

Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

Annual Report for year 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

Registered Charity No 1180863

CHARITY NAME: Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Teams whose registered address is Western Beacons Mountain Rescue team are based out of council garages in Adams Avenue, Sarn Bridgend CF32 9RX however all communication should be directed the Charity [Secretary](#)

The team is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners, No. 1180863. The Charity is a member of the regional body of South Wales Search & Rescue Association, it is also a member of Mountain Rescue England and Wales who are both representative bodies for mountain search and rescue.

The Trustee board for the financial year were:

Chair	Miss Kate Murray
Secretary	Mr Nicholas McAllister
Treasurer	Mr Mark Lewis
Trustee	Mr Jonathan Powell
Trustee	Mr William Oliver

The objects of the Charity, as specified in the constitution, are to assist in the relieving of suffering and distress amongst persons endangered by accidents or natural hazards in South, Mid and West Wales geographical area, but also without geographical limitation, and to provide adequate arrangements for the secure and efficient search and rescue of any persons so endangered. We are also equipped and trained to offer search and rescue in natural disasters.

The team comprises up to 55 volunteers who live within and bordering our operational area. As well as being on call in all weather, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, there is a significant amount of on-going training in advanced first aid, mountain, water and technical search and rescue. This can only be achieved through the dedication of our volunteers and the generosity of their employers.

During the year, the team responded to a total of 37 incidents. The Team callouts involved providing assistance to both South Wales and Dyfed Powys Police Forces and the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST) in conducting searches for missing, vulnerable, and rescuing injured and lost persons. 24% of the calls were for casualties with lower leg injuries. 15% of calls were relating to searches for missing persons.

The team has worked closely with helicopters from the Coastguard, Air Ambulance, and National Police Air Support. Invaluable Joint medical working with the WAST and the Hazardous Area Response Team has proved vital to all services. We continue to work closely with our neighbouring Mountain and Cave Rescue teams and Search and Rescue Dog Association South Wales offering mutual aid when required.

Whilst dealing with Inland waterways incidents the team has worked jointly with both South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

Training

Training has primarily been delivered face to face, however where appropriate some hybrid online training has been incorporated into team activity. The team trains every Monday evening (except bank holidays) and a full weekend each month.

Team Medical training continued to be of great importance within the training calendar of all members.

Our March 2025 training weekend consisted of a residential multi-day joint training exercise with Royal Air Force (RAF) Valley Mountain Rescue Service and South Wales Police. This provided a great opportunity for shared learning and interagency operational training.

During this year we recruited and trained 13 new members. 3 withdrew, 6 have successfully completed their training and are now on the call out list with a further 4 finalising their training and are expected to pass assessment and be added to the call out list in the near future.

Specialist training outlined below has also been undertaken in addition to our routine weekly and monthly Team training. During this period:

Medical:

2 members were successful in recertifying on the Remote Rescue Medical Technician (RRMT) course.

1 member attended the pre-hospital trauma life support course.

4 members successfully completed the iBLS course

Search:

4 members attended the Search managers SML level 1 course

1 member attended the Search managers SML level 2 course

Water:

3 members attended level 2 Mod course

1 member attended Mod 2 instructor recertification course

1 member attended SRTA (Advanced) course.

Finance

The biggest expenditure remains with the running of our vehicles of £8,752.34

Our fleet currently consists of 3 Team vehicles, a Toyota Hilux based at Pontardawe fire station. Our Mobile control vehicle and second response vehicle are kept at our headquarters in Sarn, Bridgend. They are maintained and serviced by South Wales Police (SWP), we would like to thank SWP for their support and work keeping the vehicles on the road. The Trustees on advice and formal request from the Operations Group via the Team Leader have approved in principle the procurement of a second 4x4

Team vehicle to support operational delivery of our Constitutional objectives once relevant funds to purchase this item have been raised.

Income remains low with a running loss of £411.25. The legacy impact of the pandemic continues to have a lasting negative impact on funding combined with the ongoing national cost of living crisis has meant challenges with fundraising - as many in the voluntary sector are also experiencing. Our income from organised events and grants have increased since last year, primarily due to large scale "one off" events such as being nominated by the organisers of 10 Y FAN as their charity of the Year, which we have started to receive funds for and WBMRT's 60th Anniversary raffle. Whilst we have funds to run the day-to-day activities of the team, large investments such as buying a replacement 4X4 vehicle, long term refurbishment or relocation of our Base HQs and specialised equipment replacement are more uncertain.

Safeguarding

We are working towards safer recruiting and vetting procedures within WBMRT.

Acknowledgments

1 member received the Mountain Rescue England and Wales (MREW) Distinguished Service Award

1 member became a National Flood Rescue Tactical Advisor with the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC).

DESIGNATED FUNDS

We are grateful for calling authorities contributing towards our Team vehicles fuel costs, which enabled us to reclaim £2,454.03.

Related Party Transactions

Payments to Trustees – There were no payments to Trustees during this reporting period.

INDEPEDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

The accounts have been subjected to an independent examination by Ms Laura Bowen FMAAT, and her report will be submitted to the Charities Commission with the accounts following their approval by the Trustees and ratification by WBMRT members at the AGM

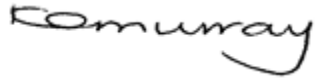
VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The trustees would like to acknowledge and thank all the members for their hard work and commitment this year. It is also important to recognise the families of our volunteers who support the team by supporting members to undertake the training, callouts and events associated with raising our charity profile and fundraising throughout the year.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Trustees confirm they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission including public benefit guidance.

Approved by the Trustees on the 16th May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'kmurray'.

Miss. Kate Murray

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PMLewis'.

Mr. Mark Lewis

Treasurer

For the statements of our financial activities please see the details on the Charity Commission website.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1180863

Set out on pages

3 & 4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

19th April 2025

Name:

Laura Bowen – Lilywhite Accountancy

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FMAAT

Address:

33 Cysgod y Gors

Gorslas, Llanelli

Carmarthenshire SA14 7NW

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team

No (if any)
1180863

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
1st April 2024

To

Period end date
31st March 2025

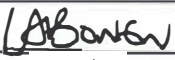

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	15,106	-	-	15,106	19,307
Donation / Transfer from Western Beacons Mountain Search and Rescue Team	-	-	-	-	1,828
Fundraising income	8,026	-	-	8,026	-
Interest received	576	-	-	576	142
Services mileage reclaim	2,523	-	-	2,523	-
Refund of Input VAT	-	-	-	-	11,709
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,231	-	-	26,231	32,986
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sale of vehicle	-	-	-	-	7,500
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	7,500
Total receipts	26,231	-	-	26,231	40,486
A3 Payments					
Vehicles	6,298	-	-	6,298	4,335
Equipment	2,173	600	-	2,773	3,016
Insurance	17	-	-	17	866
Base	2,221	-	-	2,221	1,398
Training	5,209	-	-	5,209	2,848
Fuel	2,454	-	-	2,454	5,247
Utilities	598	-	-	598	5,082
VAT to be reclaimed in future periods	3,171	-	-	3,171	2,785
Other	5,097	-	-	5,097	516
Sub total	26,042	600	-	26,642	26,093
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	26,042	600	-	26,642	26,093
Net of receipts/(payments)	189	- 600	-	- 411	14,393
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	46,229	5,685	-	51,914	37,521
Cash funds this year end	46,418	5,085	-	51,503	51,914

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	7,041	5,085	-
	Deposit Account	39,377	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	46,418	5,085	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Laura Bowen FMAAT	19th April 2025
	Mark Lewis	20/5/25



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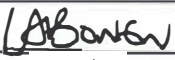

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