Committee Members (Trustees) were elected at the last Annual General Meeting by the Members.

Bankers: HSBC plc
Market Square
Keswick
Cumbria

Trustees Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under S44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

1999 has been a year of consolidation for the Team and, from the financial viewpoint, the implementation of an equipment replacement policy has been of major significance. In accordance with our aims, stated in previous years, we have started a rolling program of equipment renewal, so far mainly concerning ropes and associated "hardware" (£11,192).

An important part of the Team's equipment is the protective clothing issued to members to ensure their safety whilst involved in an incident. A replacement policy has also been introduced here. This year, in addition to routine replacements and the kitting out of new members, we have purchased Montane winter jackets and windproof tops. Also, Team members were authorised to claim an allowance of up to £50 for the replacement of boots or trainers for summer use. The total cost of issuing personal equipment this year was £4,626, an increase of less than 25% on the previous year which, considering the volume of equipment purchased, shows the benefit of a structured policy.

Another major area of expense was training (£2,866), mainly involving our annual winter session in the Cairngorms. We have had several calls in recent years to search for people missing in, or near rivers – often at times when the rivers are in spate. the River Greta, in particular, is a popular "white water" route with canoeists. With the introduction of river rescue work into the training syllabus there have been costs for a team member to attend a course at the Plas-y-Brenin centre in North Wales, with others due to attend next year, plus the cost of purchase of additional equipment – dry suits, buoyancy aid etc.

During the appeal for funding to build our new Headquarters we received financial support from many sources, including a donation for the Lake District Search and Mountain Rescue Association. As the HQ has now been proved to be a huge success, and with no significant expense anticipated on it, the Team decided that we were in a sufficiently strong financial position to be able to refund £10,000 of the donation to LDSAMRA and, therefore, support projects involving other Rescue Teams in the Lakes area.

These costs are all necessary to ensure the efficient running of the Team for the future, and do not show any significant increase over previous years when allowance is made for one-off costs (LDSAMRA repayment in 1999, new vehicle purchased 1998). However, it is of concern to note that, for the second year in succession, income has dropped (£64,546 in 1997 to £54,330 in 1999). The Team must be vigilant in its future expenditure to ensure that the current healthy financial state is not lost in the race to have all the latest equipment and technology. A structured approach to include all expenditure needs to be maintained and carried forward into the future.

Reliance for the operation of the Team is placed on unpaid volunteers. The trustees do not receive any remuneration in respect of their obligations or activities.

The Trustees will oversee this responsibility and will continue to ensure that the Team's assets are utilised efficiently to provide the best possible service to those who may require it. They confirm that the funds available are sufficient to fulfill the objectives of the Team.

A. F. Jones – Trustee

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

We report on the accounts of the Team for the year ended 30th November 1999, which are set out on pages 24 to 27.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting requirements of the Act
- (2) To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Armstrong Watson & Co
Chartered Accountants
Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales

Bakers Yard
St Johns Street
Keswick
Cumbria

Date 19th January 2000

Statement

of financial activities for the year ended 30th November 1999

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

	Notes	1999 £	1998 £
Incoming Resources			
Covenants		2,330	2,344
Donations		17,382	31,428
Collection Boxes		12,107	11,337
Legacy		11,000	3,800
Income Tax Recovered		2,260	671
Bank and Building Society Interest		8,240	9,169
Miscellaneous and Shirt Sales		1,011	63
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		54,330	58,812
Resources Expended			
Direct Charitable Expenses	2	45,251	35,150
Other Expenses	3	13,811	14,265
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		59,062	49,415
Net Incoming Resources Before Transfers			
NET (EXPENDED)/INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		(4,732)	9,397
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST DECEMBER 1998		464,378	454,981
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 30TH NOVEMBER 1999		£459,646	£464,378

The notes on pages 26 to 27 form part of these accounts

	Notes	1999 £	1998 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4	297,663	310,701
Current Assets			
Debtors and Prepayments		2,693	2,153
Stock	6	1,340	1,060
Building Society Deposits		147,685	139,969
Cash at Bank		10,559	10,758
		162,277	153,940
Liabilities, Amounts falling due within one year	7	294	263
NET CURRENT ASSETS		161,983	153,677
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>£459,646</u>	<u>£464,378</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted		<u>£459,646</u>	<u>£464,378</u>

Approved by the board of Trustees on 20th January 2000

The notes on pages 26 to 27 form part of these accounts

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30th November 1999

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statements of Recommended Practice.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life. The rates used are as follows:

Property	–	Straight line over 50 Years
Equipment	–	15% reducing balance
Motor Vehicles	–	25% reducing balance

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

	Total funds 1999 £	Total funds 1998 £
2. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENSES		
Motor Vehicle Expenses		
Insurances	1,998	734
Petrol & Oil	596	725
Maintenance	860	2,818
Equipment Expenses		
Rental	2,898	1,947
Maintenance of Radio	444	596
Maintenance of General Equipment	1,180	3,404
Clothing & Outdoor Equipment	4,626	–
Other Expenses and Courses	2,866	1,574
Depreciation of Motor Vehicles	19,783	22,846
Loss on Vehicle Transfer	–	506
Donation Returned	10,000	–
	<u>£45,251</u>	<u>£35,150</u>

3. OTHER EXPENSES

Garage, Team & HQ Expenses

Rent, Rates & Water	120	14
Telephone & Electricity	1,918	2,110
Repairs and Renewals	896	2,415
Postage, Printing & Stat	3,393	2,204
Insurance	1,248	1,246
Bank Charges	23	13
Independent Examiners Fees	353	270
Sundry Expenses	1,415	1,548
Depreciation on Leasehold Property	4,445	4,445
	<u>£13,811</u>	<u>£14,265</u>

	<i>Leasehold Land & buildings £</i>	<i>Equipment £</i>	<i>Motor Vehicles £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
Cost				
At 1st December 1998	222,262	119,305	61,401	402,968
Additions During Year	–	11,192	–	11,192
At 30th November 1999	222,262	130,497	61,401	414,160
Depreciation				
At 1st December 1998	8,890	57,048	26,329	92,267
Charge for the Year	4,445	11,017	8,768	24,230
At 30th November 1999	13,335	68,065	35,097	116,497
Net Book Value				
At 30th November 1999	208,927	62,432	26,304	297,663
At 30th November 1998	213,372	62,257	35,072	310,701

All fixed assets held are for the furtherance of the Charity's objectives.

5. DEBTORS	<i>1999 £</i>	<i>1998 £</i>
Prepayments	£2,693	£2,153
6. STOCK	<i>1999 £</i>	<i>1998 £</i>
Consumable Stock	80	80
Stock of Books	1,260	980
	£1,340	£1,060
7. LIABILITIES – Amounts falling due within one year	<i>1999 £</i>	<i>1998 £</i>
Accruals	£294	£263

A Deed of Covenant is a method of making a regular donation (for a minimum of 4 years) to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team. Not only does the Team have the benefit of having a known income, we can also reclaim from the Inland Revenue the Tax you have paid on the donation, which has the effect of increasing your donation by almost one-third. If you would like to help the Team in this way please complete the enclosed form and return it to the Treasurer.

During 1999 Deed of Covenant donations were made by:

Dr J E Anderson
Mrs M R Beetham
Miss K Bullock
A B Clark
Mrs P Durbridge
Mrs P Gamblin
W R Hartland
J B Manley
S O'Brien
E G Pettipher
P Powell
W J Sephton
Mrs S P Smith
R Townsend
M J Voaden
G T Woods

K Backen
H E W Bostock
A R Byron
Dr E Coupland
H S Fletcher-Rogers
Mrs J Gibbs
W E Jones
P Manson
M C A Pierce
B Pickup
T Roberts
B G Smith
Dr R M Sutton
Dr J Varley
B M Welch
J B Beaston

Mrs J M Brown
J R Cawood
Mrs S Cresswell
T Forshaw
P M Harris
M S Litherland
S Marshall
J Perry
M Potter
Mrs J T Robertson
D G Smith
Mrs J K Tait
K Vevers
D R White Cooper

Full names and
address in CAPITALS

I (Mr/Mrs/Miss).....

of

.....

.....

Promise to pay KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM out of my taxed income such a sum as will after deduction of income tax at the basic rate amount to

Please enter NET amount

£ annually.

Date must be on or
after date of signing

The payments are to begin on the day of 20
and continue for a period of four years from that date or until revoked by me, whichever period is the longer.

SIGNED AND DELIVERED as a Deed

this day of 20

Covenantors Signature

Signature of witness

Full name and
address of witness

.....

.....

.....

.....

Bankers Order: PLEASE DO NOT DETACH

To: Bank plc

.....

.....

(Name and address of your bank)

Name of account to be debited:

Account Number

PLEASE PAY to Midland Bank plc, Market Square, Keswick, Cumbria
CA12 5BQ (Sort Code 40-26-06) for the credit of KESWICK
MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM (Account Number 60498173).

the sum of £..... (figures)

..... (words)

on the day of 20

and a like sum ANNUALLY on the

day of

in each following year until revoked by me, making a minimum of four
payments in all.

Signed

Date 20

Please return this completed Deed to: KESWICK MOUNTAIN
RESCUE TEAM Spooney Green, Keswick, Cumbria.

Many people and organisations have made donations to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team during the course of the year. In common with all other Mountain Rescue Teams we receive no funding from official sources. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to all who support us in so many different and individual ways, allowing us to concentrate on assisting those in distress on the fells without having to be unduly concerned about every expense that is incurred. It is not possible to acknowledge all donors in the space available, however a full list is available on request.

During the year donations have been received in memory of the following:

N Amfield	J C Douglas	L Thurstan
Julie Bedford	C Green	Mrs M I Beck
Mr Draper	A Sherlock	Mrs E Douglas
G B Fisher MBE	F Winwood	Mr Fearon
Q Quinn	M G Bain	J Passey
R Wightman	E Day	Mr Wardle
C Bacon	G Durrant	
M Bryan	G S Hindmarch	

Keswick Team Search Dogs

For the first time in many years, the Team only has one graded Search Dog – Loch, a Golden Labrador, with Chris Francis.

Spin, her Border Collie companion on many searches, was finally retired by her handler Mick Guy, in September, when she reached the age of 11. Mick's new dog, Mist, a Collie Cross, is making steady progress through the SARDA training programme, but there is still a way to go.

A second new dog, Martin Bell's Kali, another Border Collie, has just been enrolled into the SARDA system, and will start formal training some time later on in the year.

This year, dogs from Keswick assisted in the following incidents:

13th Feb. 2030hrs Both Keswick dog teams searched the area round Grisedale Tarn, after shouts and whistles were reported. Sheet ice underfoot made life awkward, and nothing was found. A False alarm with good intent.

17th July. 2030hrs Both Keswick Dogs attended a search assisting Wasdale Team, for a missing elderly man in the area of Burnmoor Tarn in thick fog. Although the man could hear dogs and search teams in the area, he chose not to reveal himself, and made his way off in the morning.

29th August. 2355hrs. Both Keswick Dogs to Cross Fell to assist Penrith MRT in search for missing group in bad weather. Found by Team members.

8th Sept. 0001hrs. One Keswick dog team searched in Langstrath for a missing pair who became separated. One walked in, the other turned up at first light.

29th Oct. Broad Crag, Scafell. Party became lost descending from Scafell. One Keswick dog assisted in search. The party was located by a Search Dog attached to Wasdale MRT.

28th Nov. Calf Cove. Party overdue from Scafell. One Keswick dog assisted in their location, in conjunction with Team members.

Mick Guy

CALL OUT

THE FIRST 50 YEARS

by Geogre Bott

On 24 April 1946, Wilfrid Noyce, later a member of John Hunt's successful Everest team, was badly injured while he was climbing on Great Gable. His rescue - a long and difficult operation - prompted a local climber, Colonel Horace Westmorland, to form a properly organised Mountain Rescue Team.

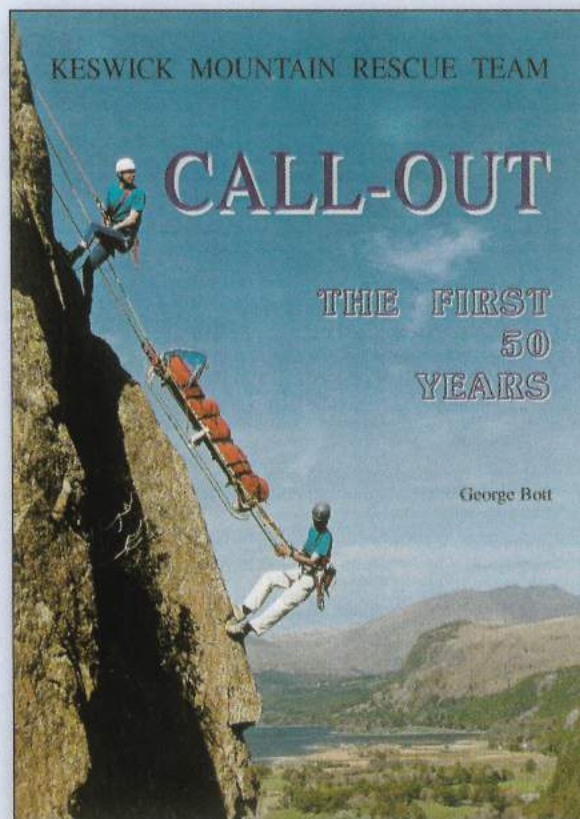
From its humble beginnings, the Team has grown into a highly efficient, well equipped group of volunteers, ready to respond to a call-out for help at any time of day or night.

CALL-OUT traces the story of the first 50 years of the Team, a history that records hardship and humour, dedication and drama, courage and commitment.

CALL-OUT has a full colour cover, photographs in colour and black and white, 56 pages.

Price £5 available in bookshops, or by post (£6 including postage and packing) from Brian Martland, Keswick Mountain Rescue Team, Cornerstones, 15 Helvellyn Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4EN. Cheques to be made payable to: Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

All proceeds from the sale of **CALL-OUT** go to Team Funds.



For Mountain Rescue Call 999 and ask for Police

- Then be prepared to state:**
- Your name, and the number of the telephone from which you are ringing, and its location.
 - The nature of the incident, and its (accurate) location.
 - The time of the incident.
 - The number of casualties.
 - The details of any injuries.

Then:

- STAY BY THE PHONE so that the Team can contact you.
