



Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Annual Report 1997

A REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 509860

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team 1997

Team Leader:	Mark Hodgson	Collection Box Co-ordinator:	Brian Martland 15 Helvellyn Street Keswick, Cumbria (017687 73848)	Transport Officer:	Allan Alcock
President:	George Fisher MBE			Equipment Officers:	Chris Francis Simon Hodgson
Vice-President:	Mike Nixon MBE			Control Room Quartermaster:	Keith Stephenson
Chairman:	Mick Guy	Deputy Team Leaders:	Pete Barron Roy Henderson Paul Horder	Report Editor:	Rachel Slattery
Secretary:	Pete Barron 7 Middle Howe Rosthwaite Keswick Cumbria (017687 77325)	Medical Officer:	Dr. Peter White	Honorary Auditor:	John Wood
Treasurer:	Andrew Jones 41 Blencathra Street Keswick Cumbria (017687) 74075	Training Officers:	Roy Henderson Chris Strutt		
		Radio Officer:	Bill Booth		

Callout List

Allan Alcock Forecourt Attendant	Chris Francis Research Assistant	Robin Humphreys Cashier	David Robinson Shop Assistant
Donald Angus National Park Ranger	Mick Guy Headmaster	Andy Jones Police Constable	Andrew Slattery Police Constable
Jim Barber Retired	Martin Hardman Ambulanceman	Peter Little Pharmacist	Rachel Slattery Special Education
Peter Barron National Park Ranger	Roy Henderson National Trust Warden	Brian Martland Retired	Jill Sharpe Medical Representative
Paul Carter Baker and Confectioner	Scott Henderson National Park Ranger	Malcolm Miller Headmaster	Brian Spencer Retired
Joe Cawood Outdoor Pursuits Instructor	Chris Higgins Outdoor Pursuits Instructor	Phil Newton Hotelier	Keith Stephenson Joiner
Jan Cordon Bank Clerk	Mark Hodgson Chartered Builder	Mike Nixon Retired	Chris Strutt Student
Neil Dowie Hotelier	Simon Hodgson Builder	Des Oliver Retired	Ian Wallace Dentist
Darren Elliott Builder	Dr Tim Hopper G.P.	Dr. Will Ponsonby G.P.	Lance Waudby Delivery Driver
Mike Fanning Solicitor	Katharine Horder Teacher	David Pratt Teacher	Dr Peter White G.P.
Anne Francis Teacher	Paul Horder Teacher	Dr Andy Reed G.P.	

Chairman's Report

The dream has become a reality! Our new Headquarters at Lakeside is up and running. At this time last year, we had just been able to take the decision to go ahead with the building of our new Headquarters, and Sir Chris Bonington had agreed to cut the first sod. Now the building is complete, equipped, furnished and operational... and we still can't really believe it! It seemed a lifetime while we were trying to find a site, and raising money for the Appeal, but the actual process of building and equipping seemed to fly by, and in no time, we were into October, and trying to get it all complete for the official opening on the 26th.

We weren't helped at this point by a spate of call-outs - 14 in 4 weeks, including two on the day before the Official Opening. But the day itself was bright and clear, and dear Ada Hillard, our friend and

patron, performed the ceremony in style with Sir Chris Bonington, before an invited audience of 200. The following day was a Open Day for the public - and we then had two more call-outs !

There are so many people and organisations to whom we owe our thanks, for helping us to achieve our goal. This column is not long enough to mention them all by name, but some stand out for their dedication to the project. Firstly, Ada Hillard, who has supported so generously, and encouraged us for so long ; Sir Chris Bonington, for his efforts on our behalf; our architects, ADK, and builders, Lakeland Stonecraft, for their wonderful expertise and craftsmanship; The Foundation for the Sports and The Arts, who donated generously; our local community of Keswick, who have raised money for us, encouraged us and campaigned for us. And lastly, the Team members and their families who have all given up more of their time to raise money for the cause; and from them I would single out Neil Dowie, the Appeal Secretary, who has put in hundreds of hours in running the Appeal so successfully.

To all of you out there who helped us, in whatever way, we send our grateful thanks. You have helped us to establish ourselves in a "state of the art" Rescue Headquarters, of which we are enormously proud. We hope that you will also bask in the afterglow, and think to yourself, "I helped to do that . . ." We shall continue to hold Open Days during 1997, our 50th Anniversary Year, so that people can see what they contributed to; if you haven't yet been able to visit us, we hope you will be able to come and see us during the year, to see what has been achieved.

In the meantime, go safely among the hills.

Mick Guy, Team Chairman

MARK HODGSON



Even helicopters have bad days!

Training Report

Despite the pressure of raising funds for the new base, training has been moving forward at a good pace. 1996 saw the introduction of a weekend winter training course run specially for the Team at Glenmore Lodge in Aviemore which provides guaranteed winter conditions. Hopefully every active Team member should be able to attend this course over the next three to four years.

Although the new base became operational in October the training area was low on the list of priorities, when it is finally completed early in 1997 it will revolutionise winter training. Rope and other crag work can then be practised all year round.

Roy Henderson and Chris Strutt take over as Training Officers in 1997.

Dave Robinson.

DR. ANDY REED



Glenmore training weekend

Glenmore Lodge

In March Team members attended Glenmore Lodge, the Scottish National Sports Centre, for two days of intensive winter mountain rescue practice. The lodge is ideally situated on the edge of the Cairngorm Mountains with easily accessible high mountain crags, reliable winter conditions, and excellent tuition from qualified instructors. As is always the case, this year's course was excellently run and provided valuable opportunities for us to brush up on winter rescue techniques.

This year we were blessed with perfect conditions. Recent heavy snowfall had left conditions in the corries ideal for avalanches so time was spent digging snow pits, an important part of avalanche risk assessment. Although relatively infrequent compared to Scotland, avalanches do occur in The Lake District, and winter climbers still fail to assess properly avalanche risk. The number of callouts to Central Gully, Great End, over the years bears witness to this.

The rest of the course was spent working on basic and advanced winter skills, and enacting mock rescues, most of which involved multiple stretcher lowers over steep ground.

Winter mountain rescues are arguably the most demanding in terms of technical difficulty, risk and poor conditions. Courses such as this one are an important way of maintaining the skills vital for safe operating on the hill.

Dr A Reed.

Team Leader's Report

1996 has seen the team commencing the year working from the old base next to the central car park in the town and finishing the year in the new headquarters building in the lakeside car park. What a comparison!

Despite all the work involved in the building works, getting ready for the move, the move itself and the preparation for the opening at the end of October, the team has continued to operate as a highly efficient unit, dealing with rescues as varied as; a mine collapse, assisting the Cockermouth Team with their back-up to the ambulance service in West Cumbria over a continuous 4 day period in the heavy snow in early February, rock climbing incidents, avalanches, and even including the carrying down of a retriever with an injured shoulder. It is a testament to the Team's training and commitment that all rescues, no matter how "routine" or varied are carried out with great enthusiasm and efficiency.

This efficiency has now been further enhanced following the move to the new base, with a spate of call-outs following the move, including 2 rescues simultaneously on consecutive days over the first weekend after the move. There is no doubt that we were able to operate much more effectively on these incidents than if we had still been in the old base. Thanks go to all Team members, families and friends for all the work, especially the behind the scenes work that is always necessary for the continued smooth running of the Team throughout the year. Inevitably there was a big increase in the work required this year to achieve the smooth changeover to operating from the new base. The Team has dealt with a total of 76 rescues in the year, with a further 6 animal rescues not included in this total.

Over the two open - days held at the new base, the most common comment from visitors was probably, "I didn't realize how

much was involved in Mountain Rescue." If, by now being able to show what we are involved with to greater effect, we are able to raise the awareness of the general public then perhaps, at some time in the future, it may not be necessary for Rescue Teams to have to raise all their operating funds themselves.

The Team Chairman, in his report, has thanked everyone who has contributed in any way to the Appeal. To this I would like to add my own personal thanks.

We are all immensely proud of what the Keswick Team has achieved in 1996.

Mark Hodgson, Team Leader



First Team practice 1949

Fifty years on . . . a retrospect

It's a Log Cabin to White House, rags to riches story. The early pioneers, untrained, ill equipped but united by enthusiasm and concern, can have had no idea that half a century later the Keswick Mountain Rescue Team would be highly organised, expertly trained organisation, proud owners of a purpose-built headquarters well stocked with the refinements of sophisticated technology.

It all began with a rescue. On 24 April 1946, Claude Elliot, headmaster of Eton, and Wilfrid Noyce, later to be a key member of John Hunt's successful Everest team, were climbing Shark's Fin on Tophet Bastion, Great Gable. A gust of wind blew Noyce off his holds: he fell on to a ledge with one of his legs broken. Elliot went for help. A scratch group of six was collected and, after a complicated and gruelling rescue, Noyce was safely taken to Wasdale head.

One of his rescuers was Colonel Horace ("Rusty") Westmorland, veteran climber and ex-Canadian Army officer. He was disturbed by the lack of any organisation, trained and willing to help injured climbers and fell walkers. Legally, the responsibility lay with the police, as it still does, but they were neither trained nor equipped for mountain rescues.

Rusty decided there was an urgent need for a team of volunteers. An appeal in the "Keswick Reminder" produced an encouraging response: some thirty men were recruited to form the initial team.

It was originally called "The Borrowdale Mountain Rescue Team" but switched to its present title in 1951. Oddly, there was some scepticism in the valley about the motives and effectiveness of the Team. This was dispelled when it became obvious that here was a group prepared to go out at any time and in all kinds of weather to help anyone in trouble on the fells.

Training was vital - it still is - and a schedule was arranged to give practice in rope work and knots, techniques of stretcher handling and, above all, first aid. For some years, Dr Lyth, the Team's medical officer,

gave a series of lectures, eventually published as a handy and useful booklet titled "First Aid in Mountain Rescue".

The first "official" rescue was on 3 April 1948 when a dozen members helped in a search for a missing walker on Cross Fell. By the end of the year, the Team had been involved in nine incidents, a total that contrasts sharply with the current figure of around eighty.

Equipment was meagre and quite inadequate: a stretcher, a few ropes and pitons, and little else. Team members used their own gear and transport was haphazard, depending on what was available. That could mean anything from Dixon's Laundry van or Young's lorry to the Motor Company's pick-up or a retired London taxi.

In 1954, the Team acquired a Humber Snipe shooting brake for £145, the first of a series of vehicles culminating in the present turbo-diesel Land Rovers.

Equally primitive was the accommodation for the transport and the growing accumulation of equipment. Space at the Police Station and later the Golden Lion Inn was severely limited.

In 1961, a garage on the Central Car Park became the Team's headquarters. It was expanded into a double garage in 1967 and remained the centre of operations - overcrowded, cramped, inconvenient - until the new headquarters was opened in 1996.

Today, with Vodapagers, call-outs are slick and rapid. In the early days, they were often a matter of rounding up available personnel: few had telephones and it wasn't until 1982 that an automatic phone dialler was installed, the first step in the efficient electronic warning system that operates today.

Equipment, too, has grown, not only in quantity but also in scope. Protective clothing for Team members has progressed from ex-Army surplus to polar suits, duvets and waterproof cagoules. Medical supplies

are no longer restricted to a few bandages and morphine syringes but include, for example, Propaq monitors which give an instant reading of a patient's temperature, blood pressure, oxygen level and heart condition.

In fifty years, the Team has dealt with a formidable number of incidents: a call-out in November 1994 brought the total to 1500. Certain patterns emerge. The commonest accident is a damaged ankle or a broken leg, often caused by a simple slip on grass or wet rock. Accident black-spots include Sharp Edge on Blencathra, the Scafell area and Shepherd's Crag.

The impressive success of the Team has depended on several factors, among them enthusiasm, commitment, regular training and

continuity. There have been only three leaders in fifty years: George Fisher to 1981, Mike Nixon from 1981 to 1993 (both awarded M.B.E.s) and currently Mark Hodgson. Four doctors have served as the Team's medical officer: J. Lyth (1947-1963), J.D. Mitchell (1963-1988), M.R. Turnbull (1972-1992), and P. White (1992 to the present).

It cannot be stressed too strongly that all the Team's work is voluntary - and that includes fund raising as well as rescue and search. The new headquarters, itself a fine example of what voluntary effort can accomplish, comes into operation as the Team reaches its fiftieth year. There could be no more fitting symbol of past achievements and future promise of an even more efficient service to mountain rescue.

by George Bott



The new base opening

Incident Report 1996

1	8 January 12:30	Goldscope Mine	A local man (30 yrs) was trapped by a fall of deads (old mine waste) when exploring. His companion was able to leave the mine and summon help. Assistance was given by the Cumbria Ore Mines Rescue Unit. The man was released after about 4 hours' work.
2	22 January 10:08	Latrigg	A forestry worker broke his leg when a felled tree landed on his leg. He was treated by the Team doctor before being carried from the fell.
3	26 January 14:05	Sour Milk Gill	A man (26 yrs) slipped on ice and dislocated his shoulder. He was treated by the Team doctor and carried from the fell.
4	5 February 20:15	West Cumbria	Assist Cockermouth MRT and the County Ambulance Service with 38 calls in West Cumbria while ambulances were unable to use the roads due to exceptional snow and ice. Keswick crews attended 16 incidents.
5	6 February 12:25	Troutbeck	Assist Ambulance Service with recovery of a man with breathing problems and transfer him to a waiting ambulance at Penrith.
6	17 February 12:20	Shepherd's Crag - Kransik Crack VS	A climber (28 yrs) fell 30' and swung through a tree, hitting his head on the rock face, 2' from the ground!
7	21 February 13:28	Falcon Crag path	A woman (67 yrs) slipped on frozen grass and broke her ankle.
8	21 February 15:30	Sty Head	A man (44 yrs) slipped on ice and broke his leg. He was brought down by others walkers, using the stretcher from the rescue box, and assisted by the Team en route.
9	23 February 15:00	Great End - Central Gully	A solo climber (34 yrs) was at the top of the gully contemplating the cornice when the slope below him avalanched. He was swept 800' to the foot of the scree fan. A helicopter flew him to Carlisle. It transpired he broke no bones nor suffered any major injuries.
10	2 March 15:35	Glamara - Woof Gill	A man (38 yrs) damaged the cartilages in his knee. He was lowered 1500' down steep, difficult ground and transported to hospital.
11	3 March 12:35	Blencathra - Sharp Edge	A man (54 yrs) slipped and fell 150', receiving fatal injuries.
12	3 March 17:12	Castle Rock, Thirlmere	A climber fell 40' from the crag and then another 30' down ledges at its foot. He sustained head and back injuries. After treatment, he was airlifted to Carlisle by a helicopter training in the area.
13	10 March 13:45	Glamara - Cam Crag Ridge	A man (26 yrs) slipped down a steep slope and tumbled over a steep crag, falling 40'. He sustained head and rib injuries and a fractured femur. After treatment at the scene, he was airlifted to West Cumberland Hospital.

14	10 March 22:56	Castle Crag - summit quarry	A man (21 yrs) in a development training group on night exercise walked over the edge of a slate quarry (no torch!). He sustained a broken elbow and broken femur.
15	19 March 14:23	Skiddaw House	A woman slipped and injured her ankle. The alarm was raised by CB radio.
16	7 April 15:48	Helvellyn - Brown Cove Crag	A man slipped and broke his ankle.
17	April 22:55	Maiden Moor - Goat Crag	Two male students set off to walk up Maiden Moor at dusk equipped with cider but no torch. Whilst descending in darkness they slipped down steep ground onto the crag coming to rest on a small ledge above the 200' drop below. They were roped up and climbed back to safety. A truly miraculous escape.
18	14 April 13:18	Skiddaw summit area	A couple became lost in mist on their descent from Skiddaw. They called 999 on their mobile phone and were talked down by telephone from headquarters.
19	16 April 14:20	Esk Hause	A youth (16 yrs) in a school party suffered an asthmatic attack. He had been escorted down by his party and the Team met him near the end of his walk.
20	20 April 14:10	Maiden Moor	A man (27 yrs) suffered chest pains when returning from Maiden Moor. He was treated and taken by helicopter to West Cumberland Hospital. Later reported to be suffering from musculo-skeletal pain.
21	24 April 17:00	Millican Dalton's Cave	A request to guide armed police to the cave following a reported sighting of 2 men camping rough and possessing a hand gun. No gun was found, but the men were found to have controlled drugs.
22	5 May 14:59	Cat Bells	Woman (44 yrs) collapsed on walk. She had a medical history of ME. Airlifted to hospital by helicopter operating in the area.
23	16 May 16:11	Walla Crag	A woman (57 yrs) slipped and broke her ankle.
24	26 May 16:04	Honister - Drum House track	A man (48 yrs) pulled his hamstring while running.
25	26 May 18:40	High Raise area	2 males and a 6 year old boy reported overdue. Requested by Langdale/Ambleside MRT to assist in search. Found walking down in Stickle Ghyll. All OK.
26	26 May 19:15	Raise area	A report of 8 17-yr old males on a D of E Gold Award training exercise with three hypothermic. Request from Patterdale MRT to assist. Found walking down, all OK.
27	27 May 15:15	Sty Head	Report of hypothermic casualty. Nothing found. Call with good intent. Thought to be same group as previous callout.
28	30 May 14:23	Watendlath	A man (47 yrs) slipped on wet grass and broke his leg.
29	8 June 12:42	Watendlath	A woman (74 yrs) slipped on wet grass and broke her leg.

30	12 June 18:33	Bowderstone area	Shouts for help heard by school party. A search found a lamb separated from its mother, stranded on an island in the river. Mother and offspring were reunited.
31	14 June 23:00	Bowderstone	A man (21 yrs) fell 10' while bouldering and broke his leg.
32	16 June 16:07	Skiddaw - Jenkin Hill	A man (35 yrs) paragliding made a faulty take-off and was eventually dumped in a gill, suffering a fractured spine.
33	23 June 02:00	Scafell area	A man (30 yrs) became separated from his party while attempting the 3 Peaks Challenge. He became lost, descended into the wrong valley and became benighted with an injured ankle.
34	25 June 14:20	Ashness Bridge area	A girl (16 yrs) slipped and sustained facial injuries and a fractured skull.
35	26 June 11:49	Great Wood	A request to assist the civilian ambulance with a man (51 yrs) suffering from chest pains.
36	4 July 13:15	Great End - Calf Cove	A report of 6 children and 2 adults, one with a sprained ankle and hypothermia. A helicopter assisted but found the wind problematical. The casualty was carried to the helicopter and the remaining party escorted down.
37	5 July 14:20	Ashness Ghyll	A man (31 yrs) was cragfast while scrambling up the waterfalls.
38	8 July 18:40	Bannerdale	An American elderly lady (81 yrs) was unable to continue her walk as she had run out of steam! She was assisted down in the Team Land Rover and taken to hospital for a check-up.
39	15 July 11:55	Grains Gill	A man (51 yrs) slipped and fell while chasing his dog. He sustained head injuries and was taken to West Cumberland Hospital.
40	15 July 20:50	Eel Crag, Newlands	A man (23 yrs) became cragfast while scrambling up a route from his new guide book. His companion managed to raise the alarm after climbing out.
41	20 July 00:30	Langstrath - Gt Stanger Gill	Falling rock and shouts were heard from the campsite. An investigation found an injured man making his way down after dislodging rock and falling 50'.
42	20 July 10:45	Shepherd's Crag - Monolith Crack VS	A man (49 yrs) fell while leading his son and broke both legs.
43	23 July 14:49	Shepherd's Crag - Conclusion HVS	A man (33 yrs) fell 15' while leading the climb. He sustained leg and back injuries.
44	29 July 22:30	Helvellyn Dodds	A request to assist Patterdale MRT in locating four 15 year old girls overdue on a Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. They were located camped at Calfhow Pike.
45	6 August 13:30	Raven Crag, Thirlmere	A woman (71 yrs) slipped on wet ground and broke her ankle.

46	11 August 14:11	Skiddaw - Dodd	A woman (60 yrs) slipped and sprained her ankle.
47	17 August 16:50	Shepherd's Crag - Donkey's Ears VD	A climber fell and injured his back.
48	23 August 22:52	Blencathra - Blease Gill	Local farmer reported stationary, flashing lights in the gill. An investigation located campers!
49	25 August 20:30	Cat Gill	A woman (69 yrs) collapsed in an exhausted condition.
50	31 August 15:38	Glaramara - Cam Crag Ridge	A man slipped while scrambling up the lower section of the ridge. He sustained a broken ankle.
51	4 September 14:20	Rosthwaite area	A woman (76 yrs), slipped and broke her ankle.
52	4 September 21:34	Blencathra area	A local man (56 yrs) was reported overdue on a mid-level walk round the back of Blencathra. A night search involving SARDA dogs and a helicopter using night vision equipment was unable to locate him. The search was scaled up at first light with 3 more MRTs. He was found dead.
53	8 September 14:19	High Rigg	A man (23 yrs) slipped and tumbled 80' while scrambling. He broke his leg, and sustained cuts and bruises.
54	8 September 14:20	Ard Craggs	A woman (53 yrs) suffered medical problems and was airlifted to West Cumberland Hospital.
55	28 September 16:08	Esk Hause shelter	A man (30 yrs) tripped and broke his arm and cut his face. He was taken to hospital by helicopter.
56	1 October 11:11	Cat Bells	A woman (69 yrs) slipped and broke her wrist and injured her head.
57	7 October 19:25	Ullscarf area	2 men became benighted on walk from Patterdale to Borrowdale. They had a mobile phone but no map, compass or torch. They were located and walked off. The first incident based on the new HQ!
58	8 October 17:09	Helvellyn	A woman (68 yrs) slipped on loose rock and sprained her ankle.
59	12 October 14:22	Watendlath Tarn - Blea Tarn	A man (74 yrs) slipped and injured his thigh.
60	12 October 14:30	Dale Head Tarn	A woman (50 yrs) slipped while jumping over a stream. She sustained a compound fracture/dislocation of her ankle.
61	13 October 14:56	Ashness Gill	A young woman (20 yrs) became cragfast while gill scrambling. Her shouts were heard by passers by. She was very cold but unharmed.

62	21 October 18:30	Glaramara - Cam Crag Ridge	A man (34 yrs) stepped down while scrambling, lost his footing and fell 40 metres. He sustained fractures to his elbow, wrist and clavicle.
63	25 October 14:43	Castlenook	A woman (53 yrs) slipped on wet grass sustained a fracture/dislocation of her ankle.
64	25 October 19:00	Lord's Seat	A father (44 yrs) and his son (12 yrs) became separated from their family and were reported overdue. They later turned up safe and well.
65	26 October 17:46	Grisedale Tarn area	A party of 6 16-yr old boys on a D of E award expedition failed to arrive at Dunmail Raise. They were later found at Wythburn Church having extended their walk.
66	27 October 16:25	Skiddaw	A man (53 yrs) became separated from his party in high winds on the summit. He turned up safe in Keswick!
67	27 October 18:48	Wythburn area	2 men were reported overdue after becoming separated from their group in high winds. They later turned up at their car in Thirlmere.
68	29 October 11:04	Sty Head	8 16-yr old girls were reported to be in trouble at Sty Head, one sheltering in the stretcher box. They were walked back down while their supervisor was sought!
69	1 November 14:23	Glaramara - Comb Door	While scrambling in poor weather, a youth slipped and fell 35' while trying to escape from the gill. He sustained multiple minor fractures, lacerations and bruising
70	4 November 13:16	Borrowdale - Millican Dalton's Cave area	A woman (58 yrs) slipped on wet grass and broke her leg.
71	9 November 18:30	King's How	A man (82 yrs) became separated from his group on descent and became benighted. He was found safe but cold.
72	10 November 11:57	Shepherd's Crag - PS VS	A youth (19 yrs) fell 30' and swung hitting his head. He was unconscious for a short while.
73	7 December 12:22	Blencathra - Sharp Edge	A man (35 yrs) slipped while scrambling and broke his leg. He was airlifted to hospital.
74	24 December 15:23	Langstrath	A man (79 yrs) slipped on ice and broke his ankle.
75	28 December 15:00	Coledale	A man (66 yrs) injured his ankle. Having walked some way on it, the Team was asked for assistance.
76	29 December 14:28	Sty Head path - 1000' Boulder	A woman (54 yrs) slipped and broke her ankle.

The team also conducted a number of animal rescues during the year. These included an exhausted Golden Retriever stretchered off Crag Hill and a sheepdog cragfast on Base Brown in icy conditions.

Search Dog involvement in incidents outside the local area

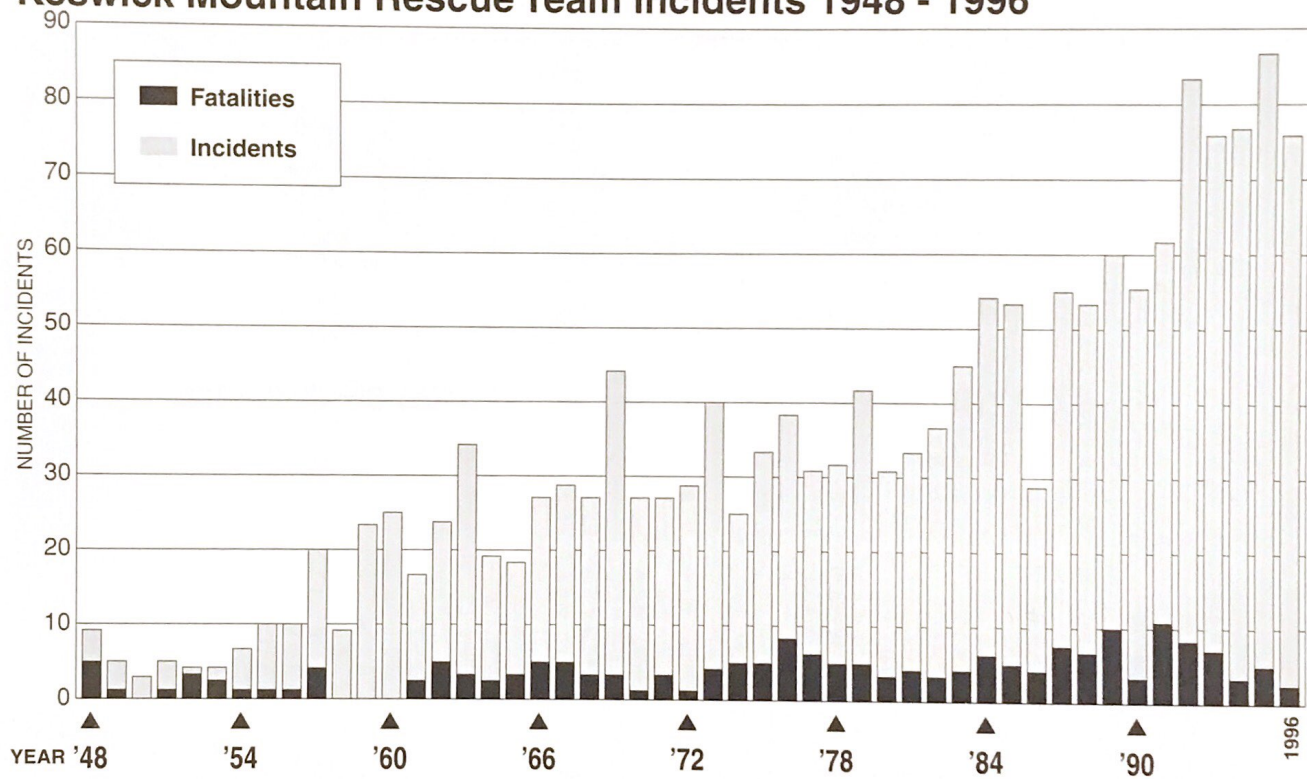
- 1 21 February (21.00)
Three dogs and handlers were called to assist Langdale/Ambleside MRT with a search for a missing family in the Crinkle Crag area, in winter conditions. The party was located by Kendal MRT just after the dogs were deployed.
- 2 26 May (1900)
Three dogs and handlers were involved in a search for a missing family party, including a 6 year old, initiated by Langdale/ Ambleside MRT on the Grasmere side of High Raise. They were found by a SARDA Lakes dog working up Stickle Ghyll, Langdale.
- 3 9 December (0300)
Two dogs and handlers attended a search organised by Penrith MRT, for two missing walkers in the Haweswater area. They had searched the Smallwater area, when the two turned up in Kentmere at 0700.
- 4 15 December (2330)
Two dogs and handlers were called to assist Kirkby Stephen Team with a search for a missing TA soldier on the Howgill Fells. The two dog teams were deployed together, and the missing man was found, exhausted and benighted, by a Keswick dog, above Black Force at 0400.

MICK GUY



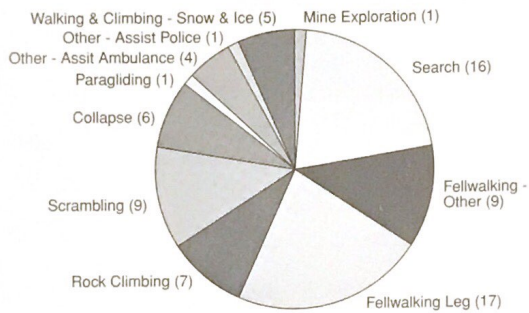
Spin, having a rest during training

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Incidents 1948 - 1996

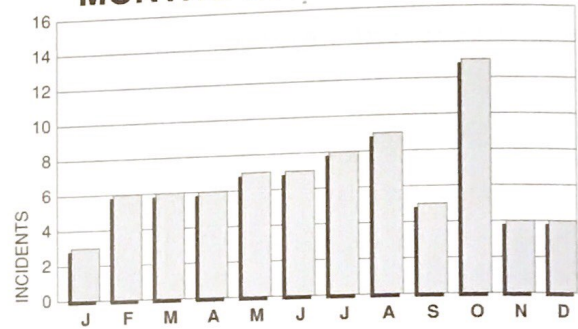


INCIDENT TYPES 1996

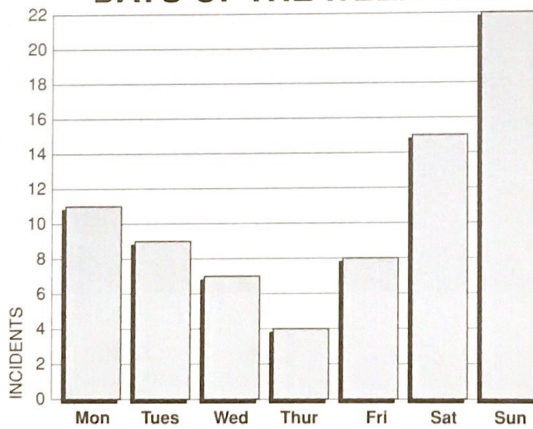
Figures in brackets refer to number of incidents not percentage of incident types



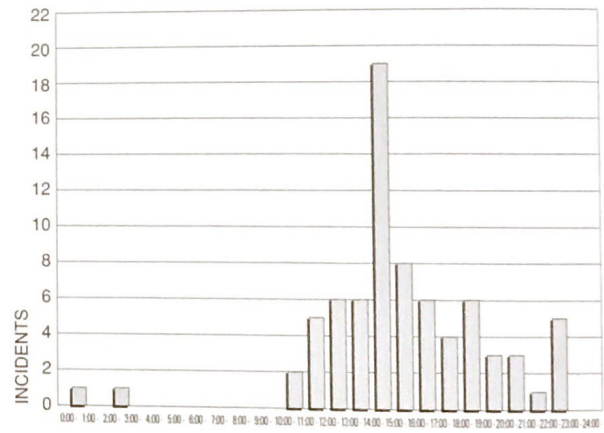
MONTHS OF THE YEAR 1996



DAYS OF THE WEEK 1996



TIMES OF DAY 1996



Collection Box Sponsors

If you would like to help raise money for the team by having a collecting box, please contact Brian Martland, the Collecting Box Co-ordinator, on Keswick 73848.

Acorn House	Craglands Guest House	Grange Bridge Cottage Cafe	Leathes Cottage	Rowe Opticians
Allerdale House	Crosthwaite Garage	Grange Cafe	Leathes Head Hotel	Royal Oak Braithwaite
Argosy	Crow Park Hotel	Grange Cottage	Linnet Hill Hotel	Royal Oak Hotel Rosthwaite
Armathwaite Hall	Cumbria Hotel	Greystones Guest House	Lodore Hotel	Salutation Inn
Askew Rigg	Dalegarth Hotel	Hazel Bank Hotel	Longthwaite YHA	Sandon Guest House
Bank Tavern	Dale Head Hall Hotel	Hazeldene Hotel	Low Beck Side Farm	Saw Mill Cafe Dodd
Barclays Bank	Dale View Hotel	Hazelmere Guest House	Luchinis Ices	Scafell Hotel
Barrow House Y.H.A	Daresfield	Hazelwood Guest House	Lynwood GuestHouse	Scotgate Camping Site
Batty & Co, Wigton	Derwent Bank H.F	The Heights Hotel	Lyzzyck Hall Hotel	Seathwaite Farm Cafe
Bay Tree	Derwent Cottage	Hetheringtons	Low Manesty Caravan Park	Seatoller Farm
Beckstones Guest House	Derwent House	Highfield Hotel	Mary Mount Hotel	Seatoller House
The Beeches Guest House	Derwent Jewellers	High Lodore Farm Cafe	Medical Centre	Shemara Guest House
Birketts Bakers	Derwentwater Caravan Park	C and CA Holmes	Moot Hall	Silverdale Hotel
Bonshaw Guest House	Derwentwater Marina	Holmewood House Hotel	National Park Info. Centre	Skiddaw Grove Hotel
Boots Chemist	Dog and Gun	Honeypot Cafe	National Trust - Lakeside	Spar Grocers
Bookends	Dollywagon Guest House	Hope Memorial Camp	Necessary Angel	Speddings
Borrowdale Hotel	Eel Crag	Horse and Farrier	Needle Sports	Spuds and Things
Brierholme Guest House	Easedale Hotel	Hunter's Way	New House Rosthwaite	Strathmore Guest House
Brookfield House	Fawsley House	Keswick Golf Club	Newton Rigg College	Sundance Foods
Brooklyn House	Fellside Guest House	Keswick Mountain Bike Hire	Pack Horse Inn	Sunnyside Guest House
Burleigh Mead Hotel	Ferndene Guest House	Keswick Mountain Sports	Parkfield	Swinside Inn
Caffle House Watendlath	Field and Stream	Keswick Y.H.A	Peter Scott Gallery	Swiss Court Hotel
Call of the Wild	Fine Designs	Kiln How Cottages	Police Station	The Sick and The Wrong
Camping and Caravan Club Site	Focus Photography	King's Arms	Priorholme Hotel	Thornleigh Guest House
Cars of the Stars	Four in Hand Hotel	Kings Head Hotel	Rainbow	Threshers
Cartwheel Guest House	George Fishers	Kitchen's Cellar	Rathbones	Thwaite Howe Hotel
Casablanca Bar	George Hotel	Kylesku Guest House	Rathbones Outdoor Wear	Timeshare Property Bond
Castle Inn	Golden Lion Inn	La Primavera	Ravenstone Hotel	Treeby and Bolton
Castlerigg Camp Site	Mr T. Gomersall	Ladstock Hall Hotel	Ravenstone Lodge Hotel	Twa Dogs
Chaplin's Bookshop	Grange View G.H.	Lairbeck Hotel	Ravensworth Hotel	Tynemouth Lodge Hotel
Chaucer House Hotel	Great Little Tea Shop	Lakeland Sheepskin	Rembrant Cafe	Village Shop Braithwaite
Chitlee Guest House	Greyrigg Guest House	Lake Road Inn	Richmond House Hotel	Walpole Hotel
Clarence House	Greystoke House	Lakeside Caravan Park	Rickerby Grange	Wentworth Guest House
The Coffee Shop	Grove House Gallery	Lakeside House	Rigg House	Whinlatter Forest Tea Room
Coledale Hotel	Glamara C.H.A	Langstrath Hotel	Rock at the Warehouse	White Horse Inn
Corner Shop	Glamara Guest House	Latrigg House	Rohan Ltd	Yew Tree Cafe
Cottage Hospital	Glencoe Guest House	Laurel Bank Guest House	Rosthwaite General Store	Yew Crag
Cowells				

Equipment Report

We ended last years report by looking forward to moving in to our new base. Well we are in now, and it is even better than we had hoped:

We now have a fully equipped workshop and charging room; A tiled sluice area with pressure washer and rope washer for cleaning gear; A separate drying room (no more having 1200 ft of rope and 10 rucksacks with their soaking contents draped round the control room!); An area specifically for the replenishing, sorting and storage of first aid equipment; Plus lots of space.

These facilities now ease greatly the tasks of maintenance, storage, cleaning, and, perhaps most importantly, after returning from call outs, rapidly preparing the vehicles and equipment for the next incident.

The very busy spell we had in the first few weeks after moving in to the new base certainly helped shakedown new procedures and routines very quickly. It also confirmed we had the layout of the building right and that ideas developed on paper were working well in practice.

While the new base is certainly the largest item of new equipment obtained this year!, the normal upgrading and replacing of existing equipment has also been continuing. Most notably the climbing / lowering equipment is in the process of revision, and now we have the extra space, we have doubled our stock of rechargeable torches to 40. These are kept on charge constantly helping to ensure every unit is fully charged whenever it is needed.

This year we are all looking forward to easing up on the fund raising and celebrating the teams 50th anniversary in our new base.

*Chris Francis and Simon Hodgson
Equipment Quartermasters.*

Donations 1996

Many people and organisations have made donations to Keswick Mountain Rescue Team during the course of the year, towards the New Base Appeal and general running costs of the team. In common with all other Mountain Rescue Teams we receive no funding from official sources. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to all who have made donations during the year, 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.

Donations have been made in memory of the following:

B Addison	Tony Bennett	L Bullman
V Bosworth	Mrs M Carruthers	A Chambers
B Clarke	C Denmark	F Gannon
N Gibbons	J Gibbs	C Green
D J Hair	S Harrison	Annie Heald
K Hill	G S Hindmarch	Mrs S Howard
Mrs Johnson	P Kent	Mrs J Kenyon
Mary Leslie	Miss M Mahir	I Newman
J Singleton	D Smith	D Wood
Sid Thompson		

Annual Report for the Year Ended 30 November 1996

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team (hereafter referred to as 'the Team') is an unincorporated association and is established by constitution. 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: Lake Road
Keswick
Cumbria

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

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

Bankers: Midland Bank 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.

Treasurer's Report

It has been an extremely busy year for the Team, particularly so with the New Headquarters Appeal in full swing. During the year donations to the Appeal and interest on funds on deposit, amounted to £89,000 and payments totalled £206,295. The total spent on the new headquarters to date is £229,129, the majority (£174,342) being directly on building costs and £19,000 on fitting out, the remainder being legal charges, planning and other miscellaneous expenses. These are shown in the accounts as leasehold property and the balance is included in equipment. At 1st January 1997 the New Headquarters Fund remains in excess of £39,000, and additional costs are anticipated at £26,000 for the remainder of the building costs, the rope training area and the CCTV security system.

It is intended to hold the excess in a separate fund for up to 2 years, to cover any unforeseen costs which may arise in connection with the new headquarters. After that time any remaining funds will be utilised as seen fit by the Trustees.

The amount of money coming into general funds has also been much higher than usual, a total of £55,661. This was, no doubt, a direct response to our adopting a much higher profile than traditionally, in particular following the rejection of our application to the National Lottery. The major sources of income were £9,921 from collection boxes, £17,000 from legacies and £2,000 from deeds of covenant, together with £1,100 tax recovered on the covenants and gift aid donations which, added together, virtually took care of our running costs for the year.

Expenditure on equipment increased for several reasons. We had a major review of our technical hardware following the threatened introduction of EU regulations. These, fortunately, did not

come into effect but we took the opportunity to set into operation a system of rolling replacement of equipment. This accounts for most of the £16,000 spent on equipment, a figure which will hopefully be reduced in future years as the new system evolves.

It was with horror that we realised all our Thomas stretchers (some of which were 30 years old) had all developed a metal fatigue, rendering them all unusable and beyond repair. In the interests of safety all were scrapped immediately. Fortunately we were able to borrow stretchers from other teams and Peter Bell of Windermere, a specialist in the manufacture of rescue stretchers, produced 4 new Thomas stretchers at a total cost of £5,000 incorporating his, and our, modifications to the original Thomas design which Keswick MRT seems almost unique in preferring to other, more recent, stretchers.

Other significant costs were the purchase of a Propac monitor which measures a casualty's pulse, blood pressure and temperature (£6,000), the acquisition of a Vodapage call-out system for all team members (£400 for a base unit and £500 pa for the pagers, rising to £2,600 for the full year in 1996/97) and £500 for new re-chargeable torches.

Training costs were increased by the introduction of a specialist winter training weekend for 12 team members at Glenmore Lodge (£700). This will be an on-going scheme eventually enabling all team members to experience training in winter techniques over the next few years.

Other costs, particularly administrative charges, remained fairly constant.

Looking to the future, we anticipate that the costs in relation to the day to day running of the new headquarters will be significantly

higher than for the old headquarters - particularly in respect of heating and lighting. At the time of writing we have not received an electricity bill for the new headquarters and so cannot give an accurate forecast as to the likely annual costs. The only other anticipated increase is in relation to vehicle fuel. For the last few years all fuel costs have been met by BP. However, this arrangement is now coming to an end. We are hoping that another sponsor can be found to meet this cost which is, traditionally, £600-£700 per annum.

The Trustees are confident that sufficient funds are in hand for the Team to be able to continue operating effectively.

This annual report was approved by the Trustees at an Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th January 1997.

Treasurer
For and on behalf of the Trustees

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees

We have examined, without carrying out an audit, the accounts for the year ended 30th November 1996 set out on pages 5 to 9.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As described on page 1 the Trustees, as named on that page, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to examine the accounts and, based on our examination, to report our opinion, as set out below, to the Trustees.

Basis of Examination

We conducted our examination, under Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, and in accordance with the appropriate directions for independent examiners issued by the Charities Commissioners under s43(7)(b) of that Act.

The examination was not an audit conducted in accordance with Auditing Standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these accounts. Therefore, our examination does not provide any assurance that the accounting records and the accounts are free from material misstatement.

Results of Examination.

No matter has come to our attention during the course of our examination that gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- (1) Accounting records have not been kept in respect of this charity in accordance with s41 of the Charities Act 1993.

- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records.

- (3) The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirement specified in regulation 3 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995. (Save the requirements specified in paragraph 1 of Part III of the Schedule to the Regulations).

Further to this, no matter has been brought to our attention in connection with our examination, to which attention should be drawn in the report 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 14th January 1997

Statement

of financial activities for the year ended 30th November 1996

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	New Base Fund £	Total Funds 1996 £	Total Funds 1995 £
Incoming Resources					
Subscriptions and Covenants		3,497	—	3,497	2,446
Donations		18,912	80,539	99,451	89,923
Collection Boxes		9,922	—	9,922	11,466
Street Collection		18	—	18	3,129
Legacy		17,159	—	17,159	2,730
Income Tax Recovered		1,105	600	1,705	12,200
Bank and Building Society Interest		4,687	8,064	12,751	13,187
Miscellaneous and Shirt Sales		361	—	361	1,305
Support Group		—	—	—	268
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		55,661	89,203	144,864	136,654
Resources Expended					
Garage, Team and HQ Expenses	2	4,013	—	4,013	3,798
Motor Vehicle Expenses	3	2,017	—	2,017	1,349
Other Expenses	4	10,289	1,680	11,969	16,746
Depreciation		13,113	—	13,113	8,351
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		29,432	1,680	31,112	30,244
Net Incoming Resources					
Before Transfers		26,229	87,523	113,752	106,410
Transfer Between Funds		204,171	(204,171)	—	—
NET INCOMING RESOURCES					
FOR THE YEAR		230,400	(116,648)	113,752	106,410
Balances Brought Forward					
At 1st December 1995		147,802	155,690	303,492	197,082
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD					
AT 30TH NOVEMBER 1995		£378,202	£39,042	£417,244	£303,492

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these accounts

Balance Sheet

at 30 November 1996

	Notes	1996 £	1995 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	259,690	51,938
Current Assets			
Stock	6	988	2,912
Building Society Deposits		147,594	232,622
Cash at Bank		9,207	16,020
		157,789	251,554
Liabilities, Amounts falling due within one year	7	235	—
NET CURRENT ASSETS		157,554	251,554
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		£417,244	£303,492
Funds			
Unrestricted	8	378,202	147,802
Restricted		39,042	155,690
	9	£417,244	£303,492

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 9th January 1997 and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these accounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 30th November 1996

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:

Buildings	—
Equipment	— 15% reducing balance
Motor Vehicles	— 25% reducing balance

Stocks

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

2 GARAGE, TEAM AND HQ EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds	New Base Fund	Total Funds 1996	Total Funds 1995
	£	£	£	£
Rent, Rates and Water	1,530	—	1,530	1,039
Telephone and Electricity	2,133	—	2,133	2,054
Repairs and Renewals	—	—	—	362
Insurances	350	—	350	343
	4,013	—	4,013	3,798

3 MOTOR VEHICLE EXPENSES

Insurances	528	—	528	480
Petrol and Oil	114	—	114	103
Maintenance	1,375	—	1,375	766
	2,017	—	2,017	1,349

4 OTHER EXPENSES

Maintenance of Radio Equipment	296	—	296	70
Printing and Stationery	2,460	—	2,460	2,708
Insurances	2,099	—	2,099	2,397
Postage and Sundry Expenses	3,057	—	3,057	2,128
Maintenance of General Equipment	454	—	454	881
Courses	1,910	—	1,910	1,811
Bank Charges	13	—	13	24
Fundraising Costs	—	1,680	1,680	6,727
	10,289	1,680	11,969	16,746

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost

	Leasehold Land & Buildings	Motor Equipment	Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
At 1st December 1995	10,976	58,188	21,188	90,352
Additions During Year	184,872	35,993	—	220,865
Sales/Write Offs	—	(1,496)	—	(1,496)
At 30th November 1996	195,848	92,685	21,188	309,721

Depreciation

At 1st December 1995	—	24,377	14,037	38,414
Charge for the Year	—	10,320	1,788	12,108
on Disposals/Write Offs	—	(491)	—	(491)
At 30 November 1996	—	34,206	15,825	50,031

Net Book Value at

30th November 1996	£195,848	£58,479	£5,363	£259,690
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Net Book Value at

30th November 1995	£10,976	£33,811	£7,151	£51,938
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The costs at 1st December 1995 have been derived from net book values at 1st December 1991, since earlier records were not available.

Capital Commitments

The team is committed to further expenditure on the new base in the coming year. It is estimated that the work will cost approximately £26,000.

	1996 £	1995 £
6 STOCK		
Consumable Stores	80	80
Stock of Shirts	908	2,832
	<u>£988</u>	<u>£2,912</u>

7 LIABILITIES		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals	<u>£235</u>	<u>£ —</u>

	Balance at 1.12.95 £	Movement in Resources		Balance at 30.11.96 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
8 RESTRICTED FUNDS				
New Base Fund	155,690	89,203	205,851	39,042

The new base fund was established in 1993 to raise specific funds to build a new headquarters for the Team in Keswick. The funds have been spent on leasehold property and equipment and the building was opened during the year.

	Net Current Assets £	Total £
9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS		
New Base Fund	39,042	39,042
Unrestricted Funds	378,202	378,437
	<u>£417,244</u>	<u>£417,479</u>

Deed of Covenant

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 at 41 Blencathra Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4HX.

The following persons made Deed of Covenant donations in 1996:

Dr J E Anderson	P M Harris	B G Smith
Mr J B Beaston	W R Hartland	Mrs S P Smith
Mrs M R Beetham	K Hill	Mrs S M Stevens
Mrs J M Brown	W E Jones	R R Stockfis
Miss K Bullock	J B Manley	Mrs J K Tait
A R Byron	P Manson	M Thompson
J R Cawood	M C A Peirce	Dr J Varley
A B Clark	E G Pettipher	M J Voaden
A W M Cooke	B Pickup	Dr J S Warwick
Dr E Coupland	M Potter	W Whelan
W J Daniels	T Roberts	D R White-Cooper
Mrs P Durbridge	Mrs J T Robertson	G T Woods
T Forshaw	D G Smith	M G Wright

Please return completed Deed to KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM, 41 Blencathra Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4HX.

Deed of Covenant

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 19....
and continue for a period of years (minimum four) from
that date or until I die if earlier.

Witness must NOT
be spouse

SIGNED AND DELIVERED as a Deed

Covenantors Signature

this day of 19....

Signature of witness

Full name and
address of witness

Please complete
if you know details

Tax district

Reference number

National Insurance Number

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 19....

and a like sum ANNUALLY on the

day of

in each of following three years making payments in all

Signed Date 19....
(Your Signature)

Please return this completed Deed to:
KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM
41 Blencathra Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4HX

DETACH HERE

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.
-



***Thank You for Supporting
Keswick Mountain Rescue Team***

A voluntary organisation funded by public donations