

ANNUAL REVIEW 2021



Volunteering
to save lives



WHAT WE DO

Scottish Mountain Rescue (SMR) represents 25 Mountain Rescue Teams (MRTs) made up of highly trained volunteers. Scottish Mountain Rescue and our Member Teams are all charities in their own right. We also represent three Police Scotland MRTs and one RAF MRT.

Our **850** volunteers respond in a moment's notice, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to assist people in the outdoors. They give up their time, their beds, abandon their work and are often called away from their families to assist total strangers.

Together we are here to save lives in the outdoors in Scotland.

www.scottishmountainrescue.org

Scottish Mountain Rescue is a registered charity No. SC045003.

“As the Police Scotland Search and Rescue Coordinator I am fully aware of the huge amount of time, dedication and professionalism that all the mountain rescue teams in Scotland put in to training as well as live incidents. Those using the hills, mountains and rivers in Scotland are fortunate to have such selfless people who will search for and rescue them when things don't go to plan.”

Sgt Peter Lorrain-Smith (S0721)
Land Based Search and Rescue
Coordinator, Police Scotland



HIGHLIGHTS OF STATISTICS

Incidents

660 Total number of incidents in 2021.

An incident is defined as a single event that requires the services of an MRT. The resolution of this incident might need several call-outs of a team (or teams) for example during a prolonged search.

2020: 497

2019: 502

52% were mountaineering* related, **48%** were non-mountaineering incidents.

**Mountaineering includes hill-walking, scrambling, rock climbing, winter climbing, and MRT activity.*

Call outs

The total number of separate team call-outs was **893**, or **951** including 'continuations' (linked call-outs on different days).

2020: 671

2019: 672

The busiest day of the week for teams in 2021 was 3rd July. There were 12 activations of teams.

Hours

In 2021 Mountain Rescue volunteers gave up **31,799** hours of their time during call-outs.

2020: 24,401

2019: 26,934

That's the equivalent of one person working 795 consecutive 40 hour weeks... Voluntarily!

People helped

During 2021 **715** people were rescued.

2020: 627

2019: 595

4 incidents involved rescue of dogs, and **2** incidents the rescue of sheep.

660

Total number of independent incidents.

31,799

Hours of time given up by volunteers.

52%

Incidents related to mountaineering.

951

Total number of team callouts.

48%

Incidents not related to mountaineering.

715

People were rescued.

6

Sheep and dogs rescued.



Image © SARDA (southern) Scotland



Image © Assynt MRT

SPECIAL NOTE: 2021 THE BUSIEST YEAR ON RECORD FOR TEAMS

As well as recoding the highest number of team call outs and the highest number of volunteer hours spent on rescues, we also broke a few other records.

Year was in top 3 busiest since 2005 for 13 teams (in terms of callouts)

Busiest year ever for 5 teams (in terms of callouts, looking all the way back to 2005)

12

Max number of team activations in one day (July 3rd; joint highest on database)

125

Max number of team activations in one month (August; highest on database)

343

Max number of team activations in one quarter (Q3; highest on database - and busier than the previous peak post lockdown 1)



WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

Scottish Mountain Rescue teams had their busiest ever year in 2021, whether that is determined by the number of different times a team was called out (951), the number of separate incidents (660) or the number of hours volunteers spent on rescues (31,799). So 2021 was a record breaking year, despite the travel restrictions in place through the earlier part of the year.

“Looking at the fantastic weather and snow conditions in the early part of last winter and the number of incidents typical in such conditions it is quite likely, that without those restrictions, 2021 would have been nearly twice as busy as any other year.”

Although the data is likely influenced by multiple factors, this increase in incidents appears to be a reflection of the increased numbers of people accessing the mountains and wild places of Scotland. Much has been made of relatively new people visiting the hills but there is no obvious evidence that the increase in incidents is within this group, it is simply a reflection of everyone, young and old, experienced and inexperienced spending more time enjoying the great outdoors.

What impact does this have on teams?

Teams structure themselves to be able to accommodate short term fluctuations in how busy they are but as the number of incidents increases over a longer time period they will need to adapt. They may need to increase membership to ensure an appropriate number can respond to each incident. More members means more equipment, maybe even extra vehicles and more time maintaining equipment.

“More incidents means equipment needs replacing more frequently and also higher insurance costs. So running costs are rising, but fundraising in the voluntary sector has become more challenging since COVID19 so more time needs investing in the support structures for teams.”

Increasing numbers of incidents also puts pressure on training time, more hours on incidents means it’s harder to find time for training. National training courses are a way to help take some training load from teams, enabling teams to share good practice and compare methodology as well as introducing new techniques from around the world. After the hiatus of COVID19 Scottish Mountain Rescue courses have returned to nearly normal now.

Damon Powell,
Scottish Mountain Rescue
Chair Person



“Last year we delivered roughly one course a fortnight in subject areas such as rope work, avalanche, medical, search management, PPE and well-being.”

We engaged with around 400 people, approximately half of all team members. These courses are supported by people from across our teams and beyond and for the last few years have been enabled by money provided nationally in the UK via the UK Search and Rescue Training Fund. That fund is now starting to come to an end and one of our most pressing needs in the next couple of years will be to find alternate sources of funding for what has become a vital part of mountain rescue across Scotland.

“The increased access to our great outdoors is a good news story and Scottish Mountain Rescue teams have remained remarkably resilient over the last few years taking COVID and increased operational requirements in their stride. But they will need greater support from outside if they are to continue to provide the world class service they currently do.”



Image © Assynt MRF



Image © Assynt MRF

VISION AND VALUES

Our vision

- To maintain the ability of Scottish Mountain Rescue affiliated teams to locate, assist and save the lives of people who are lost, injured, missing or otherwise in need of help in Scotland's mountains and remote places.
- To offer a world-class, front line, voluntary search and rescue service capable of responding, individually or collectively, any hour, any day and in any weather condition.
- To work with other emergency responder organisations to assist our local communities in times of emergency.

Our values

- **Excellence** – We strive to assist all of our members to achieve excellence in their Search and Rescue activities.
- **Community** – We strive to maintain a strong community of independent teams working collaboratively for the benefit of all.
- **Engagement** – We will strive to engage positively with any person or organisation towards improving Search and Rescue capabilities in Scotland
- **Inclusivity** – We will endeavour to promote respect for all people equally, without bias, around differences of any kind.

APRIL

HIGHLIGHTS

January

Another national lockdown in the fight against Covid put in place across Scotland, resulting in fewer callouts. Safety messaging continues throughout the month and teams prepare for when lockdown is lifted. Skye MRT called out for a local man who had seriously injured himself whilst sledging close to the Old Man of Storr.

February

Mountain Rescue teams' ability to help out with community emergencies was highlighted this month when their services were requested, from freeing cars stuck in blizzard conditions to a team being asked to help in transporting a medical team and Covid vaccines around an island.

March

Saw the start of a series of online training sessions entitled "Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention". 52 team members attended.

April

Louis, a Springer Spaniel puppy, fell 300' at the Grey Mares Tail waterfall and was rescued by Moffat MRT who employed some technical rigging to lift him back up to be reunited with his grateful owners.

May

SMR promoted National Walking Month with a series of articles, including the physical and mental benefits of walking, safety tips, giveaways and activities for children to help them engage in venturing outside for a walk.

June

Launch of our inaugural virtual fundraising event, Miles for SMR. The event proved to be extremely successful, with 70 participants taking part to raise money for SMR, opting for their level of challenge and mode of transport, e.g. foot, bike or kayak.



FEB

Image © Dundonnell MRT

JULY

Image © Hebrides MRT

July

Hebrides MRT took part in a multi-agency search for a missing person, working alongside Stornoway RNLI, the Coastguard rescue teams, Rescue Helicopter 948 and Police Scotland. After a night/day search, the individual was found safe and well.

August

Three callouts in 24 hours for Braemar MRT. Braemar MRT said, "Team involved in 3 callouts over the last 24 hours, most recent being this evening when we responded to a report of an injured climber on Mitre Ridge on Ben a'Bhuird"

September

A late night/early morning callout for Arrochar MRT to assist a person who had got lost. Team members were home by 05:30, just in time for a couple of hours sleep before heading out to work.

Image © Arrochar MRT



SEPT

OCT

Image © Braemar MRT

October

A very busy month for teams across Scotland as autumn turns to winter.

November

SMR held its first face to face Annual General Meeting since 2019. The majority of teams were in attendance with the remaining teams able to join online. #ThinkWinter campaign launched for the 3rd successive year in conjunction with other organisations to encourage and help people to be safer in the outdoors and the mountains in the winter months.

December

International Volunteers' Day is celebrated in December each year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our volunteers for their commitment to providing a world-class rescue service across Scotland – any hour, any day, any weather.



DEC

RESCUE STORY

Colin Leeming set off from Invercauld Estate near Braemar at just after 6:30am on a July day to climb Ben Avon and Beinn a' Bhùird, two popular but remote Munros in the Cairngorms. The weather forecast for the day was good, with temperatures set to be in the high teens to low twenties and relatively light winds. Colin is an experienced hillwalker, having summited over 130 Munros, many of them multiple times and was well prepared for the day ahead.

Summiting Ben Avon at around 10am, he met two other walkers who, it would turn out, would play an important part in his day.

He left the summit at around 10.30am and about 20 minutes later he lost his footing whilst descending on the fine gravel path and started to fall backwards.

The next thing he heard was an almighty snapping sound, followed by the worst pain he had ever experienced in his 52 years, in his knee. He let out a blood curdling scream.

After giving himself a couple of minutes to compose himself, he tried to move his knee, then tried to stand up and walk a little, but was met with excruciating pain. He tried to text his partner, only to be met with the words 'failed to send'. Next, he tried to text emergency 112 with whom he had previously registered, but this message didn't send either. He was about to activate his personal locator beacon when he saw a familiar face coming towards him, one of the two people he had met on Ben Avon's summit earlier.



Luckily for Colin, they had heard his scream and come to his aid. They also tried to call emergency services on his phone but couldn't get reception, so they climbed up a bit higher to get a signal and suddenly all Colin's messages started sending and receiving: messages and calls from his

partner, Braemar Mountain Rescue, the Police and a friend. The time was 11.30am and Colin hoped that in a couple of hours he would be sitting comfortably in a hospital bed having his leg tended to and might even be home that evening.

He was at roughly 1070m and the weather was fantastic. His two new friends were sitting roughly 20m above him manning his mobile phone, getting updates from Braemar MRT, calls from the police, his partner and texts from his son who was worried sick.

Unbeknown to Colin, just as Braemar MRT were mobilising, another callout came in for a walker with a broken leg on Lochnagar. This meant the Coastguard helicopter was already occupied on the other callout, so Braemar MRT made their way to Colin by Landrover, ATV and finally carrying the stretcher in on foot. With the helicopter still dealing with the casualty on Lochnagar, the team decided to stretcher Colin further down the hill. He was finally loaded into the helicopter at 7.16pm, flown to Inverness and a waiting ambulance.



Colin said "Most people don't realise just how long you can be lying out on a hillside waiting for help. And even on the hottest days – and this was a hot day – it doesn't take long to start to feel the cold. Luckily for me I didn't need the extra kit that I had in my rucksack, but my rescue does highlight

the importance of carrying the right kit whatever the weather.

"My sincere thanks go out to all at Braemar Mountain Rescue, not just the team members on the hill that day but all those involved behind the scenes as well. They do a fantastic job. My thanks too to the two hillwalkers, Ken and Anne Marie, who stayed with me on the hill that day and, finally, thanks to Coastguard Rescue 151 who flew me to hospital in Inverness where I spent the next three days. I was diagnosed with a snapped patella ligament. I've been told it may take up to a year to fully heal, so I'm off the hills for the time being but will hopefully get back to what I love doing most later this year."

Malcolm MacIntyre, Braemar MRT says "Colin's story raises some important points for everyone going out into our hills. Rescue teams strive to do the best they can to help people but we have all got used to life with mobile phones and the amazing service from the MCA helicopters; but the reality of an injury in a remote area means you could have a long wait for assistance. Phones can have no signal or battery left and helicopters can be busy elsewhere. Thankfully he was spared a protracted stretcher carry-out; but it is always a possibility if other services cannot get there, or teams are already busy with other call-outs."

Colin's rescue happened on a very busy day. Teams across Scotland attended ten rescues that day.



TEAM MEMBER PROFILES



Alison Gallagher
Tayside MRT member and
Scottish Cave Rescue Organisation
(SCRO) member

I have been a member of both teams since 2005. I am also the medical officer for SCRO, and one of the team doctors in Tayside MRT.

I became involved with SCRO as a medical student, then joined as a full member after qualifying as a doctor. A few years later I attended the WEMSI-International Wilderness Physician course, where I met some of Tayside MRT including the team leader at the time. Mountain rescue seemed like a natural next step.

Many years ago, on a weekend on Skye two members of the group we were with were overdue. Watching the rescue unfold and the skill of those involved had a big impact, and sewed the seed that led me to where I am today.

My first rescue was a patient with a fractured ankle in a cave in Assynt. I'll never forget getting her to the surface and handing her over to Assynt MRT.

The hardest thing about being in a team is dashing out of the door when a call out comes, leaving my two boys in the middle of whatever we are doing. I find prolonged searches particularly challenging, especially as hope of a good outcome dwindles. But on the flipside the most rewarding thing is the knowledge of a job well done.

I couldn't ask for better team mates: they're dedicated, committed and always keen to share knowledge. Every one of them is an asset to the team, and all bring their own individual mix of skills. Both teams train to respond to a very different set of challenges. They're a great bunch and I'd trust every one of them in any situation.

I've learnt so many things from being in a team! I have been humbled by how advanced the cas carers' medical skills are. It has taught me a huge amount about team work.

We've had two years of record numbers of call outs for TMRT, and seen an increase in less experienced and less well-prepared people. There have been challenges around PPE, and trying to protect the teams from Covid. I never thought I would need to consider the logistics of facemasks down a cave!

Within both Tayside MRT and SCRO the future is very bright as we continue to develop. If the past two years are any indication then Tayside MRT are likely to have another busy year. I will continue to support the medical teaching within both teams, and ensure our patients receive the best care possible.

Ken Crossley
Medical Officer for Skye Mountain
Rescue Team & Member of Scottish
Mountain Rescue Medical sub-
committee

I have been involved in mountain rescue since 2006, when I joined the Rossendale and Pendle team in England. I moved to Skye in 2015, joining the Skye MRT and becoming the Medical Officer shortly after.

I became a member of the Scottish Mountain Rescue (SMR) Medical Sub-committee in 2018; in addition to supporting the work of this group and teaching on casualty care courses I am also the casualty care exam lead, responsible for all aspects of the exam process.

Outside of mountain rescue I work as an Advanced Paramedic Practitioner in Critical Care for the London Ambulance Service, which is a bit of a commute! We are the most senior patient-facing clinicians on duty for the ambulance service and treat the most seriously injured / unwell patients; This role sees us working pan-London taking clinical lead of any incidents we attend which range from multi-casualty major incidents to single patients requiring critical care intervention.

Prior to joining the ambulance service, I ran my own adventure activities business and 60-bed youth hostel. We ran residential adventure activities for school children and overseas expeditions for adults. I've lead expeditions all over the world including East Africa (having guided Kilimanjaro 26 times), the Indian Himalayas and Central America; I was really proud to lead the first Help for Heroes expedition with injured servicemen on Kilimanjaro.

A mountain rescue team is greater than the sum of its parts and requires people with a variety of different skills / specialisms including casualty care,



rigging, search management, digital mapping etc to all come together with a common goal. I think it's important for people, such as myself, to share our skills within our teams and the wider mountain rescue community to help ensure we continue to deliver a search and rescue service we are all proud of.

I enjoy teaching on the national casualty care courses and helping develop the skills of those who take on the huge step of volunteering to be the casualty carer within their team; The commitment needed to become a cas carer should not be under-estimated. Treating injured people in the mountain and pre-hospital environment requires a unique skill-set.

2021 saw Skye MRT dealing with 50 call-outs including two fatalities within a few weeks of each other. These were the first fatalities for a number of years and proved a challenging time for our team. These challenges were also exacerbated by a reduction in training alongside new call-out and PPE practices due to the various Covid-19 restrictions. The way the team came together and dealt with these challenges was humbling to see.

Whilst call-outs can place strain on family life and life outside of mountain rescue due to the commitment required, I enjoy it when we do get called out as it's the perfect excuse to drop the day-to-day things and get out on the hill with a great group of likeminded friends to help someone in need, even if it's often in pretty foul weather.

I look forward to many more years within SMR.

EXPERIENCES OF AN INCIDENT MANAGER

Thanks to Kev Mitchell, author of this article.

All images on this page © Ochills MRT

So, what happens in the mind of an Incident Manager when the phone rings at 1am with a call out?

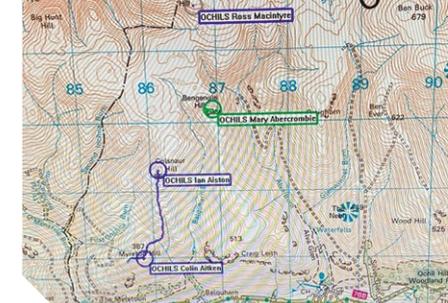
The first thing to consider is what information do you have, what more would you like and what is the level of urgency and risk to the casualties. Clear effective communication with our colleagues in Police Scotland is vital and an aide memoire is handy when you are still half asleep!!

The Incident Manager will decide if the scenario dictates a full team call out, a partial team call out or standby until further information has been received. An assessment of risk to the casualty and to the team is critical and all needs to be considered and decided on quickly. Weather and time of day can all play a part in the decision-making process.

Assuming the decision is made to call out the team, an appropriate rendezvous point (RV) needs to be agreed with Police Scotland and organising the appropriate resources to be at the RV in time. The Incident Manager also delegates and briefs hill leaders – it is handy to have a buddy to assist at this crucial time in the rescue.

Concurrently the Incident Manager will plan the rescue based on the information available. We have seen great strides forward in recent years with location technology however we still need to be well versed in search management procedures and planning as not all technology works all the time.

Once at the RV we need to manage our most vital resource – our team members. It can be a challenge on a search if you need to have 4 or 5 different search teams starting from different locations. A logical approach is vital, as is writing down task sheets and having them visible to provide situational awareness. It is critical to provide a clear briefing to hill leaders and to confirm radio channels and provide an overview of neighbouring search parties. We are lucky in having state of the art radios that can provide a visual representation of team members positions on the mapping software. But it doesn't always work, understanding the radio and mobile phone black spots is critical to understanding how you can organise the communications – all part of the Incident Manager's toolbox.



Recent years have seen more 'partnership' working, with team leaders liaising with partners in the emergency services (police, ambulance and fire) as well as HM Coastguard, and on occasions local councils and Local and Regional Resilience Partnerships. The Incident Manager will be getting regular updates. The 'golden' hour for an Incident Manager is the first hour and getting successfully through that should provide some respite to collect their thoughts and refine their strategies. This can be the time to start to think about and prioritise the myriad of situations that may occur so that the safety of the team and the casualties is at the forefront by trying to plan for the most common scenarios.

If a search is becoming protracted the Incident Manager will consider additional resources, and additional strategies to inform the decision-making process. This can involve requesting social media information and further enquiries by Police Scotland, we can look to technology to help in the search process. We can also call on additional Mountain Rescue teams to assist. This capacity to work together is one of the strengths of Scottish Mountain Rescue.

Hopefully after all the steps above and a huge amount of work by team members we will find, treat and evacuate the casualty. Once the casualty is found another fairly intense period of activity will start – the priority now is to assist the hill parties to get the required resources to the casualty and to organise the logistics of the evacuation, i.e. vehicles, evacuation routes, liaising with Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service or HM Coastguard.

In addition, it is always a good plan after a long rescue to think about the welfare of the team members and ensure hot drinks and food are available.

It is tempting to stand folks down as soon as possible but a hot debrief allows learning to take place in a positive way. Further discussions at a full team level are a good way to capture further learning points and share good practice.

So that's it then - call out sorted, casualty found, and home in time for breakfast/ tea/ midnight snack!! Well, no, consideration needs to be given to team members wellbeing – especially after a long / traumatic call out and follow up calls to team members over the next few days is to be encouraged alongside writing up the report and feeding into the statistics.



SEARCH DOGS AND MISSING PEOPLE SEARCHES

Thanks to Iain Brydon, author of this article.

The shrill ring of the SARCALL triggered text message wakes me from a deep sleep! Getting yourself ready to deploy in the wee small hours is hard enough without an excited 4 legged “search machine”, desperate to get out and about and getting in the way as you try and sort out your kit. However, it’s worth it, but why?

Humans predominantly interpret the world by sight while dogs predominantly interpret the world by smell. A dog’s brain can be one tenth the size of a human’s brain yet the part that controls smell is 40 times larger than in humans. A human has about 5 million scent glands while a dog has 125 million to 300 million (breed dependent) and a dog’s sense of smell is 1,000 to 10,000,000 times better than humans. It’s for these reasons that a Dog is a very powerful tool in the Search Manager’s toolbox.

Scottish Mountain Rescue Teams benefit from being able to call for canine support across the country. Most Search & Rescue Dog Association (SARDA) Dog Teams operate using non-scent discriminating air scenting dogs, however there are also dogs trained to assist with the search and recovery of drowned victims and dogs that are scent discriminating, meaning they trail the specific scent of the missing person. Dog Teams deploy as part of their Parent MRT or at the request of another MRT, where they support searches across a variety of terrain such as mountain, hill, forest, country park, etc. In a small number of occasions, Police Scotland will request the support of a Dog Team without deploying an MRT, typically to support semi-urban searches.

In a typical mountain / hill environment a Dog Team will be deployed early (or as early as is possible) into an area of significant interest to a Search Manager. The speed at which a Dog Team can “clear” the ground, to a high degree of certainty, is significantly faster than any typical hill party can achieve. This allows a Search Manager to quickly deem a specific area to be highly unlikely to contain the missing person(s). If the missing person(s) is within the area, a fully graded Search Dog should detect the scent relatively quickly (subject to the size / terrain of the search area and the strength & direction of the wind). The Dog will then go to the source of the

scent and indicate this to the handler, usually by barking, either in the vicinity of the missing person(s) or after returning to the handler; then returning to the location of the missing person(s). In a forest or country park setting, a Dog Team will typically deploy to clear the network of paths that often crisscross this type of environment. They do this by searching either side of the path, typically to around 15m-20m from the edge of the path (this approach has been refined over several years and is based on missing person statistics). When the scent of the missing person(s) is detected by the Dog, the indication is the same as in the mountain / hill environment.

Training to be an operational Dog Team is in addition to the commitment the Handler gives to their parent MRT. It involves training 2 to 3 times per week (at the outset when training a young dog) plus, pre- and hopefully post-Covid, monthly residential weekends throughout the year. This significant level of commitment is needed to ensure that Police Scotland and

Search Managers have a high level of confidence around what they are getting when they request the support of a SARDA Dog Team.

As per the rest of Scottish Mountain Rescue, 2021 was a busy year for both of Scotland’s SARDA organisations with Dog Teams deploying 77 times, clocking up 803 “dog hours”.

Image © Poppy - SARDA (Southern) Scotland.



Image © Ralour - SARDA (Southern) Scotland.



Image © Glen - SARDA Scotland.

THANKS

We wanted to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who has supported us over the last year, your support is appreciated now more than ever.

2021 was an incredibly busy year. Seasoned hillwalkers and mountaineers rushed back to the hills when restrictions were lifted. In addition, increasing numbers of new hillwalkers and outdoor enthusiasts, drawn to the benefits of the outdoors during the pandemic, started to explore the hills and wild places of Scotland. Some teams have been called out multiple times a day, or even for back to back or concurrent rescues. Throughout all the upheaval of the past two years all of our teams never stopped being available any hour, any day and any weather for anyone that needed their support. All of these challenges really stretched our teams, but the level of support that we received from our incredibly generous supporters kept our Mountain Rescue Teams going and helped them to respond to the challenges they face.

On behalf of our 25 member teams, their 850 volunteers, the people that we've rescued and their families, thank you!

"I am very grateful that there are willing volunteers to turn out at a moment's notice no matter the weather and help someone they have never met before, rescuing them with no judgement"

Sandy, rescued when he ruptured his patella tendon during a fell race in 2021.



Image © Assynt MRT



Image © Assynt MRT



Image © Nick, Moffat MRT



Image © Braemar MRT

MAJOR SUPPORTERS



Scottish Government are committed supporters of Scottish Mountain Rescue and we are very grateful for their continued support.



St John Scotland (SJS) have been a long-standing supporter of MRTs in Scotland. They have generously given over £3.75 million in funding, mainly through the provision of bases and vehicles, but also made a significant contribution towards the purchase of new radios in 2019, helping MRTs to save lives.

We would like to say a big thank you for the continued support of St John Scotland. In return our teams are increasingly assisting St John Scotland with its work in taking public access defibrillators and CPR training to their communities, and we look forward to finding ways to continue to work together and support each other in future.



The JD Foundation is a registered charity founded by JD Sports Fashion PLC in December 2015. There are currently 21 charities supported by the JD Foundation, two of which are the environmental charities, Scottish Mountain Rescue and Mountain Rescue England and Wales.

As an international multichannel retailer of sports fashion and outdoors brands, the JD Group includes leading outdoor retailers Blacks, Millets, Tiso and Ultimate Outdoors. Therefore, the JD Foundation is delighted to support Scottish Mountain Rescue and Mountain Rescue England and Wales through money raised on the sale of carrier bags across its stores in Scotland, England and Wales.

Since its launch the JD Foundation has donated over £180,000 to Scottish Mountain Rescue to support the teams and their invaluable work saving lives in the outdoors. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support and delighted that they have extended the partnership until 2023.



We would also like to express our thanks to the UKSAR Training Fund administered by the Charities Aid Foundation for supporting the national training programme offered by SMR.



Image © Oban MRT



Image © Kintail MRT

HOW TO SUPPORT SCOTTISH MOUNTAIN RESCUE

There are lots of different ways you can support SMR or your local MRT including:

- Make a one-off donation
- Set up a regular donation
- Volunteer your time
- Leave a gift in your will
- Fundraise

We're a vital free service for anyone who uses the outdoors in Scotland but we rely on donations to fund three out of every five rescues, so our work simply wouldn't be possible without you. Gifts in wills are an increasingly important way to support us, funding around 100 rescues every year!

www.scottishmountainrescue.org/support

fundraising@scottishmountainrescue.org

07846 653000



Image © Braemar MRT





SMR represents these teams and their contact information can be found on scottishmountainrescue.org

Aberdeen MRT
Arran MRT
Arrochar MRT
Assynt MRT
Borders Search and Rescue Unit
Braemar MRT
Dundonnell MRT
Galloway MRT
Glenelg MRT
Glenmore Lodge MRT
Hebrides MRT
Killin MRT
Kintail MRT
Lomond MRT
Moffat MRT
Oban MRT
Ochils MRT
SARDA (Scotland)
SARDA (Southern Scotland)
Search & Rescue Aerial Association Scotland
Scottish Cave Rescue Organisation
Skye MRT
Tayside MRT (Rejoined 2021)
Torridon MRT
Tweed Valley MRT
Police Scotland (Grampian) MRT
Police Scotland (Strathclyde) MRT
Police Scotland (Tayside) MRT
RAF Lossiemouth MRT

SMR works in partnership with –

The Scottish Government
Police Scotland
Scottish Ambulance Service
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Bristow Helicopters Limited
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
HM Coastguard
The Home Office

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Volunteering to save lives