

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st August 2024

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

Trustees Report on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024



The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2024.

Objectives and activities

The Association was set up to provide a mountain rescue service in Deeside, Scotland, or any place within the proximity of Braemar, by encouraging, co-ordinating and supporting the members. In addition, further aims are to acquire suitable equipment for rescue activities and to raise funds for these purposes.

Achievements and performance

The Association has continued to meet the demand for both mountain rescue and team training with details of all rescues summarised out-with the financial statements. Throughout the year the Association's equipment continued to be maintained and updated in accordance with best practice and manufacturers recommendations.

Team members continue to train in various aspects of mountaineering which have a direct connection with mountain rescue; this includes both internal and external training which not only develops those individual members but also allows cascading of skills and techniques to the wider team.

The quantity of call outs and the type of call outs are around forty per annum.

Financial review

The Association made a surplus of £56,515 before gains on its investments of £91,419 resulting in an increase to the reserves. The Association continues to keep the level of expenses incurred in obtaining voluntary income via donations, legacies, and fundraising activities to a minimum, with only £2,138 being spent to obtain £135,366 of income.

The investment policy is set by the trustees with input from professional advisers. The current policy is to invest in low to medium risk securities providing a consistent and growing income, with reasonable prospects for capital appreciation, when viewed over a number of years. The dividend income of £13,349 represents a return of 1.24% on the closing market value of investments which continue to be held mostly in unit trusts to reduce the investment risk whilst maintaining a decent return. In addition to the listed investments which now have a market value of £1,080,050, £165,269 above their original costs, there are still substantial funds held in various bank accounts/deposits.

By prudently running the Association in relation to costs and trying to maximise income with the ability to collect public donations on-line, the Association continues to be able to spend the vast majority of its outgoings on the charitable activities.

The engagement of an independent financial advisor to review the investment portfolio provides comfort that the investments held by the Association are suitable for its needs, taking into account an appropriate risk and reward profile. Part of this process involved trading in some of the investments and investing via an on-line portfolio platform, managed by investment experts.

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association



Trustees Report on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Association to retain adequate general funds to safeguard the continuance of the Association's activities. At 31st August 2024, unrestricted funds totalled £1,640,721 (2023 - £1,493,525).

The increase in unrestricted funds over the year is due to the fall in expenditure on equipment since 2022. The trustees continually monitor these funds so that they can be most beneficially expended or invested in furtherance of the objectives of the Association.

The Association holds restricted presentation funds with the purpose of recognising the services provided by members. All monies paid into this fund are received from ongoing members separate from any charitable income received. At 31st August 2024, the presentation fund totalled £837 (2023 - £99).

Plans for future periods

The Association aims to continue to meet the original charitable objectives by continually assessing the need for training, new equipment, members, etc., whilst keeping a watchful eye on the finances. The Association is now in a strong position with regard to its buildings and has planning permission to extend the Braemar base to enhance the existing facilities there. The building work began in September 2024 with an estimated completion date of early 2025.

The Association continues to review its presence on social media, updating its website to ensure that we are managing our public profile efficiently.

Structure, governance, and management

Governing document

The Association is governed by constitution, whilst the affairs and property of the Association are managed by the trustees, which has the power to delegate any part of its duties to individuals or sub-groups as appointed from time to time and, due to continuing increases in the administration and operations of the Association, the use of sub-groups, with an appointed convener, is becoming more prevalent to make best use of individual members' interests/skills and to spread the burden.

Trustees/members' induction and training

The trustees are drawn from the membership, with appointments being approved at the Association AGM, whilst members tend to come via applications, which are reviewed by the trustees before those believed suitable are interviewed and, if successful, are invited to join on a probationary basis. All members are subject to ongoing appropriate training for rescue activities through structured training and practical experience. All of the trustees are aware of the regulations put in place re the formation of OSCR to oversee the Scottish charities sector and the changes brought in by the 2005 Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act.

Related parties

The Association continues to have strong operational links with the Police Scotland (Grampian) Mountain Rescue Team.



**Trustees Report on the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

Risk assessment

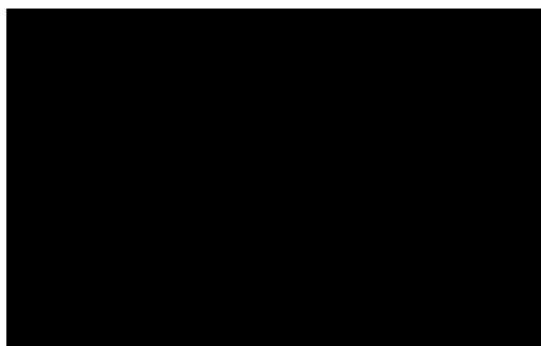
This is obviously a major part of the rescue and training side of the charitable activities and regular inspections of equipment and vehicles is undertaken and assessments carried out in conjunction with the Police Scotland (Grampian) Mountain Rescue Team. Therefore, there are procedures in place as far as health and safety risks are concerned and these are continually updated as and when required.

As far as the administration of the Association is concerned, the main risk is a lack of funds to enable the Association to meet its activities and objectives. In this regard, the Association holds a high level of unrestricted reserves which would easily see it through a period of years should there be a drop in the level of donations or should the annual grant received from the Scottish Government cease. Funds currently held are also required to finance the replacement of the off-road vehicles, which are costly to replace, whilst there is also the ongoing maintenance/upgrading of the properties at Braemar and Ballater. Due to the uncertainties regarding the Scottish weather and the relationship this has with the rescue activities, it is felt justified to hold high reserves to meet potential increased costs for fuel, communications, and equipment replacement.

Trustees and Professional Advisers

Patron: HM King Charles III

Trustees:



Principal office: 23 Albert Road
Ballater
AB35 5QL

Bankers: Bank of Scotland
9 Bridge Street
Ballater
AB35 5QP

Solicitors: Stronachs
28 Albyn Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1YL

Accountants: James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
Aberdeen
AB11 6XZ

Charities reference: SC008652



**Trustees Report on the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st August 2024**

Responsibilities of the trustees in relation to the financial statements

The trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK GAAP).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- (b) observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- (c) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (d) state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- (e) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Trustees

6 December 2024



Report by the Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1) (c) of the 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and 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 the course of my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give 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 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended)

have 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

Partner
James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
Aberdeen
AB11 6XZ

16.1.25

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association



Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	134,012	1,354	135,366	68,387
Investments	3	21,307	-	21,307	26,137
Charitable activities	4	-	-	-	-
Total income		155,319	1,354	156,673	94,524
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	2,138	-	2,138	5,076
Charitable activities	6/7	97,404	616	98,020	62,688
Total expenditure		99,542	616	100,158	67,764
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds before gains/ (losses) on investments					
		55,777	738	56,515	26,760
Net (loss)/gain on investment assets	10	91,419	-	91,419	(745)
Net movement in funds for year		147,196	738	147,934	26,015
Total funds brought forward		1,493,525	99	1,493,624	1,467,609
Total funds carried forward	14	1,640,721	837	1,641,558	1,493,624

The notes on pages 8 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

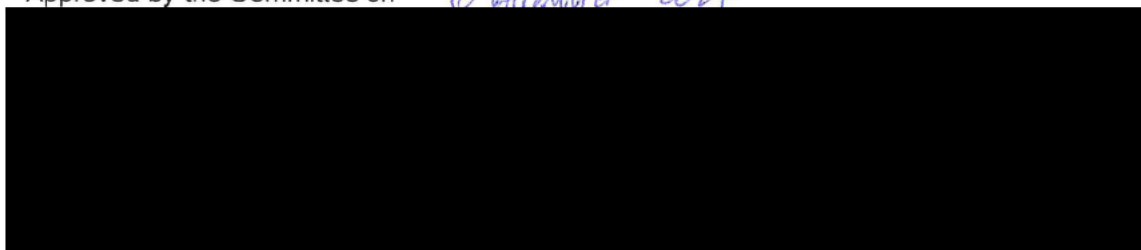


Balance Sheet at 31st August 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		251,248		254,788
Investments	10		<u>1,080,050</u>		<u>972,688</u>
			1,331,298		1,227,476
Current assets					
Stock			100		100
Debtors	11		32,085		11,803
Cash at bank and in hand	12		<u>291,924</u>		<u>271,110</u>
			324,109		283,013
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>(13,849)</u>		<u>(16,865)</u>
Net current assets			310,260		266,148
Net assets			<u>1,641,558</u>		<u>1,493,624</u>
Funds	14				
General - unrestricted			1,640,721		1,493,525
Presentation – restricted			<u>837</u>		<u>99</u>
			<u>1,641,558</u>		<u>1,493,624</u>

Approved by the Committee on

6 December 2024



The notes on pages 8 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.



1. Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by and the restatement of investments at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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

1.2 Use of funds

The members use the funds at their disposal to provide and operate the mountain rescue service and there are no restrictions on the general funds apart from the general objects of the Association. A separate presentation fund is maintained to use towards gifts/leaving events for members and the money in this fund comes from the members.

1.3 Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation on the bases set out hereunder.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets. The rates used to write off the cost of each asset evenly over its expected useful life are as follows:

Buildings	- over period of 99 years
Plant and machinery	- over 5 years
Motor vehicles	- 25% reducing balance
Computer equipment	- over 5 years

Due to the hazardous nature of rescues and use of rescue equipment, all expenditure on such items is expensed in the year of purchase.

1.4 Grants

(i) Capital expenditure grants

Grants are set against capital expenditure in the year incurred. Grants are released to funds by equal annual instalments over the expected useful lives of the relevant assets.

(ii) Revenue grants

Revenue grants are included in the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis.

1.5 Investments

Investments are included at market value. Realised gains and losses arising on disposals of investments during the year are included in the statement of financial activities. Unrealised gains and losses arising on revaluation of the investments at the end of the year are adjusted on closing funds by inclusion in the summary statement of financial activities.

Income from investments is included in the accounts when receivable.

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31st August 2024



1.6 Legacies and donations

Legacies and donations are included in the financial statements when receivable and on an accruals basis to the extent that the monetary value can be reasonably quantified.

1.7 Taxation

The Association is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

1.8 Stock

Stock of books, promotional materials and stationery is stated at cost.

1.9 Support costs

Support costs include the costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and are recognised on an accruals basis.

1.10 Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.11 Cash at bank

Cash at bank includes balances within accessible bank accounts with no maturity date.

1.12 Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the association has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

1.13 Financial instruments

The association only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2. Voluntary income

	2024 £	2023 £
Scottish Mountain Rescue	29,076	21,102
Donations and collection boxes	52,643	42,127
Legacies	52,293	3,989
Tax recovered	-	1,141
Contributions to presentation fund	1,354	28
	<u>135,366</u>	<u>68,387</u>

3. Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Dividends	13,349	21,625
Bank interest	7,958	4,512
	<u>21,307</u>	<u>26,137</u>

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association



Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31st August 2024

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Book sales	-	-
Other fundraising	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

5. Costs of generating voluntary income

	2024 £	2023 £
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>2,138</u>	<u>5,076</u>

6. Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Council tax	3,277	1,575
Heat and light	1,764	1,214
Cleaning and maintenance costs	9,222	1,810
Insurance	8,079	5,697
Training	12,296	7,721
Property and equipment repairs	3,034	3,990
Printing, postage, and stationery	-	70
Presentation Fund costs	616	406
Bank costs	161	158
Highland Cross entry fees	360	-
Sarcall subscription	500	-
Membership costs	439	446
Waste disposal	-	485
Domestic equipment	-	627
Travel costs	400	400
Telephone	1,806	1,337
Sponsorship	3,333	3,333
Rescue equipment and medical supplies	29,741	12,964
Transport costs	6,945	3,980
Depreciation of property, garage equipment, vehicles, and computers	7,180	7,086
	<u>89,153</u>	<u>53,299</u>

7. Support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Investment management fees	7,442	8,461
Professional fees	-	(587)
Accountancy fees	1,425	1,515
	<u>8,867</u>	<u>9,389</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the year ended 31st August 2024

8. Related party transactions and member's expenses and remuneration

No committee member received any remuneration for their duties carried out in the year (2023 – Nil). Expenses paid to the members in the year totalled £3,328 (2023 - £8,723) which were made up of seven member's reimbursed expenses for Association costs.

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Property £	Motor vehicles £	Garage equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1st September 2023	288,457	27,197	15,458	11,709	342,821
Additions	-	-	3,640	-	3,640
At 31st August 2024	288,457	27,197	19,098	11,709	346,461
Depreciation					
At 1st September 2023	45,896	21,283	12,207	8,647	88,033
Charge for year	2,914	1,479	1,749	1,038	7,180
At 31st August 2024	48,810	22,762	13,956	9,685	95,213
Net book value					
At 31st August 2024	239,647	4,435	5,142	2,024	251,248
At 31st August 2023	242,561	5,914	3,251	3,062	254,788

Following lengthy discussions regarding ownership of the Mountain Rescue Centre at Braemar, a legal agreement between the Association and Police Scotland (Grampian Police ceased to exist when Police Scotland was formed on 1st April 2013) was signed in April 2013, which identified that each organisation now owns 50% of the building, and also accepts responsibility for 50% of the building's maintenance and running costs.

The Association has a policy of fully expensing rescue equipment in the year of acquisition. This policy is appropriate for the equipment due to the nature of its use.

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31st August 2024



10. Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1st September 2023	972,688	968,696
Additions	1,398,000	130,983
Disposals	(1,382,057)	(126,246)
Net unrealised (loss)/gain	91,419	(745)
Market value at 31st August 2024	<u>1,080,050</u>	<u>972,688</u>
Historical cost at 31st August 2024	<u>914,781</u>	<u>891,671</u>
Market value at 31st August 2024 comprises		
Equities	1,080,050	972,688
Charishare/Charifund units	-	-
	<u>1,080,050</u>	<u>972,688</u>
Whereof:		
Investment assets in the UK	<u>1,080,050</u>	<u>972,688</u>

11. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	626	532
Prepayments	31,459	11,271
	<u>32,085</u>	<u>11,803</u>

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association



Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 31st August 2024

12. Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
National Savings Income Bonds	175,000	175,000
Bank of Scotland Current Account	66,514	37,464
Bank of Scotland Presentation Fund Account	837	99
Bank of Scotland Business Instant Online Account	30,000	30,000
Stockbrokers funds held	19,573	28,547
	<u>291,924</u>	<u>271,110</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	<u>13,849</u>	<u>16,865</u>

14. Funds

	2024			2023		
	Total	General	Presentation	Total	General	Presentation
	£	Fund	Fund	£	Fund	Fund
At 1st September 2023	1,493,624	1,493,525	99	1,467,609	1,467,132	477
Net surplus/(deficit) for year	56,515	55,777	738	26,760	27,138	(378)
Other recognised (losses)/gains	91,419	91,419	-	(745)	(745)	-
At 31st August 2024	<u>1,641,558</u>	<u>1,640,721</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>1,493,624</u>	<u>1,493,525</u>	<u>99</u>

(a) The General Fund is unrestricted and is available to be spent for any purpose of the charity.

(b) The Presentation Fund is a restricted fund and is used towards gifts/leaving events for members and the money in this fund comes from the members.

15. Allocation of net assets amongst funds

	General Fund £	Presentation Fund £	Total £
Tangible assets	251,248	-	251,248
Investments	1,080,050	-	1,080,050
Stock	100	-	100
Debtors	32,085	-	32,085
Cash at bank	291,087	837	291,924
Creditors	(13,849)	-	(13,849)
Net assets at 31st August 2024	<u>1,640,721</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>1,641,558</u>



**The following page does not form part
of the financial statements**

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association



Schedule 1 Investments

	Income £	Market Value at 31/08/24 £	Cost at 31/08/24 £	Market Value at 31/08/23 £	Cost at 31/08/23 £
Braemar Community Hydro					
Ordinary £1 shares	54	653	653	707	707
Central Investments portfolio	13,295	1,079,397	914,128	971,981	890,964
	13,349	1,080,050	914,781	972,688	891,671