

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Annual Report 1999



A REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 509860

Keswick Mountain Rescue Team 1999

Team Leader:	Mark Hodgson
President:	Mike Nixon MBE
Chairman:	Mike Fanning
Secretary:	Mick Guy, Limhus, High Hill, Keswick, Cumbria
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Collection Box Co-ordinator:	Brian Spencer, Daresfield, Chestnut Hill, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4LS
Deputy Team Leaders:	Simon Hodgson, Roy Henderson, Paul Horder
Medical Officer:	Dr. Peter White
Training Officers:	Martin Bell, Paul Carter
Radio Officer:	Bill Booth
Transport Officer:	Allan Alcock
Equipment Officers:	Chris Francis, Chris Higgins
Control Room Quartermaster:	Mike Nixon
Report Editor:	Rachel Slattery
Honorary Auditor:	John Wood

Callout List

Allan Alcock Forecourt Attendant	Andy Jones Police Constable
Donald Angus Retired	Peter Little Pharmacist
Peter Barron National Park Ranger	Brian Martland Retired
Martin Bell Outdoor Pursuits Instructor	Malcolm Miller Head Teacher
Paul Carter Sales Manager	Phil Newton Retired
Jan Cordon Student	Mike Nixon Retired
Neil Dowie Hotelier	Des Oliver Retired
Dr. Mike Evans G.P.	Dr. Will Ponsonby G.P.
Mike Fanning Solicitor	David Pratt Teacher
Anne Francis Teacher	Dr Andy Reed G.P.
Chris Francis Research Assistant	David Robinson Shop Manager
Mick Guy Head Teacher	Andrew Slattery Police Constable
Roy Henderson National Trust Warden	Rachel Slattery Training Consultant
Scott Henderson National Park Ranger	Jill Sharpe Medical Representative
Chris Higgins Outdoor Pursuits Instructor	Brian Spencer Retired
Mark Hodgson Chartered Builder	Keith Stephenson Joiner
Simon Hodgson Builder	Chris Strutt Student
Dr Tim Hooper G.P.	Julian Turner Student
Katharine Horder Head Teacher	Ian Wallace Dentist
Paul Horder Teacher	Lance Waudby Delivery Driver
Robin Humphreys Cashier	Dr Peter White G.P.

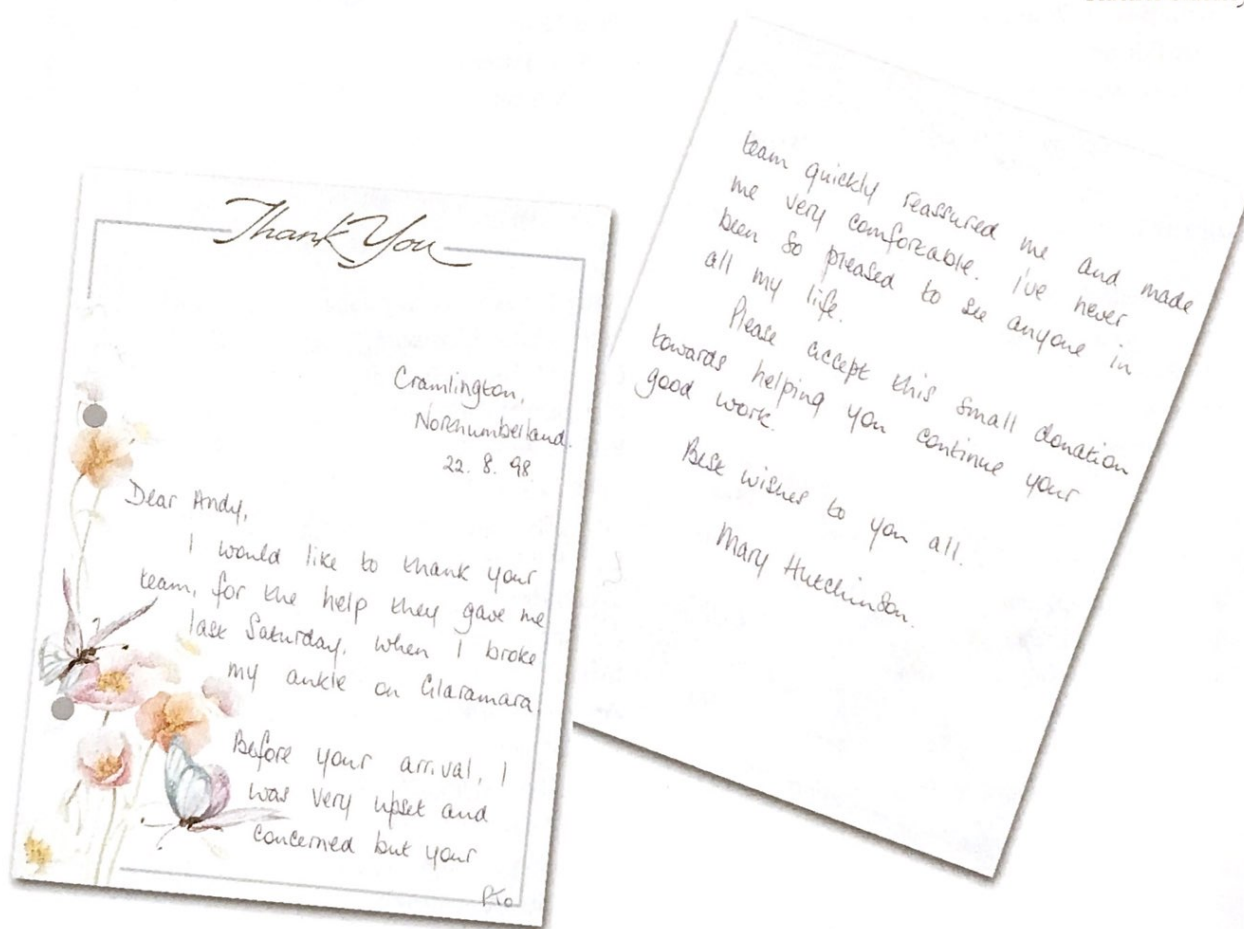
Editorial

The front cover this year has been painted by local artist Venus Griffiths and looks down Derwent Water to the 'Jaws' of Borrowdale. Venus has very kindly donated the picture 264mm x 177mm along with a mount and frame to the Team in order to help raise funds. We have decided, therefore, to auction the print off, if you wish to make a bid you can do so by sending it in writing to the Treasurer. The highest bid received by the end of 1999 will be accepted.

We have plenty of extra features along with the regular reports to fill the pages this year, one of which is a thankyou letter below from Mary Hutchinson (see incident number 44). This has been included in order to show a side to our work that is not often featured. Letters with donations enclosed, donations from groups and collecting box money are some of the ways that the Team and others are funded and able to remain operational. These donations are all voluntary as is our time spent on rescue duties.

I hope that you all will continue to enjoy the fells during 1999 and that we do not have to feature any of you in the Incident report next year.

Rachel Slattery



Team Leaders Report

1998 has seen the Keswick Team involved in 75 callouts. Although none of the rescues in the year were what we would classify as particularly technical, they were all carried out professionally, speedily and to the best benefit of the individual casualties. It is down to the enthusiasm and skilled training of all the Team members that each rescue is carried out with such great efficiency. The rescues have varied from searches, for missing animals as well as people, paragliding, mountainbiking, rockclimbing, to the most common rescue, lower leg injuries which made up 33% of the callouts in the year. Sadly there were 4 fatalities in the year.

Our thanks as ever go to the RAF helicopter crews for their help and assistance on several rescues in the year, their skill and pinpoint 'driving' never cease to amaze us.

The efficient running of Keswick Mountain Rescue Team does not just happen, it is due to all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes as well as on rescues. Whilst we are continually looking to ways to improve the service that we can offer to casualties, by way of increasing medical and technical training, updating equipment and expanding the range of equipment we carry, it is important to recognise that the majority of rescues involve carrying rucksacks of equipment up to a casualty site and then carrying the casualty, and all the equipment, back down again, often in atrocious weather. This work falls evenly on all team members without whom the service would not survive. For this I thank all Team members, officers and officials. Once again our thanks go to members wives and families for the missed meals, cancelled evenings out, interrupted leisure time and the like which are always so willingly given up by all the Team.

There is no doubt that the philosophy of the Keswick Team is due to the way the Team has developed over the years. Two people who have had such a great influence on the Team are George Fisher MBE, who sadly passed away in early January 1999, and Mike Nixon MBE. These two people are synonymous with mountaineering and Mountain Rescue in the Lake District. Elsewhere in this report there is a tribute to George, fittingly written by Mike Nixon. We were very pleased to appoint Mike as George's successor as Team President, another outstanding and respected figurehead. There can be few Rescue Team Presidents, anywhere, who can go up Grains Ghyll as quick with half a stretcher on his back and get to the top as fresh as he was when he set off as Mike! There are many Team members who hope to be half as fit after their seventieth birthdays.

This year saw the arrival of the replacement for our ageing four wheel drive Transit ambulance - another four wheel drive Transit ambulance, albeit this one is a lot more sophisticated. Delivery was not as soon as we had been led to believe, perhaps this is the price one has to pay for a specialist vehicle. Our thanks to the converters Frank Guy from Derbyshire for all their hard work interpreting our exacting requirements and for the speed of their works when they finally received the vehicle. We were especially pleased to be able to donate the old transit to the Dartmoor Rescue Team and hope that they manage to keep it going for a few more years. The new vehicle has been in service for several months and plays a very

important role in the Team operations, as a personnel carrier to get Team members as close to the casualty site as possible, with the added benefit that it can also be used to transport casualties, on the stretcher if required to a waiting ambulance or, for casualties with minor injuries, direct to Keswick Hospital.

To everyone who goes on the hills; go prepared, go safely and enjoy yourselves. If you are unfortunate enough to need our help, contact us through the Police.

Mark Hodgson



The new Transit ambulance - Mark Hodgson

George Fisher MBE

George died suddenly at Carlisle airport after a memorable flight over the Central Fells on a beautiful sunny winters day in a friends light aircraft. George was 74.

He was born at the Nags Head Inn, Wythburn, which was run by his grandparents as a coaching inn. The family moved to Keswick when Manchester Corporation raised the level of the lake.

George and his twin brother Dick were given their first taste of the mountains aged 4, when they climbed Helvellyn with their father.

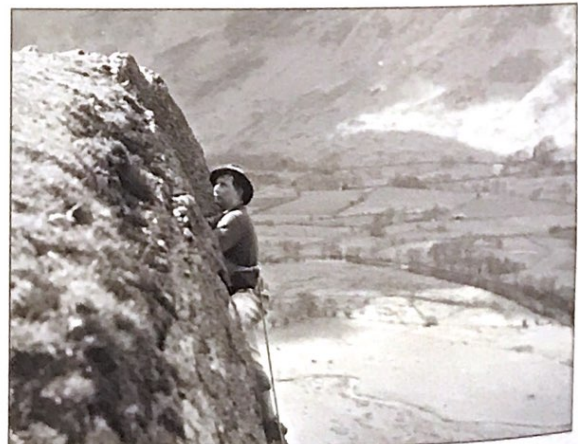
George was apprenticed as an electrician at the old Keswick electrical works at the Forge and when war broke out, the brothers were messengers for the police in case of air raids. Later George joined the RAF as a wireless operator and air gunner before being drafted into the Light Infantry Brigade. He trained as a sniper and served in Egypt.

After the war George became a British Mountaineering Council guide, taking clients up Lakeland rock climbs summer and winter. He then joined Ullswater Outward Bound as an instructor. It was while he was there that he opened a small shop in Lake Road selling climbing gear. As the business expanded he moved into Abraham's in Borrowdale Road receiving orders from all over the world and growing into the internationally famous shop it is today.

More than 50 years ago George and Dick responded to a letter in the reminder from Colonel Horace 'Rusty' Westmorland to form a Mountain Rescue Team.

George was made an MBE for his services to Mountain Rescue after leading the Team for over 30 years and he and his brother also received the Distinguished Service Certificate from the Mountain Rescue Committee. George was our President for the last 17 years.

George through his great knowledge of the local fells and crags and his wise leadership shaped the Team through it's formative years. For this we are all, forever, greatly indebted to him.



GEORGE FISHER MBE - Photo's courtesy of Georges daughter Janice

Training Report 1999

Training this year has concentrated on three main areas, first aid, navigation and crag work.

We are fortunate in Keswick Team to have access to a wealth of medical experience including four doctors, a pharmacist and an ex-nurse. In addition to this we can draw on specialist knowledge from outside individuals for example a physiotherapist to help prevent Team members injuring themselves whilst lifting and carrying.



Rescue - Paul Moffat

Following the purchase of new Global Positioning System units (GPS's) we have run training into their use as an aid to traditional navigational techniques which are constantly practiced. The Team has run a series of night navigation exercises although it is always a problem finding areas of ground that the Team are not familiar with.

The Team is continually reviewing its crag rescue techniques and equipment. Therefore, following the purchase of a new form of decender several training sessions were devoted to the familiarisation of this device.

Team members are constantly looking for imaginative ways of covering regular training topics, this has included a quiz night, mini scenarios and role play exercises.

Despite a willingness to practice winter mountain rescue techniques within our area, fickle weather conditions demand that the Team continues to send members on an annual training weekend in Scotland. This once again was run successfully this year at Glenmore Lodge.

*Roy Henderson
& Simon Hodgeson*

Quartermasters Report

Most people would assume that when the garage doors close after a rescue the work is over. This is by no means the case, as after even the most simple of rescues there is always some equipment to replace, repack and check. The pile of gear to sort after a long winter rescue at night in bad weather can be huge. The initial task (whatever time of day and however long the preceding rescue) is to have at least 1 Land Rover fully re-equipped and ready to go as soon as possible.

All the wet gear now has to be sorted and hung in the drying room, there may be in excess of 15 sacks of equipment, 600 metres of rope and 20 sets of personal kit to be dried out (how did we manage in the old base with no drying room?).

Handlamps and head-torches need checking, batteries and bulbs replaced, re-chargeable torches plugged in and any damaged or faulty units being put to one side for attention later.

Other jobs include checking the oxygen and entonox sets and replacing bottles if necessary, putting the mobile phones, Propaq monitor and radios on charge. Replacing any drugs, dressings or other medical equipment used.

Next day when all the equipment in the drying room has fully dried it has to be repacked and either replaced in the vehicle it came from or, if duplicate kit, stored ready for use.

The quartermasters also test and evaluate new items of equipment. This year after comparing the performance and ease of use of several G.P.S (Global Positioning Systems) the team has acquired 5, 12 channel Garmin units. The dog handlers in the team have had the older 8 channel version for 3 years or more and have found them a very useful addition to conventional mountain navigation skills, though certainly not a replacement for them.

The climbing and lowering sacks have undergone revision this year, as they had a tendency to become ever heavier as new bits of gear were added! Now instead of 2 identical sacks per vehicle, the equipment is split in to a relatively light first response sack and a larger secondary sack. The first response sack contains the gear necessary for 2 people to gain swift access to a casualty in a crag incident. The secondary sack backs this up with more harnesses, belay equipment, etc. that may be needed for a stretcher lower.

Our new 4 wheel drive transit finally arrived this year so some time was spent deciding where and how equipment is to be stowed in the vehicle. The task has been made easier in this case by all the work that went in to the design of the interior layout, with space allocated for medical equipment, torches, gas bag etc. Unlike our old transit, the stretcher can be stowed in a roof rack freeing up space internally (the old garage was not high enough to allow a roof rack to be used).

The only kit issue to team members this year was a replacement set of thermals each, the last issue of this equipment being over 5 years ago.

*Chris Francis
& Chris Higgins.*

What it's like to be a new member of the Team

Becoming a new member of the Team involves going through the stressful probationary year (or longer!) where everyone is watching you and you try too hard all of the time! Being elected to full membership is very satisfying and a reward for the months of learning and working, attending rescues but not having a place and feeling always a little on the sidelines.

Once a full member you begin to use skills with more confidence (just as you really learn to drive only after passing your test!), to

recognise what you can add and how valuable you can be. You develop close ties with the other members and begin to find where your place and skills within the Team lie.



Jill actively involved in a callout - Paul Moffat

It's also about training the family! That the pager goes everywhere; that you don't know how long you will be away, that you appreciate their interest and that when they sit and say "it's all right Mum, you go" they mean it because they know it's important. It's about your other half running you a bath when you get back again and making the tea and asking all about it because they understand the commitment you all have, the satisfaction you all get and how much there is to learn each time you go out.

It's not been easy becoming a full member of the Team, but it was worth the effort and I am proud to have become a friend and colleague of such a close-knit, amusing and hard-working bunch of people.

Jill Sharpe.

Sty Head Box

As most hill walkers will - or should know "Mountain Rescue Post" published on O.S. maps means where the local rescue team is based (HQ). The title "Mountain Rescue Kit" is identifying where a quantity of rescue equipment has been placed at a suitable site on the fells. There has been M.R. kit - in one form or another since the late 1930's.

When people involved in climbing/hill walking agreed to provide First Aid equipment at suitable locations, Hotels or Farms at valley heads agreed to store first aid rucksacks and stretchers.

In 1938 this facility "moved forward", by a "Mountain Rescue Kit" being established on Sty Head Pass. The kit comprised of a St. John's Stretcher in a wooden box container - painted black and white for easy spotting in bad weather. Also a "suitcase" containing bandages etc was placed in a wooden box on a pole alongside. The thinking behind this provision was to allow climbers to rescue "themselves" rather having to call on others.

The kit lasted until the late 1940's by which time "Mother Nature" had done her worst and the whole lot had disintegrated and had spread over the hillside plus quite a bit into Sty Head Tarn!!

It must be remembered there were no official Mountain Rescue Teams at this time so when someone was injured on the fells people were totally reliant on those rescue kits - although the pre-war St John's Ambulance Brigade of Borrowdale did answer the call when people were injured in their locality, but in the main it was climber helping climber.

With the establishment of Mountain Rescue Teams in the late 1940/50's it was agreed to replace the kit on Sty Head. A much more substantial box was constructed - paid for by the Mountain Rescue Committee, and carried up by Keswick M.R.T. This box had a "Thomas" stretcher, blankets and rucksack containing first aid kit all stored inside. Access was gained through a lid which had a chain bolt type fastening. This lid proved to be the boxes "downfall" - for two reasons. People opened the lid and used the box to shelter in - of course allowing the elements to pour inside, also strong wind eventually affected the lid so it failed to close correctly.

By this time it had been agreed to provide rescue kits at various locations on the Lake District fells and six in all were set up, maintained by the rescue team for that locality.

Keswick Rescue Team were asked - by M.R.C., to replace the box on Sty Head. A local joiner was contracted to design and construct the box - bearing in mind what had happened to the previous two



The black & white Sty Head Box photos courtesy of Des Oliver



boxes, and the end product proved to be a much more 'solid' container. The box would hold similar kit as previous but access was gained through a lift up door at one end. A helicopter lifted the box on site, four angle iron legs were concreted into the ground and the box was bolted in place. The whole job being done on a pleasant sunny Sunday in the mid 1960's.

So after 30+ years the box has finally shown signs of wear and tear and has been airlifted - by helicopter, down to Keswick M.R.T.-H.Q. for repair to be returned to Sty Head, hopefully for at least another 30+ years. Whether another box will be made for Sty Head some time in the millenium remains to be seen.

Des Oliver

Sty Head Stretcher Box 1999 Update

During 1998 it was decided that, due to the poor state of repair of the Sty Head Stretcher Box, work needed to be undertaken to refurbish the existing box. A group of Team members was assembled and the box was removed from it's present site and brought down to Keswick with the assistance of the RAF Navy, HMS Gannett helicopter.

Keith Stephenson is the Team member responsible for most of the work, which is quite fitting as Keith's Uncle Jim originally made the box with Castlerigg Engineering and Keith's Uncle Norman making the original metal frame. Keith has undertaken the present metal and woodwork needed to restore the box himself. Quite a family affair!

Work is now finished on the box. Unfortunately the weather has not permitted it to be moved back to it's original location. You can see the refurbished box in one of the pictures along with Keith removing the old box from Sty head to be brought down for repair.

All the materials used on the new box have been donated by local firms and our thanks go to the following businesses.

Stephen Bell. Keswick Joinery Company. - timber • John Stephenson. Castlerigg Engineering Company, Keswick. - steel work, plant and equipment • Kevin Booth. A Steadman & Son, Carlisle. - Roofing Sheets. David Brown. Pillar Wedge Galvanising Ltd, Heywood. - Galvanising steelwork • Mr Firn. Firns of Keswick. - bolts etc • Mike Willams. Far Common, Keswick. - Sign writing • Neville Stuart. - concreting materials.



Keith dismantling the box to bring down for repair - Jan Beedham



Keith with the finished box ready to be taken back up to Sty Head - Rachel Slattery

Incident Report 1998

1	4 January 18:30	Sharp Edge Blencathra	Three people were caught in a blizzard on the summit and had become cragfast on their descent of Sharp Edge. One had fallen a couple of times. Alarm raised by mobile phone.
2	6 January 15:00	Blea Tarn Watendlath	A request from Langdale & Ambleside Team to assist them in their search for two missing in a blizzard who had called for help in their mobile phone. Later found near Blea Water at Haweswater!
3	24 January 12:31	High Doat Borrowdale	A woman (30yrs) suffered dizziness and breathlessness. She was carried down and checked out at Keswick Hospital.
4	25 January 15:06	Scope End Hindscarth	A man (51yrs) suffered a fatal collapse on descent. Taken to Keswick Hospital by helicopter.
5	20 February 23:05	Scafell Area	Request to assist Wasdale MRT in their search for a 14 year old who was later found on Scafell safe and well.
6	21 February 19:03	Sty Head Stretcher Box	A man with Parkinson's Disease was unable to continue when his legs seized up.
7	13 March 17:40	Scafell	A call for help from a mobile phone was received by a couple who were lost tired and exhausted. They were thought to be near Scafell Pike and were found on Allen Crag.
8	14 March 15:58	Aaron Slack Great Gable	A woman was reported to be hyperventilating and vomiting. A helicopter in the area was diverted to assist. The Team were able to return at an early stage.
9	14 March 16:51	Scarth Gap	Request from Cockermouth MRT to assist them with a male casualty suffering a lower leg injury. Two KMRT members travelled by helicopter from the previous incident to deal with this one.
10	19 March 19:50	Scafell	The girlfriend of an overdue walker reported him late back from a walk up Scafell. The weather and walkers experience were good and he turned up just as the Team were departing.
11	4 April 12:22	Rowling End	Request to assist ambulance with a woman (35 yrs) who had slipped on wet grass and suffered a fractured ankle.
12	2 May 13:46	Ullock Pike	A man (50's) was reported to have collapsed. He was found to be dead on arrival of the helicopter and Team members.
13	3 May 13:30	Bowderstone	A man (40's) fell about 5" whilst bouldering and broke his ankle.
14	3 May 17:29	Sharp Edge Blencathra	Walkers reported shouts for help at the bad step. The group responsible for the shouting were met whilst walking down as the Team approached the area.
15	10 May 13:42	Clough Head	A paraglider landed badly and was carried 50" over the edge. He was evacuated by helicopter.
16	16 May 12:46	Dodd Wood	A man was found in a dazed condition, possibly following a fit.

17	20 May 18:30	Rigg Head Quarries	Request by police to investigate an abandoned rucksack left in error.
18	24 May 11:50	Blease Fell Blencathra	A man (71 yrs) collapsed while walking with his family. He was found to be dead on arrival of the Team.
19	24 May 13:20	Taylor Gill Seathwaite	A woman had been scrambling on the rocks in the stream and fell and struck her head. She attempted to walk down but found she needed the assistance of the Team. Possible fractured base of skull,
20	26 May 11:35	Skelgill Catbells	A woman slipped spraining her ankle and breaking her wrist.
21	26 May 14:59	Gillercombe Head	A woman slipped and broke her ankle.
22	12 June 20:05	Central Fells	A depressed, suicidal man (40 yrs) was reported missing in the Seathwaite area. He was found camping at Sprinkling Tarn and escorted down.
23	20 June 16:00	Maiden Moor Catbell Ridge	A woman (41yrs) experienced severe abdominal pains and was unable to continue. She was carried down and taken to hospital.
24	2 July 15:58	Grains Gill	A boy(14yrs) in a school party fell and badly gashed his knee.
25	4 July 14:35	Steel Knott Borrowdale	A male climber (23yrs) fell 12-15 m while leading a climb. He sustained back and arm injuries.
26	5 July 14:20	Ashness Bridge Walla Crag path	A woman (51yrs) slipped on a greasy rock and broke her ankle.
27	10 July 9:25	Walla Crag	A man (60yrs) jumped over a wall and injured his ankle.
28	11 July 13:19	Force Crag	A man (35yrs) decided to scramble up the crag front. He ran out of options 40" from the top and became cragfast.
29	11 July 18:20	Thirlmere Eliminate E1 Castle Rock	A male climber fell 40" and sustained head and leg injuries.
30	12 July 17:22	Gillercombe	A man (55yrs) from Holland slipped on wet grass and injured his leg.
31	12 July 22:10	Sty Head Tarn	A male (17yrs) collapsed and went to ground with hypothermia. He was carried off.
32	14 July 15:12	Underscar Skiddaw	Call from ambulance control to assist with a male mountain biker with a broken leg.
33	14 July 17:37	Esk Hause	Call to assist a hypothermic father and son who were ill equipped. They were walked off.
34	15 July 13:51	Ashness bridge	Call to assist the ambulance crew with a woman (23yrs) who had slipped on wet grass breaking her ankle.
35	15 July 19:33	Pudding Stone Bank	A woman (60yrs) slipped on a wet rock and broke her ankle.
36	16 July 11:05	Sinen Gill Blencathra	Call to assist a man (17yrs) who had twisted his ankle the previous day and could not use it the next day.
37	25 July 18:28	Sprinkling Tarn Sty Head area	Call to assist a woman with a suspected broken ankle. Patterdale MRT and a helicopter were also involved. The casualty was picked up before the Team arrived on the scene.

38	26 July 16:30	Broad Crag Col area	A man(54yrs) sat down for a rest. The rest of the party could not find him. Later located by SARDA at Stockley Bridge.
39	28 July 1:55	Scafells	Request from Wasdale MRT to assist them in a search for 4 missing persons.
40	31 July 13:54	Helvellyn	A boy (15yrs) slipped on wet rocks and sprained his ankle.
41	8 August 15:10	Crag Hill	A woman (45yrs) slipped on wet grass and broke her ankle.
42	8 August 15:30	Lord's Seat Whinlatter	Keswick Team were called to this incident but passed it over to Cockermouth MRT due to previous callout.
43	11 August 15:20	Sticks Pass	A Dutch woman (52yrs) slipped whilst descending and broke her ankle.
44	15 August 16:48	Combe Door Glamara	A woman (53yrs) slipped and broke her ankle.
45	24 August 17:55	Dale Head mine path Newlands	A girl (17yrs) in a youth challenge had collapsed.
46	26 August 17:36	Sty Head	A woman (52yrs) slipped on wet grass and twisted her ankle. She was carried down by her party who met the Team at Seathwaite.
47	31 August 16:30	Helvellyn Gill Thirlmere	A man (27yrs) slipped and cut his knee.
48	5 September 17:59	High Tove	A man (60yrs) collapsed and died.
49	16 September 21:32	Helvellyn	A request to assist Patterdale Team in the search for 2 missing men. They were found dead the next morning under Eagle Crag, Ruthwaite by a helicopter.
50	19 September 21:10	Troutdale Pinnacle Black Crag	The Team were called out to assist a party of climbers who had run out of daylight and were unable to complete their climb. Torches were lowered down to them.
51	20 September 15:44	Stoneycroft Gill	A woman (50yrs) slipped and twisted her knee.
52	28 September 13:39	Crag Hill	A man (70yrs) tripped on loose rock and fractured his leg.
53	14 October 14:45	Ashness Gill	A grateful woman (52yrs) who was cragfast was led to safety by a Team member.
54	11 October 14:24	Langstrath	A woman (65yrs) slipped and broke her leg.
55	13 October 11:42	Sharp Edge	A man slipped and slithered to the bottom of the edge in torrential rain and high wind. He sustained relatively minor injuries.
56	14 October 15:20	Dovenest Crag Combe Gill	A report of smoke on Rosthwaite Fell which turned out to be water being blown up from the waterfall.
57	17 October 14:00	Skiddaw House	A party of mountain bikers were overcome by poor weather, the first snow of the winter. They were brought down by LandRover.
58	17 October 17:20	Wanthwaite Crag St Johns in the Vale	Check for a walker who had split from his party on Clough Head. He was later found at Ambleside Youth Hostel.

59	24 October 15:25	River Greta Troutbeck	Search with Patterdale MRT for a canoeist missing after capsizing in torrential conditions. He later turned up in Keswick.
60	25 October 17:28	High Lodore	A man (55yrs) slipped on the path and broke his ankle.
61	30 October 14:35	Lord's Seat	A woman (59yrs) slipped on wet grass and injured her wrist.
62	31 October 14:52	Stybeck Farm Thirlmere	A man (25yrs) took an untracked route and became cragfast.
63	4 November 18:00	Brown Crag Wall HS Shepherds Crag	A male climber (22yrs) fell whilst downclimbing the first pitch after his 2nd had fallen off.
64	7 November 13:00	Grains Gill	A man (65yrs) suffering a broken collar bone slipped and cut his nose. Refusing assistance he tied to walk down but fell again on his shoulder.
65	20 November 14:43	Glenderaterra	A man (61yrs) slipped on damp grass and broke his leg.
66	9 December 17:25	Great Lingy Hut	A woman ran out of daylight and became benighted.
67	27 December 12:11	King's Head Thirlmere	A man (25yrs) slipped and injured his back.

Animal Rescues 1998

1	8 February 10:30	Shawbank Crag Dalebottom	Cragfast sheep.
2	11 February 14:30	Sandbed Gill	Cragfast sheep.
3	28 February 10:00	Great Stanger Gill	Cragfast sheep.
4	17 April 13:00	Yew Crag Rosthwaite	3 cragfast ewes. One was dead and the other 2 were very hungry.
5	17 June 11:34	Taylorgill	A dog fell into the gill. It was unconscious and coughing up blood but apart from cuts and abrasions made a full recovery.
6	2 August 9:00	Naddle Fell	Cragfast sheep.
7	19 December 10:00	Dale Head Great Gable Crag	Cragfast sheep.
8	29 December 11:00	Lodore Falls area	A golden retriever missing since Christmas Eve was found after a brief search, stuck on a ledge.



A sheep rescue - Rachel Slattery

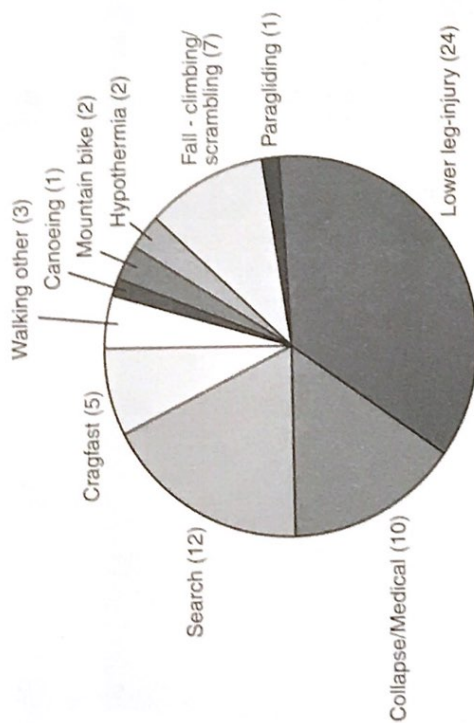
Keswick Search Dog involvement outside the area

At present, the Team has only two search dogs - Spin, a 9 year old Border Collie, (handler Mick Guy) and Loch, a 7 year old Golden Labrador, (handler Chris Francis). Both dogs are graded by the Lake District Search and Rescue Dog Association. Mick is just starting to train a new dog, Mist.

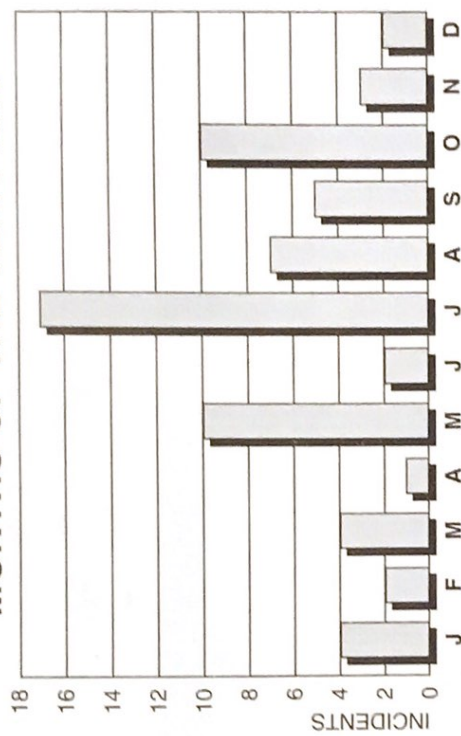
- 1 4 January
Troutbeck, Matterdale. Both Keswick dogs joined a 4 hour search for a missing man with a mental illness. He turned up in Carlisle.
- 2 15 March
Mitredale Forest. Both Keswick dogs went to assist the Wasdale Team to search for a missing depressed man. He was found dead by a dog from Cockermouth.
- 3 4 August
Redesdale Forest, Kielder. Both Keswick dogs were asked by Northumberland Rescue Team to assist in a major search for a missing woman who had walked out of her home. She turned up safe and well the following day having been outside the area of the search.
- 4 12 December
Claife Heights, Windermere. Both Keswick dogs went to assist Langdale/Ambleside Rescue Team to search for a missing man whose car was located at Ferry Nab. He has not yet been located.

INCIDENT TYPES 1998

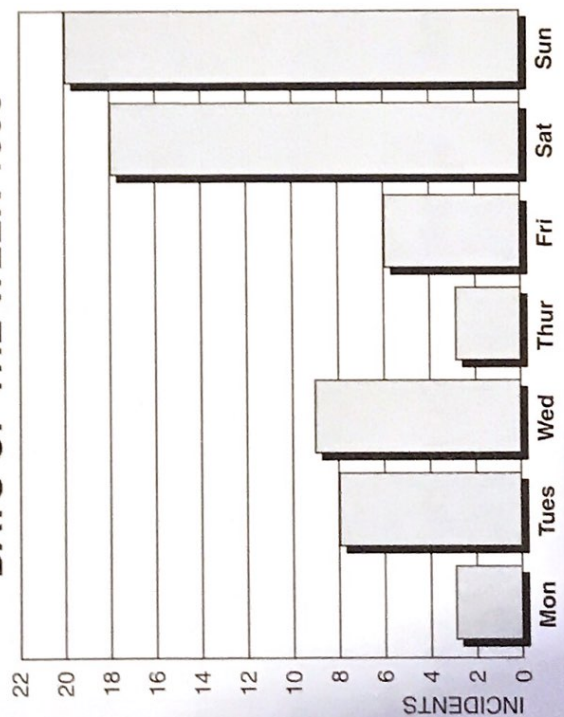
Figures in brackets refer to number of incidents not percentage of incident types



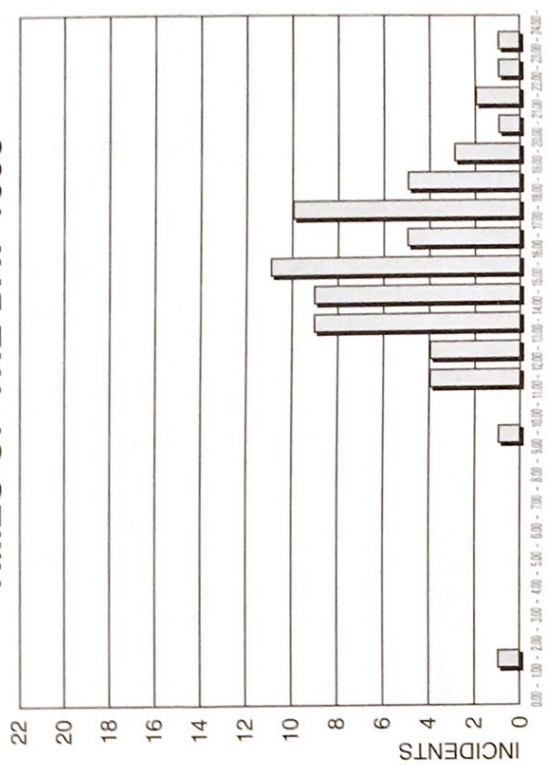
MONTHS OF THE YEAR 1998



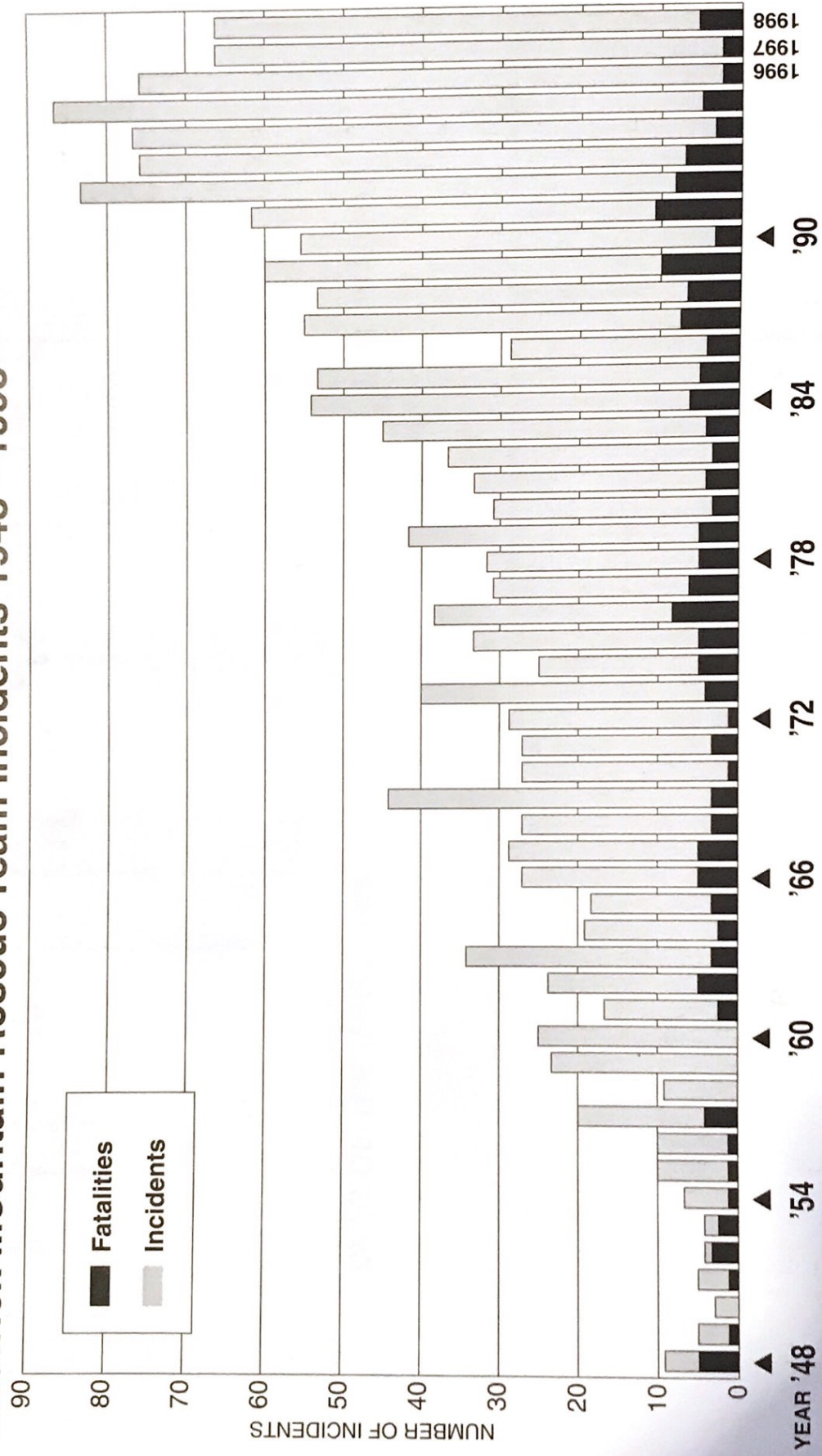
DAYS OF THE WEEK 1998



TIMES OF THE DAY 1998



Keswick Mountain Rescue Team Incidents 1948 - 1998



Collection Box Sponsors

Thankyou to all Collecting Box holders and to Keswick Joinery who have so generously provided the team with 50 new boxes. If you would like to support the team by having a box, please contact the Collecting Box co-ordinator Brian Spencer on 017687 72531.



Brian Spencer

Acorn House	Derwent Bank H.F	Keswick Y.H.A	Richmond House Hotel
Allerdale House	Derwent Cottage	King's Arms	Rickerby Grange
Anderville Guest House	Derwent Club	Kings Head Hotel	Rigg House
Argosy	Derwent House	Kitchin's Cellar	Rock at the Warehouse
Armthwaite Hall	Derwent Jewellers	Kylesku Guest House	Rohan Ltd
Askew Rigg	Derwentwater Caravan Park	La Primavera	Rosthwaite General Store
Bank Tavern	Derwentwater Marina	Ladstock Hall Hotel	Rowe Opticians
Barclays Bank	Dog and Gun	Lairbeck Hotel	Royal Oak Braithwaite
Barrow House Y.H.A	Dollywagon Guest House	Lakeland Pedlar	Royal Oak Hotel Rosthwaite
Batty & Co, Wigton	Douglas Jewellers	Lakeland Sheepskin	Salutation Inn
Bay Tree	Eel Crag	Lake Road Inn	Sandon Guest House
Beckstones Guest House	Easedale Hotel	Lakeside Caravan Park	Saw Mill Cafe Dodd
The Beeches Guest House	Elliotts	Lakeside House	Scadell Guest House
Birch How	Fawsley House	Langstrath Hotel	Scafell Hotel
Bonshaw Guest House	Ferndene Guest House	Latrigg House	Scotgate Camping Site
Boots Chemist	Field and Stream	Laurel Bank Guest House	Seathwaite Farm Cafe
Bookends	Fine Designs	Leathes Head Hotel	Seatoller Farm
Borrowdale Hotel	Focus Photography	Linnet Hill Hotel	Seatoller House
Bowfell	Four in Hand Hotel	Lodore Swiss Hotel	Scales Cottage
Brierholme Guest House	George Fishers	Longthwaite YHA	Shemara Guest House
Brookfield House	George Hotel	Luchinis Ices	Silverdale Hotel
Brooklyn House	Golden Lion Inn	Lynwood Guest House	Skiddaw Grove Hotel
Bryant Homes	Great Little Tea Shop	Lyzzyck Hall Hotel	Spar Grocers
Caffle House Watendlath	Greystoke House	Low Manesty Caravan Park	Speddings
Call of the Wild	Grove House Gallery	Mary Mount Hotel	Spuds and Things
Camping and Caravan Club Site	Glaralara C.H.A	Medical Centre	Strathmore Guest House
Cars of the Stars	Glencoe Guest House	Mill Inn Mungrisedale	Sundance Foods
Cartwheel Guest House	The Grange	Moot Hall	Sunnyside Guest House
Casablanca Bar	Grange Bridge Cottage Cafe	Monic	Swinside Inn
Castle Inn	Grange Cafe	National Trust - Lakeside	Swiss Court Hotel
Castlerigg Camp Site	Greystones Guest House	Necessary Angel	Tarn Hows
Chaplin's Bookshop	Hazel Bank Hotel	Needle Sports	The Sick and The Wrong
Chaucer House Hotel	Hazeldene Hotel	New House Rosthwaite	Thistledown
Chitlee Guest House	Hazelmere Guest House	Newton Rigg College	Threshers
Clarence House	Hazelwood Guest House	Newtons	Timeshare Property Bond
The Coffee Shop	The Heights Hotel	Nichol End Marine	Touch Wood
Coledale Hotel	Hetheringtons	Oddfellows	Treeby and Bolton
Compass	Highfield Hotel	Pack Horse Inn	Twa Dogs
Corner Shop	High Lodore Farm Cafe	Parkergate	Tynemouth Lodge Hotel
Cottage Hospital	C and CA Holmes	Parkfield	Village Shop Braithwaite
Cowells	Hope Memorial Camp	Police Station	Village Shop Portinscale
Craglands Guest House	Horse and Farrier	Priorholme Hotel	Whinlatter Forest Tea Room
Crosthwaite Garage	How Keld	Rainbow	White Horse Inn
Crow Park Hotel	Java Junction	Rathbones	69 Wordsworth Street
Cumbria Hotel	Keswick Golf Club	Rathbones Outdoor Wear	Yew Tree Cafe
Dalegarth Hotel	Keswick Mountain Bike Hire	Ravenstone Hotel	Yew Crag
Dale Head Hall Hotel	Keswick Mountain Sports	Ravenstone Lodge Hotel	
Dale View Hotel	Keswick Outdoor Clothing Co.	Ravensworth Hotel	
Daresfield	Keswick Park Hotel	Rembrant Cafe	

Annual Report for the year ended 30th November 1998

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

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

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

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

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:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- (b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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

This has been a quiet year on the financial front for the Team. As suggested in last years report, donations to many charities were lower in the latter part of 1997, and Keswick Mountain Rescue Team were no exception. Things did pick up, however, as the year progressed and the final total income (£58,812) was only slightly down on the previous year. We are grateful to all those who contributed to our funds, without their generosity we would have to spend a considerable amount of time fund raising, in addition to the hours each member willingly gives to all other aspects of being involved in the Team.

During the year the Committee decided that we could not foresee any future expense being incurred on the New Base project. Therefore, in accordance with our stated intention, the New Base account (£20,350) was amalgamated with the General fund.

The major item of expenditure was the purchase of a four wheel drive Ford Transit which has been built as an ambulance to our own specification. The cost (included in last years accounts) may seem high (£46,929), but the matter was thoroughly researched by a group featuring members with expertise in various relevant fields and the Team came to the conclusion that this was the only type of vehicle that suited our needs. In addition the old vehicle it replaced was nearing the point where it would begin to cost money to maintain, indeed vehicle maintenance is one area where expenditure had increased significantly. We therefore took the decision to pass the vehicle free of charge to any other Mountain Rescue Team who needed it. "Transit" is now seeing its days out as part of the Dartmoor Mountain Rescue organisation.

The new Headquarters building has figured prominently in our lives for the last few years. We have taken the opportunity of the improved electricity supply to the new Theatre by the Lake to upgrade a few items of our own that had originally been restricted because of a lack of power. A shower has been installed, and also a small heater to keep the locker room area aired.

Other expenditure is in line with 1996/97, in some cases there have been reductions. The trustees will continue to ensure that the Team's assets are utilised efficiently to provide the best possible service to those who require it. They confirm that the assets available are sufficient to fulfil the objectives of the team.

*Treasurer
For and on behalf of the Trustees*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

We report on the accounts of the Team for the year ended 30th November 1998, which are set out on pages 21 to 24.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- (1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Bakers Yard
St Johns Street
Keswick
Cumbria

Date 5th January 1999

Statement

of financial activities for the year ended 30th November 1998

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	New Base Funds £	Total Funds 1998 £	Total Funds 1997 £
Incoming Resources					
Covenants		2,344	–	2,344	2,274
Donations		31,428	–	31,428	23,826
Collection Boxes		11,337	–	11,337	10,219
Legacy		3,800	–	3,800	21,611
Income Tax Recovered		671	–	671	11,163
Bank and Building Society Interest		8,144	1,025	9,169	4,088
Miscellaneous and Shirt Sales		63	–	63	(136)
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		57,787	1,025	58,812	73,045
Resources Expended					
Direct Charitable Expenses	2	33,203	–	33,203	20,766
Fund Raising Charges		1,947	–	1,947	337
Other Expenses	3	14,265	–	14,265	14,205
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		49,415	–	49,415	35,308
Net Incoming Resources					
Before Transfers		8,372	1,025	9,397	37,737
Transfer Between Funds	8	20,350	(20,350)	–	–
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		28,722	(19,325)	9,397	37,737
Balances Brought Forward					
At 1st December 1997		435,656	19,325	454,981	417,244
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 30TH NOVEMBER 1998		£464,378	–	£464,378	£454,981

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these accounts

Balance Sheet

at 30th November 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	4	310,701	332,066
Current Assets			
Debtors & Prepayments		2,153	2,418
Stock	6	1,060	1,130
Building Society Deposits		139,969	147,965
Cash at Bank		10,758	12,140
		<u>153,940</u>	<u>163,653</u>
Liabilities, Amounts falling due within one year	7	263	40,738
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>153,677</u>	<u>122,915</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>£464,378</u>	<u>£454,981</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted		464,378	435,656
Restricted	8	—	19,325
		<u>£464,378</u>	<u>£454,981</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on
and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Trustee

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these accounts

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30th November 1998

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

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

Depreciation

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

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

Stocks

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

2. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENSES

Motor Vehicle Expenses

Insurances	734	–	734	561
Petrol & Oil	725	–	725	418
Maintenance	2,818	–	2,818	1,671

Equipment Expenses

Maintenance of Radio	596	–	596	703
Maintenance of General	3,404	–	3,404	1,232
Other Expenses & Courses	1,574	–	1,574	3,533

Depreciation of Motor

Vehicles and Equipment	22,846	–	22,846	12,659
Loss on Vehicle Transfer	506	–	506	–

£33,203	–	£33,203	£20,777
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3. OTHER EXPENSES

Garage, Team & HQ Expenses

Rent, Rates & Water	14	–	14	221
Telephone & Electricity	2,110	–	2,110	2,317
Repairs and Renewals	2,415	–	2,415	959
Postage, Printing & Stat	2,204	–	2,204	2,816
Insurance	1,246	–	1,246	1,407
Bank Charges	13	–	13	20
Independent Examiners Fees	270	–	270	235
Sundry Expenses	1,548	–	1,548	1,774
Depreciation on Leasehold Property	4,445	–	4,445	4,445

£14,265	–	£14,265	£14,194
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4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Land & buildings £	Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st December 1997	222,262	113,248	63,691	399,201
Additions During Year	—	6,057	375	6,432
Vehicle Transferred	—	—	(2,665)	(2,665)
At 30th November 1998	222,262	119,305	61,401	402,968
Depreciation				
At 1st December 1997	4,445	46,061	16,629	67,135
Charge for the Year	4,445	10,987	11,859	27,291
On Disposals/Write Offs	—	—	(2,159)	(2,159)
At 30th November 1998	8,890	57,048	26,329	92,267
Net Book Value at 30th November 1998	£213,372	£62,257	£35,072	£310,701
Net Book Value at 30th November 1997	£217,817	£67,187	£47,062	£332,066

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

5 DEBTORS

	1998 £	1997 £
Prepayments	2,153	2,418

6 STOCK

	1998 £	1997 £
Consumable Stock	80	80
Stock of Books	980	1,050
	£1,060	£1,130

7 LIABILITIES - Amounts falling due within one year

	1998 £	1997 £
Accruals	£263	£40,738

8 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1.12.97 £	Movement in Resources		Balance 30.11.98 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £	
New Base Fund	19,325	1,025	20,350	—

The new base fund was established in 1993 to raise specific funds to build a new headquarters for the Team in Keswick. As the building is now complete and open the balance has now been transferred to General Funds.

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.

Gift Aid Donations

Under Inland Revenue rules we can also reclaim Income Tax on single donations of over £250, which again makes a significant increase to your donation. If you feel that you may be able to help the Team in this way please contact the Treasurer.

During 1998 Deed of Covenant donations were made by:

Dr J E Anderson	K Backen	J B Beaston
Mrs M R Beetham	Mrs J M Brown	Miss K Bullock
A R Byron	J R Cawood	A B Clark
Dr E Coupland	Mrs S Cresswell	Mrs P Durbridge
Mrs H S Flethcher-Rogers	T Forshaw	Mrs P Gamblin
P M Harris	W R Hartland	W E Jones
M S Litherland	J B Manley	P Manson
S Marshall	S O'Brien	M C A Pierce
J Perry	E G Pettipher	B Pickup
M Potter	P Powell	T Roberts
Mrs J T Robertson	W J Sephton	B G Smith
D G Smith	Mrs S P Smith	R R Stockfis
Dr R M Sutton	Mrs J K Tait	R Townsend
Dr J Varley	K Vevers	M J Voaden
Dr J S Warwick	B M Welch	D R White Cooper
G T Woods	M G Wright	

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.

The date to be on or
after date of signing

The payments are to begin on the day of 19
and continue for a period of four years from that date or until revoked by me, whichever period is the longer.

Witness that NOT
to type

SIGNED AND DELIVERED as a Deed

this day of 19

Signature of donor

Signature of witness

Witness that
to type

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

Signed Date 19

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

Donations 1998

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

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

Ron Archer
Mrs B M Billington
Douglas Clark
Derek Emerson
Christopher Green
G S Hindmarch
Robert Jarrams
Mrs K Matthewson
Peter Rayner
Colin West

Tony Bampton
Mrs H Bolger
Dale Cogan
Elizabeth R Gates
Susan Hardisty
Len Houghton
Mrs J Lazarus Barlow
Helen Mills
Andrew Sherlock
Fred Winwood

Austen Betley
Mr Brewster
Neil Denwood
John Gibbs
Malcolm Hendry
Leslie Huddart
John Legros
Colin Osman
Ken Taylor

KESWICK MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM

CALL OUT

THE FIRST 50 YEARS

by George Bott

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

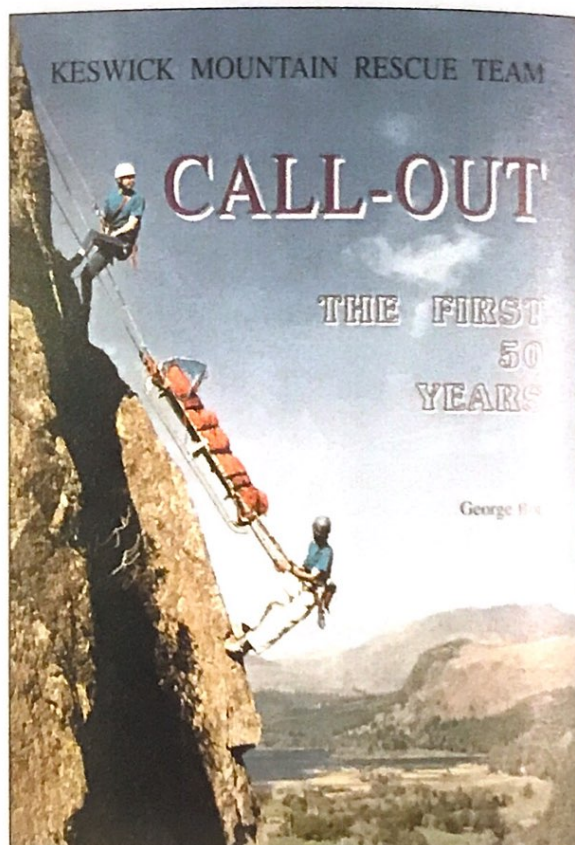
From its humble beginnings, the Team has grown into a highly efficient, well equipped group of volunteers, ready to respond to a call-out for help at any time of day or night.

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

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

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

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



ISBN 0 9531098 0 1

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***