

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2020**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016463

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

CHARITY INFORMATION

Holding Trustees

J Carter
S Drew
G Evans
A Garman
B Jopling

Treasurer

S Drew

Bankers

Barclays Bank
Bristol Corn St 9
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Scottish Widows
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

Charity Registration Number

1016463

SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/ TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

The South & Mid Wales Cave Rescue Team (the 'Team') is an unincorporated charity, registered with the charity number 1016463 and is governed by its constitution. The Team was previously called West Brecon Cave Rescue Team/Tim Achub Ogofau Gorllewin Brycheinog and was renamed to its current name in 2010. It became a registered charity in January 1993 and the constitution was last updated on 20th January 2019.

Trustees

The charity is managed and administered by an elected Executive. The members of the Executive will assume the role of Management Trustees (as defined by charitable law). A full list of the Executive can found on the contact us page of our website, www.smwcr.org.

The charity also currently has five Holding Trustees who are:-

	Date of Appointment in the year	Date of Resignation in the year
J Carter	-	-
S Drew	-	-
G Evans	-	-
A Garman	-	-
B Jopling	-	-

The Holding Trustees are responsible for assets and liabilities of the charity and they are elected by a general meeting and, if appointed, shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution of a general meeting.

The Chairman of the Executive is nominated as the person to appoint new Holding Trustees within the meaning of section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925. The Trustees shall be indemnified by the members of the Team for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties, and provided they act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Executive, the Trustees shall not be held liable for the acts and defaults of the members

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity shall be to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons or animals endangered by accident or natural hazards underground by the provision, at the request of the police, of search and rescue for any persons or animals endangered.

The charity is operated by volunteers to an extremely high standard. The service provided is professional and as such proves a valuable addition to police resources in their response to SAR underground and on land and major disaster. In addition to the above, the team has also been requested to respond to international rescues including the recent Thailand incident. These services are provided to any member of the public, without charge.

Achievements and Performance

The rapid global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant and wide-ranging impacts on the Team throughout this year. Although the virus effectively shut down the sport of caving for large parts of the year, we still needed to maintain an effective Cave Rescue service. Despite the Team's call out list being temporarily depleted at times (due to Team Members either 'self-isolating', or 'shielding' in line with Government rules and guidance), I'm pleased to report that we have comfortably maintained full operational capability throughout the year.

To mitigate against the risks of spreading the virus within and outside of the Team, under the guidance of the British Cave Rescue Council (BCRC) we introduced a range of new protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) to be used during rescues and training exercises. I would like to acknowledge the huge amount of work that has been put in by members of the Executive committee in ensuring these procedures and equipment were in place, and continually reviewed and maintained during what has been an ever-evolving situation.

COVID-19 has also brought significant financial implications for the Team, as grants that would normally have been secured were instead diverted to COVID-19 causes. This left a shortfall in the Team's finances at a time when we were due to pay for several major equipment purchases under our 2020 Modernisation Programme. To make up for this short-fall we launched our biggest ever fundraising campaign, successfully raising a total of over £17,000 which includes a £2,000 grant. I would like to extend my thanks to all who helped with raising such an incredible sum of money during such uncertain times.

Away from COVID-19 it has also been a busy year for several other reasons.

Perhaps surprisingly, this has not been a quiet year for incidents. Although we have had no major callouts requiring large-scale deployment of team members, at the time of writing SMWCRT has attended a total of 10 incidents, and has been involved in the rescue of 12 people, 2 dogs, 2 sheep and 2 searches for missing persons.

Mountain Rescue England & Wales (MREW) has now completed its restructuring as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and these changes have presented us with a number of challenges going forward which we will be working with British Cave Rescue Council (BCRC) to resolve.

Earlier this year we completed a major review of the Team structure and call out lists, reducing the team size from more than 200 down to 130. This was necessary for a number of reasons, including logistical reasons (ensuring the team size remains manageable), external pressures relating to insurance/MREW, and importantly to ensure all Team Members can be kept up to date with regular training.

We continue to make good progress in our ongoing projects to modernise the Team and its equipment. As part of our 2020 Modernisation Programme we recently received a set of new and improved stretchers, and also new digital radios that will allow us to communicate more effectively both within the Team and with other external agencies. We are also making good progress on our Mobile Digital Control project, which will bring rescue control up to date with modern digital technology and tools and in a package that can be easily transported and set up at the scene of a rescue.

The Team has continued to develop and maintain its stock of advanced rescue equipment, including a high specification ambulance. The headquarters and forward base greatly enhance operational control and educational and training areas as well as providing increased equipment storage and garaging space and administrative and meeting facilities. In the last ten years, SMWRCT has attended 68 incidents including both people and animals.

Independent Examiner

The charity has elected to dispense with an audit of the accounts. Ian Ross, a director in the firm Lowndes Halsden & Partners Limited, is appointed as Independent Examiner of the charity.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £37,274 (2019: £15,548). This year has seen general donations decline which we anticipated due to Covid 19 but due to the hard work within the Team, fundraising and grant awards received have risen. A large amount of effort goes into securing these grants which enables us to train and purchase items that we wouldn't otherwise be able to afford. The VAT refund is still being reviewed by HMRC and should amount to approximately £3,200 which we will receive in early 2021.

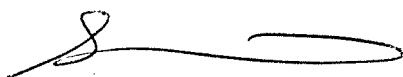
Total expenses for the year was £22,871 (2019: £9,320). Higher costs than usual exist this year which are directly related to the spending of the grant award monies plus the additional costs on the Team due to Covid 19.

The general fund at the year end has increased to £15,283. £14,040 of this amount has already been agreed and allocated by the Team prior to the year end to be spent on the Digital Control project, the Digital Radio project, the stretcher upgrade project, several specific courses and other outstanding liabilities. These allocated funds are a lot higher than usual due to the 2020 projects and courses being delayed due to Covid 19.

During the year the Team accepted a bequeath, the total sum of which cannot yet be determined but is understood to be a minimum of £20,000. At the year end, no bequeath amount has yet been received by the Team but it is estimated to be obtained during the second quarter of 2021.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Spencer Drew FCA, Trustee

26/02/2021

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

	(~~~~~)	2020	(~~~~~)	2019
	General	Vehicle	Total	Total
	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations Received	2,546	-	2,546	5,312
Fundraised Income	15,267	-	15,267	1,389
Grants Received	18,921	-	18,921	4,281
First Aid Course Income	540	-	540	1,640
Bank Interest	-	3	3	2
VAT Refund	-	-	-	2,224
Expenses Recovered	-	-	-	700
Total	<u>37,274</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>37,277</u>	<u>15,548</u>
Payments				
Equipment Purchased	9,795	-	9,795	2,029
Medical & Food Expenses	1,105	-	1,105	1,938
Vehicle Costs	1,122	-	1,122	805
Headquarters & WW Costs	3,057	-	3,057	1,967
Administration Costs	643	-	643	245
First Aid Course Costs	1,028	-	1,028	1,749
Rescue Communications Costs	56	-	56	147
Other Course & Meeting Costs	6,065	-	6,065	440
Total	<u>22,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,871</u>	<u>9,320</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments) Before Transfers For The Year	14,403	3	14,406	6,228
Transfers Between Funds	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments)	11,403	3,003	14,406	6,228
Total Funds Brought Forward	3,880	26,023	29,903	23,675
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u><u>15,283</u></u>	<u><u>29,026</u></u>	<u><u>44,309</u></u>	<u><u>29,903</u></u>


The notes on pages 5 form part of these financial statements.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020	2019
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	2	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		44,309	29,903
		<u>44,309</u>	<u>29,903</u>
Creditors			
Amount falling due within one year	3	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Current Assets/(Liabilities)		44,309	29,903
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>44,309</u>	<u>29,903</u>
Funds of the Charity			
General Fund		15,283	3,880
Vehicle Fund		29,026	26,023
		<u>44,309</u>	<u>29,903</u>

This statement was approved by the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Executive Committee.



Chairman
Tom Fford
.....26/02/.....2021



Treasurer
Spencer Drew
.....26/2/.....2021

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the provisions contained in section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 as amended and in accordance with the provisions contained in the guidance for smaller charities issued by the Charity Commission.

2 Tangible Assets

The trustees consider that the market value of the ambulances, is not exceeding £50,000 in aggregate.

3 Liabilities agreed by the Team prior to the year end but paid post year end

The General Fund at the year end is £15,283. £14,040 of this amount has already been agreed and allocated by the Team prior to the year end to be spent on the Digital Control project, the stretcher upgrade project, several specific courses and other outstanding liabilities. These allocated funds are a lot higher than usual due to the projects and courses being delayed due to Covid 19.

4 Trustee Emoluments

No trustees received remuneration or expenses for their roles as trustees during the current or prior period.

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

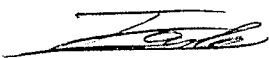
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Ross DIP PFS
Independent Examiner

31/03/2021