



KESWICK Mountain Rescue Team

A Registered Charity Number 509860

Annual Report 2014

Introduction



Gatefell

Venus Griffiths

Welcome to the 2014 Annual Report of
Keswick Mountain Rescue Team.

This is a record of the Team's activities in 2013.

The Team operates in the area shown on the map on **page 2**.

Occasionally the Team is called elsewhere.

Thanks

The painting has been donated by Venus Griffiths.

The framed original is for sale to the highest bidder.



It may be viewed at Derwent Frames, High Hill, Keswick.

All proceeds to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team.

The website



For more information about the Team,
see www.keswickmrt.org.uk

Please support the Team through the links from the website to
The Charities Aid Foundation, **JustGiving**, **JustTextGiving**
and   (See also **pages 30 and 31**)

Photographs

All photographs used in this report
have been contributed by

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team members.

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team 2014

President: Mike Nixon MBE
Chairman: Malcolm Miller
Secretary: Paul Cheshire
Treasurer: Ian Wallace
 Spooney Green House,
 Spooney Green Lane,
 Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4PJ

Team Leader: Chris Higgins
Committee: Fiona Boyle, Paul Horder

Deputy Team Leaders: Paul Barnes, Chris Gillyon,
 Chris Harling, Simon Hodgson
Medical Officer: Dr Tim Hooper
Training Officers: Gordon Barker, Steve Hepburn
Radio Officer: Alan Prescott
Vehicles Officers: Matt Eaves, Mick Guy
Equipment Officers: Martin Bell, Tom McNally
Base Officer: Simon Noble
Social Secretary: Elly Whiteford
Report Editor: Peter Little



Steve Allen	<i>Handyman</i>
Gordon Barker	<i>Biotech Consultant</i>
Alan Barnes	<i>Outdoor Pursuits Instructor</i>
Paul Barnes	<i>Fire Fighter</i>
Jan Beedham	<i>Laboratory Technician</i>
Martin Bell	<i>Paramedic</i>
Tom Blakely	<i>Paramedic</i>
Quentin Boyes	<i>Marketing/CRM Consultant</i>
Fiona Boyle	<i>Lecturer</i>
Paul Carter	<i>Production Manager</i>
Paul Cheshire	<i>Chartered Engineer</i>
Adrian Clifford	<i>Retired</i>
Neil Dowie	<i>Hotelier</i>
Matt Eaves	<i>LDNPA Apprentice Supervisor</i>
Donald Ferguson	<i>Retail Assistant</i>
Chris Francis	<i>Fire Service</i>
Richard Gale	<i>Technical Delivery Manager</i>
Chris Gillyon	<i>Company Director</i>
Geoff Gilmore	<i>Leisure Pool Manager</i>
Rob Grange	<i>Photographer</i>
Mick Guy	<i>Retired</i>
Chris Harling	<i>Company Director</i>
Roy Henderson	<i>National Trust Ranger</i>
Steve Hepburn	<i>Carpenter</i>
Chris Higgins	<i>Outdoor Pursuits Instructor</i>

Mark Hodgson MBE	<i>Project Director</i>
Simon Hodgson	<i>Company Director</i>
Tim Hooper	<i>General Practitioner</i>
Katharine Horder	<i>Head Teacher</i>
Paul Horder	<i>Retired</i>
Andy Jones	<i>Guest House Proprietor</i>
Dan Jordan	<i>College Lecturer,</i>
	<i>Prince's Trust Team Leader</i>
Peter Little	<i>Pharmacist</i>
George Lloyd	<i>Retail Assistant</i>
Tom McNally	<i>Outdoor Pursuits Instructor</i>
Malcolm Miller	<i>Retired</i>
Phil Newton	<i>Retired</i>
Mike Nixon MBE	<i>Retired</i>
Simon Noble	<i>Retired</i>
David Pratt	<i>Teacher</i>
Alan Prescott	<i>Senior Manager</i>
Jocky Sanderson	<i>Outdoor Pursuits Instructor</i>
Brian Spencer	<i>Retired</i>
Karen Sturgess	<i>Community Warden</i>
Lisa Suttle	<i>General Marina Manager</i>
Ian Wallace	<i>Retired</i>
Paul White	<i>Papermill Chemist</i>
Elly Whiteford	<i>Technical Officer</i>
Graeme Wilson	<i>Site Inspector</i>

**Secretary (Meetings & Minutes)
 and (Talks & Visits):**
 Graeme Wilson

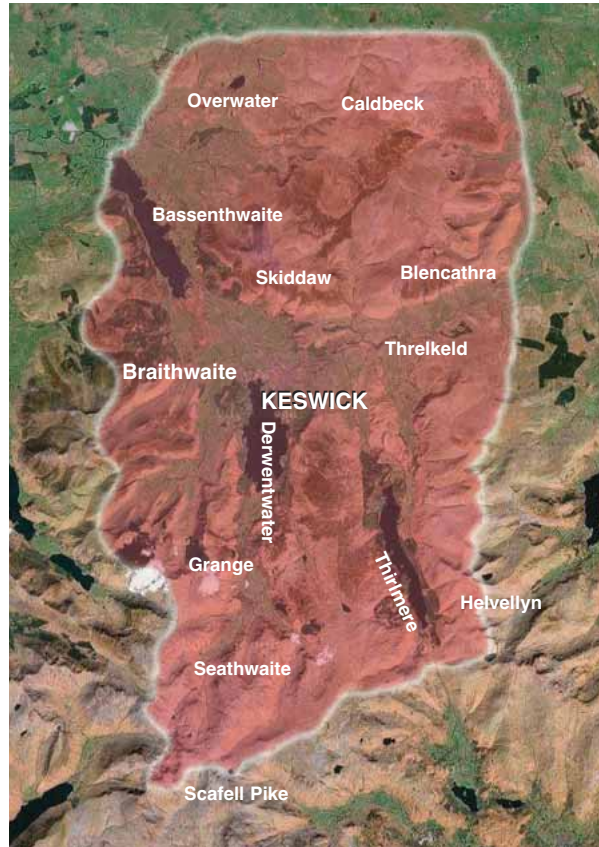
Secretary (Membership):
 Fiona Boyle

Secretary (Correspondence):
 Karen Sturgess

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Collection Box Co-ordinator:
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 Cumbria CA12 4LS
 See *page 26*

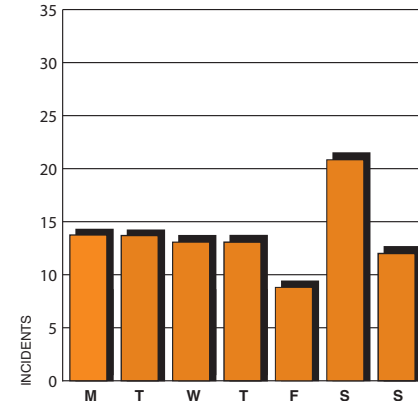
Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Area of Responsibility



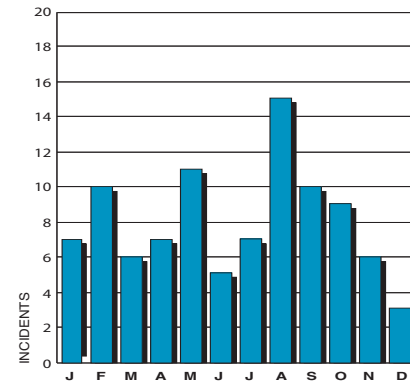
CALLOUT STATISTICS

96 Callouts, 5 Fatalities

DAYS OF THE WEEK 2013



MONTHS OF THE YEAR 2013



Early in 2013 I took over the role of Chairman for Keswick Mountain Rescue Team. Having been in the Team for over forty years it made me reflect on how things have changed during that period, and there have been many changes.

The number of incidents over recent years has increased considerably since I joined in 1970 and although the Team has had to adapt to this demand it has done so remarkably well.

Take for example the amount of time between the initial 999 call and our lead vehicle departing from base. In 1970, the call went through to the police, and then the local station would consult a list and ring up members one by one until sufficient had gathered to fill the first vehicle. State of the art technology reduces this time considerably; within minutes all members are alerted by pager, text or email and the first vehicle is ready to leave in as little time as it takes to get to base and put on a pair of boots.

We all carry radios; this was not always the case. I remember being recalled from a lengthy night search when a maroon was set off in the valley signalling members to return to base. Modern communications not only allow members to keep in touch with base, but base can plot an individual's position through a G.P.S. facility built into each radio. All much safer and far more efficient.

Improved safety and efficiency is equally evident in the equipment that we use. Outdoor enthusiasts will be familiar with the advancement in fabrics

and clothing in general but perhaps less familiar with the more specialised equipment that a team may be required to use. In order to carry out a rescue efficiently, we need to have access to a wide range of equipment and have the knowledge and skills to use it to best effect.

K.M.R.T. is a dynamic group of individuals, constantly seeking to review and improve the way we do things so that we function well as a unit when the need arises. This is achieved through weekly training sessions and in the course of a year a wide and varied syllabus is covered. First Aid is of course a priority area, additionally there is familiarity with technical equipment and keeping up to date with the latest rigging and rescue techniques. We undergo driving training and many of our members are also qualified in Swift Water Rescue. Qualifications are renewed on a regular basis and members frequently attend courses elsewhere in order to bring new ideas to the Team. This amounts to a pretty rigorous schedule and consequently a great deal of commitment from individual members.

It also requires a good deal of understanding from employers and families as these members are all volunteers and available twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year.

So why do it? My reason for joining the Team was a love of mountains in general, familiarity with the local area and skills that I could use to help others, as I would appreciate them helping

me should I need it. I am guessing that these reasons are common to all of us.

And why after 44 years am I still involved with the team? Well although my role and contribution may have changed, I feel that I have still something to offer. But far more meaningful is that I have yet to come across a more selfless and friendly group of people, and I still wish to be part of that. That has not changed.

The beginning of 2014, however has seen a most significant change. This January, Mark Hodgson stood down after twenty years as Team Leader being succeeded by Chris Higgins, one of our most capable Deputies. Being Leader of a very busy team is an extremely demanding position and Mark has done an excellent job over those years, guiding the Team as it has developed and transformed during this period. What is particularly notable however is that throughout the sixty-seven years that the Team has been in existence, there have been only three Team Leaders. I believe this is indicative not only of the dedication of the individuals concerned but also the relentless support and confidence of their fellow team members.

I hope you never need us, but if you do, you can be reassured you are in capable hands!

Malcolm Miller

Team Leader's Report for 2014

2013 has been another busy year for the Team. Not the busiest, but 96 rescues and 14 alerts is still very busy for any Team. The number of alerts is significantly lower this year; we class an alert as where the Team is called by the Police but the call doesn't develop into a full team response but can, however, still involve one or two members in investigations for overdue walkers, flashing lights, etc.

The effort and commitment by all Team members involved in dealing with this amount of rescues is huge; not only with effecting the rescues themselves, but also in all the training (weekly) and all the behind the scenes input such as equipment, vehicle and radio maintenance and replacement, finance, correspondence, etc. – the list goes on! From myself as Team Leader and on behalf of all our casualties a huge thanks to all team members for all your input; thanks also to your wives, families and employers for their support – the Team just couldn't function without your dedication and commitment.

In 2013 the Team responded to: 34 leg injuries, 15 searches, 10 cragfasts, 9 casualties with multiple injuries, 8 medical incidents, 5 mountain bike and 3 water incidents. On 15 days of the year we had 2 rescues, on 1 day we had 3. We worked with Air Ambulances 26 times and military Sea Kings 11 times. Sadly the Team has had to deal with 5 fatal incidents again this year.

Search and Rescue helicopter provision across the UK will soon not be provided by the military (Royal Air Force and Royal Navy). Over the years we have built up excellent working relationships with the military and are always in awe of their skills and dedication – and what they can actually do with a Sea-King! SAR helicopter provision across the UK is being privatised and will be provided by Bristow. We are aware of developing arrangements for this provision, but there remains a lot of work to be done to enable a transition between the providers; not least of which is a training programme for the 440 mountain rescue team members in the 12 Teams across the Lake District, never mind training all members in the 52 Teams across England and Wales.

The Team was very shocked and saddened by the sudden death after a short illness of one of our Team members, Allan Alcock, who died in November. We were very honoured and privileged to be able to show our respects to Geraldine, Mark, Ben and Rachel the way we did in the days and weeks following and at the funeral. A tribute to Allan is provided elsewhere in this report.

At the AGM in January 2013, I gave the Team notice that I would not be standing for re-election as Team Leader at the 2014 AGM. Consequently, 30th January 2014 was the end of my tenure as Team Leader after 20 years in the role and 40 years in the Team. I have no



intention of leaving the Team and will still be very heavily involved in rescues as part of the Team, just taking a bit more of a 'back-seat' role.

Chris Higgins was elected as our new Team Leader at the 2014 AGM. Chris has been a member of the Team for some 18 years and has gained much experience as a Deputy Leader for 10 of those years. I wish Chris every success in the role and hope he enjoys what can only be described as one of the best jobs – anywhere!

I have been hugely privileged to be elected each year by the Team as their leader and it has been an amazing 20 years. So, I thought it was opportune for a little bit of reflection on those 20 years, during which the Team undertook 1711 rescues out of the 3156 between formation in 1947 and the end of January 2014. From our records I think I managed to get on

919 of those 1711 rescues. None of these numbers include any of the estimated 300+ alerts during the last 20 years. I've categorised the areas for reflection:

Callouts

- The numbers – from 78 in 1994 to our highest numbers of 136 and 144 in 2009 and 2010.
- The way we are called out – from informants running down the fell, a landline call to the Police who then paged just the leader then phone calls to all members – to today's mobile call and Sarcall text pager message to all – we now get to know about an incident within minutes of it occurring.
- Minimal helicopter support 20 years ago – to all the support now in place, with air ambulances on the ascendancy and military helicopter usage on the decline; we are not yet sure where we'll end up when Bristow take over.

The base

- Our old base in Central car park that was only about the same size as our current 4 vehicle bay on the ground floor of our new base – and we had 3 vehicles.
- The technological miracle of the time that was the autodialler – and its 'star-wars' replacement the 'wibbly-wobbly' pagers – through to current day SARCALL, SARLOC and GPS tracking.

- The sites for the new base we investigated and the difficulties we had in securing a site with planning permission.
- Building it equipping it and moving in 16 years ago – another very proud day for the Team.

Team finances

- When we decided we needed to build a new base we had £5k in the bank. Meetings were held in the Conservative Club at that time.
- Mike Fanning, our Treasurer at that time introduced our strategy to seek to get to 3 times our annual running costs to be held in reserve in case fundraising got tighter.
- The massive amount of work done by our Treasurers; Andy Jones and more recently Ian Wallace and our collection box stalwarts of Brian Martland and more recently Brian Spencer.

Some specific callouts

- Helvellyn, 2 casualties with hypothermia, one of whom had the lowest core body temperature recorded in the UK; they both survived.
- Solo winter climber, Central Gully, Great End. He had just completed his climb when the cornice collapsed and he fell 800 feet down the gully, suffering only bruises.

- The multi-day search for a missing lone walker and the sad conclusion to that search several months later.
- New Years Eve 2000 – extreme weather conditions on a rescue from Skiddaw summit; then again in 2009.
- Out of the many serious rescues on Sharp Edge, the family of 3 who fell, where the mother sadly died.
- The aftermath of the Original Mountain Marathon in October 2008.
- The tragic Keswick School coach crash.
- Foot and Mouth, no rescues between February and June 2001, with the fells 'shut.'
- 3 days in 2003 working with the Fire Service to extinguish a fire on Barrow.
- A lone explorer who went down Carrock Mine on his own one very cold winter day – and couldn't get out. The police found his car following reports of a minor accident earlier in the day, which gave us a small clue to his potential area of exploration.
- The 2005 floods, then again in 2009.
- The Derwentwater speedboat crash at 3 am one early morning.
- Liam's rescue – remember him? Our involvement in a week of Coronation Street episodes!

Team Leader's Report

What hasn't changed in the Team over the last 20 years are; the skills, dedication and commitment of everyone in the Team; the absolute trust we have in each other when we're out on rescues and our single minded objective to do the best we possibly can for every casualty, and the camaraderie of the Team.

I've had huge support over 20 years from everyone in the Team; a team that doesn't actually need a lot of operational leading other than occasionally perhaps some gentle guidance or the occasional nudge – we have a massively experienced team membership, more than capable of adapting to whatever is thrown at us.

It is not possible to personally name everyone who has supported me over the last 20 years, but I must mention the following:

- The Chairs I've worked with: Mike Fanning, Mick Guy, Dave Pratt, Alan Prescott and Malcolm Miller.
- The Deputy Leaders: Pete Barron, Paul Horder, Roy Henderson, Simon Hodgson, Chris Gillyon, Chris Higgins, and Steve Hepburn.
- My wife Fiona, and children James and Rebecca for all their fantastic support and sacrifices.

To everyone else who has undertaken either an official role or an unofficial role or 'just' as a team member, a massive thank you – it is an enormous effort to run a team such as ours – and all done by volunteers.

There have also been some memorable moments in the last 20 years – I'll share some of them here – not all of them good.

- AGM 1994 when I was elected as Team Leader and that 'what do I do now' moment.
- Looking for, securing the site and building the new base and moving in – and the boost that gave everyone in the Team.
- The rescues – the many hundreds of them, and the reward of seeing our casualties get the best possible assistance we could give them – and how that ability has developed over the 20 years.
- The appreciation – from our casualties, their families our benefactors and donors.
- The high number of fatalities we deal with (1 rescue in every 11.5 is the overall average) and the toll that can take on anyone (the current average is 1 in 19).
- Our efforts to help other Teams – donation of vehicles and equipment, free training places, the donations returned to LDSAMRA, MREW, and our LDSAMRA funding share efforts.
- The Princes' Charities Day in 2012 – the looks on the faces of the young attendees and the joy they got from the day.
- My own rescue by the Team.
- Being very very humbled by the MBE award.

So, once more, a massive thank you for everyone's support over these 20 years and finally, to quote a well known radio message, "This is Keswick Mark, over and out."



Mark Hodgson MBE

It is with a great sense of pride that I am sitting in my kitchen writing these words as the newly elected Team Leader of Keswick Mountain Rescue Team. Mark Hodgson, having been Team Leader for twenty years, announced last year that he would stand down this January and he has left me with some very big boots to fill.

It is very humbling to be considered by the members of the team to be worthy of holding such a prestigious position. Especially when you consider the credentials of those that I am supposed to lead. I have been a member of the team for a mere eighteen years – a relative new boy bearing in mind that we have many members within excess of twenty-five years service, several with over forty years and we are the only team in the country to have a member with over sixty years service – Mike Nixon, our Honorary President and former team leader (1981-1993), who joined the team in 1952. If that's not inspirational then I don't know what is.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mark for what he has done for the team during the past twenty years. When I joined the team in 1996, Mark had been the leader for three years and he has been the only leader under which I have served. During Mark's leadership the team has undergone many changes and developments, which, although having the potential to disrupt the way we do things, have been incorporated

into our systems and methods to make a very effective and modern rescue service. This has happened because of the steady hand at the tiller, Mark has steered us through these times with a considered approach whilst at the same time having a strong desire to see the team progress. I'll try to give you a brief idea of what some of these things have been, but my list will, in no way, be comprehensive.

One of the earliest changes that I can recall was our building and moving to our current base from what can only be described as a glorified garage. The move threw up the obvious issues of obtaining a suitable site, raising the considerable sum of £250,000, and designing a building that was fit for purpose in the 90's but would be 'future proof' in terms of accommodating our expansion over the years. All of this needed managing from a leader's perspective, which Mark did seamlessly, as well as going on callouts, which is burdensome enough in any year.

It is remarkable to think how we used to be contacted by the police, callout the whole team and manage an incident twenty years ago when compared with today. There was a very primitive pager network and a telephone cascade system, with team members calling each other from a list of phone numbers to initiate a callout. All of this was very time consuming, which can't have been good for our casualties or for Mark's stress

levels who as team leader would be trying to collect information, allocate resources and put his waterproofs on all at the same time.

Records were kept with good old pen and paper and information was often difficult to get from the scene. During the past twenty years all this has changed with the advent of mobile phone technology and the internet to give us a very advanced system. We are now called out by the police with simultaneous pager, text and email messages going to the whole team, with much more detailed information being available early in an incident. We can usually contact the informant at the scene who can give us reliable information rather than hearing things through third parties. We can see our team members on a digital map showing their positions thanks to GPS tracking enabled radios. The information radioed back from the hill is entered into a computerised log that is accessible by our partner agencies so that we can offer an integrated service in terms of pre-hospital care. We even have the ability of being able to text someone who's lost, who can then activate their smartphone's inbuilt GPS to tell us where they are so that we can either talk them down without needing to leave our rescue base (which is always nice), or go out and locate them much more quickly than in the past.

Over the past twenty years the team has had to adapt to these new technologies, and more

New Team Leader

besides. We are constantly evaluating new equipment – a new stretcher is currently under development and the project has been spearheaded by Mark, and new techniques, such as Swift Water Rescue training which was invaluable in the 2005 and 2009 floods. We are now trained and assessed in Casualty Care – a rigorous first aid course developed for mountain rescuers to ensure we give high quality, appropriate medical care to our casualties. We undergo defensive driving and ‘blue light’ emergency response driver training. A wide variety of other courses such as advanced first aid, avalanche awareness, winter mountaineering and technical rope rescue are all available to members if they wish to develop their skills even further. All of these developments have been welcomed by Mark, who has not only appreciated the benefit of all of these things, but has worked hard to maintain the strong volunteer ethos and camaraderie within the team. It is difficult to imagine how these changes may have affected the team if it hadn’t been Mark leading us. With a steady eye and an objective mind Mark led us into the 21st Century to be able to perform difficult rescues in arduous conditions and offer a service we are rightly proud of.

As well as the years of service people have put into the team I am constantly amazed at the dedication of team members to not only turn out on rescues, but to do the more mundane and

less glamorous, behind the scenes jobs, that are essential in the running of the team. Emptying waste bins, clearing gutters, maintaining radios, washing vehicles, updating the website, cleaning windows and topping up the tea bags are all vital, but sometimes go unrecognised. All of these jobs are done by people who definitely could be getting on with other things at home, with their families or out on the mountains themselves. I’d like to say a heartfelt thank you to these ‘base fairies’ who do these jobs and let them know that they are recognised and that they are very much appreciated.

Finally, I’d like to thank you for taking the time to read this report. The fact that you have got this in your hand says something about the type of person you are. People who use the mountains in pursuit of their pastime are special, we enjoy simple things for the purest of pleasures and this should build a bond between us. As members of a rescue team we are happy to help where help is needed but I hope that you can see from this report that although we are dedicated people, we are all volunteers. Everyone’s time is precious, so the more you can do to look after yourselves and each other then the less we will be called out. Please get out and enjoy the mountains, rivers and lakes but be self-reliant, make reasoned decisions and be willing to turn back if things start to go against you.

As Edward Wympy once said:

“Climb if you will, but remember that courage and strength are nought without prudence, and that a momentary negligence may destroy the happiness of a lifetime. Do nothing in haste; look well to each step; and from the beginning think what may be the end.”

And he knew a thing or two about mountains!



Chris Higgins

Ninety-Six Callouts in 2013

Incident Report 2013

Edited from Team records

- 1 11 January 13:17**
River Derwent, Portinscale
A man with a lower leg injury.
- 2 12 January 13:39**
Bassenthwaite Lake
Two men in difficulty with their boat on the lake.
- 3 12 January 14:05**
Swinside area
A report of a whistle being blown, as if someone was in distress. It seemed that the whistles were associated with the beaters for a shoot. The Team was stood down.
- 4 13 January 20:24**
Newlands Pass
A minibus became stuck on snow. Keswick and Cockermouth MRTs attended the incident.
- 5 14 January 14:50**
Whinlatter Forest
Two mountain bikers lost in the forest.
- 6 21 January 12:29**
Lingy Bank, Rosthwaite
A woman with an ankle injury.
- 7 31 January 11:42**
Puddingstone Bank, Watendlath
A young man collapsed and became unconscious. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.
- 8 2 February 11:13**
Barf
A woman suffered a panic attack on the scree path.
- 9 6 February 11:43**
Barf
A man suffered an ankle injury.
- 10 7 February 20:09**
Scales Fell, Blencathra
A woman with an ankle injury.
- 11 9 February 10:30**
Cat Bells
A sheep was rescued.
- 12 9 February 18:00**
Styhead Tarn area
A man was losing co-ordination, and appeared close to fainting. Exhaustion was the main issue. After a drink and some food, he was able to walk down to Seathwaite with assistance.
- 13 11 February 14:37**
Dale Head Crag
A group of four became cragfast in icy conditions.
- 14 19 February 15:59**
Hindscarth
A woman slipped. Dislocated knee.
- 15 22 February 14:20**
Carrock Fell
A man crash-landed his paraglider. Shoulder and rib injuries. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.



Incident 7

Incident Report 2013

16 23 February 12:26

Brown Cove Crags path, Helvellyn

A boy and his father slipped on snow and ice. Both had multiple contusions and abrasions, the boy a fractured femur, and the father an ankle injury. The rescue involved 4 mountain rescue teams, an Air Ambulance, and a Royal Navy Sea King.

17 27 February 13:02

Brown Cove Crags path, Helvellyn

A man slipped on snow and ice. An Air Ambulance attended the scene.

18 4 March 16:47

Head of Grains Gill, Borrowdale

A man and a woman had fallen down a snow slope. Head injuries and fractures. A Sea King helicopter took them to hospital.

19 5 March 17:44

Skiddaw

A man became light-headed and uncertain on his feet. He was escorted down to the Gale Road end.

20 7 March 14:02

Jenkin Hill, Skiddaw

A descending mountain biker lost control. Knee and back injuries.

21 16 March 13:51

Broad End, Skiddaw

A man with an ankle injury.

22 21 March 13:55

Uldale - Caldbeck road

Assistance to a car on a snowbound road.

23 24 March 10:53

Castlerigg campsite, Keswick

Assistance to four persons snowbound at the campsite.

24 4 April 15:12

Sharp Edge, Blencathra

A dog had fallen from the Edge.

25 8 April 14:06

Carlside Tarn, Skiddaw

A man with leg cramps.

26 8 April 17:01

Hind Gill, Seathwaite

A man with a gashed leg. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.

27 10 April 14:04

Whinlatter Forest

A man with a broken leg.

28 15 April 15:31

Cat Bells

A woman with a broken leg. An Air Ambulance took her to hospital.

29 30 April 12:18

Great Gable

A man collapsed. Fatality. The incident involved Keswick and Wasdale MRTs, together with an Air Ambulance and a Royal Navy Sea King helicopter.

30 April 14:00

Honister Pass

Team members on call in connection with the above incident helped in an incident involving a cyclist.



Incident 25



Incident 37

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>30 30 April 16:37
 Stonethwaite - Dock Tarn path
 A man tripped and took a tumbling fall. Cuts and abrasions.</p> <p>31 2 May 20:15
 Black Crag, Borrowdale
 "Troutdale Pinnacle"
 A woman had completed the rock climbing route Troutdale Pinnacle. During her descent, she fell to the foot of the crag. Multiple fatal injuries.</p> <p>32 5 May 13:08
 Sharp Edge, Blencathra
 A man slipped off Sharp Edge on the Scales Tarn side. Foot injury. The Team lowered the casualty on a stretcher, and he was then moved to a point where a RAF Sea King helicopter was able to retrieve him. He was flown to hospital.</p> <p>33 5 May 16:18
 Stonethwaite - Dock Tarn path
 A woman with an ankle injury.</p> <p>34 10 May 11:51
 Lord's Seat
 A woman with a leg injury.</p> <p>35 12 May 12:22
 Greenup Edge, Borrowdale
 A woman with an ankle injury. A RAF Sea King helicopter took her to hospital.</p> <p>36 12 May 17:35
 Dubbs Hut, Honister
 A walker was reported suffering from hypothermia.</p> <p>37 15 May 16:00
 Bull Crag, Maiden Moor
 A woman with a knee injury.</p> | <p>38 16 May 23:38
 Derwentwater foreshore
 A search for a missing man. The man was located safe and well by police the following morning.</p> <p>39 21 May 12:18
 Brandlehow Bay, Derwentwater
 A man with a knee injury.</p> <p>40 23 May 13:11
 Blea Tarn area, Ullscarf
 A man with an ankle injury. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.</p> <p>41 28 May 14:03
 Helvellyn
 A woman slipped and suffered a muscle injury. Keswick and Patterdale MRTs attended the incident. A RAF Sea King helicopter took her to hospital.</p> <p>42 1 June 16:15
 Whinlatter Forest
 A fallen mountain biker.</p> <p>43 4 June 19:00
 Thirlmere Forest
 A search for a missing man. He was found by a search dog above Harrop Tarn, Ullscarf. Suspected heat exhaustion.</p> <p>44 5 June 12:59
 Lining Crag, Borrowdale
 A man had fallen. Broken ribs. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.</p> <p>45 7 June 18:41
 Brundholme Wood, Latrigg
 A man fell off his mountain bike. Dislocated shoulder.</p> |
|---|--|

Incident Report 2013

- 46 **22 June 06:56**
Doddick Fell, Blencathra
A man with severe cramp. Cockermouth MRT helped the Team.
- 47 **2 July 13:12**
Bannerdale Crag
A report of what appeared to be equipment part way down Bannerdale Crag. As this might have been a sign someone had fallen, the Team investigated.
- 48 **5 July 14:45**
Cat Bells
A woman with a gashed shin and a sprained ankle.
- 49 **13 July 12:08**
Great Dodd
A girl suffered a serious asthma attack. An Air Ambulance flew her down to rendezvous with a road ambulance.
- 50 **17 July 12:57**
Scales Fell, Blencathra
A man with a broken leg.
- 51 **17 July 22:21**
Falcon Crag
The Team investigated an abandoned paraglider below Falcon Crag, after reports of it landing heavily in near darkness. The pilot was nowhere to be found, and the canopy appeared to have been abandoned. It was later discovered that the pilot had crash-landed. He had managed to get down to the road, despite cuts and bruises, and a sprained ankle.
- 52 **21 July 14:09**
Souther Fell
A man in a paragliding fall. Lower back injuries. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.
- 53 **24 July 15:30**
Thirlmere
Two swimmers had got into difficulties. A woman was taken to hospital by an Air Ambulance. A man died in the water.
- 54 **2 August 10:17**
Castle Head
A man slipped. Ankle injury.
- 55 **3 August 14:42**
Allerdale Ramble path, Borrowdale
A woman fell and gashed her head.
- 56 **4 August 18:30**
Helvellyn
A search for a group of 8, including 4 young children, lost in mist near the summit. No injuries.
- 57 **7 August 14:25**
Spoonery Green Lane, Latrigg
A man collapsed with severe abdominal pains.
- 58 **7 August 17:58**
Sandale, near Caldbeck
A man had suffered head injuries after falling off a motocross bike, on rough ground near the Caldbeck radio mast. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.



Incident 59



Incident 69

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>59 13 August 15:02
 Barf
 A woman fell from the crags above The Bishop. Injuries to her leg, chest, wrists and ankle. A RAF Sea King helicopter flew her down to an Air Ambulance, which transferred her to hospital.</p> <p>60 13-14 August 22:00
 Scafell Pike area
 A search for two men. The men made their way down to Wasdale Head.</p> <p>61 14 August 11.04
 Mosedale
 A man slipped on wet grass. Broken leg.</p> <p>62 15 August 13:07
 Cat Bells
 A man slipped and injured his lower leg. The Team was requested to assist the ambulance crew in getting him to the ambulance.</p> <p>63 21 August 21:17
 Gate Gill, Blencathra
 A search for a missing fell runner.</p> <p>64 22 August 15:15
 Stanger Gill, Borrowdale
 A man was cragfast. He was helped to safe ground.</p> <p>65 22 August 20:53
 Scafell Pike area
 A search for a family group of three.</p> <p>66 26 August 17:12
 Carrock Fell
 A search following a report of screams and whistles. Nothing was found.</p> | <p>67 31 August 13:45
 Stoneycroft track, Newlands
 A woman with head and arm injuries.</p> <p>68 31 August 19:23
 Seathwaite
 A man with an ankle injury.</p> <p>69 6 September 14:26
 Gate Gill, Blencathra
 Two walkers become disoriented when trying to find their way off the summit in thick mist and strong winds. They were helped back out of the gill onto Hall's Fell Ridge and then accompanied down to the road.</p> <p>70 7 September 15:59
 St John's Beck, St Johns-in-the-Vale
 A man fell 20 metres from a path above St Johns Beck, suffering multiple fatal injuries.</p> <p>71 9 September 01:48
 Skiddaw
 A search for a missing mountain biker. The man's body was found by a search dog attached to Patterdale MRT, 60 metres down a steep rocky gully close to Lonscale Fell. Multiple fatal injuries.</p> <p>72 9 September 15:32
 Tarn Crag, Blencathra
 A cragfast man and a man with an ankle injury.</p> <p>73 11 September 13:20
 Stonethwaite - Dock Tarn Path
 A man slipped off the path, falling 30 metres into rough ground, suffering facial lacerations, chest and arm injuries. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.</p> |
|---|--|

Incident Report 2013

- 74 14 September 15:21**
Scales Fell, Blencathra
A woman broke her ankle. A RAF Sea King helicopter took her to hospital.
- 75 14 September 20:09**
Helvellyn - Nethermost Pike area
A search for a lost man.
- 76 16 September 16:15**
High Rigg
A man with a broken leg.
- 77 21 September 13:36**
Broad End, Skiddaw
A man fractured his lower leg. An Air Ambulance took him to hospital.
- 78 23 September 17:31**
Stake Pass area
A search by Keswick and Langdale/ Ambleside MRTs for a missing man. He was found on Martcrag Moor.
- 79 5 October 13:29**
Shepherds Crag, Borrowdale
A man fell 6 metres whilst climbing the route "MGC." Lower leg fracture and back injury. A RAF Sea King helicopter took him to hospital.
- 80 11 October 14:07**
Whinlatter Forest
A boy fell from a climbing frame, and injured his back.
- 81 24 October 18:59**
Crow Park, Keswick
A woman with a broken ankle.
- 82 26 October 13:59**
Sharp Edge, Blencathra
A woman and her dog became cragfast on the Foulle Crag side of Sharp Edge.
- 83 26 October 14:07**
Latrigg
A man collapsed. Fatality.
- 84 27 October 09:55**
Hawes How Island, Thirlmere
The rescue of a group of young men from the island.
- 85 27 October 14:32**
New Bridge area, Borrowdale
A young woman fell. Possible concussion.
- 86 29 October 13:58**
Hanging Stone, Base Brown
A group of three walkers had missed the path on the top of Base Brown, and got themselves into slippery ground from which they could not retreat. A rope system was set up to assist the walkers.
- 87 29 October 18:44**
Bakestall area, Skiddaw
The rescue of a man and his two young children who had become lost and exhausted.
- 88 5 November 14:29**
Sharp Edge, Blencathra
Two women and their dog got stuck on the Edge.
- 89 8 November 16:40**
Dead Crag, Bakestall, Skiddaw
A shepherdess became cragfast on the crags whilst gathering sheep. Her father managed to get her on to safer ground while the Team were en route.



Incident 79

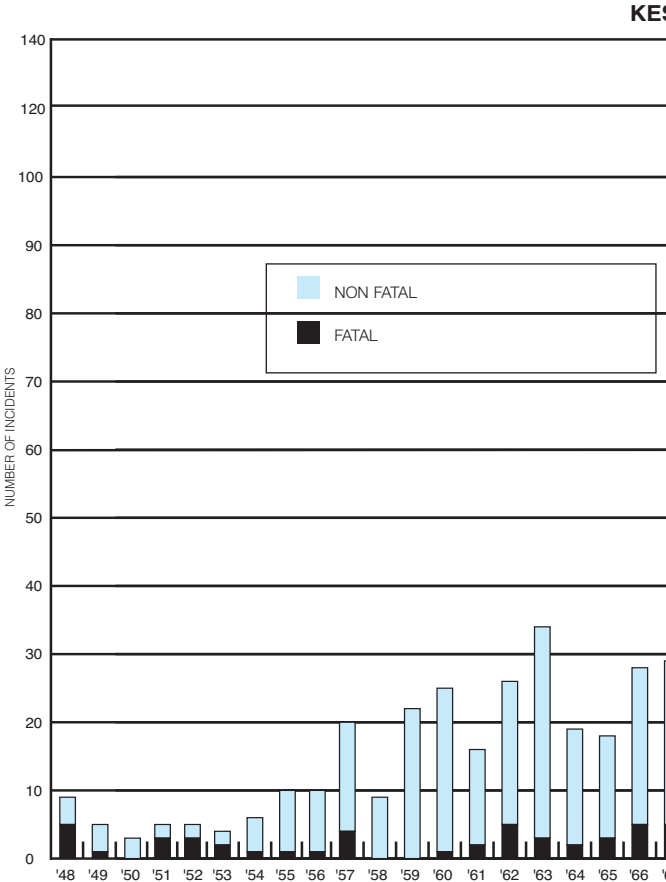
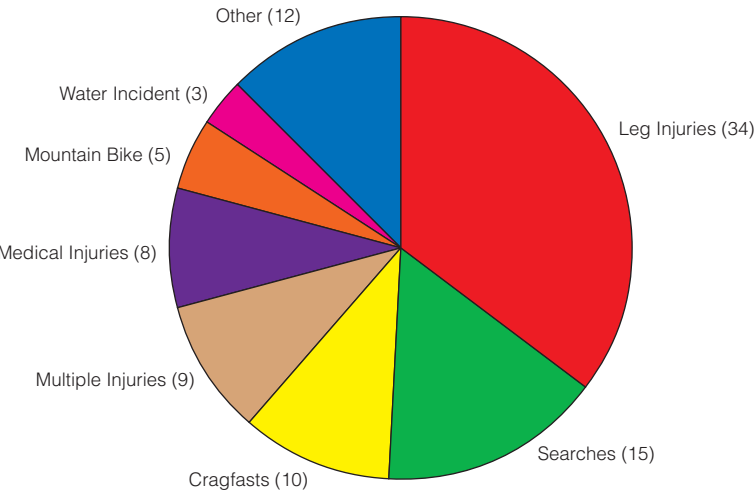


Incident 91

- 90 18 November 11:29**
Near Friar's Crag, Keswick
A woman tripped on a tree root. Broken wrist and facial injuries.
- 91 18 November 11:59**
Allerdale Ramble, Castle Crag
A woman had fallen. Broken ankle.
- 92 21 November 11:59**
Latrigg
A woman slipped. Ankle injury.
- 93 24 November 07:06**
Sharp Edge, Blencathra
A report of flashing lights coming from the Sharp Edge area. A search was mounted but nothing was found.
- 94 7 December 19:01**
Marl Bridge area, Great Dodd
The rescue of a benighted woman.
- 95 29 December 22:21**
Scafell Pike area
A search, in conjunction with Wasdale MRT, for a man. He was found in upper Eskdale, having become lost and benighted.
- 96 31 December 13:44**
Allerdale Ramble, Rosthwaite
A woman with an ankle injury. An Air Ambulance took her to hospital.

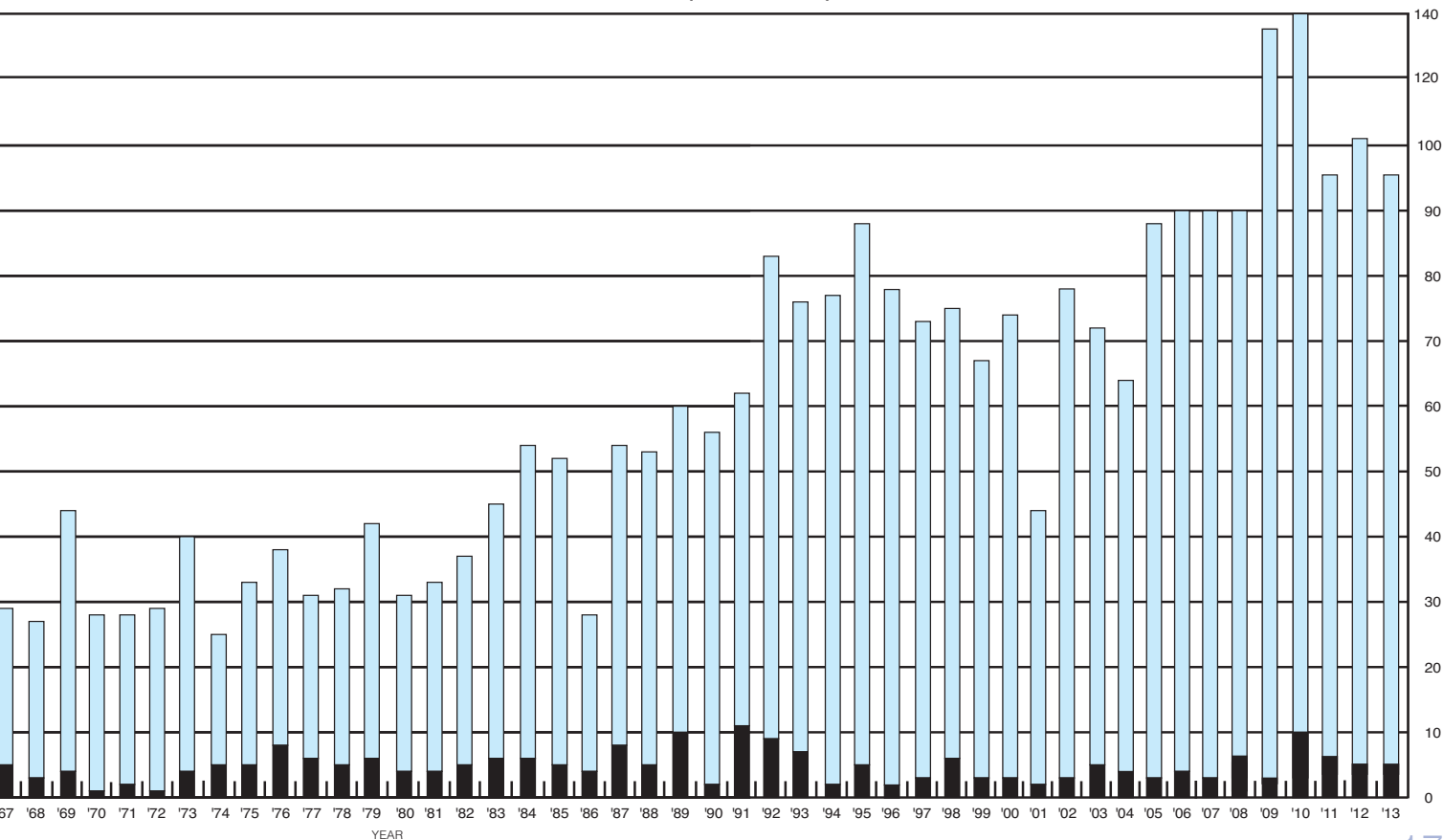
INCIDENT TYPES 2013

Figures in brackets refer to number of incidents, not percentage of incident types



Incident Report 2013

SWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM 1948 - 2013 3147 callouts (269 fatalities)



Keswick MRT Search Dogs in 2013

The Team now has three graded search dogs – Ginny, Meg, Beck; and four more in training – Isla, Rona, Bracken and Crag. The collies outnumber the Labrador by 6 to 1, but I'm sure you can't read anything to that . . . There is another potential Labrador recruit lurking in the wings! As usual, training brings its highs and lows, but all are making progress towards graded status, slowly but surely. All are members of the Lake District Mountain Rescue Search Dog Association, the body responsible for training and providing search dogs for the Lake District teams.

Last year there were 56 callouts for Lakes dogs, but only 24 of these were "Full pages" for the whole search dog group, whilst the rest were "Local dogs only." However, that did mean journeys to such varied places as Moffat, Barrow, Helsington near Kendal, Cross Fell above Penrith, Patterdale, and Langdale. Two callouts took place in the Cairngorms during the Search Dogs winter course, one of which was a major avalanche incident in which three people were killed. A major search in October took place in Barrow-in-Furness for a young man who went missing after a party.



Rona

Isla

Crag

Beck

Meg

Bracken

Ginny

Keswick MRT Search Dogs in 2013

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*Rob Grange
Rona*

*Martin Bell
Isla*

*Phil Newton
Crag*

*Chris Francis
Beck*

*Elly Whiteford
Meg Bracken*

*Mick Guy
Ginny*

A Personal Account – Incident 18

1st April 2013:

It is almost precisely 4 weeks ago that you rescued us on the evening of Monday 4th March at the top of Grains Gill above Seathwaite. You also tied up the loose ends regarding where our dogs had been taken to and to where our car was moved. Please find enclosed a donation from Jill and me, hopelessly inadequate in the circumstances.

We want to say a personal thank you specifically to the Keswick MRT but also to the other teams in the Lakes and perhaps more generally to your colleagues who do the same utterly extraordinary job across the UK.

We have walked the Cumbrian Fells for a little short of 4 decades (and plan to do so for the next 4 decades!). We have often seen MRT members out of the corner of our eyes, put the loose change in the collection box at the bar and yet we never thought that we would need you ourselves. How stupid is that?

We recognized instantly the professionalism of the MRT specifically but as important is what we perceived as the 'joined-up-ness' of you, the military and the NHS; from our 'user-end' you worked seamlessly – so impressive.

Despite our many fractures we are 4 weeks on and on the mend. We have reflected on what happened, and while the picture on your website (no 18) still brings a lump to the throat, we look to the future. Moreover because of your efforts we are able to do just that and we are enjoying being alive; thank you so much.

9th April 2013:

Jill did indeed have a fracture of her left ankle – a rather nasty comminuted fracture involving the tibia, fibula and joint space (in pieces – 'rather like dropping a plate on a stone floor' as the orthopaedic registrar here put it) – your splinting was perfect. On the day after the rescue the West Cumbria team put in 3 stainless steel screws producing an excellent result on X-ray. She has at least another week in plaster but hopefully should get going

pretty quickly thereafter as she is very fit. Unfortunately she also sustained a fracture of her left clavicle which makes mobilising with a frame difficult and she has had to use a gutter frame so she can weight bear through her forearms. Although she can weight bear on the right foot she has an ankle fracture there too but fortunately this was undisplaced and she is now out of the plaster on the right leg and in a walking boot. From her bruising – lasted a good 2 to 3 weeks – she banged both head and body quite a bit as she went down, most of which she remembers.



Despite remembering falling past lots of rocks I didn't so much bang my head as put a 5 cm gash/rip into the skin of my right forehead with resulting blood loss. My BP was 90/60 on admission so the KMRT dressing wound very tightly around my head probably came just in time. I fractured the first metacarpal of my right hand but this was undisplaced and after some impressive bruising settled quickly. Not so pleasant were the 4 rib fractures high up posteriorly on the right of my thorax which made my right shoulder a bit frozen too for a few weeks all of which needed a lot of pain relief – fractured ribs seem a lot more painful at 56 compared with doing the same playing rugby at 16. Potentially more dangerous acutely I also had a right

sided pneumothorax on CT imaging but subsequently that did not need needling/draining.

What we both remember very well is how incredibly cold we were – so cold that Jill became no longer in pain which was a bit ominous and I desperately avoided sitting down in case I nodded off. It took a couple of hours for the A&E staff to get a temperature on their aural thermometers. Before we turned down Grains Gill we had walked up from Styhead Tarn and had got pretty warm. As we turned north down the valley after Sprinkling Tarn, the sun rapidly went down, the temperature dropped like a stone, we stupidly speeded up as it got darker and the rest you know.



1st March 2014

We're both fully recovered; Jill's ankle is a little stiff in the mornings but she is playing tennis at a high level again – regular dog walking proved excellent rehabilitation once vertical – and I am shooting, skiing, walking, road cycling and mountain biking as normal.

We continue to visit Keswick regularly and we may be going back to Coniston in the spring.

Thanks again for everything.

Peter and Jill Fletcher

Photographs show the Sea King helicopter maneuvering

THANK YOU!!



A much appreciated thank you note!

To Rescue
Keswick Mountain Team

Thank you VERY MUCH for giving
us a tour of the Mountain Rescue Building

From

Olivia Marsden

Josh

Oliver

Oscar Simpson



Incident 14



Incident 69

A Probationer's Account

Life as an aspirant KMRT member begins in the autumn, interest is registered with the Team Secretary and a reply eagerly anticipated. Once considered potential probationary fodder an invite is dispatched to come along to training evenings, meet the Team and attend several practical aptitude tests.

These came in the form of an incident scenario on Cat Bells, with lungs burning and legs aching under the weight of stretchers and sacks we were dispatched to attend multiple casualties and demonstrate our abilities 'on the hill.'

Our next test was a rather enjoyable night scramble up Jackdaw Ridge followed by some basic ropework and a return down the ridge (once located in the dark!).

A Team vote at the January AGM whittled the six applicants down to four, thus we had progressed from lowly pre-probationers to the lofty heights of . . . probationers! Pagers were issued and fiddled with to find a suitably urgent tone and so began 365 days of our (probationary) KMRT career.

This year new members professions include paramedic, sailing instructor, papermill chemist and National Park worker, our backgrounds and professions are diverse and will hopefully contribute to the diverse mix that constitutes the Team. Probationary members are expected to be competent on the fells before applying, however the experience and skills of seasoned team members is always appreciated, particularly the patience to pass them on whilst keeping a careful eye on newer members in testing situations.

The first rescue came as quite a surprise to say the least, whilst on a training scenario in Whinlatter Forest the pagers went off! After the disbelief (thinking it was another exercise) subsided we loaded the vehicles with haste and set off to Mouthwaite Comb after reports of a fell runner injured on Scales Fell, Blencathra. For a first rescue this was certainly entry at the deep end! Below freezing, dark and windy conditions made it a baptism of fire (or should that be ice?). All ended well and a feeling of satisfaction at a job well done was shared.

Being a probationer doesn't just mean carrying the heaviest sack or undertaking other menial tasks for the older boys, there's training to be done as well. Training takes place every Thursday and probationary members must attend 50% throughout the year. Topics covered range from medical to ropework and everything in between. Alongside this, courses are available in defensive and offroad driving, winter skills, boat handling and potentially trips abroad for winter skills training.

With the year finished, it was time once again to be voted on by the Team. The year's attendances are taken into account as well as enthusiasm, ability and being a good sport. Successful results are celebrated in the pub and with the chance to get some new boots and a set of keys to the base! *Huzzah!*

Matt Eaves



Incident 28

Allan Alcock was one of our longest serving Team members. Allan joined the Team in 1968 and was a member until his death on 6th November 2013 after a sudden and short illness. After many years of fully active service with the Team and his attendance at many hundreds of callouts, over recent years Allan had taken more of a support role – playing a huge part in the smooth running of the Team right up until his death.

For many years he was the Team's vehicles officer, ensuring that our fleet of vehicles; two Landrovers and two 4x4 Mercedes Sprinters were always fully fuelled, serviced, MOT'd, cleaned, repaired and ready for action – no small job on its own.

He also undertook all the little jobs around the base that fell between everyone else; the minor repairs and maintenance, keeping us stocked in food and drink and other consumables, replenishing stocks of batteries, paper towels, etc., clearing rubbish and leaves from the car park and maintaining our stock of rocksalt – and spreading it when needed before any of the rest of us were even out of bed!

If we had a big rescue or search underway it was Allan who organised parking in the adjacent car park and sorted the traffic wardens to avoid parking tickets for visiting vehicles. Then he'd organise food for all visiting teams and then tidy up afterwards. And, when we held team barbecues or other socials for members and families, guess who did most of the organising and clearing up afterwards?

There were not many days in any week that Allan wasn't down at the base; indeed he was there the day before his illness.

He will be a very hard act to follow. Despite being one of the Team's elder statesman Allan always had time to provide continuing encouragement to all Team members, no matter what their age.

He leaves behind his wife Geraldine, their daughter Rachel and sons Mark and Ben along with their partners Judith and Sarah and three grandchildren Finlay, Emily and Ollie. The Team was honoured to be able



to provide team transport to the funeral for Allan and to provide bearers at the service and a guard of honour of 35 Team members – absolute recognition of the huge respect we all had for Allan. There were also some 12 retired Team members at the funeral.

The continuing thoughts of all the Team are with all the family.

Mark Hodgson MBE

Collection Box Sponsors

Last year our collection boxes realised almost £29,000. The team wish to extend a big thank you to everyone who has helped to raise this amount. We rely heavily on these contributions for the successful functioning of the team. Anyone wishing to house one of our boxes, please contact Brian Spencer on 017687 72531.

Abacourt House
Acorn House
Alexandra's of Keswick
Alhambra Cinema
Allerdale House
Armthwaite Hall
Ashness Farm
Avondale Guest House
Bank Tavern
Barclays Bank
Barn Gill Guest House
Thirispot
Beckstones Guest House
The Beeches Portinscale
Birch How Guest House
Blacks
Bookends
Booths Kiosk
Boots Chemist
Borrowdale Hotel
Borrowdale YHA
Brathwaite Court HPB
Bramblewood Guest House
Brierholme Guest House
Brookfield Guest House
Brysons
Caffle House Watendall
Camping and Caravan Club
Site
The Card Collection
Cartwheel Guest House
Casa's
Castelfell Guest House
Castle Inn
Castlerigg Farm Camping
Site
Castlerigg Hall Caravan and
Camping Park
The Chalet Portinscale
Cherry Tree Guest House
Chitfee Guest House
Clarence House
Claremont House
Colcedale Inn Braithwaite
The Corner Shop
The Cornish Pasty
Cotswood

Craghills Boot Store
Craglands Guest House
Cragside Guest House
Crow Park Hotel
Cumberland Pencil Museum
Cumbrian Cottages
Cumbria House
Cyclewise Whinlatter
Dale Bottom Campsite
Dalegarth Hotel
Dale Head Hall Hotel
Dandelion Cafe HF
Daresfield Guest House
David and Elaine Burn,
Ashtree Avenue
Derwent Club
Derwent Hill Outdoor Centre
Derwentwater Caravan Park
Derwentwater Marina
Derwentwater Youth Hostel
Dorchester House
Dog and Gun
Dollywaggon Guest House
Easedale Hotel
Eden Green
Edwardene Hotel
Edz
Eel Craggs
The Electric Shop
Ellergill Guest House
Erinville Guest House
Farmers Arms
Fat Face
Field and Trek
Ferndene Guest House
Filling Station Cafe
Fine Designs
Flamingo
Rock Inn
Four in Hand
Four Seasons Threlkeld
George Fisher
George Hotel
Golden Lion
Goosewell Farm Climbing
Wall
Glamara Outdoor Centre

Glencoe Guest House
Glendale Guest House
Grange Bridge Cottage Café
Grange Café
Greystoke House
Greystones Guest House
The Hair Shop
Hawcliffe Guest House
Hazel Bank Hotel
Hazelmere Guest House
Hedgehog Hill Guest House
The Heights Hotel
Herdwick Guest House
High Lodore Farm Cafe
The Hollies
Homethwaite House
(Elizabeth Lingard)
Honister House
Honister Mine
Hope Memorial Camp
Hope Park Mini Golf Kiosk
Horse and Farrier
Hot Tram Roll
How Keld Guest House
HSBC
Hunters Way Guest House
I Love Keswick
The Inn at Keswick
Ivy House
Java
Karra Cottage Threlkeld
Keswick Boot Co.
Keswick Golf Club
Keswick Brewing Co.
Keswick Collectables
Keswick Garden Centre
Keswick Launch Company
Keswick Mountain Bikes
Keswick Mountain Sports
Keswick Park Hotel
Keswick Reminder Office
Keswick Spa
Keswick YHA
Kingfisher
Kings Head Hotel Thirispot
Knotts View Stonethwaite
Lairbeck Hotel

Lakeland
Lakeland Adventure Centre
Lakeland Decor
Lakeland Toys and Hobbies
Lakeland View Guest House
Lake Road Inn
Lakes Bar and Bistro
The Lakes Fish Restaurant
Lakeland Pedlar
Lakeland Slate Co.
Lakeside House
Lanehead Farm Guest House
Langstrath Hotel
Larry's Lodge
Laura of the Lakes
Laurel Bank Guest House
Leathes Head Hotel
Lynton House
Little Chestnut Hill
Littlefield Guest House
Lodore Falls Hotel
Spar BP Garage
Penrith Road
The Lookout Guest House
Love the Lakes
Low Manesty Caravan Club
Site
Luchinis
Lynwood Guest House
Lyzzick Hall Hotel
Malcolm's Shoes
30 Manor Park
Mary Mount Hotel
Medical Centre
Middle Ruddings Hotel
Mill Inn Mungrisedale
Moot Hall
Morrell's
Mountain Warehouse
Namaste 21 Manesty View
National Trust Lakeside
Near Howe Mungrisedale
Needlesports
New House Rosthwaite
Newlands Adventure Centre
Nichol End Marine
Nordicoutdoor

Norwegian Store
Old Keswickian
Outhere
The Oval Caravan and
Camping Club site
Oxleys at Underscar
Packhorse Inn
The Paddock
Parkergate
Peathouse Stonethwaite
Pheasant Inn
Pizza Panorama
Planet Fear
Portland House
Primrose Cottage Dalston
Primrose Cottage
Brigham Road
Pumpkin Cafe
The Puzzling Place
Rambles Cafe
Rathbone
Rathbone Outdoor Wear
Ravenstone Manor
Ravenstone Lodge Hotel
Ravensworth House
Rickerby Grange
Rivendell Guest House
Rohan
Rowe Opticians
Rowling End
Royal Oak Braithwaite
Royal Oak Rosthwaite
The Sally at Threlkeld
Sandon Guest House
Saw Mill Café Dodd
Scatell Hotel
Scotgate Camping Site
Seatoller House
Seven Oaks Guest House
Scales Farm Cottage
Shemara Guest House
Shipstone & Co.
Siennas
Silver City
Silverdale Hotel
Skiddaw Grove Hotel
Slimming World

The Soap Co.
Spar Grocers
Spooney Green Cottage
Squirrel Lodge Guest House
Star of Siam
Strathmore Guest House
Stybeck Farm
Sun Inn Bassenthwaite
Sunnyside Guest House
Swinside Farm Cottage
Swinside Inn
Swinside Lodge
Swiss Court Hotel
Tarn Hows Guest House
Temple Sports
Theatre by the Lake
Thornleigh Guest House
Thornthwaite Gallery
TOG 24
Touchwood
Trespass
Troutbeck Inn
Troutbeck Caravan and
Camping Site
Twa Dags
Tyemouth Lodge Hotel
Village Shop Braithwaite
West View Guest House
Whinlatter Siskin Tearoom
White Horse Inn
The Wild Strawberry
Winchester Guest House
Woodside Guest House
Yew Tree Café
Yew Tree Guest House



Brian Spencer

It is tempting to write the same report every year because the main criteria never change! There can be no compromise in safety for our Team members or the people we help.

Consequently, money has to be spent on training the Team and replacing equipment when necessary.

May I thank all the members of the public for their generosity to the Team despite the economic climate. The Team would also like to thank all the people who think of us in their times of sadness, whether they are recent or in the past.

During the year donations have been received In Memory of the following:

Allan Alcock	Gordon Gray	Marie Owens
Bob Atkinson	Joan Gibbs	Arthur Ray
Mary Butterworth	Chris Hay	Betty Stewardson
Michael Britton	David Hill	Neville Slattery
Rodney Burns	Mary Hill	Noah Stewart
Ted Clark	Gordon Hurst	Pat Stokeas
Philip Elgey	Alan Jones	Stephen Singleton
Allan Fletcher	Muriel Jones	P. Turner
Ann Field	Jacky Jackson	Stephen Thompson
Michael Farthing	Barrie Lee	Matt Wilkes
Roger Fazackerley	A. Morgan	
Christopher Green	Margaret Naylor	

Talking of the past, the Team had a donation this year from a person who we rescued so long ago that they couldn't remember which fell it was on! They said that they weren't in a position to give a donation before this year as they had no money. I think that is fantastic!

Unfortunately, the new stretcher is still not operational but the fourth vehicle has been well used throughout the year and has shown that it was a necessary purchase.

We will have plenty to say about the two new Land Rovers that should become operational in 2014. Suffice for me to say that we have had to find around £90,000 to buy the basic vehicles and kit them out.

The cost of training is still huge. Just considering driving training alone, we have implemented basic safety training, emergency response training and off road training. I myself have just completed the off-road training and it was incredibly useful for all aspects of driving not just off-road. While being instructed on the Greystoke Estate off-road course I also learnt where Oliver Cromwell's men bombarded Greystoke Castle from in the Civil War!

Once again, as I always say, the safety of our Team members and the people that we rescue is paramount. We will never jeopardise this by skimping on equipment and training.



Ian Wallace

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name: Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

Charity Registration Number: 509860

Principal Office: Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Headquarters, Lakeside Car Park, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5DJ

Registered Office: Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Headquarters, Lakeside Car Park, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5DJ

Trustees:

Mr. Malcolm Miller, Chairman
Mr. Ian Wallace, Treasurer
Mr. Paul Cheshire, Secretary
Mr. Timothy Mark Hodgson MBE, Team Leader
Mr. Paul Horder, General Team Member 1
Ms. Fiona Boyle, General Team Member 2

Independent Examiner: Gibbons, Carleton House, 136 Gray Street, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 2LU

Accountants: Gibbons, Chartered Accountants, Carleton House, 136 Gray Street, Workington, Cumbria CA14 2LU

Investment Advisers: Brewin Dolphin Securities Limited, 34 Lisbon Street, Leeds LS1 4LX

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, Market Square, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5BG

Trustees' Report:

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 October 2013. Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies to comply with the Charity's trust deed and applicable law.

Particulars of Written Constitution:

The written constitution was approved by the Charity Commission and adopted by the Charity on 20 March 1980 and amended on 10 November 1994 and again on 8 October 1998 and subsequently again on 5 September 2006. This contains the provisions that regulate the purposes and administration of the Charity.

Description of Objects of the Charity:

The main object of the Charity (as set out in its constitution): "shall be for the public benefit, to relieve suffering and the distress, among persons and animals endangered by accident or natural hazards within the area of Great Britain and particularly on the mountains of Cumbria in the vicinity of Keswick".

Details of Persons or Bodies Entitled to Appoint Charity Trustees and Details of Method of Appointment:

The only body with the power (within the terms of the Constitution) to appoint a Trustee is the membership of the Charity. The Charity Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting, and hold office until the following Annual General Meeting. The Trustees must be members of the Charity and are the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Team Leader and two others elected from the general membership. There is no bar on a Trustee standing for office for successive terms. Candidates for positions conferring trusteeship must be nominated in writing to the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting, and notified to the membership not less than 14 days prior thereto. Voting is conducted by a secret ballot.

Investment Policy:

The Charity provides a vital emergency service that requires certainty of funding. The Charity Trustees have, historically, adopted a risk-averse approach to investment. The preference is to safeguard funds by placing them in Building Society accounts – with medium to longer term funds placed in the highest yielding (but limited access) accounts. In that way, the capital is secure, and interest income is maximised.

However, previously the charity received a significant legacy and this enabled the Trustees to invest a sum of money to provide a regular income to offset the need to rely on irregular public donations. The Trustees have agreed to invest in a balanced portfolio managed by a team of Financial Advisers who specialise in investments for charities.

This sum has been invested to provide capital growth and income for the charity and will lead to a regular income which will be used to offset any imbalance between income and expenditure, reducing the need to utilise reserve funds for this purpose.

General Reserves:

This policy continues to be under review – but is led by the view that the Charity Trustees must have regard to both the short and long term needs of the Charity.

The Charity has endeavoured to secure a regular income via collection boxes, covenanted and Gift Aid donations. Collection box income has been solid in the past – a reflection of the hard work of Brian Spencer, our collection box co-ordinator and has been doing well over the last year.

The Charity Trustees will maintain the general income reserve to ensure that the provision of the Charity's primary objective will not be hampered by any imbalance between income and expenditure over such a relatively short period, and is based on the Charity's experience of fund raising.

The Charity Trustees will continually monitor and adapt this policy (as necessary) in order to ensure that funds that can no longer be justifiably held in reserve are applied in accordance with the Charity's objective.

Designated Reserves:

The fixed asset reserve shows the amount of reserves tied up in fixed assets and hence helps clarify the true level of General Reserves.

The Trustees' reserves is a reserve to be set aside to cover uninsurable contingencies and unforeseen circumstances. The level has been set at £541,005 (2012 - £457,714) which is three times the previous year's adjusted expenditure.

Development, Activities and Achievements:

During the year ended 31 October 2013 the Team attended over ninety incidents. Training is vital to the Team and training was given paramount importance during the year and over 50 days training was undertaken by the Team.

Financial Review:

The Trustees are satisfied with the financial position of the Charity.

Future Developments:

The Team aim to be able to secure the long term future of the Keswick Mountain Rescue Team with the increased level of reserves held. In the shorter term the Teams aim is to meet the current level of call out and maintain the high level of training given to the volunteers.

Safety and Risk Management:

The Trustees actively review the major risk which the Charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining reserves at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the Charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Grant Making:

During the last financial year, the Charity made no specific grants to any other charitable organisations.

It remains the Charity's policy to make available to other teams training in specialist areas (for example swift water rescue and advanced rope rescue techniques) that other teams may not otherwise have obtained, and without charge to them. The policy in this regard is threefold – to facilitate the spread of modern or evolving techniques; to encourage closer co-operation between teams; and to utilise the Charity's funds to the advantage of mountain rescue generally. This policy will continue in the next financial year.

Other than the policy outlined above, the Charity Trustees have not formulated policies for the selection of any other institutions which will receive further grants out of the assets of the Charity. Any such grants will be on a case by case basis.

Volunteers:

The Trustees wish to acknowledge the work of the many volunteers who give their spare time to help the Charity and enable it to carry out its activities.

Public Benefit Guidance:

The Trustees confirm they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission including public benefit guidance.

Approved by the Trustees on 9 December 2013 and signed on their behalf by: **Malcolm Miller, Trustee.**

For the statements of our financial activities please see the details on the Charity Commission website
www.charity-commission.gov.uk



Incident 79

Please Support Us

Please read the following if you wish to donate to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team.

Gift Aid

Provided you pay Income Tax, the Team can now reclaim the tax you have already paid on the sum donated to the Team, from the Inland Revenue. It simply requires you to fill in the form below or use a photocopy of the form, and return it to the Treasurer.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Name of Charity

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team

(Registered Charity No 509860)

Full name and address of donor in CAPITALS

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

.....

Post Code.....

I want Keswick Mountain Rescue Team to treat the following as Gift Aid Donations (delete as appropriate):

- the enclosed donation of £
- the donation(s) of £.....

which I made on...../...../.....

- all donations I have made since 6 April 2000, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until further notice

SignatureDate...../...../.....

Notes

1. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying Keswick Mountain Rescue Team.
2. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that Keswick Mountain Rescue Team reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give).
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that Keswick Mountain Rescue Team reclaims you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).
4. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can reclaim further tax relief in your Self-Assessment tax return.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask Keswick Mountain Rescue Team. Or ask your local tax office for leaflet IR 113 Gift Aid.
6. Please notify Keswick Mountain Rescue Team if you change your name or address.

**Please return this completed Gift Aid Declaration
to the Team Treasurer:**

**Ian Wallace
Spooney Green, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4PJ**

Thank you for your support !



Through our website:
www.keswickmrt.org.uk

The Charities Aid Foundation





Shirts

Buy a Supporter Shirt,
featuring the logo above

If you would like to purchase a T-Shirt,
or a Polo Shirt, please see details on
our website

www.keswickmrt.org.uk

Bankers Order

If you would like to make a regular donation to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team, please complete the Bankers Order below, or use a photocopy of the form, and return it to the Treasurer.

Provided you pay Income Tax, the Team can now reclaim the tax you have already paid on the sum donated to the Team, from the Inland Revenue.

Full name and address in CAPITALS	Gift Aid: please do not detach
Mr/Mrs/Miss	ToBank plc
Address
.....
.....	(name and address of your bank)
Post Code	Name of Account
The sum of £ Annually/Monthly	to be Debited
Gift Aid	Account Number
I am a UK tax payer and I would like this and all future	Sort Code
donations I make to be considered as Gift Aid	Please pay to Midland Bank plc, Market Square, Keswick,
Signed	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/Monthly on the
	day of
	until or further notice
	Signed.....
	Date 20
<p>Please return this completed form to:</p> <p>KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM Spooney Green, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4PJ</p> <p>Thank you for your support !</p>	



If you want to learn more about the Team's work and history, please buy the "Call-Out" book and the 60th Anniversary DVD

CALL-OUT THE FIRST 50 YEARS

by George Bott (1997)

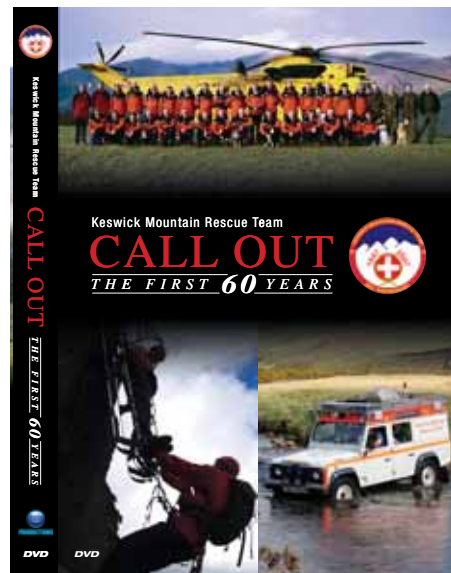
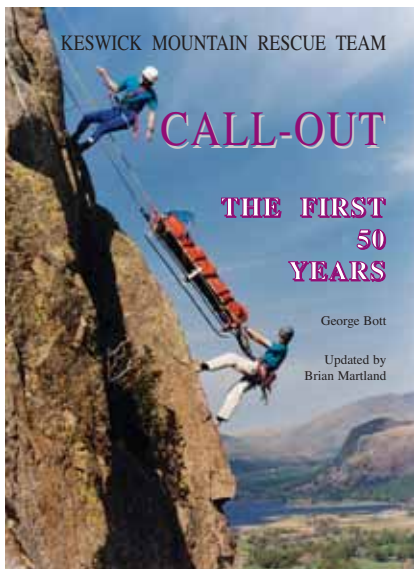
On 24 April 1946, Wilfrid Noyce, later a member of John Hunt's successful Everest team, was badly injured while he was climbing on Great Gable. His rescue – a long and difficult operation – prompted a local climber, Colonel Horace Westmorland, to form a properly organised Mountain Rescue Team.

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, 60 pages. An extra four pages have been added to bring the story up to date.

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



CALL-OUT – 60th Anniversary DVD

Launched in August 2007. Running time approximately 71 minutes.

A look at the Team sixty years after the first rescue in 1947, featuring the varied exercises and call-outs attended by the Team.

Foreword by Sir Chris Bonington.

Bonus chapters include: The Rescue Base, Mountain Advice, Photographic Slide Show.

Also includes a section on facts and statistics, with information in the form of PDF files available to PC and Mac users.

All proceeds from the sale of the **DVD** go to Team Funds.

Both obtainable from Mick Guy,
Limhus,
High Hill,
Keswick,
Cumbria CA12 5PB.

Cheques should be made payable to:
Keswick Mountain Rescue Team.

Book £9.50

DVD £10.00

including postage and packaging

999 Text Service for Emergency Calls



Incident 14

Mobile phone reception in the Mountains can often be intermittent or non-existent. If you are involved in an incident on the hills and need to call assistance but cannot make voice calls, you may now contact the 999 emergency services using a short messaging service (SMS) text from your mobile phone.

The service was originally set up in 2009 for people who are hard of hearing or who have a speech impediment. The service has been successful in helping identify crime and enabling emergency calls to be made when otherwise contact would have been difficult or impossible for the people involved.

The service will now assist those needing emergency assistance in the hills when mobile reception is poor and there is not enough signal to make a

voice call. The benefit is that a text message can be composed and sent in a single operation. **You should specify 'Police-Mountain Rescue' when sending the text, and include information about your location, nature of the incident and those involved.**

You will only be able to use this service if you have registered with emergency SMS first. Register now: don't wait for an emergency. To register, text the word 'register' to 999. You will get a reply – then follow the instructions you are sent. This will only take approx two minutes of your time and could save your life!

Emergency SMS Website is www.emergencysms.org.uk/



***In an emergency for
Mountain Rescue
call 999 (or 112)***

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, with a Grid Reference if possible
 - The time of the incident
 - The number of casualties
 - The details of any injuries
- **STAY BY THE PHONE** so that the Team can contact you

For information about SMS Text Service for Emergency Calls see inside back cover

