



Ochils Mountain Rescue Team

ANNUAL REPORT

2014

Team Leader

I start this year's report having just returned from representing Scottish MR the IKAR conference in USA and just before I travel to Arran to carry out a requested peer review of the Arran MRT. It strikes me that we have, again, continued to develop the team in a very positive manner over the last year. This has been due to an excellent collaborative approach by all of us and I am very proud of the way we all pull in the same direction. The expectation of the public in our capabilities has never been higher and we are continuing to develop our infrastructure, systems, equipment and, most importantly, our people to provide a professional rescue service delivered by volunteers 24/7/365.

I am very confident that we are very well placed to be in the forefront of best practise in Scottish MR, and I have the benefit of visiting and speaking to many different teams throughout the UK. We will be involved in our own peer review probably in spring next year.

This has been another busy year (2013 -2014) for the team with 20 call outs. This coupled with training equates to a huge time commitment by all of the volunteer members and their families.

We continue to train and consolidate our new technology knowledge (GPS, SARLOC,SARCALL, Transivers, digital mapping etc) and although this can be challenging, it needs to be consistently used to gain the speed and familiarity required.

The training records are continuing to be monitored and team members are starting to fill them in to allow the training team to tailor the training to suit the team needs and to allow me to have 'traceability' of people's skills and when they last undertook training in a specific skill.

All team members now have their own training log in the training room which provides a picture of all training undertaken not just the 'official' program. John B and Laura are co coordinating the training program and having more team members involved in training delivery is proving to be beneficial for all. The complex work of core competency continues to progress through Calum, John J, Laura, Andy and myself – don't hold your breath.

I will re-iterate again the importance of regular attendance at training not just to keep skill levels current but also to ensure good team working. On this note the summer and winter training both went very well with good attendance and much bonding, so much so Lockie.com has started rock climbing again!!

Attendance figures are becoming much more relevant and are closely monitored for team training purposes and Police insurance requirements. It will become a pre requisite to show fairly consistent attendance and maintenance of skills. We have a responsibility to ensure team members are adequately trained for the situations they encounter and attendance is more vital than ever.

The team has been financially supportive over the last few years of team members undertaking Mountain Leader training and the team will continue to assist any team member who wishes to undertake this type of training.



We continue to attend the CSMRG meetings and look forward to hosting the annual joint exercise probably in March 2015. We are represented at the MRCoS (now Scottish Mountain Rescue) meetings and also at Resilience meetings throughout Central Scotland. We have also been active within the voluntary sector Strategic Coordinating Group meetings in Central Scotland and we are part of a ground breaking agreement to assist the Central SCG in a major incident. I was asked to Chair the Forth Valley Voluntary Sector SCG which I agreed to do at present.

We have had team members going to (and delivering) specialist training courses for equipment, technical rescue, leadership, and search management. The feedback has been unanimously positive from all the National Courses and I really encourage folks who have not attended these courses to book up now.

2014 saw Scottish MR host the UK national Conference in Aviemore and we had an excellent attendance at this important UK event, with unanimously positive feedback.

We continue to place much importance in First Aid training and we continue to train to Cas Care standards. The exam process has been 'tweaked' and we have very successfully held our own cas care assessment which was open to teams throughout Scotland. I was very encouraged by comments from a Paramedic (unknown to the team) who commented that a number of team members were at Paramedic level when dealing with the trauma / medical scenarios. Well done guys! Thanks also to Nigel's friends who run a catering company and provided lunch for 25 people free of charge at the course....

First Aid knowledge is a core skill and cannot be practised too much. I would like to see all team members achieving this level of first aid competence in the near future. Our training program has been organised to fit in medical training on a regular basis. Can I thank Malcolm for his efforts in coordinating and organising the medical training, an excellent performance from a busy paramedic!!

We have attended a number of events this year to assist with first aid cover and this not only provides 'hands on' practise but also a source of donations. In addition the benefits from spending a shift on the emergency ambulance are huge for team members, and valuable for working with partner organisations.

There is a huge call on our time for external events and we have had to limit our attendance at these 'extra' events or we would be out every weekend!!

We have taken delivery of our new Land Rover, this has been designed by a number of team members and the feedback is that it is an improvement on our original vehicle. Our thanks go to Crown Conversions in Airdrie for the conversion and to the Order of St John and EDF Renewables for assisting with funding. This has prompted us to commit to building a new garage for the comms van and this is progressing slowly, we are looking to source goods and services to assist with the costs. Thanks to Dave Leven who has been assisting me with this task.



We have continued to improve our equipment management and my thanks go to Smithy, Alec and Stu for sorting it all out and for team members who are starting to realise Smithy, Alec and Stu don't put the stuff away after a shout / training!! Old hands and new will be going through the Landy check list on training nights just to make sure we ALL know where things are, this is even more important with two Landrovers. You will see me doing this too!!

Can I thank Alex Camley for all his help over the years especially with equipment and training, sadly due to pressure of work Alex has had to step down and his commitment, expertise and his fantastically dry wit will be missed. I am pleased to report that Simon Lambert has stepped in to become Stu and Smithy's apprentice - you are a brave boy!! We have an equipment recording and inspection system which is now fully up and running and my thanks go to all the equipment boys for a huge amount of effort in realising this important part of our systems.

I would respectfully mention that the team spends a significant amount of money on team member kit (check the accounts..) so look after it and do your bit when it comes to fundraising.

We have increased our mountain safety talks to groups and visits to our Post are increasing as groups can come to us to see the work we do. Thanks to all the guys who assist with talks and post visits – again a vital part of our overall profile and donation provision. If we can get a 'pool' of people to help with these talks that would be great, the feedback from the Mountain Safety Day was very positive and if we all do our bit....

Special mention must go to Jenn Copeland who not only looks after the Post but has also helped with catering for Post events and I regularly hear the words 'is there no cake in the fridge?' followed by mutterings about the team leaders lack of organisational ability!! This kind of help is vital in keeping the Post in good condition and it is much appreciated by all the team. The dream team of Jonesy and John F continue to keep the grounds looking good and takes this burden from operational team members – my thanks to you both.

We had identified a lack of qualified driver training and have been very fortunate in securing the help of Colin Aitken who is a professional emergency services driving instructor and has been taking team members out and showing us how poorly we drive!!! This is vital as driving the vehicles are one of our most risky activities (statistically)!!

My thanks to all the office bearers on the committee who keep things running smoothly in the background and a special mention to Robert for getting to grips with the accounts and our SCIO charitable status requirements, this safeguards the team trustees and we became a SCIO on the 31ST March this year – right on schedule!!

John Brannan will be stepping down from his training role this year, I would like to thank John for steering the training into more of a coordination role than that of training delivery, this has been a positive change and his efforts are very much appreciated by all.

Sam Shortt continues to keep his head above water with the deluge of emails / correspondence that come into the Team and keeps us entertained with his own style of motivational e mail!!



John Willis continues to assist me in his role as deputy team leader and his experience is a godsend at times of high excitement!! John will be stepping down at this AGM and I would like to thank him for his huge and continuing commitment to the team. We are keen to introduce the possibility of two deputy team leaders with a possibility of a 'second tier' of perhaps three search managers to take the 'heat' off the hill leaders in the event that TL or DTL are unavailable (happens occasionally!!). This can be discussed with the team at the AGM.

Can I thank team members for their assistance at the Christmas kids party and I have been told that our white bearded guest had such a good time last year he has been booked again this year.....must have been the cake!!

Also the team were well represented at the Queens Baton Relay with John Willis, John Chroston and Simon Randfield being nominated to carry the baton and Gordon Bruce having the honour (terror??) of carrying the baton on the back of a quad bike up to Castle Campbell a great day for them and the team – well done to you all - it is well deserved.

For those I have forgotten please forgive me but you know I really appreciate your efforts and have had a frantic month or so prior to this report!!

I would like to thank all the team members and their families for their continued commitment to the team, I as much as any of us know how much time away from partners and children team membership can bring and I appreciate everyone's efforts to keep the team one of the most respected in Scotland.

Thank you

Kev

Kev Mitchell, Team Leader



Treasurer

This year we have changed from a registered charity to a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation), this new arrangement means that the trustees (committee) are in general protected from incurring personal liability. We still retain the same Scottish Charity number.

I have included a copy of our accounts from the 1st September up to the 31st March 2014 as prepared by Michael Brougham, these accounts were also submitted to OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator). Our accounting period will now run April to March.

During that period we have taken delivery of a new Land Rover with most of the funding coming from grants from The Order of St John Scotland and EDF Renewables. The total cost of the new Land Rover was £38,430.17, this does not include any rescue equipment.

At the time of writing this report we have £52,291.80 in our deposit account and around £4000 in our current account. We are expecting around £9000 from Scottish Mountain Rescue annual grant and a further £5000 from EDF Renewables.

Our next big expenditure will be the cost of a garage to house the comms van, we are hoping to get this built for around £20 to £25,000.

This year the Team signed an agreement with EDF Energy, operators of the Bankfoot Wind Farm. The agreement involves displaying the EDF logo on the new Team landrover and the provision of support such as media material for EDF marketing and business purposes.

This agreement resulted in an initial donation of £10,000 to Team funds for the new Land Rover with further donations of £5000 per annum (index linked) for the next 25 years.

Robert Davidson, Treasurer

Secretary

I have just completed my second year in the Secretary's role and, being a relative MRT novice, continue to develop my personal understanding of the many roles of the Team and Scottish Mountain Rescue in general. At a personal level I have attended a series of National Training Courses and the "MR Gathering 2014" the national Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland Annual Conference which was held in Aviemore in September. I continue to attend various Scottish Mountain Rescue general meetings and other events.

Membership

The Team continues to receive membership applications, approximately two per month, from those with a range of outdoor and medical backgrounds. The Committee has taken the view that the Team is currently at an optimum level and applications are therefore being filed for future reference if need be. In the interim, applicants are encouraged to join the Ochils Mountain Rescue Team Association which is being developed to provide a range of support services including maintenance of the Post, vehicles and equipment.

Call Outs

This year (2013 – 2014) we have had 20 callouts which is lower than the 26 last year. General discussions with some other Teams have indicated that they have been less busy as well. This may be a reflection of the ever growing range of training courses and general advice that is now available to outdoor users. The number of "psychological" related call outs has also been less.

The nature of call outs has been wide ranging as usual and sadly has also included a number of non-hill related fatalities and indeed crimes.

Community Support

We are asked on a frequent basis by various Community groups and organisations (church groups, primary and secondary schools, Round Tables, Rotary Clubs, etc.) to host visits and give talks on a regular basis. We were recently invited not only to provide a display at the recent Mountain Safety Day (Albert Halls, Stirling) but also asked to give a presentation on Mountain Rescue.

Many thanks to all those who have stepped forward and covered these events. I feel that this is a very valuable way to keep the Team's profile high with the Community and indeed other partner organisations and I know, through personal involvement, that the Community greatly appreciates our efforts and holds OMRT in high regard.

It should also be recognised that the OMRT receive a range of support from the Community by way of financial donations and other support.



Finally I would like to thank the Committee for keeping me on the “right bearing” as far as the Secretary’s role is concerned. Also, thanks to everyone in the Team, for the support, companionship and “craic” during the year.

Sam Shortt, Secretary

Training Officer

This last year has seen another wide and varied training schedule. We continue to familiarize ourselves with the new rigging systems and continued our work with the Petzl ID. This was a progression from workshop based training to more hands on exercises and using rigging more in simulated incidents. This has progressed well and most team members now feel more confident with this item of equipment.

We continue to forge bonds with our neighboring teams and attended the joint training exercise during the winter of this year in addition to our Winter Training Weekend.

During the summer the team decided due to last years success that it would continue the Summer Training Weekend and headed off to Glen Cova again.

Another local area familiarization exercise was conducted and led by John Jackson into Dollar Canyon. This has now allowed the team an insight into both Alva and now Dollar in case any canyoning parties get into any difficulties.

Some team members enjoyed a day before the rain, doing some routes on Hawcraig Crag at Aberdour.

On the medical side, more team members were successful in gaining their Cas. Care Certificates.

National courses also remain popular with team members. Not only the rigging courses but also the search management and digital mapping courses.

It was my intention that during my time as training officer that I would try to get more team members involved in running training sessions and I now feel that I have to some extent achieved this. I would still encourage as many team members as possible to get involved with training as I feel this gives a different insight into the team.

Due to ongoing personal circumstances I feel I am now unable to commit the time to this role, and make it my intention to stand down as Training officer at the AGM. I have enjoyed my time as Training Officer and feel privileged to have worked alongside some good people. I would like to give my best wishes to my successor and continue to offer my support.

John Brannan, Training Officer

Equipment Officer

This year has seen some big changes and lots of improvements in the way we are managing team and personal equipment.

Dave Smith, Willie Miller and I spent a very long day on a technical equipment inspection course earlier in the year where we learned all about the inspection of harnesses, helmets, slings etc. We also learned all about the recording of equipment details and recording of inspections.

All of the team equipment and personal protective equipment is now recorded in a digital database which has taken a big effort to set up but will make things easier to record and manage in the future.

Vehicles

We have also seen big changes this year with the team vehicles and the purchase of our third team vehicle which is to be called Landrover 2 until someone clever comes up with something better. There has been a bit of expense kitting out the new Landrover but we are now happy that it has the necessary equipment on board to be operational. At the moment the Landrovers aren't exactly the same as there are some items that we only have one of so please make yourself familiar with the equipment on each of the vehicles.

Equipment Team

Alex Camley has had to leave the team this year due to work commitments and this has been a big loss as Alex brought a wealth of knowledge and experience. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Alex for all of his time and effort over the years. Simon Lambert has joined the equipment team in Alex's place and brings a wealth of knowledge on technical equipment which will be of great benefit.

Personal Protective Equipment

We are now ready to introduce PPE inspection guidance and expect team members to take responsibility of their own PPE and its inspection.

Summary

All in all we are getting procedures in place to ensure the equipment is maintained and stored as best possible to allow easy use.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Dave and Simon for their help in organising the equipment.

Stuart Mc Neish, Equipment Officer

Medical Officer

I would like to thank all team members for their support during the past year while I continued my role as medical officer within the team. This year proved to be considerably less busy than last year but the highlights of what took place are detailed below.

Cas Care

The 2014 Cas Care assessment was staged at the Ochils post on the 20th July. Team members from all over Scotland attended and seven members from the Ochils team passed, well done to all of them. They all worked hard during the training sessions and were rewarded on the assessment day. A big thank you to all the assessors who volunteered on the day and during the training sessions.

Notice Board

A new medical notice board has been introduced to display important information in the medical world. On the board currently are the team's medical statistics, medical equipment stored in the vehicles as well as issued to team members, and the medical training level of team members.

Ambulance Observing

Team members are continuing to take the opportunity to observe for a shift on an A&E ambulance. This unique opportunity is proving to be hugely beneficial to team members by giving them the opportunity to interact with real patients and observe what happens to a patient once they leave the scene of an incident.

Malcolm Auchie, Medical Officer

Call Outs

<i>Ochils Mountain Rescue Team</i>					
<i>Team Year Sept 2013 - August 2014</i>					
<i>Call Out Summary</i>					
<i>Team Incident Number</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Team Man Hours</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Description</i>	
1	05/09/2013	8	False Alarm	Party revellers letting off fireworks on Eliston Hill	
2	08/09/2013	4	Rescue	Came across hypothermic walker west of Loch Muick/Lochnagar area by sheer chance	
3	16/09/2013	14.5	False Alarm	Dog walker calling dog mistaken for cries for help	
4	01/10/2013	20	Search	Assisted Lomond and Killin Teams with search in Loch Katrine area	
5	23/10/2013	84	Search and Rescue	Missing mountain biker found and rescued from Mine Woods, Bridge of Allan	
6	28/10/2013	35.75	Search and Rescue	Sheep dog "Gary" rescued from Balquharn Burn, north west of Alva	
7	02/11/2013	18.75	Stand By	Two walkers failed to RV with a friend after a walk in the Dumyat area. Walkers turned up before Team were deployed	
8	23/11/2013	20	Rescue	Unwell person, Bankhill Dollar, Heli Evac	
9	24/11/2013	11	Search	Despondent, urban search Falkirk	
10	17/01/2014	105	Search	Search for missing 3 year old in north Edinburgh area	
11	19/01/2014	75	Search	Search for distressed person in the Maddiston area of Falkirk	
12	21/01/2014	1	Stand By	Provision of SARLOC information to Police Scotland	
13	01/02/2014	37.5	Search and Recovery	Search and then recovery of a male on Dumyat who sadly succumbed to a cardiac arrest	
14	20/03/2014	8	Recovery	Recovery of distressed dog from a deep gorge in Menstrie Burn	
15	27/04/2014	8	Search and Recovery	Distressed and lost person	
16	11/05/2014	12	Search and Recovery	Guiding two stranded persons off steep ground, south side of Dumyat	
17	16/06/2014	16	Search	Recovery of a male on Dumyat who sadly succumbed to a cardiac arrest	
18	28/06/2014	33	Recovery	Walked despondent person off Wee Tory above Alva to waiting ambulance	
19	24/07/2013	21	Search and Recovery	2 adults and 3 children overdue and assisted off hill in dark form The Law.	
20	12/08/2014	11	Standy	Misper from Fife moved through Hillfoots to Loch Lomond area	
	<i>Total Hours</i>	543.5			

Training Attendance Statistics Oct 2012 – Sept 2013

ANALYSIS	
Average Team Attendance - Evenings	61%
Average Team Attendance - Sundays / Wkd	48%
Average Individual Attendance Wed + Sun	55%

Name	Wednesdays	Sundays	Combined average
Craig Pritchard	100%	100%	100%
Kevin Mitchell	92%	75%	83%
John Willis	92%	75%	83%
Gordon Bruce	92%	67%	79%
Sam Shortt	75%	75%	75%
Laura Alexander	83%	67%	75%
Calum Carruthers	67%	75%	71%
Neil Hamlet	83%	50%	67%
Mike Marriot	67%	67%	67%
David Leven	58%	67%	63%
Paul Holmes	58%	58%	58%
Mary Abercrombie	50%	67%	58%
Andy Cloquet	67%	50%	58%
Simon Randfield	67%	50%	58%
Colin Abercrombie	42%	67%	54%
John Brannan	58%	42%	50%
David Musk	58%	42%	50%

Name	Wednesdays	Sundays	Combined average
Dave Smith	75%	25%	50%
Stuart McNeish	50%	42%	46%
Donald Konkol	58%	33%	46%
Billy Gillies	67%	25%	46%
Willie Miller	58%	25%	42%
Robert Davidson	67%	17%	42%
John Jackson	42%	33%	38%
Malcolm Auchie	42%	33%	38%
Ben Law	50%	25%	38%
Alasdair Hoskings	33%	25%	29%
Tom Lockie	17%	17%	17%
Alex Camley	17%	0%	8%

NOTES:

1) These statistics only show Programmed Team Training - additional training and attendance at National or alternative events is not included.

2) *ochilshroston* has been working with SARDA

3) *ochil(s) Aiston, Percival, Matheson, Birch, Cairn (Paul Martin)* remain on the Team List but do not feature in these attendance statistics

4) *Trainees do not appear in these stats, Simon Lambert, Laure Hamlet, Tim Hamlet, Oystein Ulrichsen, Neil Kerr*

6) *Police Applicants / Liaison do not appear in these stats. Jamie Parkinson*

Call Out Attendance Statistics September 2013 – August 2014

Call Out Attendance Record 2013 - 2014																							
	Date	05/09/2013	08/09/2013	16/09/2013	01/10/2013	23/10/2013	28/10/2013	02/11/2013	23/11/2013	24/11/2013	17/01/2014	19/01/2014	21/01/2014	01/02/2014	20/03/2014	27/04/2014	11/05/2014	17/06/2014	28/06/2014	24/07/2014	12/08/2014	Total Callouts	Total Hours
		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	
																						Total Call Outs Attended	Percentage Attendance
Abercrombie C										1												1	5%
Abercrombe M										1				1				1				3	15%
Aiston I									1	1	1	1								1		6	30%
Alexander L		1		1																1	1	5	25%
Auchie M		1			1									1			1					4	20%
Brannan J					1	1	1					1									1	5	25%
Bruce G					1	1		1	1	1		1								1		9	45%
Camley A					1			1	1					1								3	15%
Carruthers C					1	1		1	1		1	1		1					1	1		9	45%
Chroston J					1	1	1							1					1	1		6	30%
Cloquet A					1			1							1						1	4	20%
Davidson R					1		1	1						1		1	1	1	1	1	1	9	45%
Gillies B						1		1	1	1		1			1						1	7	35%
Hamlet N		1																			1	2	10%
Holmes P					1	1	1	1	1	1		1		1				1				8	40%
Hosking A								1						1								2	10%
Jackson J					1		1											1	1			4	20%
Konkol D		1				1									1						1	4	20%
Law B					1		1				1							1				4	20%
Leven D							1							1				1		1	1	5	25%
Lockie T																					1	1	5%
Martin P						1												1			1	3	15%
Marriot M					1		1		1		1			1	1	1		1	1	1	1	10	50%
Mc Neish S				1	1					1				1		1	1					6	30%
Miller W		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1				1		1		12	60%
Mitchell K		1	1		1	1			1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	70%
Musk D					1									1								2	10%
Parkinson J						1			1	1				1				1			1	6	30%
Percival G																						0	0%
Pritchard C					1	1		1		1				1		1			1	1		9	45%
Randfield S			1		1			1		1		1		1								5	25%
Shortt S		1		1	1	1	1			1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	13	65%
Smith D					1	1		1		1								1			1	6	30%
Willis J		1			1	1				1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	60%
Total Attendees		8	2	4	5	21	11	15	10	12	9	14	1	15	4	8	6	15	10	14	15		
Trainee																							
Lambert S																		1			1		
Neil Kerr																			1				
Nigel Campbell										1	1								1		1		
Oystein Ulrichson																							
Retired																							

Not some above may not have been Full Members for the Full Year

OCHILS MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the seven month period ended

31 March 2014

Ochils Mountain Rescue Team



Scottish Charity No SC024517

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report, financial statements and independent examiner's report for the seven month period ended 31 March 2014. The reason for the report being only for a seven month period is due to OMRT becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation from April 2014. The first report of the SCIO will be for the year to 31 March 2015.

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name	Ochils Mountain Rescue Team	
Charity Number	SC024517	
Contact Address	Ochils Mountain Rescue Centre, Fishcross, Alloa, FK10 3AN	
Website Address	www.omrt.org.uk	
Current Trustees	Kevin Mitchell	Team Leader
	John Wills	Deputy Team Leader
	Sam Short	Secretary
	Robert Davidson	Treasurer
	Stuart McNeish	Equipment Officer
	Malcolm Auchie	Medical Officer
	John Brannan	Training Officer

Other Trustees who served during the period

None

Independent Examiner	Michael Brougham	3 Lync Grove, Crossford, Dunfermline, KY12 8YB
Bankers	Bank of Scotland	21 Mar Street, Alloa, FK10 1HR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Ochils Mountain Rescue Team ("OMRT") is an unincorporated association governed by its constitution which was last updated in October 2000. It was granted charitable status on 30 September 1993 and is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator ("OSCR"). OMRT will become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation at the beginning of April 2014.

Appointment of Trustees

The management committee, comprising of Team Leader; Deputy Team Leader; Training Officer; Equipment Officer; Medical Officer; Secretary and Treasurer, is elected at the Annual General meeting of the association. The management committee are the charity's trustees.

Related Parties

The charity is affiliated to the Mountain Rescue Committee of Scotland (Scottish Charity No SC015257).

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The Team's purpose is the saving of life, which it seeks to achieve:

- by assisting the Police, emergency services and other agencies in search and rescue of missing persons primarily, but not exclusively, in Central Scotland;
- encouraging interest, and the practice of safety, in the hills.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

In support of this objective, the Team:

- provides a round the clock response to calls from the Police to assist with locating and recovering missing people or those who have found themselves in difficult situations;
- trains regularly to ensure that they can respond to any rural or hill incident efficiently and effectively; and
- provides advice to all who have an interest in safety in the hills.

The Team operates from a state of the art Mountain Rescue Centre, known in mountain rescue terms as a "Post", just outside Fishcross, near Alloa, Clackmannanshire.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Overview

This has been another busy period for the Team with a huge time commitment by all of the volunteer members. Beyond our core rescue work, our focus continues to be on training to ensure that the Team is ready for whatever may come our way and on our outreach work, where we provide advice to those who wish to enjoy the hills safely.

We recently created a more formalised and open way to join the Team. This is working well with recent new members having more than risen to the challenge and are performing very well in all aspects of membership of the Team.

The Post continues to be a well used resource not only by the Team but also for national meetings, external mountaineering groups and a variety of voluntary organisations for meetings and training.

Rescue Work

We completed twelve rescues during the period under review which augers well for the rest of the year, which we hope will be quieter than last year. We have assisted a number of individuals both lost and injured, and have also rescued two dogs stuck in inaccessible gorges. Although not a core part of our work, these rescues proved to be technically very challenging.

Each and every rescue is different and it is vital that the Team is well trained and fully prepared for when the phone rings.

Training

On-going training is vital not only for the safety of the Team but also for those that we are called out to rescue, as our lives and those whom we rescue are often dependent on the expertise and skills of the Team. Team members are strongly encouraged to attend Mountain Rescue Committee of Scotland National Training courses for equipment, technical rescue, search management, as well as CasCare training. First Aid knowledge is a core skill and cannot be practised too much. All who have attended these courses have benefited greatly from them.

We continue to recognise the importance of new technology in mountain rescue and to that end, we have been increasing the training of Team members in the effective use of the SARLOC casualty location system and search management software. We have also been developing the SARCALL deployment system as used by all the mountain rescue teams in England & Wales and four Scottish teams; although this has yet to be implemented, it should enhance our speed of deployment and ultimately outcomes for casualties.

We have also had Team members participate in 12 hour shifts on an emergency ambulance which greatly helps with first aid and emergency skills training.

Accurate and comprehensive training records are essential to our work. Attendance at training sessions is closely monitored to ensure that we meet only the needs of the Team, but also the insurance requirements of the Police and the other agencies with whom we work in our rescue work.

Outreach

We continue to attend the Central Scotland Mountain Rescue Group meetings and we participated in their annual exercise at Crianlarich. We are represented at the Mountain Rescue Committee of Scotland and also at Resilience meetings throughout Central Scotland. We have also been active within the voluntary sector Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) meetings in Central Scotland and we are part of a ground breaking agreement to assist the Central SCG in a major incident.

We have attended a number of events this year to assist with first aid cover and this not only provides 'hands on' practice, but is also a source of donations.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

We continue to benefit from a yearly grant from the Scottish Government, however our running costs, personal protective equipment and overheads takes significant additional resource and we continue to develop alternative sources of revenue to ensure that our work can continue to the standards required by the public and Scottish Mountain Rescue best practice.

Receipts for the period on the unrestricted fund were £25,981 and payments £15,897 with the resultant surplus of £10,284 being added reserves. Receipts and payments for the previous 12 months were £14,008 and £15,897 respectively. The main source of income continues to be the grant from the Scottish Government of £10,414 (2013: £12,696).

With the help of the Order of St John, EDF Energy and other donors, we have raised the funds to buy an additional high quality 4x4 rescue vehicle, which will assist us in mobilising more Team members, more quickly.

Reserves policy

Given the uncertainty of the demand for Team's services, the trustees consider that around 12 months of expenditure (approx. £25,000) is an appropriate level of reserves to hold to ensure that the charity is able to meet its commitments as they fall due, and to continue to provide a 24/7 response to those in difficulty on the hills. Reserves at the period end were £69,668 (August 2013: £59,384), however, the additional garage accommodation is likely to cost around £30,000.

Donated Facilities

The Mountain Rescue Centre is owned by The Priory of Scotland of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem (Scottish Charity No SC000262) and is provided without charge for the exclusive use of OMRT.

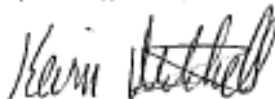
FUTURE PLANS

We will be represented at the UK National Conference in Aviemore in the autumn with eight Team members attending and participating in the training activities.

Operationally, we will continue to develop Team members and to respond to calls as quickly and effectively as we possibly can.

We are in the process of funding and building additional garage accommodation, which we aim to complete by autumn of 2014.

This report was approved by the trustees on 09 September 2014 and signed on their behalf by:



Kevin Mitchell
Trustee & Team Leader

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ochills Mountain Rescue Team

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the seven month period ended 31 March 2014, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation (10)(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44)(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter came to my attention:-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Michael Brougham, MCIBS FCIE
3 Lyne Grove
Crossford
Dunfermline
KY12 8YB
08 September 2014

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Period to 31/03/2014	Year to 31/08/2013
Receipts					
Donations		10,403	-	10,403	3,829
Legacies		3,602	-	3,602	-
Grants	5	9,890	30,000	39,890	10,414
Fund Raising		1,858	-	1,858	-
Investment Income (Bank Interest)		228	-	228	388
Asset Sales		-	-	-	375
Total Receipts		25,981	30,000	55,981	15,006
Payments					
Cost of Fund Raising		205	-	205	-
Charitable Activities	6	10,644	-	10,644	10,989
Purchase of Fixed Assets	7	4,848	1,000	5,848	16,787
Total payments		15,697	1,000	16,697	27,786
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		10,284	29,000	39,284	(12,780)

The Notes on Pages 9 & 10 form an integral part of these accounts.

STATEMENT OF BALANCES
AS AT 31 MARCH 2014

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	As at 31/03/2014	As at 31/09/2013
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash Funds at start of the period	59,384	1,000	60,384	73,164
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	10,284	29,000	39,284	(12,780)
Cash Funds at end of the period	69,668	30,000	99,668	60,384
Bank & Cash Balances				
Bank Current A/c			47,833	6,474
Bank Deposit A/c			52,123	61,895
Bank Credit Card			(296)	-
Cash In Hand			8	15
			99,668	60,384
Other Assets (Estimated Values)				
Computer & Radio Equipment	13,000	-	13,000	13,000
Fixtures, Fittings & Other Rescue Post Contents	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Motor Vehicles	30,000	-	30,000	30,000
Mountain Rescue Equipment	39,000	-	39,000	39,000
	87,000	-	87,000	87,000
Liabilities				
Creditors	-	-	-	76

On 31 March 2014, the assets and liabilities of the charity, as shown above, were transferred to "Ochills Mountain Rescue Team" (a Scottish Charitable Organisation – Charity No SC024617).

The Notes on Pages 9 & 10 form an integral part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 09 September 2014 and signed on their behalf by:-


Kevin Mitchell
Team Leader


Robert Davidson
Treasurer

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2 Fund Accounting

(a) Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

(b) Restricted funds may only be used by specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. The purposes of restricted funds are shown in Note 8.

3 Taxation

The charity is not liable to income tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the payment to which it relates.

4 Related Party Transactions

(a) No remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the period (2013: Nil).

(b) Training expenses amounting to £34 were reimbursed to one trustee during the period (2013: Nil)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Period to 31/03/2014	Year to 31/08/2013
5 Grants				
Awards for All (GPS Equipment)	-	-	-	9,024
EDF Energy (Rescue Vehicle)	-	10,000	10,000	-
Order of St John (Rescue Vehicle)	-	20,000	20,000	-
Scottish Government	9,890	-	9,890	10,414
	9,890	30,000	39,890	19,438

6 Cost of Charitable Activities

Building Costs

Development Plans	319	-	319	-
Heating & Lighting	757	-	757	1,510
Insurance	172	-	172	261
Post Expenses	979	-	979	1,813
Equipment Maintenance & Supplies	1,496	-	1,496	2,261
Radio & Telephone	433	-	433	613
Training	1,625	-	1,625	1,226
Vehicle Expenses				
Insurance	848	-	848	946
Fuel	545	-	545	1,048
Servicing & Repairs	3,426	-	3,426	1,162
Sundries	42	-	42	139
	10,644	-	10,644	10,989

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Period to 31/03/2014	Year to 31/08/2013
7 Purchase of Fixed Assets				
GPS Equipment	-	-	-	9,024
Motor Vehicle	-	1,000	1,000	-
Clothing & Equipment	4,848	-	4,848	7,763
	4,848	1,000	5,848	16,787

	Balance 31/08/2013	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance 31/03/2014
8 Movements in Funds					
General Fund (Unrestricted)	59,364	25,981	(16,697)	-	69,668
Vehicle Fund (Restricted)	1,000	30,000	(1,000)	-	30,000
	60,364	55,981	(16,697)	-	99,668

Purposes of Restricted Funds

General Fund

An unrestricted fund for use by the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Vehicle Fund

Funding received towards the cost of an additional 4x4 rescue vehicle.