



Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team Annual Report 2018/2019

(Including Association 1020136 & CIO 1170178)



**Presented at the Annual General
Meeting held on 11 November 2019**

Trustees and Officials 2018/2019

President and Vice-Presidents

President	Richard Longman
Vice-President	Dr Nigel Burton
Vice-President	Joss Naylor MBE
Vice-President	Maurice Pringle
Vice-President	Dr Adrian Simper OBE

Elected Committee

Chairman	John Fletcher
Duty Team Leader & Secretary	Paul Cook
Duty Team Leader	Penny Kirby
Training Officer	Chris Cripps
Medical Officer	Sarah Kekus
Assistant Leader & Communications Officer	Rob Higham
Assistant Leader & Water Officer	Phil Hall
Equipment Officer	Mark Kendall

Co-Opted Committee

Vehicles Officer	Malcolm Yates
Treasurer	John Noake
Accounting Officer	Julie Yates
Buildings Officer	Martin Young

Other Officers

Press Officer	Richard Warren
Assistant Leader	Pete Baines
Assistant Leader	John Hryb

Membership as at the AGM

Full Team Members (34):

Chris Adams, Pete Baines, John Bamforth, Martin Bentley, Adam Bibby, Tim Brooks, Neil Carrick, Paul Cook, Chris Cripps, Debs Cripps, John Fletcher, Phil Gibbs, Phil Hall, Richard Harrison, Mark Hazell, Graham Hogg, Rob Higham, John Hryb, Sarah Kekus, Mark Kendall, Dave Kennedy, Penny Kirby, Jon Lynch, Jake Manson, Malcolm McFall, Richard Moss, John Noake, Sue Noake, Colin Smith, Dave Thompson, Richard Warren, Dave Willey, Ryan Wood, Klemen Zafred

Associate Team Members

Probationary Team Members (2):

Megan O’Gorman, Emily Watts

Support Team Members (3):

Alison Higham, Julie Yates, Malcolm Yates

Honorary Life Team Members (28):

Joe Arthy, Dave Barras, Bob Bennett, Howard Christie, Lord Cunningham, Dave Fryer, Jenny Green, Roger Green, Karen Greene, Mike Greene MBE, Edwin Hammond, Pete Holburt, Keith Hudson, Arthur Humphries, Richard Longman, Joe Moody, Will Mullineux, Guy Newbold, Ken Owens, Bill Pattison MBE, Dave Polhill, Maurice Pringle, Brian Smith, Gordon Starkie, Keith Thompson, Nick West, Royanne Wilding, Martin Young

Meeting Agenda

1. Chairman's opening remarks
2. Acceptance of the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on 12 November 2018
3. Presentation of the 2019 Annual Report by officers including the 2018/19 accounts
4. Motions for debate and proposed constitutional changes: -
 - None received
5. Election of the Trustees (committee) being: -
 - Chairman
 - Up to 4 Team Leaders
 - Up to a total of 9 trustees, including Chairman and Team Leaders

(note that committee roles are determined by the elected individuals after the meeting and that the election will take place under CIO rules. As a result, there will be no opportunity to nominate candidates from the floor on the night.)
6. Appointment of Auditors : Proposal to Retain Robinson & Co
7. Any other business

Chairman's Report

After the last AGM it was felt appropriate for Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team to 'take stock' of what it did well and where things could improve. To best achieve this, a number of Team Development Meetings took place, involving as many members as possible. The outcomes included reaffirming the team mission, its values and defining actions under five broad aims that would form the basis of activity over the following 2 years.

This is captured in the chart below.



The following is a summary outcome of this work. More detail is provided in individual Officer reports that follow.

PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE

One of the most significant developments over the last year has been the move from monthly training to weekly. This has enabled much more opportunity for team exercises, specialist training, casualty care inputs and equipment maintenance. As a whole, team members have committed to this greater contribution with the positive benefit of improved teamwork. Full day training has continued with a focus on activities in our 'high risk' areas.

A focused recruitment strategy has been developed and the first campaign is underway at the time of writing. There has been a positive response and we will be moving towards a single, annual intake in January with a consistent competency based probationary period for new members. This will replace 'ad hoc' recruitment and it will streamline training and mentoring commitments. Consistent with previous years, there has been some turnover of members in the last 12 months and this strategy will aim to ensure adequate resources at all times.

A number of Team Supporters have joined the team as non-hill going Associate Members and are now an integral part of the team supporting fundraising, undertaking finance roles and vehicle maintenance.

Team members have attended appropriate external training such as rigging for rescue, winter/avalanche training, flood and swift water rescue, blue light driver, welfare and helicopter training.

A Competency Management System has been partially developed and will be completed in the coming year.

QUALITY RESOURCES, EQUIPMENT AND BASE

Following feedback from team members a Personal Issue Equipment Strategy has been implemented which is designed to provide everyone with effective kit over a rolling five year period. The initial phase has seen the purchase of base layers and summer weight waterproofs.

The majority of crag kit and all ropes have been replaced over the last year. A robust and qualified approach is taken to the audit of personal protective equipment and team gear.

Flood and Swiftwater Rescue equipment falls into the same category and this has also been subject to an inspection by DEFRA.

Vehicle maintenance is now undertaken by an Associate Member which has seen an improvement in the cleanliness and professional appearance of the vehicles - which is appreciated by team members!

Based on the 10 year vehicle replacement programme the teams Land Rover Defender was due for renewal but taking into account its mileage, condition, presence and utility, a decision has been taken to keep the vehicle, with some upgrading. This saves a significant amount of money. The replacement strategy has also been reviewed and will support further savings.

An important asset to WMRT is its boat, used for a variety of rescues on Wastwater and the Screes. Work is underway to explore a replacement that could be more operationally effective at little or no cost.

In terms of operational digital communications, these have continued to be developed over the last year both locally and regionally. Following a generous donation, a repeater has been installed in upper Eskdale, where the Team have been without effective communications for many years.

Our new Longlands Base has been occupied for some 15 months now and various minor works and enhancements have been undertaken as necessary. Most significantly the car park has been completed. We are grateful, again, to the Copeland Community Fund for assisting in financing this. As an exemplar, other MRTs have visited as part of their planning for new bases elsewhere. In addition to operations and training, the team has seen a significant benefit in it being a pleasant, social space for members to mix and spend time together.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

To deal with strategic matters, a Trustees Board has been introduced that deals with strategy, resources, finance and communications.

To deal with operational matters, a Team Operations Meeting has been introduced that deals with operational review, learning, training and member input. A new Learning from Experience Log has been introduced that captures actions from debriefing.

There is a feedback 'loop' for both meetings.

Research has been undertaken with other teams to ascertain Attendance policies for team members. WMRT will reconsider their current policy over the coming year.

STRONG REPUTATION AND PROFILE

WMRT continues to have a high media (traditional and social) profile, including television and radio activity, print media and particularly Facebook communications- with c.20,000 followers. The recruitment campaign mentioned above has predominantly used Facebook.

A new website has been designed and written 'in house'.

The team continues to be represented appropriately both regionally and nationally.

Reducing avoidable call outs continues to be a challenge for us given the ever popular attraction of Scafell Pike. We are committed to the Adventure Smart initiative and where possible working with other partner agencies to reduce demands.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

In addition to the Treasurer role, we have benefitted from an Associate Member joining the team who is a Chartered Accountant. There has been much effort developing our management information to manage finance effectively, forecast and invest.

We are fortunate to hold two years worth of operational reserves and vehicle replacement funds.

Fundraising remains of paramount importance if reserves are not to be denuded. The Trustees Board has agreed a Fundraising Strategy for delivery by the Fundraising Group.

Mill Forge, the old base, has been sold at market value.

None of the above would have been possible without the commitment, energy and enthusiasm of a hard core of team members to whom I am hugely grateful. It remains a challenge for these workloads to be further spread across the team. I know any offers of assistance will be gratefully received.

It is with regret that I am unable to seek nomination as Chairman for the forthcoming year. No doubt the new Trustees will wish to review the above plan, with the Team membership, and I will help wherever I can. Again, my thanks go to all who have helped over the last year.

John Fletcher
Chairman

Duty Team Leaders' Report

2019 has been a quiet year by recent standards with 85 incidents at the time of writing, 58 of which resulted in a response on the fell. This compares with 94 incidents in 2018 and 140 in 2017, the record year. It is hard to assign causes to the recent reductions but it is the case that there have been less people reporting themselves lost by Phone and a decline in Three Peaks related incidents. The dry spring probably had a role in this with the team very quiet during the months of April and May. It is also notable that the number of people stuck in the 'Piers Gill Rectangle' has reduced since the path at Lingmell Col was clarified. Despite the welcome reduction in lost people there have been a number of challenging rescues during the year including a particularly complicated rope rescue from the buttress overlooking Great Gully on The Screes.

There has been one fatal incident so far which was a walker who tumbled over Chambers Crag on the Eskdale side of Scafell Pike. The team has been very pleased to work with the walkers family who have now raised significant donations in his memory.

Once again the team needs to thank our colleagues in Duddon and Furness MRT who continually turn out to support us when asked, including the Chambers Crag rescue where they made the find and in the rescue of one very large casualty.

SAR-H helicopters continue to be a topic arousing significant debate. The Wasdale team's view is that the service provided by the crews and aircraft on rescues is at least as good as it was from the military. The crews have gone out of their way or taken on risk by accepting the recovery from Chambers Crag, hanging around whilst the mist closed in for a job on Broad Crag Col and generally making sure we got our kit back after it was used in evacuations. The provision of live training remains a problem requiring a solution. The team's view is that whatever is done to improve on the frequency and quality of training is not to the detriment of the excellent working relationship with the SAR-H crews. It is also notable that so far in 2019 the team has only done one rescue with either of the air ambulances.

There have not been any significant resilience events such as flooding or snowfall so far.

Once again we have a graded search dog, well done Penny & Jess.

Safeguarding is a growing issue in the charity sector and is picked up elsewhere in this report. Here it is noted that the team has access to counselling services should anyone become in need of them after a difficult incident.

The new base is serving the team well and it is notable that kit is getting turned around much faster after rescues due to the improvements in heating and the drying room that have resulted. The Digital Radio system also continues to grow and improve with the latest addition a repeater in Eskdale filling the void between Eskdale Green and Lingcove Bridge. Digital radio has had a mixed reception around the county but is working well in our patch. Thanks are due to Rob and Jon.

The start of 2019 looked like a difficult one for the leadership with only 3 elected at the AGM and Ian Winn having to stand down soon after with chronic back problems. The idea of Assistant Leaders had been an experiment to see if a new cohort of leaders could be developed. As it turned out all 4 stepped up to take their share of the responsibilities and the fact that the year has gone smoothly must be down to them to a large extent.

All that remains is to thank everyone for their continuing commitment and callout attendance.

Secretary's Report

2018-19 has been another year of evolutionary change from the secretarial and team governance perspective.

The CIO transfer process has now largely completed, although it cannot be closed until the teams remaining land, including Longlands and the helicopter pad at West Cumberland Hospital has been transferred to the CIO with the Land Registry. The reporting burden to the Charity Commission has reduced now that there are no funds in the Association such that the driver to change has diminished.

A Byelaws document was introduced and amended this year to supplement the CIO Constitution and for the first time codify many of the conventions and un-written assumptions of the team from what equipment team members are entitled to through to our approach on managing investments. The document is intended to support decision making and team management, not constrain it. How this develops over time will require ongoing review.

Monthly team meetings had become marathons in recent years often finishing well after 10:00 pm. This year it was decided to split the operations reviews and Trustee meetings to make the business more manageable. This also fitted with a move to weekly training. Although the number of meetings has clearly doubled for those that attend both it is proposed that the quality of discussion and the amount of business covered at the Trustee meetings has improved. The Trustee meetings could become shorter by further use of briefing documents before the meetings and more use of decision making on email which is possible under the right circumstances.

Safeguarding has become a key topic in the Charity Sector following the problems that Oxfam and others have experienced in recent years. It is perhaps easy to consider this is a topic that lives in the towns and cities but society's problems find their way into the mountains and with MR teams also picking up resilience work from the regular emergency services this is not a topic we can ignore. The team now has a policy on Safeguarding and is arranging training for team members. This topic has also raised the question of team member vetting and DBS checks. This group of Trustees reached the conclusion that DBS checks were likely to be a necessary response to this increasing focus on the Safeguarding agenda and the impact that an issue in this area could have on the team and mountain rescue in general. Unfortunately this view is not shared more widely within Mountain Rescue and our LDSAMRA colleagues declined to support a request for further work in this area to clarify whether such checks are needed. The next group of Trustees will need to determine whether they wish to continue down this route in the face of such opposition.

MREW has now also converted to being a CIO after some time debating how to do this. It is likely that the team will need to re-apply for membership of the new MREW CIO including a demonstration that its governance and policies are suitable and sufficient to be worthy of membership. It is to be seen how this process shapes the MR governance agenda, including issues such as Safeguarding.

Last year's governance issue was GDPR. The use of the Office 365 system has improved our document security and retrievability and is a significant step forward in our IT.

Team membership stands at 34 full team members and 2 probationers, a net drop of 3 since last year. Two long standing members decided to call it a day, Martin Young – who continues to look after the base and was elected as an Honorary Member and Keith Hudson who'd come back to the team for a second stint and was already an Honorary Member. The teams numbers and the steady decline over recent years is a cause for concern. Action has been taken to strengthen the teams recruitment process, both its promotion and its delivery

thanks to Ryan Wood and others and it is to be hoped that this delivers new, capable members over many years to come and reverses a worrying trend. Thanks are due to the interviewers who've supported the recruitment process up to now.

What has been positive in recruitment terms this year has been the emergence of Supporter Members taking on a number of non-operational roles around the team including financial management, vehicles, collecting boxes and other fund raising and admin tasks which is both reducing the burden on operational team members and bringing new skills into the team. This is only to be encouraged. What may be challenging is keeping all the current and potentially new Supporter Members engaged with the team when they're not involved in the rescues. This remains a challenge for future groups of Trustees and the wider team.

After the drama of last year the Facebook page has settled down and has now passed 20000 followers which means our page is still one of the most popular in Mountain Rescue. A typical rescue post receives around 10000 views which makes Facebook a powerful tool for publicising the team although constant attention is needed to avoid the dreaded Trolls. This year minute taking at meetings has revolved around the Trustees and those brave enough to take it on at the operations meeting. Whilst everyone has done their best and is to be thanked this author's view is that there would be benefit from a regular minute taker if one can be found.

Medical Report

As the winter months approach, we are gearing up for our next Casualty Care Course and training is in earnest. We have a rolling programme of training delivered throughout the year to maintain skills. In January we had a Casualty Care refresher weekend delivered by Drs Mike and Karen Greene for our current Casualty Care certificate holders. Richard Harrison attended the Teleflex and BoltonMRT simulated trauma day in June.

Another Outdoor first aid course was delivered by Med Skills Academy in January. A further 7 members completed the course and gained their Mountain First Aid certificates.

We have had 17 casualties so far in 2019, 3 of which were medical events and 1 fatality.

Leg Injuries - 9
Arm injuries - 3
Cold - 1

We had a callout from a group in July suffering from effects of the cold. A timely reminder that at any time of the year cold can be an issue and the risk of hypothermia is even greater as winter approaches and more inclement weather is the norm.

We are updating our BLS training equipment to support and increase skill level. The new technology now available can help increase the level of effectiveness of CPR for all team members.

Thanks go out to Drs Mike and Karen Greene for their continued support and invaluable training and delivering the Casualty Care course for Wasdale MRT. Thanks also to the SAR - H teams and air ambulance support and to all those who treated casualties and led training and participated in skill development events.

Sarah Kekus
Medical Officer

Treasurers Report

The following income and expenditure statement for the year shows a net operating loss of £38.6k for the year. Excluding the one-off donation to Duddon & Furness MRT and the loss on the sale of Mill Forge, underlying operating loss for the year was £17k.

	Full Year	Last Year	YOY
Donations	57,512	43,399	14,113
LDSAMRA	5,000	14,000	(9,000)
Legacy		15,240	(15,240)
Interest	1,567	4,428	(2,861)
TOTAL Income	64,079	77,067	(12,988)
Clothing & Crag equipment	(20,699)	(2,064)	(18,635)
Medical	(4,819)	(3,028)	(1,792)
Training	(4,678)	(2,987)	(1,691)
Swiftwater rescue	(356)	(1,633)	1,277
Telephone, Radio & Communications	(4,546)	(6,527)	1,981
Computer, Software, audio & TV	(1,091)	(2,195)	1,103
Vehicle costs	(1,934)	(1,659)	(275)
Boat repairs	(1,000)	(386)	(614)
Rent, Rates & Insurance	(7,713)	(3,057)	(4,657)
Cleaning	(2,420)	(48)	(2,372)
Premises	(5,396)	(2,874)	(2,522)
Groundwork	(1,157)	(2,331)	1,173
Utility costs	(2,165)	(3,884)	1,719
Refreshments & Entertaining	(1,144)	(5,439)	4,295
Subsistence	(794)	(940)	146
Fundraising	(1,977)	(869)	(1,109)
Printing	(29)	(5,237)	5,209
Other costs	(1,321)	(2,608)	1,287
Legal & Professional Fees	(3,273)	(1,708)	(1,566)
Depreciation	(14,557)	(24,894)	10,337
TOTAL Expenditure	(81,071)	(74,367)	(6,705)
Underlying Operating (Loss)/profit before one offs	(16,993)	2,700	(19,693)
One off donation	(10,000)		(10,000)
(Loss) on sale of Mill Forge	(11,590)		(11,590)
Grants		122,818	(122,818)
Operating (Loss)/Profit for the year	(38,583)	125,518	(152,511)

Headlines

Total income received totalled £64.1k being £13k lower than the previous year, distributions from LDSAMRA are £9k lower and investment income is £3k lower year on year. Income from donations and legacies was slightly lower year on year.

In 2019 our donation income has been generated from the following sources:

	£
Just giving	18,079
Other cash donations	21,846
Cash collection boxes	5,768
In memory of	3,081
Book sales	2,682
Virgin money giving	1,521
CAF	1,113
Sellafield	1,000
Shows & events	1,855
Other	567

TOTAL	57,512
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Operating expenditure totalled £81k in 2019, there are a number of factors driving an £7k increase year on year, the new base is more expensive to run, there are a number of one off items in both years and there is £17k of strategic spend in 2019 for new clothing and crag equipment. Offsetting this additional spend is a correction to depreciation to date which has given rise to a credit in the year of £9k

Cash flow

Our cash reserves have increased by £28.4k in the year and stand at £326.5k

- Net cash trading deficit totals £2.4k (after adding back depreciation)
- One off donation of £10k in January and £68.4k from the sale of Mill Forge in August
- Capital additions total £38.5k, £23k relating to completion of the new base, £14k for radios and TVs and £1k for the windsock.
- VAT recovered from HMRC totalled £37k and is now up to date
- Working capital (creditors and debtors) have reduced by £12.3k year and year and therefore a net cash outflow in the year

	<u>Full Year</u>
Opening Balance	298,039
Operating profit/(loss)	(16,993)
One off donation paid	(10,000)
(Loss) on sale of Mill Forge	(11,590)
Add Back Depreciation/asset write off	94,557
Fixed Asset additions	(38,473)
VAT received	37,114
VAT on purchases	(13,938)
Creditors movement	(11,354)
Prepayment	(900)
Period movement	28,424
Closing Balance	326,463

Julie Yates

Fundraising officer report

A new fundraising team was established in February 2019, this comprised both team members and external people, the team quickly established several priority focus areas, including cash donation boxes, relaunch of the supporter's club and preparations for the

launch of a Lottery in 2020. We have now developed an updated fundraising strategy through to the end of 2020, and we are making good progress on implementing this.

Donations (excluding legacies) this year totalled £57.5k compared to £43.4k in the previous year, this is an increase of 24% year on year.

- Our biggest source of income is one off cash donations, in the last year we received 229 individual donations totalling £21.8k.
- We have raised £18.1k through Just giving, the money raised has been generated from
 - 11 individuals who make a monthly donation
 - 181 individuals who have made a one-off donation, and
 - 10 individuals who have set up fundraising events, these campaigns have seen donations from 340 people and raised almost £6k.
- We have 58 cash donation boxes placed in local businesses and have raised an average of £100 from each of these.
- Sales from our 50th anniversary book have been promoted through Facebook and on sale at shows, we have raised £2.7k from this.
- This year we have attended shows at Wasdale, Eskdale, Gosforth and Drigg, as well as Whitehaven Flag Day and Whitehaven Emergency Services Day, we have raised £1.9k from these.

This year we have received £2,956 in memory of Chris Brown who sadly lost his life on Scafell Pike in June. I would like to thank Sam Brown and the rest of the family for their ongoing fundraising for the team.

We remain grateful to many businesses, both locally and nationally, who continue to support the team, either through time or by making non cash donations, an example of this being Cotswold Outdoor that kindly donated 50 re-usable water bottles to the team.

Julie Yates

Communications Report

As the newly appointed Communications & ICT Officer for 2019 I have been responsible for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of WMRTs radio communication and ICT infrastructure. The highlight project this year has been the installation of a new radio repeater in Eskdale improving our radio coverage.

Eskdale Repeater Project

This year has seen the installation of our first radio repeater in the Eskdale valley – an area which has been a blackspot for our recently upgraded radio infrastructure. The new radio infrastructure provides a beyond the traditional 'line of sight' talk capability and instead allows team members to talk to each other on opposite sides of the hill and back to base. The system relies on having repeaters installed at appropriate sites across the teams operating patch to provide coverage. These are connected together usually over the internet or occasionally via radio links.

The project has involved locating a new site in Eskdale which would meet the teams needs; testing it for suitability; attaining permission from property owners/tenants; purchasing and building/configuring the equipment; and installing the new equipment at the new site. For this new site Wha House Farm was selected and permission was sought from both the tenant farmers and the National Trust. Both kindly supported the team and the site was installed.

A special thanks should also go to the family and friends of Chris Brown who donated £2500 to purchase the equipment. Chris tragically lost his life while out walking on Scafell Pike earlier this year and his family wanted to raise money for ourselves and other local Mountain Rescue Teams who went out to search for him that day.

Other Significant Tasks

In addition to the Eskdale repeater project the Communications team have been busy improving our existing infrastructure with tasks such as:

- Installing a radio link between the repeater at the team's base near Gosforth and another site at Wasdale Head. This will reduce the dependency on satellite internet at Wasdale Head which previously affected our radio communications. Thanks go to a team member who kindly allowed this equipment to be installed on their property.
- Purchasing Remote Microphone's for all team members allowing the radios to be stowed in rucksacks where the whip antennas are out of the way of team members.
- Re-programming of all of the teams personal and vehicle radios to match with the Lake District and national UKSAR Band Plan changes. This is important in allowing us to remain interoperable with other teams in the event we are called on to assist in Major Incidents (or other teams come to assist us).
- The team website has been updated to give it a modern look and refresh the content. Thanks to all who contributed.

Tasks for the Next Year

As ever there are many tasks/projects for the next Communications & ICT Officer to consider implementing. Some of the key ones are as follows:

- The ongoing issue with radios not 'roaming' adequately between repeater sites which impairs our ability to communicate is still one of the highest priorities for the communications team. This is an issue affecting all Lake District Mountain Rescue Teams and, with the significant help of individuals from other teams, there is light at the end of the tunnel now with a potential solution on the horizon. This will likely require some capital expenditure from the team and the reprogramming of all personal and vehicle radios again.
- Purchase of Remote Microphone covers and further Radio covers is required to improve the quality of voice communications in wet weather.
- A spare repeater needs purchasing to provide the team with resilience in the case of equipment failure.
- After a settling in period of the new Eskdale repeater a review of our radio coverage is required to identify if any further repeater sites are required.
- A review of the way we use Office 365 is required to make sure we are making the best use of it.
- Support to the Vehicle officer for the refurbishment of Mobile 2 and the radio equipment specification.

Summary

The Communications & ICT team have been very busy over the last 12 months and I have enjoyed undertaking the role. Hopefully the new Eskdale repeater will improve our communications capability during operations and in the coming year we can resolve the 'roaming' issue.

A special thanks has to go to Jon Lynch who without his help over the last year (and many others previously) the team would not be in such a good position from a Communications and ICT perspective.

Robert Higham, *WMRT Communications & ICT Officer 2019*

Flood and Swift Water Rescue Report

Capability

Currently Wasdale MRT provides a Swiftwater capability team of 15 Swiftwater Technicians, one of whom has also trained as an Advanced Technician and in Management of Water and Flood Incidents. Five of the team are currently coming to the end of their qualification period; three have booked on to and are due to complete refresher courses, and two have decided not to retrain. As of December 2019 the team will have reduced to 13. However, the team will still be able to produce two 6 man pods for deployment.

Based on these team numbers, I would suggest that we actively encourage new Wasdale MRT members to train in Swiftwater if they wish to do so, to enable us to maintain a minimum of 15 Swiftwater Technicians.

Training

In October 2018 we carried out joint training with Duddon and Furness MRT at Bala, Wales. The two day weekend gave team members the opportunity to attain their two days CPD in class 2 water, whilst providing further opportunities for team members to socialise and build working relationships with our neighbouring team. Other opportunities to train based on water conditions at the time have been available throughout the year to give others an opportunity to maintain their skills and achieve their CPD.

Due to team member availability, in addition to other commitments, this year's annual joint training with Duddon and Furness MRT will be organised for April 2020 time. There will be a change of venue to water venues in and around the Barnard Castle area. There will also be additional opportunities for Swiftwater Rescue Technicians to train in the coming months.

Equipment

All Swiftwater Rescue Technician equipment is logged, and managed, on the Wasdale MRT equipment database. Equipment is regularly inspected in line with equipment procedures and repaired where necessary. This logging and inspection includes both team kit and personal Swiftwater Rescue kit. New helmets have been issued to all SRT's. It has been recognised that a few of the dry suits are starting to tire and will require some servicing which is due to be carried out in November 2019.

Going forward there are no expected major purchases required for the Swiftwater team. However, where wear and tear occurs, the odd replacement piece of kit for team members will be required.

DEFRA Inspection

Wasdale MRT Swiftwater Rescue Team is recognised on the National Flood Rescue Asset Register as able to provide a 6 man pod for deployment throughout the UK if required. Historically, being on this register has enabled the team to apply for grants to fund both equipment and training. The team was last awarded a grant in 2018, and we have a responsibility to uphold the requirements for the National Flood Rescue Asset Register for at least the next four years. We complete an annual online assessment of our capabilities to document this.

Being part of the National Register also involves us being audited by a representative of DEFRA, this was completed in early October 2019. The audit involved covering a number of areas including compliance with DEFRA requirements, maintaining equipment, training, and also where we stand going forward with new DEFRA expectations. I am pleased to report that the outcome of the audit was extremely positive, and as a voluntary organisation we impressed quite well.

Future Work

Going forward the new Swiftwater Officer will need to carry out the annual online assessment, maintain the management of the equipment in line with the equipment database, and take every opportunity to train team members. Where possible we should be looking for new team members to get involved. As we are currently seeking to recruit new Wasdale MRT members, it is anticipated that in one year's time we will have new MRT recruits that have completed their probationary training and will be willing to specialise in Swiftwater Rescue.

Finally, a big thank you to Chris Adams, who has provided invaluable support in maintaining and managing our equipment.

Phil Hall, Swiftwater Officer 20018-2019

Buildings Report

The Team has now been operating out of the new base for approximately eighteen month, and the old base has been sold.

The last year has been a period of consolidation, both operationally and for the management of the building. A raft of maintenance contracts are in place, these keep the building in good order and enables team members time to be spend on more important issues, rescues. Obviously there is a significant cost associated with this, but we have duty to maintain the asset in the "as delivered" status. The grounds have become more mature and looking attractive. Importantly it's providing a warm, dry and convivial environment in which to work from and in. A huge changes from the old base!

We have changed some suppliers this year, grounds maintenance, energy and general building maintenance. Driver for change has been price and quality of service provided. The trustees have also authorised spends to upgrade the car park surface finish and the driveway into the base.

The next year, main issues are: Complete the car park enhancements.

- Keep the building tidy and clean, down to all team members.
- Ensure we store in the building what is relevant and necessary only.
- Continue monitoring the maintenance contracts, delivery and quality.
- Undertake some internal painting; areas are showing signs of wear and tear.
- More tree planting.

Finally thanks to all for looking after new base, long may it continue!

Martin Young, Base Officer

Vehicles Report

We currently spend just under £2,000 per annum to keep our vehicles roadworthy, each vehicle has a quarterly inspection as well as an annual service and MOT. Our ongoing thanks are due to John and his team at Mill Garage (Frizington) for their help in maintaining the fleet.

The Current Fleet

Mobile 1 - Toyota Hilux



This vehicle carries up to five team members. It has a bespoke rear section with lockable roller shutter doors to accommodate a stretcher, medical supplies, climbing gear, and the team members personal rucksacks and equipment.

Mobile 2 - Land Rover Defender 110



This vehicle carries up to five team members. It has a roof rack to accommodate a stretcher. There is some racking in the luggage area to transport medical supplies, climbing gear, and the team members personal rucksacks and equipment. It is also used to tow our boat when required.

We are currently investigating a refurbishment of Mobile 2 as it is now 10 years old. This should ensure that it remains fit for purpose, and can provide several more years of use. This is estimated at around £5,000.

Mobile 3 - Ford Transit Custom (Minibus)



This vehicle carries up to nine team members. It has a large boot to transport any specific equipment required for a rescue and the team members personal rucksacks and equipment.

Malcolm Yates
WMRT Vehicle Officer

Boat Officer's Report

There were 4 boat callouts in the past 12 months, all of which were related to retrieval of people stuck on Wasdale Screes and one of which included rescuing a large family dog.

Training Sessions

Boat drivers had 4 training sessions this year, mainly focusing on slick deployment and retrieval as well as maintaining knowledge of local landing spots in different conditions. One of the training sessions was undertaken jointly with the SRT team to practice live rescues from the water.

Expenses

Annual service for the boat was carried out in June (£502) and the insurance was renewed in July at a cost of £816. Additionally the trailer brakes and lights needed servicing, which was organised and paid for by the vehicle officer.

Other

Boat officer carried out an assessment of WMRT needs and current state to address dissatisfaction with our current vessel. It was concluded in collaboration with boat drivers

and team leaders that a smaller boat that is easier to deploy/retrieve and can be driven on public roads by more team members would better suit our needs. A paper was brought to the August Trustee meeting where approval was given to continue this work. On the back of that approval a bid was submitted to DfT for financial contribution from 2019 Inshore and inland rescue boat grant fund.

Plans for the coming year

The specification and purchase process of the new boat will be ongoing for the next couple of months and hopefully concluded before the coming summer season. Even in the case of no financial contribution from DfT, the cost of the new boat will likely be covered by the sale of our current RIB.

Another goal is to potentially get more team members qualified as boat drivers. Currently we have 8 as result of resignations in the past year.

Klemen Zafred
WMRT Boat Officer 2019

Equipment Report

As the newly appointed Equipment Officer for 2019 I have been responsible for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of WMRTs crag and fell going equipment and have implemented a renewed personal equipment strategy to update each fell-going Team Members kit.

Maintenance and Upkeep

In line with the developments made last year, equipment over the past 12 months has been checked following best practice guidance and logged to record its' history. A new quarantine bin has been setup in base and the Team has been briefed on its' use. Full checks of crag equipment were completed in May 2019 and highlighted no areas of concern. The next 6-monthly checks are due in November 2019, but current usage and post-use checks indicate that no major replacement will be necessary.

Only one callout in 2019 has resulted in the loss of crag equipment. The callout in question required Team Members to complete a technical ascent of Great Gully on Wasdale Screes, followed by a traverse and technical rope rescue of a gentleman stuck halfway down. This was a rescue that carried many risks over a 9-hour period, and due to the safety of the rescuers a decision was made to leave a small amount of equipment in place rather than put Team Members at further risk to retrieve it. This equipment has subsequently been replaced but highlights the ongoing maintenance costs that arise from rescues.

It should be noted that the equipment stored in Mickledore Stretcher Box has this year been reviewed, and generally in terms of crag kit has been reduced. There will now only be a limited crag kit stored up the stretcher box along with two 100m ropes and a spare stretcher. Each of these items will be changed and checked 6 monthly in line the Teams maintenance regime.

Personal crag kit checks were carried out in March 2019 and in general the results were positive with most Team Members learning the basics of pre-use inspection and consolidating this by peer checking another Team Members kit. In general kit remained in good condition, but due to the age of most of the crag kit this was expected. However, seven crag helmets failed inspection either due to exceeding their 10-year lifespan or due to damage suspected to be from crushing while in a rucksack.

An area of concern from myself is the management of edge protection during training and callouts – leading to a higher wear rate and “fluffing” of the Teams low-stretch ropes. It is my recommendation that the incoming Equipment Officer investigates some options for edge protection over the next 12 months.

Special thanks must once again be given to Chris Adams who has facilitated much of the kit checking and has spent many hours ensuring that the kit we use as a Team is both adequate for our requirements and safe to use.

Personal Equipment Strategy

More impressively, the successful completion and settling in period to Longlands Rescue Post has allowed the Team some time to think and refocus over the past twelve months. With respect to equipment, this has manifested in a refreshed approach to how and what we issue to each of the fell-going Team Members.

Following a Team development meeting held after the previous AGM in November 2019, it was raised by Team Members that although the issue of personal kit was felt to be improving more needed to be invested in personal kit to ensure that Team Members are never out of pocket, but also have a consistent and professional appearance when representing the Team.

In 2019 I have purchased and issued to each fell-going Team Member with 2 summer short sleeved base-layers and a mid-layer/winter base-layer. Due to be delivered soon are lightweight Gore-Tex summer waterproof jackets and Pertex Shield waterproof pants. Each of the items so far has been well received by the Team and are seen to be regularly worn. This, in my opinion, has made a good start in improving the outward facing professional appearance of Team Members both on callouts and at fundraising events.

The incoming Equipment Officer should now focus on continuing the issue of kit in line with the Strategy, with a focus given to long sleeved base layers and a review of team issued winter jackets for 2021.

Additionally, the Personal Kit Allowance has this year been increased for each fell-going Team Member to £150 per year. This is to cover the cost of kit replacement for items personal to each Member such as boots, rucks and trousers. The aim here was to ensure that Team Members are never out of pocket for their attendance at rescues and training. In summary, I have enjoyed fulfilling the role of Equipment Officer in 2019 and would like to continue with this going forwards. The changes made by and for the Team feel positive and on the face of it appear to have been well received – both from an equipment checking and an equipment issuing point of view. I hope that this support from the Team continues for the incoming Equipment Officer.

Mark Kendall
WMRT Equipment Officer 2019

Training Report

2019 saw the introduction of a new monthly training structure, unchanged the first Monday of the month continues to be core training with the attendance statistics being gathered from this session. Second Mondays were Specialist training, with the aim of operating in smaller groups looking at key areas of the training syllabus and third Mondays were first aid orientated. A flexible approach was taken to account for shorter months (Bank Holidays and those with 5 Mondays).

Helicopters

We continue to struggle to get hands on training with the coastguard, whilst this is being looked at regionally it is important all members maintain their 1A video based training as without that there can be no interaction with the helicopter on training or rescues. The next planned session is the 8th December.

Internal Training Sessions

Whilst trying to keep the core sessions as varied as possible, as always, we tend to favour the seasonal trends. With crag skills making up many of the summer sessions. We still need to improve and make the most of the conditions, namely winter skills and SRT when the water conditions are favourable.

We have also welcomed external providers to give us training in dealing with potential dementia scenarios and a visit from the Manchester Stress Institute to give us a talk on Stress and Nutrition which was opened to the other first responders and was well attended. Looking forward Phil is looking to arrange a safeguarding session over the coming months.

The past year has seen more training with Duddon & Furness Team, this is a trend which should continue, considering the working relationship we should look to train together where appropriate.

We also had a show and tell evening at Drigg set up by the coastguard with CF&R also attending, then we hosted CF&R at Longlands for an evening. Going forward we need to encourage more of the team to take an active part in organising the training sessions, it tends to fall to the same people but there are many years of knowledge out there to be shared.

External Training Sessions

The usual courses were attended this year, with Winter Skills back at the beginning of the year. John H & Ryan attended a media course in March. Phil H, Klem, Rob, Ryan and Mark K. attended Kirk's rigging courses in September, we have offered to host the courses next year should Kirk return. Sarah attended the Search Field Skills training, also in September and this year's round of SRT refreshers is ongoing.

There was the annual round of blue light refresher training and to complement the teams casualty care programme we also put many team members through the Outdoor First Aid course, the accepted minimum standard of medical training within the team.

Training Records

One of the aims of this year which I unfortunately didn't succeed in completing was the transfer from our old excel based system to an online system developed by a member of Cleveland MRT. Hopefully this will be picked up by the next training officer but will need support for others to ensure it successful. That said records of all certified training continues to be maintained.

Future

After 3 years, I am stepping down as training officer at this month's AGM. Please show support for my replacement, it's tough to come up with 20 plus sessions a year whilst keeping it interesting and avoiding too much repetition. We can look forward to those who have attending external training this year sharing the learning and helping the team to develop a standard way of working, mostly relevant to rope rescue.

We need to take advantage of any external training offered, whilst coming at a cost to the team, it is generally heavily subsidised by LDSAMRA.

Chris Cripps, *WMRT Training Officer 2019*

List of Incidents

These incidents have been kindly reproduced from the Team website (<http://www.wmrt.org.uk>).

Thanks go to Jon Lynch for faithfully keeping website up to date. It should be noted that the reporting date for the team is that of calendar years. Incidents between the last AGM on 12th November 2018 and 31 December 2018 are reported separately below.

Number of '999' calls for the calendar year to date = 85

1. Great Hell Gate, Great Gable - Limited Callout - 16:10 Sun 6th Jan 2019

We were called by Police about a group of 3 walkers who reported themselves cragfast in the Great Hell Gate area on Great Gable after taking a wrong turn on their descent. Their precise position was established using PhoneFind then a small team went on the fell to find the group, provide them with helmets and warm clothing and then walk them back to Wasdale via the Climbers Traverse path.

2. Scafell Pike - Alert - 16:09 Mon 7th Jan 2019

We were called by Police about reports of a group of walkers overdue from Scafell Pike and possible sightings of flashing lights observed at Seathwaite in Borrowdale. As the lights were more likely to be on the Borrowdale side our colleagues in Keswick Team kindly agreed to take on the incident and the walkers returned soon after, safe and well.

3. Birker Fell - Limited Callout - 22:09 Fri 18th Jan 2019

The Team was called out to help our colleagues from Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team recover stranded motorists on Birker Fell. Winter conditions can easily transform fell roads and render them impassable.

4. Dent Fell - Limited Callout - 13:48 Sun 20th Jan 2019

The team was called to assist a small group of teenagers who had got lost on Dent fell. Using phone find technology we quickly located the group and team members escorted the group back to the road.

5. Scoat Fell - Full Callout - 16:39 Fri 25th Jan 2019

We were called by Police about a group of walkers, one of whom had become incapacitated due to severe leg cramps and could no longer walk. It was originally difficult to phone the group back to determine a precise position so a search was started. In view of the location and amount of ground to cover our colleagues in Cockermouth Team joined the search and located the walkers on the Scoat Fell Ridge. Three were walked down but the fourth needed to be taken by stretcher down into Ennerdale and was then reunited with other members of their party and driven back to Wasdale.

6. Piers Gill, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 15:20 Sat 26th Jan 2019

We were called by Police about a group of walkers who phoned in to report themselves lost whilst descending Scafell Pike, after which their emergency call cut out and no further details were available. It was difficult to phone them back but understood their position was close to the Piers - Straight Gill junction. A callout was initiated but after a while it was possible to speak with the party who were now making their own way off the fell and no longer needed assistance and we stood down.

7. Dent Fell - Callout - 02:52 Sat 9th Feb 2019

In the early hours of this morning the team were asked by Cumbria Police to assist with searching for a missing person in the Dent Fell area. As the team were deploying the missing person was found and we stood down.

8. Dent Fell - Full Callout - 11:56 Fri 15th Feb 2019

We were called by NWAS about a walker who became unwell whilst ascending Dent Fell near Cleator Moor. The walker managed to make their own way down to the car park where they were met by team members and then handed over to NWAS Paramedics.

9. Scafell - Alert - 18:07 Fri 22nd Feb 2019

The team received a call this evening to reports of flashing lights in the Scafell area. The team were put on standby; however, after talking to the informant and a team member investigating from the valley floor it is believed to be a false alarm with good intent.

10. Seathwaite Fell - Alert - Sun 10th Mar 2019

The team was contacted about a party requiring assistance on Seathwaite Fell. No response was required from the team.

11. High Scarth Crag, Eskdale - Full Callout - 18:11 Sun 10th Mar 2019

Team called this evening for a group who had initially become separated from each other and having difficulty navigating off the hill. We initially offered assistance over the phone while sending a team out to ensure they made it down. The party was eventually located and safely returned to their vehicles.

12. Wastwater Screes - Limited Callout - 15:09 Wed 20th Mar 2019

The team received a call from Cumbria Police on Wednesday 20th March reporting 2x adults with dog stuck on the boulder field area at the bottom of Wasdale screes. One person had taken a small stumble fall and sustained injuries to their head and knee. A small group of team members located the people and dog, gave first aid and escorted them safely back to their vehicle.

13. Lingmell - Full Callout - 18:27 Wed 10th Apr 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers who reported themselves crag fast whilst ascending the fell from Wasdale. Using PhoneFind their position was established as being on the West Face of Lingmell, overlooking Wasdale Head Inn. A team member who was in the area went to the scene and helped to escort the 2 walkers up to the main path. They were then walked down the fell being joined by other team members along the way.

14. Ill Crag - Full Callout - 15:02 Tue 23rd Apr 2019

Weather: Clear and sunny. The team was called this afternoon for a lone female walker, lost and crag fast. Her position was quickly identified by Phonefind and she was contacted by mobile phone. Having no map, compass or mountain experience and being too scared to move, in a complex area of steep ground, it was decided to make a full call out to retrieve her. She was found by two team members and helped back onto safer ground. Then, with assistance from the rest of the team, was walked back down to Wasdale Head.

15. Lingmell Col, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 12:30 Sun 28th Apr 2019

Full Callout, Scafell Pike Path, Lingmell Col We were called by NWAS about a walker who had slipped whilst ascending Scafell Pike on the main path near Lingmell Col sustaining a blow to their head and arm / hand injuries. The team was out training in the nearby Red Gill area on Scafell and team members were soon on scene. The casualty was assessed and then packaged for the journey down to Brackenclough by stretcher before being handed on to the NWAS ambulance.

16. Broad Crag - Limited Callout - 14:17 Wed 1st May 2019

We were called by police about 2 walkers who had become lost somewhere on Scafell Pike. Using "Phonefind" technology, their location was pinpointed as Broad Crag, on steep craggy ground to the north of the summit. A small group of team members found them and assisted them off the bad ground, safeguarded by ropes. They then walked down to Wasdale with the team members.

17. Upper Eskdale - Alert - 07:49 Fri 3rd May 2019

Team called this morning about 3 walkers reporting themselves lost whilst on a walk-up Scafell Pike. Their position was established using PhoneFind and then they were given directions to enable them to make their own way off the fell. They were later met by a team member on a walk who helped them back to the road.

18. Christcliffe, Eskdale - Full Callout - 16:46 Thu 9th May 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who'd slipped whilst descending a path above Christcliffe Farm in Eskdale, felt their knee 'pop' and could no longer walk. The casualty was assessed at the scene, pain relief was given and the leg splinted and then they were carried down to the road by stretcher.

19. Unknown Location - Alert - Tue 21st May 2019

An alert on 21st May

20. Broad Crag Col, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 12:09 Wed 22nd May 2019

The team was called out to assist a walker who had broken her wrist on Scafell Pike, above Broad Crag Col. The team splinted the arm and helped her walk down to Wasdale Head.

21. Upper Eskdale - Limited Callout - 17:19 Sun 26th May 2019

Team called this evening for 2 walkers who reported themselves lost and struggling to make progress after a walk on Scafell Pike. Their position was determined by PhoneFind as being at the very top of Eskdale and they were given some directions to start making their own way off the fell whilst team members walked up to meet them.

22. Esk Hause - Alert - 18:46 Thu 30th May 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who'd torn their quad muscle and could no longer walk. Due to their position and intended location the call was passed to Keswick MRT to deal with.

23. Brown Tongue, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 17:28 Sat 1st Jun 2019

The team was called this evening for a walker who'd slipped on damp stones on the Brown Tongue path injuring their ankle and unable to weight bear. The injury was assessed on scene, splinted and then the casualty was carried down to Brackenclough. Weather : Overcast

24. Great Gable - Alert - 21:52 Sun 2nd Jun 2019

We were called by Police about a walker reporting himself lost and exhausted after returning from a walk-up Scafell Pike. Location information from his phone call suggested the walker was just below Gable Crag and in Cockermouth Team's area so the incident was passed on to them.

25. Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 23:50 Mon 3rd Jun 2019

Team called by Police about a walker reported missing from a trip up Scafell Pike. As the walker was on their own a search was mounted over night to try to locate them. Team members from Wasdale and Duddon teams searched areas around Scafell Pike. Around 0600 the Duddon team made a find under Chambers Crag on the east face of Scafell Pike. Due to the difficult location further support was requested and the Cockermouth Team also joined the rescue along with the Coastguard helicopter from Caernarfon. Unfortunately the walker did not survive their injuries and are thoughts are with their family and friends.

26. Lords Rake, Scafell - Full Callout - 18:06 Wed 5th Jun 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reporting themselves crag fast after losing the route on Lord's Rake and getting into steep ground. Their location was determine using PhoneFind. Team members then went to the location and using ropes extricated them from the crag and then walked back down to Wasdale.

27. Penny Hill, Eskdale - Full Callout - 20:51 Sat 8th Jun 2019

Team called this evening for a walker who'd taken a tumble off a crag and sustained leg and pelvic injuries. NNAS Paramedics were already on scene providing casualty care. Team members helped to package the casualty and then move them down the slope to where the Coastguard Helicopter was waiting to take the casualty to hospital.

28. Muncaster Fell - Full Callout - 12:46 Tue 11th Jun 2019

Team called this afternoon to support NNAS with a cyclist who'd become unwell whilst on the Eskdale trail. First responders and paramedics were already on scene. The team carried the casualty the short distance to the waiting ambulance.

29. Slight Side, Scafell - Limited Callout - 20:05 Fri 14th Jun 2019

Team called this evening for 3 walkers who'd reported themselves lost after a walk on Scafell Pike. Their position was established using Phonefind as being between Slight Side and High Scarth Crag. They were given some directions over the phone to start making their way off the mountain and were then met by team members near Taw House in Eskdale.

30. St Bees Head - Full Callout - 10:29 Thu 27th Jun 2019

We were called by NNAS to assist in moving a casualty who had slipped whilst descending the cliff top path at St Bees and injured their ankle. In view of the location Whitehaven Coastguard also attended and both teams carried the casualty down to the waiting ambulance for the journey to hospital.

31. Seathwaite Fell - Alert - 21:45 Sat 29th Jun 2019

We were called by Police about a group of walkers who reported they were struggling to make progress descending Seathwaite Fell. As this was on Keswick Team's patch we passed the incident over but continued to provide support.

32. Broad Crag Col, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 15:55 Thu 4th Jul 2019

Team called this afternoon for a walker who'd slipped whilst descending from Scafell Pike summit towards Broad Crag Col and injured their upper arm. In view of the location high on the mountain the Duddon and Furness Mountain Rescue Team were called as was the Coastguard helicopter from Prestwick. The casualty was treated on scene and given analgesia before being carried down Broad Crag scree and then down below the cloud to the waiting helicopter for the journey to hospital.

33. Sty Head - Full Callout - 19:06 Sat 6th Jul 2019

We were called by Police about an elderly walker who was struggling to make progress whilst descending from Scafell Pike and requested assistance to get off the mountain. The walker had got as far as Sty Head before stopping. On arrival the team assessed the situation and then after a brief go at walking it was determined it would be quicker progress in the stretcher and the walker was carried back down to Gavel Neese.

34. Wastwater Screes - Full Callout - 14:19 Sun 7th Jul 2019

We were called by Police about a group of walkers who'd become stuck whilst walking on the Wasdale Screes path. Team members made their way to the walkers location on foot from the pump house end of the lake to make first contact. The group had split into 2, with one party making it through the boulder field who were walked back to a team vehicle. The second party was still in the boulder field and the rescue boat was launched and then took the walkers and team members across the lake and back to the road.

35. Mickledore, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 15:17 Sat 13th Jul 2019

Team called by Police about a walker who was reported to have difficulty breathing whilst descending Scafell Pike via Mickledore. The coastguard helicopter from Prestwick was already in the area after delivering some equipment from a previous incident and was on scene quickly. The casualty was winched aboard for the journey to hospital.

36. Wastwater - Full Callout - 16:27 Sat 13th Jul 2019

As we were returning from the Mickledore incident a further call came from NWAS about a swimmer who reported feeling dizzy after getting out of Wast Water. Team was quickly on scene and provided medical treatment before a land ambulance arrived and the casualty was handed over to NWAS paramedics.

37. Wastwater Screes - Full Callout - 18:13 Mon 15th Jul 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who'd become crag fast whilst attempting to descend the Wasdale Screes from Whin Rigg summit and become stuck on a ledge overlooking Great Gully. The walker's location was determined using a mix of PhoneFind and a spotter. It was particularly difficult to get access to the walker's location and around 150m of rope was fixed to safeguard the approach up steep heather and broken rock. Crag specialists from Duddon and Furness Team were also called to help provide extra support. Once above the walker a belay was fixed on trees and then team members descended to the walkers location. The walker was lowered off the crag using 100m ropes then team members stripped out as much gear as possible and abseiled down to the base of the gully. This was a long and difficult rescue.

38. Scafell - Full Callout - 16:44 Wed 17th Jul 2019

Team called this afternoon for a group who reported one of their party was becoming exhausted and showing the early signs of hypothermia. In the end the group managed to provide their own shelter and got the walker moving again. They were met by team members on their descent, just above the Burnmoor Tarn path having made it down unaided.

39. Broad Crag - Limited Callout - 16:58 Thu 18th Jul 2019

The team responded to assist a walker who had become lost in low cloud after summiting Scafell Pike. Their location was established as being on Broad Crag using PhoneFind, and the decision was made to send a Limited Team Callout to walk them back down as they were unable to relocate the path. We were happily surprised to find they also had a friendly dog wearing the team colours, who appreciated being carried down after a long day!

40. Little Hell Gate, Napes - Alert - 13:50 Sat 20th Jul 2019

The team responded to an alert of two walkers who had become lost on difficult ground when the visibility decreased. They were located using PhoneFind and were able to be talked back down to the path on the phone, they could then bring themselves down to the valley. No members were needed to be deployed for this incident.

41. Burnmoor Tarn - Full Callout - 17:26 Sat 20th Jul 2019

After training with R199 during the afternoon, the team had to request the same crew for an incident near Burnmoor Tarn. We responded to reports of an unwell person near the lodge and used our 4x4 vehicles to get as close as possible. The casualty was in a high level of pain. Our teams Casualty Carers used analgesia to make them more comfortable, but due to the nature of the medical condition, it was still unsuitable to stretcher them off of the hill due to the amount of pain the position would have caused. Because of this, R199 was requested and attended the incident, taking the casualty to hospital.

42. Eel Tarn, Eskdale - Alert - 18:41 Sun 21st Jul 2019

We were called by our colleagues at Duddon Team about a group of 3 walkers who'd reported themselves lost after descending Scafell Pike. Originally the 999 call was fielded in IOM and it took a while for it to get to the right area. The PhoneFind from the Duddon leader put the group near Eel Tarn in Eskdale and he provided directions for them to make their own way down without team involvement.

43. Upper Eskdale - Full Callout - 15:28 Tue 23rd Jul 2019

We were alerted by Cumbria Police after a Personal Locator Beacon was triggered at the falls in the upper Esk valley. The team was called out to investigate and stood down en-route when it was determined that it was a false alarm, and all was well with the group.

44. Wastwater - Full Callout - 15:19 Thu 25th Jul 2019

We were contacted by Cumbria Police after shouts for help reported by an anonymous caller from the lakeshore. 2 kayakers were on dry land on the far side of the lake, one had been seen to be in the water. Neither had a buoyancy aid. The team responded along with 4 Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service appliances, at least one ambulance and 2 police vehicles. Another group of kayakers had gone very close to them, they did not ask for help and looking through binoculars, they did not seem to be in distress. Whilst CFRS were getting their boat ready, a member of the public paddled across and escorted them back. No injuries and no treatment required.

45. Gable Crag, Great Gable - Limited Callout - 16:19 Sat 27th Jul 2019

We were called by our colleague from Cockermouth Team about 2 walkers who'd become lost whilst descending Great Gable. Using Sarloc the walkers location was determined to be on the Ennerdale Face of Great Gable near Beck Head. A small group of Wasdale Members who'd been supporting the Lingmell Dash fell race went up to the location and helped to re-warm the walkers before the Cockermouth Members arrived who walked them back to Honister.

46. Scafell Pike - Alert - 19:25 Sat 27th Jul 2019

We were called by Police about 4 younger walkers who were reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. Whilst enquiries were being made they phoned in to say they were making their own way back to Wasdale Head in a taxi and we stood down.

47. Oliver Gill, Eskdale - Limited Callout - 21:22 Sat 27th Jul 2019

Soon after the previous incident closed we were called again by Police about 3 walkers reporting themselves lost whilst descending Scafell Pike. They had descended into Eskdale and then contoured round the side of Scafell to try to get back to Wasdale Head before becoming benighted near Oliver Gill. Their position was determined using PhoneFind and then a small team went on the fell to get to their position, re-warm and then walk them back to Wasdale Head.

48. Kinniside Common, Cold Fell - Limited Callout - 21:50 Sun 28th Jul 2019

We were called by our colleagues in Cockermouth Team about 2 walkers reporting themselves stuck whilst trying to walk back from Ennerdale. Using PhoneFind it was determined that they were on Tongue How, which is just inside the Wasdale area. A small team went onto the fell to locate the 2 walkers and then help them back to the Cold Fell road.

49. Foxes Tarn, Scafell - Alert - 23:22 Sun 28th Jul 2019

We were called by police late last night about a wild camper who had not made contact with his girlfriend as expected. He had intended to camp in the Foxes tarn, Scafell area and walk out today, Monday, having a swim in Wastwater on the way. After a discussion with the police and his girlfriend, given that there was no mobile signal on much of his planned route the incident was closed without action.

50. Scafell Pike - Alert - 18:29 Tue 30th Jul 2019

The team was contacted after two members of a walking party hadn't returned from a walk-up Scafell Pike. Just as the team leader was about to make contact to gather further information the informant re-contacted to police to say the rest of the party has turned up.

51. Scafell Pike - Alert - 00:13 Wed 31st Jul 2019

The team was called by Police in the early hours about a walker reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. The Police made a number of further enquiries by phone and also sent a patrol up the valley to see if the missing person's car could be found. In the end they were found safe & well at the Wasdale Head Inn and the call was a case of miscommunication and we were fortunately stood down.

52. Straight Gill, Lingmell - Full Callout - 15:44 Sat 3rd Aug 2019

We were called by Police about a walker reporting himself crag fast whilst trying to ascend Scafell Pike. After further discussion it was determined that the walker was actually close to Straight Gill on the north face of Lingmell. Two team members who were already on the fell went to the location and confirmed his position and also started to look for his companion who was not with the walker but had subsequently made their own way back to Wasdale NT Campsite. In view of the possible difficulty getting the walker off the crag the Duddon Team were also called. On arriving at the top of Lingmell it was apparent it would be possible to scramble much of the way down to the walker and then bring them back up a side gully and team members started to descend to the location. At this point a second incident came in for 2 more walkers crag fast on Broad Stand. A mix of Wasdale and Duddon members descended the gully and after giving the walker a helmet and harness brought him back up to the top of Lingmell.

53. Broad Stand, Scafell - Limited Callout - 19:12 Sat 3rd Aug 2019

Whilst the Lingmell incident was ongoing we were called by Police about 2 further walkers reported crag fast on the ledge above Broad Stand. A mix of Wasdale and Duddon members went from Lingmell to Mickledore with further ropes and other equipment. The walkers were found on the ledge above the steep wall. They were first roped back up to the grassy bay before being lowered down the abseil point to Mickledore, then walked down to Wasdale.

54. Scafell Pike - Alert - 21:03 Mon 5th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. Whilst we were gathering details we got a phone call to say they were down, safe & well in the Woolpack in Eskdale, so we stood down.

55. Scafell - Alert - 05:14 Thu 8th Aug 2019

We were contacted by Cumbria Police after 2 walkers were reported overdue. As the team leader was trying to make contact with the missing people, the informant contacted the police to say the overdue walkers has reported in to say they were safe and well having spent the night on the hill. Once the walkers contacted the team leader to say they were off the hill the job was closed.

56. Scafell Pike - Alert - 20:43 Thu 8th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about a group of 5 walkers who were reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. They were given more time to make their way off which they managed to do and we stood down.

57. Scafell - Alert - 16:50 Sat 10th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reporting having problems finding the route down off Scafell summit. Their position was determined using PhoneFind. A team member was already on the fell on Scafell Pike summit and went across to Scafell where they found the 2 walkers then assisted them back down Green How to the cloud base from where they made their own way down to Wasdale.

58. Great Gable - Alert - 18:34 Mon 12th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about a party of 2 who'd split up with one continuing to the top of a fell (believed to be Great Gable) and the other waiting. For some reason they did not re unite on the fell and one of the walkers reported their companion missing. They were given more time to re-unite which they did around 80 mins later.

59. Hollowstones, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 18:11 Sat 17th Aug 2019

Team called to investigate shouts for help heard by parties descending Scafell Pike. With little initial information, 5 WMRT set off carrying shelter, first aid and crag gear. With many members away on holiday, we once again had to call in DFMRT to boost our numbers. As we made our way up the hill, more information began to come in, making it clear we were dealing with a 20 yr. old male who had taken a 5-10m tumble fall down what he thought was Lord's Rake, on Scafell. He had sustained multiple (mostly minor) injuries most significant being a suspected broken ankle, but had managed to move/crawl to a position close to the main Scafell Pike path through Hollow Stones – a considerable distance from Lord's Rake! He was treated initially by WMRT Casualty Carers and then a DFMRT doctor, before being stretchered off the hill.

60. Scafell Pike - Alert - 20:05 Sat 17th Aug 2019

As we were dealing with the incident in Hollowstones an alert came in from CUMPOL regarding 2 overdue "3 Peaks" walkers, missing from a party of 11. With hundreds of "3 Peaks" parties on the hill to potentially meet up with, we restricted our response to information gathering and continued with our main task. Fortunately, the 2 mispers were quickly located in an Eskdale hostelry, having descended into the wrong valley

61. Green Hole, Upper Eskdale - Limited Callout - 20:23 Sun 18th Aug 2019

Team called for four lost walkers. They had set off from Langdale to climb Crinkle Crag. Their only map blew away in hill fog leaving them with no means of navigating. Unfortunately, they descended in the wrong direction and ended up on the Eskdale side of the mountain and they called 999. Their position was established from their phone call as near Churn How overlooking Green Hole and Lingcove Beck. They were contacted by the team leader and, with failing daylight, were advised to descend towards the beck and follow it downhill. A limited callout was made to enable a small team of 4 to meet them with extra lighting and escort them to the road head at Brotherilkeld, where a taxi was arranged to pick them up.

62. Lingmell - Limited Callout - 17:00 Thu 22nd Aug 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reporting themselves lost whilst descending from Scafell Pike. Using PhoneFind their position was determined as being on Lingmell Nose. They were given some directions over the phone by the Team Leader. However, after losing contact with the group for nearly two hours a limited callout was made to ensure that they were down safely. Whilst we were deploying they called in safe and well, off the hill.

63. Wasdale Head - Full Callout - 13:59 Sun 25th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who'd slipped whilst descending the Mosedale path near Wasdale Head and injured their lower leg. A team member who was already on the fell arrived and assessed the injury. Once the team arrived the limb was splinted and the walker carried down to Wasdale Head for the journey to hospital.

64. Scafell Pike - Alert - 20:55 Sun 25th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. As we were gathering details we got a call to say they were down, safe & well and we stood down.

65. Cross Walls, Wastwater - Full Callout - 18:45 Mon 26th Aug 2019

We were called by NWAS to assist with a walker who'd injured themselves by standing on a wire which became impaled in their foot. The Seascale Fire & Rescue crew had attended and cut the walker free from the remainder of the wire. The team splinted the limb to control further bleeding then carried the casualty to the waiting ambulance for the journey to hospital.

66. Hollowstones, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 20:26 Mon 26th Aug 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who was struggling to make their own way down from Scafell Pike. An advance team met the walker and provided analgesia to improve their movement. With an indication of a difficult stretcher carry our colleagues from Duddon and Furness Team also attended. Once lower on the mountain the casualty was transferred to the stretcher for sections where it was the fastest / safest way to move.

67. Great Gable - Limited Callout - 13:52 Thu 29th Aug 2019

Team called by Police about a group of 3 walkers reporting themselves stuck whilst descending from Great Gable. With some help from PhoneFind their position was determined to be in the White Napes area. A small team then went on the fell to help escort them down

68. Scafell Pike - Alert - 07:07 Tue 3rd Sep 2019

We were called by Police about a walker reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. As we were gathering details the missing walker turned up at Wasdale Head, safe and well and we stood down.

69. Cold Fell - Alert - 19:13 Thu 5th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about reports of a walker struggling and exhausted. As we started to gather details we received further information to confirm the walker was now on the road and no longer needed assistance and we stood down.

70. Broad Crag Col, Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 14:44 Sat 7th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who had slipped whilst descending to Broad Crag Col on the way up Scafell Pike injuring their ankle. A team member who was already on the fell went to the scene and assessed the injury. In view of the location high on Broad Crag assistance was called from the Coastguard Helicopter from Prestwick. The helicopter winch man provided pain relief and splinted the limb before winching abroad for the flight to hospital.

71. Wastwater Scree - Full Callout - 14:25 Thu 12th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about a walker and dog who reported themselves stuck whilst walking on the Wasdale Scree. Their position was determined using PhoneFind. Team members on foot arrived and helped to get them to the shore where they were picked up in the team's boat and taken back to the pump house.

72. Scafell Pike - Alert - 19:39 Sat 14th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike. Whilst we were gathering details they phoned in to say they were safe & well and off the mountain and we stood down.

73. Scafell Pike - Alert - 20:17 Sat 21st Sep 2019

We were called by Police about a walker reported overdue from a trip up Scafell Pike after they became separated from their companion earlier in the afternoon. Team members checked pubs and spoke with the informant but later on the missing person turned up safe and well at the Wasdale Head Inn and we stood down.

74. Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 17:51 Sun 22nd Sep 2019

We were called by Police about a family group who reported they'd become lost due to low cloud whilst descending Scafell Pike. Their position was determined to be on the wall at the top of Piers Gill using PhoneFind. They were given directions to start walking back up the wall towards Lingmell Col and team members went up the fell to meet them and help walk them down.

75. Scafell Pike - Limited Callout - 21:31 Fri 27th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers on the 3 peaks challenge who'd become stuck at the top of Scafell Pike and unable to make their way down. Initially it was difficult to contact the walkers but after a team member visited Brackenclough and met the rest of their party it was

possible to talk on the phone. It was initially hoped that other 3 peaks parties on the mountain would find them and help them off the hill but eventually 2 team members went up to the top and helped escort them down.

76. Wastwater Screes - Full Callout - 16:31 Sat 28th Sep 2019

We were called by Police about 2 walkers who'd become stuck on the large boulder field on the Wasdale Screes. They were located by a team member on foot then given a lift back to the pump house in the team boat.

77. Lords Rake, Scafell - Full Callout - 10:51 Sat 12th Oct 2019

We were called by NWS about reports of 2 walkers hit by rockfall in Lords Rake, one sustaining a head injury and the other leg injuries. With the possibility of a serious incident the coastguard helicopter from Prestwick also attended and our colleagues in the Duddon and Furness Team were also contacted. Team members met the injured walkers in Hollowstones after they'd managed to make their own way down from Lords Rake. They were then evacuated to hospital by the Prestwick helicopter.

78. Mosedale - Alert - 17:02 Sat 12th Oct 2019

We were called by Police about a walker who was reported to have become detached from his group. With relatively few details to go on we gave the incident more time to develop and an hour later were called back to say the missing walker was now reunited with his group and we stood down.

79. Scafell Pike - Alert - 15:51 Sun 13th Oct 2019

Team called this afternoon by Police about a group of 3 walkers reporting themselves lost whilst trying to descend Scafell Pike. With the location information from the 999 call their position was determined to be on the ridge descending towards Broad Crag Col. The Team Leader provided directions over the phone and they then made their own way down off the fell.

80. High Scarth Crag, Eskdale - Limited Callout - 18:32 Mon 14th Oct 2019

Team called for 2 walkers who'd become stuck in the hill after dark. Their position was determined as being in the High Scarth Crag area of Scafell, below Slight Side using coordinates from their phone. A team then went on the fell to help escort them back to the valley. First test for the new radio repeater in Eskdale.

81. Scafell Pike - Full Callout - 03:05 Sun 20th Oct 2019

We were called by Police about a walker reporting themselves lost whilst out overnight on Scafell Pike. Initially the Team Leader tried to provide instructions over the phone but when they proved unsuccessful a team was sent on the fell to look for the missing walker. They were briefly joined by colleagues from RAF Leeming MRT who were training in the area. Whilst they were deploying a further call came from other walkers on Scafell Pike to say they'd met up with the lost walker who was then escorted down to Wasdale.

82. Lowther Forest - Full Callout - 10:54 Sun 20th Oct 2019

Whilst returning from the previous incident we were called by NWS about a mountain biker who'd fallen whilst riding in the Lowther Forest Park near Cold Fell and sustained significant injuries. The Great North Air Ambulance was also called. Once on scene the GNAAS crew and team members helped to package the casualty and then carry them to the waiting air ambulance for the trip to hospital.

83. Scafell - Full Callout - 14:31 Wed 30th Oct 2019

Team called out for a walker who'd taken a tumble fall in the Red Gill area on Scafell, near Lords Rake, sustaining facial injuries and other bumps + bruises. The walker was helped off the fell down to the Wasdale Head by other walkers who came to his aid. The team met him at Wasdale Head where the walker was assessed by MR Casualty Carers then handed on to NWAS for the journey to hospital.

84. Esk Hause - Limited Callout - 19:10 Sat 2nd Nov 2019

The team was called to help a group of three walkers lost descending Scafell Pike. Their location was determined using PhoneFind as below Esk Hause in Upper Eskdale. A group of team members made their way to the casualties' location via Sty Head and escorted them back to Wasdale Head.

85. Mitredale - Limited Callout - 18:25 Mon 4th Nov 2019

Team called by Police for two walkers who reported themselves disorientated within Mitredale Forest and in need of assistance. With position information from their phone it was determined they were on one of the forestry tracks near Great Bank and team vehicles were able to recover them back to the road. Incident closed 20:20, 8 WMRT involved

Incidents between the last AGM on 12 November 2018 and 31 December 2018
Number of '999' calls = 5 which includes 2 alerts

1. Broad Stand, Scafell - Full Callout - 15:04 Fri 16th Nov 2018

We were called by Police about 2 walkers and a dog who were reporting themselves cragfast whilst descending Scafell. As they could see the Mickledore stretcher box it was surmised they were on Broad Stand or its approach from above. As we were leaving base we got further call from the walkers to tell us they'd made their own way back up the hill and we stood down. Incident closed 16:22, 12 WMRT involved.

2. Foxes Tarn, Scafell - Limited Callout - 18:15 Sat 17th Nov 2018

We were called by Police about 2 walkers and a dog one of whom was now cragfast on the rough ground near to the Foxes Tarn descent on Scafell. A small team went up the fell and initially located the first walker who'd raised the alarm. The second walker was then found but it was a little tricky to get on scene due to the complex steep terrain in the dark. Eventually team members got to them and one they'd been warmed up inside a bivvy tent a rope was used to protect the descent to the path. They were then helped back up to Scafell and walked back down to Brackenclose.

3. High Scarth Crag, Eskdale - Alert - 15:06 Wed 21st Nov 2018

We were called by Police about a group of walkers reporting themselves lost whilst descending Scafell. Using phone find their location was established as High Scarth Crag on the side of Scafell. The team leader then provided directions by phone and they made their own way to the road in Eskdale.

4. Blea Tarn, Eskdale - Alert - 09:29 Tue 4th Dec 2018

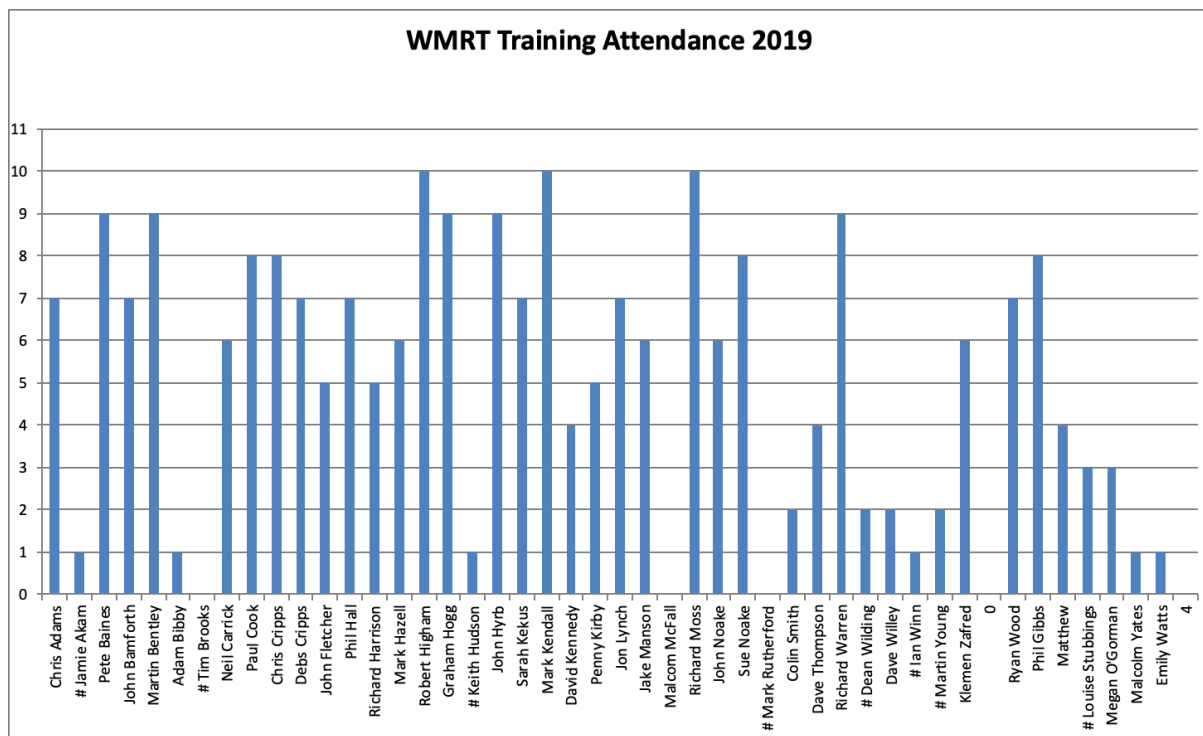
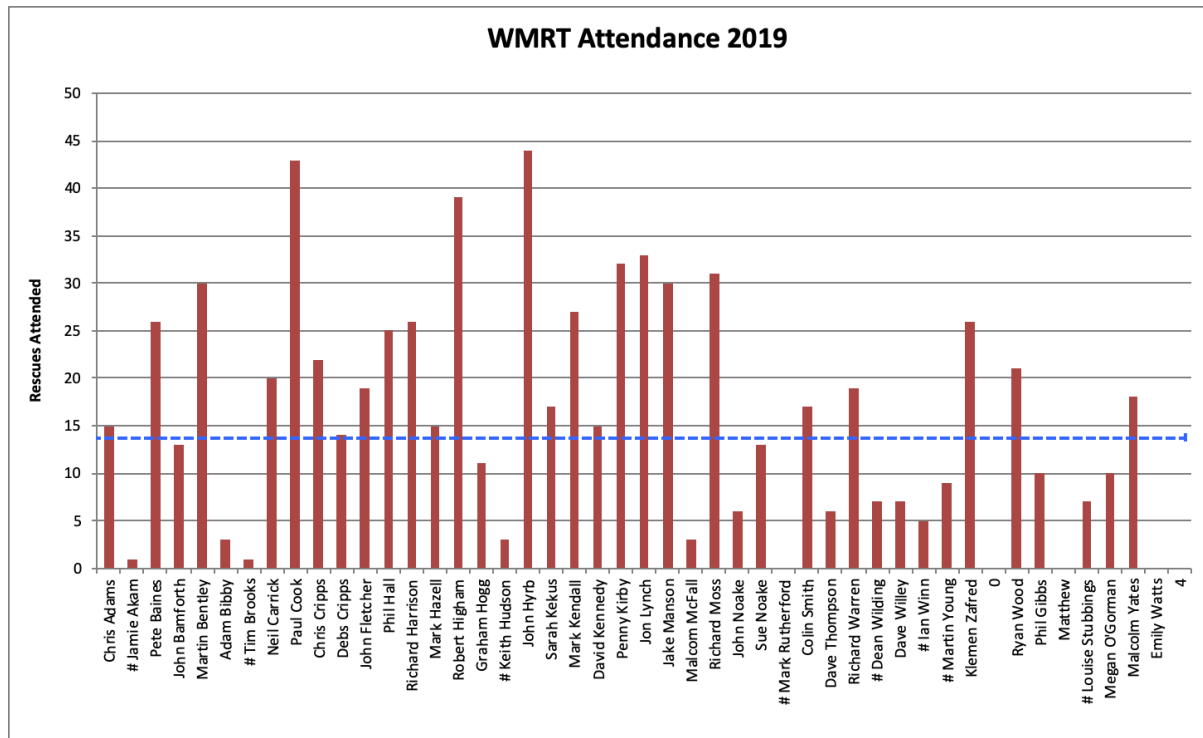
We were called by Police about concerns arising from 2 dogs seen and heard persistently barking in an area of ground below Blea Tarn, overlooking Boot in Eskdale. Three team members went to investigate but were not able to find the dogs or any persons or belongings associated with them and with no reports of missing people in the area we stood down considering the incident a false alarm with good intent.

5. Hardknott Fort - Limited Callout - 17:45 Thu 27th Dec 2018

We were called by Police about a person reported overdue from a walk in the Brotherikeld - Harknott Fort area in Eskdale. As we were starting to assemble a search we got the good news they had returned and we stood down.

Callout and Training Attendance

The following two tables are taken from the Attendance Excel file on the base operator's PC. Please note that all figures are from January 1st to November 2nd 2019.



Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team
Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 30 September 2019
Charity number: 1170178

robinson+co
Chartered Accountants
Gosforth

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

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Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Legal and administrative information

Charity number	1170178
Business address	Wasdale Mountain Rescue Gosforth Seascale CA20 1BS
Trustees	P Cook C Cripps P Hall P Kirby J Fletcher R Higham S Kekus M Kendall
Accountants	robinson+co The Old Forge Beck Place Gosforth Seascale CA20 1AT
Bankers	HSBC Bank Plc 69 Lowther Street Whitehaven CA28 7AD

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Report of the trustees for the year ended 30 September 2019

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered charity number 1170178, on 15 November 2016. The assets, liabilities and undertakings of the unincorporated charity Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team (Charity number 1020136) were transferred to the CIO on 30 September 2017, with the CIO then becoming operational from 1 October 2017.

Trustees

The aim is to maintain a trustee board with a range of skills which will be useful to the organisation. New trustees are taken through an induction procedure.

Key management personnel remuneration

The Trustees consider the Committee as comprising the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year.

Objectives and activities

The charitable objects are:

To save life and alleviate distress primarily in upland or mountainous areas.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team provides a search and rescue service on the mountains and off road locations in the Wasdale and Eskdale valleys of West Cumbria and surrounding areas. The Team typically handles over 100 calls for assistance a year.

Further information can be found at www.wmrt.org.uk.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Achievements and performance

The Team opened a new base at Longlands, near Gosforth, Cumbria in September 2018, which was partly funded by a significant grant from the Copeland Community Fund. Achievements and performance are detailed in the Annual Report as presented at the Annual General Meeting held on 11 November 2019.

Financial review

At the balance sheet date the CIO held £1,095,649 on unrestricted funds (2018: £1,134,232) and £nil on restricted funds (2018: £nil), a satisfactory position.

A detailed review is provided in the Treasurer's Report within the Annual report as presented at the Annual General meeting held on 11 November 2019.

Risk Management

The trustees have assessed the major strategic, business and operational risks to which the CIO is exposed. They are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to these risks.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Report of the trustees for the year ended 30 September 2019

Plans for future periods

One of the team's ongoing challenges is recruitment of new members and considerable effort is being directed in this area.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the board



M Kendall
Trustee

11 November 2019

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team.

I report on the accounts of Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team for the year ended 30 September 2019 set out on pages 5 to 15.

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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act; to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

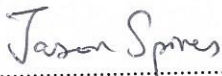
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Jason Spires FCA DChA

Independent examiner
robinson+co Chartered Accountants
The Old Forge
Beck Place
Gosforth, Seascale
CA20 1AT

11th November 2019

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 September 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Income				
Voluntary income	2	60,554	60,554	68,955
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	-	-	122,818
Income from other trading activities:				
Activities for generating funds	4	1,957	1,957	2,816
Investment income	5	1,554	1,554	4,428
Other exceptional income	6	-	-	1,013,500
Total income		<u>64,065</u>	<u>64,065</u>	<u>1,212,517</u>
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	7	<u>102,648</u>	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>
Total expenditure		<u>102,648</u>	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(38,583)	(38,583)	1,134,232
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,134,232</u>	<u>1,134,232</u>	-
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,095,649</u>	<u>1,095,649</u>	<u>1,134,232</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Balance sheet as at 30 September 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		768,727		824,811
Current assets					
Stocks		280		280	
Debtors	12	3,429		25,704	
Cash at bank and in hand		326,463		298,039	
		<u>330,172</u>		<u>324,023</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	13	(3,250)		(14,602)	
Net current assets			326,922		309,421
Net assets			<u>1,095,649</u>		<u>1,134,232</u>
Funds	14				
Unrestricted income funds			1,095,649		1,134,232
Total funds			<u>1,095,649</u>		<u>1,134,232</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 11 November 2019 and signed on its behalf by



M Kendall
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Cash flow statement

for the year ended 30 September 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
Net cash (used in)/ provided by operating activities	17	(3,067)	153,682
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest and dividends		1,554	4,428
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(38,473)	(539,944)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		68,410	-
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		31,491	(535,516)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		28,424	(381,834)
Cash and cash equivalents transferred from unincorporated entity		-	679,873
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		298,039	-
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		326,463	298,039

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are currently no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2. Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as income within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	Not depreciated
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	10% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	10% straight line

Land and buildings are maintained to a high standard and have a high residual value and as such are not depreciated. The trustees have carried out an impairment review and are satisfied that there is no impairment to these assets.

1.4. Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Donations	54,786	54,786	48,815
Collection boxes	5,768	5,768	4,900
Legacies	-	-	15,240
	<u>60,554</u>	<u>60,554</u>	<u>68,955</u>

In 2018 all of the income from donations and legacies was attributable to unrestricted income funds.

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Grants	-	122,818
	<u>-</u>	<u>122,818</u>

In 2018 all of the income from charitable activities was attributable to unrestricted income funds.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

4. Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Fundraising events	1,957	1,957	2,816
	<u>1,957</u>	<u>1,957</u>	<u>2,816</u>

In 2018 all of the income from activities for generating funds was attributable to unrestricted income funds.

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Bank interest receivable	1,554	1,554	4,428
	<u>1,554</u>	<u>1,554</u>	<u>4,428</u>

In 2018 all of the investment income was attributable to unrestricted income funds.

6. Other exceptional income

	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Transferred from unincorporated charity	-	1,013,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,013,500</u>

In 2018 all of the other exceptional income was attributable to unrestricted income funds.

7. Costs of charitable activities - by fund type

	Unrestricted funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Mountain Rescue	102,648	102,648	78,285
	<u>102,648</u>	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>

In 2018 all of the costs of charitable activities were attributable to unrestricted funds.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

8. Costs of charitable activities - by activity

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Mountain Rescue	99,875	2,773	102,648	78,285
	<u>99,875</u>	<u>2,773</u>	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>

9. Analysis of support costs

	Mountain Rescue £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Legal and professional fees	2,773	2,773	700
	<u>2,773</u>	<u>2,773</u>	<u>700</u>

10. Employees

No salaries or wages have been paid to employees, including the trustees, during the year.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

11. Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings freehold £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 October 2018	690,124	295,808	107,171	1,093,103
Additions	22,666	15,807	-	38,473
Disposals	(80,000)	-	-	(80,000)
At 30 September 2019	<u>632,790</u>	<u>311,615</u>	<u>107,171</u>	<u>1,051,576</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2018	-	199,981	68,311	268,292
Charge for the year	-	2,187	12,370	14,557
At 30 September 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>202,168</u>	<u>80,681</u>	<u>282,849</u>
Net book values				
At 30 September 2019	<u>632,790</u>	<u>109,447</u>	<u>26,490</u>	<u>768,727</u>
At 30 September 2018	<u>690,124</u>	<u>95,827</u>	<u>38,860</u>	<u>824,811</u>

Tangible fixed assets with a net book value of £315,681 were transferred from the unincorporated charity (number 1020136) to the CIO on 1 October 2017.

12. Debtors	2019 £	2018 £
Other debtors	2,529	25,704
Prepayments and accrued income	900	-
	<u>3,429</u>	<u>25,704</u>

Opening debtors of £17,666 were transferred from the unincorporated entity at 1 October 2017.

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2019 £	2018 £
Trade creditors	<u>3,250</u>	<u>14,602</u>

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 30 September 2019 as represented by:		
Tangible fixed assets	768,727	768,727
Current assets	330,172	330,172
Current liabilities	(3,250)	(3,250)
	<u>1,095,649</u>	<u>1,095,649</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 30 September 2018 as represented by:		
Tangible fixed assets	824,811	824,811
Current assets	324,023	324,023
Current liabilities	(14,602)	(14,602)
	<u>1,134,232</u>	<u>1,134,232</u>

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

15. Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	1 October 2018 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 30 September 2019 £
General reserve	1,002,656	64,065	(102,648)	-	964,073
Vehicle reserve	91,576	-	-	-	91,576
Contingencies reserve	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
	<u>1,134,232</u>	<u>64,065</u>	<u>(102,648)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,095,649</u>

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds - previous year

	Transfer 1 October 2017 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 30 September 2018 £
General reserve	762,933	199,017	(78,285)	118,991	1,002,656
Vehicle reserve	91,576	-	-	-	91,576
Contingencies reserve	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
	<u>894,509</u>	<u>199,017</u>	<u>(78,285)</u>	<u>118,991</u>	<u>1,134,232</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

The charity's unrestricted funds can be used with the approval of the board of trustees to fund any expenditure which falls within the charity's

The trustees have designated £91,576 as a vehicle reserve, in order to provide ready cash for the replacement of the vehicles and boat when required. The reserve is maintained based on a conservative estimate of 15% of the replacement cost of each vehicle multiplied by the number of years service it has done, up to the full replacement cost.

The trustees have designated £40,000 as a contingencies reserve, in order to make provision for catastrophic mechanical failure of a vehicle estimated at £15,000 and upgrade to digital communications estimated at £25,000.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019

16. Analysis of movements in restricted funds - previous year

	Transfer 1 October 2017 £	Transfers £	At 30 September 2018 £
Copeland Community Funds - new base	108,991	(108,991)	-
Other building fund donations	10,000	(10,000)	-
	<u>118,991</u>	<u>(118,991)</u>	<u>-</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

Restricted funds donated towards the building of the new base were fully utilised during the year ended 30 September 2018 and the base was completed during that year. As the restrictions on the income had been met, the funds were transferred to unrestricted funds.

17. Gross cash flows

	2019 £	2018 £
Net movements in funds	(38,583)	1,134,232
Deduct amount transferred from unincorporated charity	-	(1,013,500)
Deduct interest and dividend income shown in investing activities	(1,554)	(4,428)
Add back depreciation and profit/loss on disposal	26,147	30,814
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	22,275	(8,038)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(11,352)	14,602
	<u>(3,067)</u>	<u>153,682</u>

18. Analysis of changes in net funds

	Opening balance £	Cash flows £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand	298,039	28,424	326,463
Net funds	<u>298,039</u>	<u>28,424</u>	<u>326,463</u>

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts.

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Detailed statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 September 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
Income		
Income from generating funds:		
<i>Voluntary income</i>		
Donations	54,786	48,815
Collection boxes	5,768	4,900
Legacies	-	15,240
	<u>60,554</u>	<u>68,955</u>
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>		
Fundraising events	1,957	2,816
	<u>1,957</u>	<u>2,816</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
Bank interest receivable	1,554	4,428
	<u>1,554</u>	<u>4,428</u>
Total income from generating funds	<u>64,065</u>	<u>76,199</u>
 Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Grants	-	122,818
	<u>-</u>	<u>122,818</u>
 Other exceptional income		
Net assets transferred from unincorporated charity	-	1,013,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,013,500</u>
Total income	<u><u>64,065</u></u>	<u><u>1,212,517</u></u>

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Detailed statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 September 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Charitable activities		
Mountain Rescue		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Training costs	4,907	3,074
Officers Insurance	-	677
Rates	1,461	3,486
Electricity	2,018	1,962
Maintenance	7,473	4,836
Equipment	14,079	8,782
Insurance	5,585	1,332
Sundry headquarter expenses	4,882	1,372
Vehicle running expenses	1,934	1,659
Officers' expenses	1,114	3,574
Marine insurance	816	744
Telephone	2,440	1,270
Printing and stationery	128	5,341
Profit/(loss) on sale of asset	11,590	-
Depreciation	14,557	30,814
Sundry	4,031	7,052
Boot allowance	976	254
Clothing allowance	11,886	1,356
Donations	10,000	-
Other costs	(2)	-
	<u>99,875</u>	<u>77,585</u>
<i>Support costs</i>		
Legal fees	<u>2,773</u>	<u>700</u>
	<u>2,773</u>	<u>700</u>
Mountain Rescue total expenditure	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>
Total charitable activity expenditure	<u>102,648</u>	<u>78,285</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	<u>(38,583)</u>	<u>1,134,232</u>

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team.

I report on the accounts of Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team for the year ended 30 September 2019 set out on pages 5 to 15.

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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act; to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jason Spires

Jason Spires FCA DChA

Independent examiner
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Gosforth, Seascale
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11th November 2019