

Newsletter

Summer/Autumn
2015



Welcome to our Summer/Autumn Newsletter!

Welcome to our latest newsletter!

It's been a while coming but we decided it was about time for a refresh and a new website! Therefore, we are very pleased to announce that our new CVSRT website is now up and running!!

It's absolutely packed with useful information about 'who we are', 'what we do' and 'where it all started' including previously unreleased photos from our archive. You'll also notice some of the stunning photographs from our recent fundraising calendar, which were kindly captured by Hanners in 2014.

Also check out the GoPro™ video of Search Dog 'Pepper' as she searches for a dogsbody during training, plus there's the footage of the amazing day we spent



with Nathan and Andrew during their 'Aim Higher Challenge at Stoodley Pike'.

We hope you enjoy exploring all the different areas of the team such as; fundraising, public events, vehicles and our Search Dogs & handlers - all of which contribute to making the team such an effective emergency resource.

It's easy to forget sometimes

that we are all unpaid volunteers too, so please have a look at the Support us page to see the many ways you can support the team. We've also introduced a 'Wish List' that may be of interest to some of our supporters.

We really love this new website and we hope you do too.

Start exploring now:
www.cvsrt.org.uk

Callouts

Incident #864: Chellow Dean Tuesday, 31 March 2015

The team was tasked by West Yorkshire Police to assist in the search for a vulnerable person missing from home.

Thankfully the lady was found by the Police whilst team members were on route to the rendezvous point.

Incident #865: Pecket Well, Hebden Bridge Saturday, 4 April 2015

On Saturday the Yorkshire Ambulance Service were alerted to a walker on the moor above Hebden Bridge who had slipped and injured his knee.

First on scene was the Yorkshire Air Ambulance followed shortly by Calder Mobiles 1, 2 and 3, all were able to drive right up to the casualty site.

Following treatment by the Air Ambulance Paramedics, Team members then stretchered the casualty to the helicopter.



The helicopter then flew the casualty across the valley to Keighley Road where CVSRT members had stopped traffic to allow it to land.

The Casualty was then transferred to a land ambulance for onward transport to Hospital.

Incident #866: Copley Woods Thursday, 16 April 2015

The CVSRT Prime Group were contacted by the West Yorkshire Police asking for assistance with an ongoing missing person inquire in the woods at Copley.

A conversation between the CVSRT

Team Leader and the Sgt in charge provided the Police with local area knowledge and ongoing phone work led to the Police resolving this without a Full team call being needed.

Incident #867: Ilkley Moor Thursday, 16 April 2015

Two persons out walking on the Millenium Way had gotten themselves lost, they phoned the Police requesting Mountain Rescue who in turn contacted the CVSRT Leaders.

Immediately after receiving the call one of our Assistant Leaders rang the caller with a view to making sure they were ok and giving them a little guidance as to their location.

After a couple of minutes on the phone reassuring the lost walkers and using local knowledge, the leader was able to guide them towards civilisation.

A short time later and they were on the road into town grateful of the help.

Incident #868: Ovenden, Halifax Thursday, 23 April 2015

Just after midnight last night (22nd April), CVSRT were alerted to an incident in Ovenden, Halifax by Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) who required urgent assistance with a casualty.

Initial reports were that a 24yr old female had taken a tumble down a steep banking and was 'stuck on a crag'. Whilst the exact location and potential injuries were confirmed, the team were mobilised.



Once on-scene, a team doctor tended to the casualty, whilst the remaining members prepared a hauling system attached to the bell stretcher.

Thankfully the young lady wasn't

February 2015 to August 2015



23 PEOPLE RESCUED



**38
CALLOUTS**

seriously injured and was quickly packaged, brought back up the steep ground and handed over to the waiting YAS paramedics for treatment for facial grazes and a leg injury.

Team stood down, returned to base and then onward to their homes at 2am.

Incident #869: Cock Hill MTB Centre, Cornholme Saturday, 25 April 2015

On Saturday (25th April), CVSRT were called out by Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to assist with the treatment and urgent evacuation of an injured mountain biker who had been knocked unconscious after colliding head first with a tree. The incident occurred on the downhill section at the MTB course near Portsmouth, Todmorden.

A team doctor supported by two team paramedics worked alongside the first responding YAS crew to treat the patient who had regained consciousness, but was beginning



to be quite ill. Due to the steep, densely wooded location of the casualty, the North West Air Ambulance (NWAA) wasn't able to land nearby, so the helicopter touched down in a clearing on top of the hill.

Once the casualty was stable, he was loaded into the vacuum mattresses, then onto a stretcher for the carry to the land ambulance, and transferred to the air ambulance.



To facilitate the movement of the patient, the main road had to be closed for a short while. CVSRT would like to thank the local motorists who were delayed during this incident, for their patience and understanding.

We've since heard that the casualty received a CT scan and was kept under observation for several hours. Thankfully, he was later released from hospital with no major injuries and minor concussion.

Incident #870: Elland Bridge, Elland Sunday, 26 April 2015

CVSRT received a call from West Yorkshire Police requesting attendance at Elland Bridge to assist with a casualty who was sat on the bridge threatening to jump.

Calder Mobiles 1, 2 and 3 being still crewed from the Stoodley Pike Aim Higher Challenge immediately redirected to provide rescue cover.

CVSRT provided scene cover as directed by the Police due to multiple access points and a limited number of officers, whilst the remaining Police negotiated with the casualty.

In addition, two team members were placed on the canal tow path with throw lines to cover officers standing on a banking above the water margin.

WYP successfully negotiated subject to safety who was then taken into protective custody, at this point the team stood down and returned to base.

Incident #871: Coiners Fell Race, Mytholmroyd Monday, 4 May 2015

Whilst providing cover on the Coiners Fell Race, Team members were asked to assist a runner who was experiencing breathing difficulties.

The patient was cared for by one of the teams Cas Carers who administered oxygen and monitored the young ladies condition until she improved sufficiently for father to take her home.

Incident #872: Blackstone Edge Sunday, 7 June 2015

Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team were alerted by Greater Manchester Police (Rochdale North), to an incident involving a climber who had become cragfast at Blackstone Edge. Within 9 minutes, Calder Mobile 1, 2 and 3 were en route, shortly followed by CM4.



Due to the remote location of the hapless climber, a CVSRT member was air lifted with rescue equipment, direct to the scene by the National Police Air Service (NPAS Barton). The climber was then quickly attached to a safety line until full team support arrived.



Once on scene, team members effected a 'single-man rope rescue' and proceeded to lower the relieved climber down the



crag face to terra firma. He then gratefully thanked the team for their assistance and made his way off the moors, safe and well.

The team stood down and returned to base, and then onward to their homes.

Incident #873: Ogden Water, Halifax Monday, 8 June 2015

At 08:00 in the morning CVSRT were jointly contacted by West Yorkshire Police and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to assist in the search and recovery of a distressed person on the moors above Ogden Water.

The casualty had slipped down a clough coming to rest in the stream below, sustaining a minor head injury and mild hypothermia.

As part of the search, a police helicopter from NPAS (Barton) was tasked to fly over the moorland area to locate the casualty. NPAS Barton located the casualty and directed the attending paramedics to his location where they were able to treat him for his injuries.

With a long and difficult carry out ahead of them, Paramedics on scene requested the assistance of CVSRT.



18 team members and our three 4x4 vehicles responded to Ogden Water to assist with the extraction. All our vehicles were able to drive onto the moor to the casualty site, the patient was then loaded onto a Bell stretcher, placed into the back of a team Land Rover and driven down to the car park where the Ambulance was waiting.

Incident #874: Apperley Bridge, Bradford

Thursday, 11 June 2015

CVSRT's assistance was requested mid morning by a Yorkshire Ambulance crew whose patient was in a difficult location.

A female cyclist out on a ride with her family had taken a fall from a canal towpath, approx. half a mile from the nearest access point, ending up at the bottom of an embankment.

The patient suffered facial injuries and possible spinal damage as a result of her fall. The attending Paramedics dealt with the medical treatment including placing the patient on a spinal board, immobilising her, and preventing any further injury.



Along with members of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service who had also been despatched, we then lifted the patient on the board back up to the towpath and onto a barge which had stopped to offer assistance.



The lady then had a very smooth ride along the canal to a point where the Ambulance could be brought onto the towpath. Once there CVSRT members lifted the casualty off the boat and into the Ambulance for further treatment and transport to hospital.

Incident #875: Bramham Park, Leeds

Saturday, 20 June 2015

At 12:55, CVSRT were alerted to an incident in Bramham Park near Wetherby, where a lady had

fallen from her horse and required urgent assistance.

Calder Mobiles 1, 2, 3 and 4 were mobilised with some team members also going direct. The first members on-scene quickly established the casualty would be transferred by Yorkshire Air Ambulance and the remaining members stood down whilst en route.

We have since had an update on the casualty who sustained a dislocated shoulder.

Whilst returning to base, team members were alerted to a second incident in Hebden Bridge - Incident #876

Incident #876: Hebden Bridge

Saturday, 20 June 2015

Whilst returning to base from Incident #875, team members were alerted to a second incident in Hebden Bridge.

Initial reports were that a person had fallen into the river and had not resurfaced. Fifteen team members were deployed including our specially trained swiftwater rescue technicians.

Once on-scene it was confirmed that the casualty had been safely located and was being cared for by the Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

The team then stood down.

Incident #877: Elland

Sunday, 21 June 2015

Today was the annual Overgate Hospice Summer Mountain Bike Challenge.

Three Team members and two trainees were in attendance providing safety cover for the event.

Most of the day passed without incident; however two riders did need our medical assistance. The first sustained a suspected fractured collar bone, the casualty was given pain relief, his injured arm was placed in a sling and he was transported to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

The second sustained a nasty cut to his knee, the wound was dirty so a team medic irrigated and covered the wound. The injured mountain biker was strongly advised to get it all checked and probably stitched at hospital.

Incident #878: Widdop Reservoir

Saturday, 27 June 2015

This morning, Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team were alerted to an incident involving a mountain biker who had fallen from his ride near Upper Gorpel Reservoir, dislocating his shoulder.

Calder Mobile 1 & 3 with 7 members were deployed to assist Yorkshire Ambulance Service and



Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Due to the remote location, the casualty was airlifted to hospital for treatment.

At 11:57, the team stood down and CM3 returned to base whilst CM1 returned to the Mytholmroyd Gala to continue fundraising.

Incident #879: Norwood Forest

Sunday, 28 June 2015

Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team and Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association (UWFRA) were called out today to assist with an injured mountain biker in Norwood Forest near Otley.



The casualty was transferred to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance for his onward journey to hospital

Incident #880: Lumb Falls, Hebden Bridge

Wednesday, 1 July 2015

At 18:45, CVSRT were alerted to an incident at Lumb Falls near Pecket Well, where a man had sustained a head injury following a fall from a tree.

13 team members were deployed to provide Casualty Care and also evacuate the man to the

ambulance for further treatment.

Members returned to base and then onward to their homes at 21:45.

Incident #881: St Ives, Bingley Sunday, 5 July 2015

CVSRT received a request from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to assist with extricating a 12yr old child trapped by a rock.

A full team callout was initiated and all CVSRT Vehicles headed to the incident, first on scene was a local team member who met up with the Ambulance Service Crew.

The patient wasn't as stuck as first thought and the crew were able to deal with the patient without further assistance, at this point the team stood down and returned to base.

Incident #882: Stake Lane, Mytholmroyd Sunday, 12 July 2015

CVSRT were alerted by the Ambulance Service to a 7yr old child who had fallen off a hay bale approx 1.5miles up Stake Lane, sustaining a suspected spinal injury.

20 team members headed to the scene and using our three 4x4's were able to drive close to the casualties location.

Working alongside the responding paramedics the young girl was gently packaged and placed onto a Bell Stretcher, as the drive in was quite rough it was decided carrying the casualty out would be a smoother option than in a vehicle.

Members carried the young lady approx half a mile down through woods and fields to the waiting Ambulance for onward transport to hospital.

Incident #883: Bronte Falls Wednesday, 22 July 2015

At 10:36 this morning, Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team were alerted by Yorkshire Ambulance Service, to an incident at the Brontë Waterfalls near Stanbury, involving an injured female who had sustained a fractured ankle and was suffering from water emersion and mild hypothermia. Within 4 minutes, 15 Team members were en route to assist.

Once on-scene, the team Doctor and Paramedics tended to the



casualty whilst the remaining team members prepared the bell stretcher to transfer the lady to the waiting H M Coastguard Helicopters Sikorsky S-92



helicopter for her onward journey to Airedale Hospital.

At 11:58, team members stood down and returned to base, then back to their place of work.

Incident #884: Cow and Calf, Ilkley Thursday, 23 July 2015

Early afternoon and Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team were called along with Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association (UWFRA) to assist West Yorkshire Police in the search for a vulnerable missing male at the Cow and Calf, Ilkley.

Sixteen team members and 3 search dogs were quickly deployed and shortly afterwards the missing male was located.

He was treated by MR medics for an ongoing medical condition and then transferred to an Ambulance for onward transport and treatment in Hospital.

Incident #885: Hardcastle Crag Wednesday, 29 July 2015

At 2pm, Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team were alerted to an incident at Hardcastle Crag involving a lady who had slipped whilst walking near Gibson Mill, sustaining a lower leg injury.

Thirteen team members were deployed to assist the ambulance crew.

Once on-scene, the casualty

was quickly loaded onto the Bell stretcher and carried through the woodland to the waiting ambulance for further treatment.



Incident #887: Hardcastle Crag Sunday 9th August

Earlier today, Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team were alerted by Yorkshire Ambulance Service, to an incident at Hardcastle Crag near Gibson Mill, involving a 60yr walker who had fallen sustaining a puncture wound to the abdomen and possible pelvic injuries.



The team deployed 18 team members in Calder Mobile 1, 2 and 3 to assist the ambulance crew. Once on-scene the casualty was packaged in a vacuum mattress and evacuated on the Bell stretcher to the road ambulance for onward journey to hospital.

Incident #888: Otley Chevin Tuesday 11th August

CVSRT were alerted to an incident involving an 8year old female who had fallen approx. 50ft off rocks at Otley Chevin.

Calder Mobile 1, 2 and 3 were deployed to assist the emergency services. Once on-scene, CVSRT members assisted the ambulance crew and the HART team to carry



the casualty by stretcher to the land ambulance for onward journey to the hospital for treatment for her injuries.

The team stood down at 16:20 and started heading back to base.

At 16:21 the team were placed on stand-by for the second callout of the day.

Incident #889: Oxenhope Tuesday 11th August

CVSRT received a request from West Yorkshire Police for assistance with the search for a vulnerable 78yr old male in the Oxenhope area.

Concerns were growing for the gentleman's safety as he had been missing since 10pm the previous night. A full team callout was issued and all vehicles were deployed to scene to assist with the search.

With so much activity in the area, the local residents were eager to help by sharing the missing persons appeal on social media and checking their gardens and outbuildings.

This paid off, as shortly after 9pm, a member of the public alerted the team to the missing male in farmland adjacent to their property.



A team doctor assessed the casualty on-scene before the team transferred him to the ambulance for onward journey to hospital.

A great conclusion to a busy day. We like a happy ending.

The team stood down at 22:30 and returned to base.

Incident #890: Otley Chevin Saturday 22nd August

On the 22nd of August Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team received a request for urgent assistance from Yorkshire Ambulance Service, with a 47yo female who had fallen and sustained a possible lower leg



closed fracture at Chevin Forest Park, Otley.

Due to the steep, densely wooded and slippery location, the team used a rope system with four 'barrow boys' attached to the Bell stretcher to evacuate the casualty, some 125 metres down the hillside to the road below and the waiting ambulance.

Incident #891: Hipperholme Sunday 23rd August

On Sunday afternoon, CVSRT were called upon by Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to assist with an injured quad biker who had come off his ride in remote



woodland near Badger Lane, Hipperholme.

An Ambulance Rapid Response vehicle and a YAS Paramedic were first on-scene and immobilised the patient's spine and administered pain relief, as he was indicating pain in his shoulder, chest and back.



The biker had fallen off whilst riding down a sloped bank, which in fact had a hidden drop causing him to lose control with the quad bike coming to rest on top of him.

Once on-scene, CVSRT members placed the casualty into a vacuum mattress, loaded him onto a

stretcher and safely carried him back to the path before transferring him approx. 0.25 mile along the track to the waiting ambulance.

Incident #892: Denholme Monday 24th August

CVSRT were called out on Monday 24th August by the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to assist with a gentleman who, whilst out walking, had fallen on a steep banking near Doe Park Reservoir, Denholme. The man ended up at the base of the slope, sustaining



an ankle injury on the way down.

He was initially treated by the responding ambulance crew who were joined by four members of the YAS Hazardous Area Response Team (HART) and several CVSRT members who were near-by. Working together, they secured the casualty on the slope, administered pain relief and



treated his ankle injury.

On arrival of the first CVSRT vehicles, the patient was secured by a simple rope belay, then packaged into a vacuum mattress and loaded onto the Bell stretcher. Evacuation was then carried out by means of sledging the stretcher using a walking "V" up to the top of the slope and then carried to the land ambulance.

Once loaded into ambulance, CVSRT members stood down and returned to base and then onward to their homes.

Events and News

Generous Donations

March 2015

Many thanks to the generous crowd at the Halifax Rugby League vs Featherstone Rovers RLFC match on the 8th March who helped to raise £612.10.

Many thanks also to Brighouse Probus Club for their generosity and continued support. On the 16th of March CVSRT Secretary Howard Barton received a cheque for £250 from Club Chairman, John Radcliffe.



Canal Cleanup

23rd March 2015

On Saturday, CVSRT were deployed to help clean-up land that separates Burnley Road and the Rochdale Canal, in particular the fields between the Moderna Industrial Estate Mytholmroyd and Brearley.

The aim of the event was to clear litter and debris that had built up over many years and was becoming an eyesore for canal users.

The event was organised by Hebden Royd Council (www.hebdenroyd.org.uk) in conjunction with Calder Future (www.calderfuture.org.uk).

Our team of enthusiastic volunteers and Supporters Group donned heavy duty gloves and old clothes ready to bag up rubbish ready for collection, later in the week, by the Council. A small inflatable

boat was used to transport the rubbish across the canal for easy extraction to the collection point.

CVSRT is very proud of our links with the local community and wherever possible we like to get involved with as many local events, groups or fundraising activities as possible.

Our river clean is a very popular annual event and this year we welcomed many of our new 'Active Supporters Group' to help out. A very productive few hours making the area a much nicer place to be!

Many thanks for your continued support.



Events and News

Police Commissioner presents cheque

27th January 2015

On Friday April 17th, Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team had the pleasure of welcoming two special guests to our Mytholmroyd base; Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner West Yorkshire, Mark Burns-Williamson OBE and West Yorkshire Police - Calderdale Valleys District Superintendent, Owen West.

The purpose of their visit was to present CVSRT with a cheque for £2000, in recognition of the team's commitment to the local community and the invaluable support to West Yorkshire

Police and the other statutory emergency services.

This was Mr Burns-Williamson's first visit to a Mountain Rescue England and Wales Team



Pictured (left to right): Calderdale District Superintendent, Owen West with Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire, Mark Burns-Williamson OBE presents a cheque to CVSRT Team Leader, Ben Carter.

base, so he was keen to gain a better understanding of how the team operates.

Several members were on-hand to provide an informative presentation, followed by a guided tour of The Rescue Post, with opportunity to see our emergency response vehicles, life-saving equipment and meet one of our search dogs ('Meg').

As some of you may know, it costs approx £35,000 per year to remain operational, which is raised entirely by fundraising and donations. If you would like to support the team, please visit:

www.cvsrt.org.uk/support-us/

Goodbye to Sea King Helicopters

31st March 2015

Today sees the end of an era with the last operational day for the Sea King Search & Rescue Helicopters [202 Squadron E Flight], based at RAF Leconfield.

Like all mountain rescue teams around the UK, Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team have enjoyed a long and successful working relationship over many years with the staff and crews - all with one common goal - the



well-being of the casualties.

From tomorrow, the new Search & Rescue service provided by H M Coastguard

Helicopters will take to the skies - a newer, faster, more capable aircraft, which we've all heard so much about over the last few months.

CVSRT would like to take the opportunity to wish the new kid on the block, all the best for the future...

...but also, a heartfelt thank you to our old friend, the Sea King who so many owe a huge debt gratitude.

Semper vigilate - 'Be always vigilant'

Events and News

Drew climbs Kilimanjaro for CVSRT

21st July 2015

Drew Whitworth, who lives in Hebden Bridge, recently contacted the team to say he had a great idea to help raise funds for Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team. Obviously we were intrigued to find out more!!

On the 28th July, his epic journey begins to climb Kilimanjaro - the highest mountain in Africa (19,340ft/ 5,895m) and he expects to reach the summit on 2nd August. He also hopes to raise £1500 from the challenge, which will be donated to CVSRT.

Drew said, "Having spent a considerable amount of time walking in remote places, I'm well aware that being prepared with the right skills and suitable equipment is key to remaining safe. That said, if I needed urgent medical assistance whilst out and about, it's reassuring to know that voluntary teams like Calder Valley Search and

Rescue are there to help".

In addition to the Kilimanjaro challenge, Drew's local pub, The Railway (New Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8AD) is holding a 'Welcome Home' fundraising day on Sunday 9th August with various fun activities and a raffle to help raise more funds for CVSRT.

Pete Farnell, CVSRT Chairman said, "It was great to meet Drew recently when he visited the base to tell us about his challenge. The team are extremely grateful and wish him well with the trek and the fundraising day at The Railway pub."

The money raised will go directly towards helping replace our ageing Land Rover Defender 110 (Calder Mobile 3). The new vehicle will hopefully be operational by the



end of 2015 and cost in the region of £40,000 to purchase and will be specially modified for Mountain Rescue service."

Support Drew via his fundraising page:
<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/drewdoeskilimanjaro>

Follow his adventures here: <http://214wainwrights.wordpress.com>

Do you have an idea to raise funds for CVSRT? Let us know and we will help to promote your event or challenge.

Cheque received

25th August 2015

Earlier this month, CVSRT members were presented with a cheque for £269.34 by Lisa Stansfield, and the staff at the Halifax Bank, Todmorden. The amount was kindly raised recently by holding a hamper raffle, and the proceeds were match funded by the Halifax bank.

In addition to this amount shown on the cheque in the photograph, CVSRT also



received £700 from a collection at Lisa's husband, Wayne Stansfield's funeral, who tragically died earlier this year.

Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to Lisa, all

the staff at the branch and everyone who donated or supported the hamper raffle.

The funds were

gratefully received by, CVSRT President Bob Utley and Assistant Leader Clive Green, and will go towards buying new equipment to aid the team during callouts.

Our sincere thanks.

Events and News

Army Cadets Visit

August 2015

Last week, several CVSRT members visited the Mirfield Army Cadets to conduct a demonstration of some of the life saving equipment we use.

The cadets enjoyed the visit so much that they have invited the team to return later in the year.



Sainburys Final Total

August 2015

It is with great pleasure that we can now announce that the grand total raised from the team being chosen as the Sainsbury's (Wade Street Halifax), Charity of the Year

is... **£10,678.04.**

CVSRT would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the Sainsbury's colleagues at the Halifax store for their continued support and

enthusiasm, and most importantly, a massive thank you to all the generous shoppers who have donated throughout the year.

This incredible amount is the culmination of: collection buckets on every check-out till, three fundraising days at the store, proceeds from a Quiz night and the sponsorship raised during the stores 'Big Bike Ride' last September plus a donation from

the Sainsbury's Community Grant scheme.

The money is very welcomed and gratefully received, and will go towards purchasing a new emergency response vehicle, which will replace one of our ageing Land Rover Defender 110's. The new vehicle will cost in the region of £40,000 and will hopefully be in service in time for the teams 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2016.



Training

H M Coastguard Helicopter Training

1st March 2015

On the 1st of March, 11 members and 2 search dogs from CVSRT joined others from Mountain Rescue England and Wales teams around the region on a helicopter training exercise.

H M Coastguard Helicopters are soon to take over from the RAF Search and Rescue



Sea Kings and will become a familiar sight in the skies over the UK. The helicopters they will be using (Sikorsky S92's) are larger, faster and have a much greater downwash than the Sea King we are familiar with so it's very important our team members and the dogs become accustomed to the new aircraft.



Along with volunteers from Bolton MRT, Rossendale & Pendle MRT, Bowland Pennine MRT, Holme Valley Mountain

Rescue Team and Search And Rescue Dog Association England our members spent the day being shown around



the aircraft and talking to the crew about its capabilities, the equipment it carries and how it will be beneficial to the regions teams.

Once everyone had been around the aircraft it was time to discover just how powerful the helicopter is and what the larger downwash means when working below and being winched in and out.

Team members had a great day working with the new aircraft and are looking forward to it coming online later this year.

Many thanks to Bibby's Scout Camp for hosting the event and to the Bolton MRT Supporters for keeping the troops fed and watered.



Rope Training

30th May 2015

Our trainees have been out and about learning some new rope skills and practicing a rescue of a crag-fast casualty.



The six CVSRT trainees are now three months into their training schedule and are making great progress towards becoming operational full team members.



Keep up the great work!!



Training

Training with Yorkshire Air Ambulance

28th March 2015

As some of you may be aware, Mountain Rescue teams and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance often work together to locate, treat and recover lost or injured people in wild and remote places. Our specialist skills and local knowledge provides an essential, life-saving asset that can be deployed at a moments notice.

On Saturday 28th March, Trainees from the Yorkshire Air Ambulance (YAA), Calder



Valley SRT and Edale MRT, were put through their paces by Full Team Members and operational Yorkshire Air Ambulance crews.

The simultaneous training scenarios were conducted in remote regions of the Derwent Valley and the Calder Valley

using both Helimed 98 and 99.

Casualties with simulated life threatening injuries were strategically placed in both locations and required urgent medical assistance from the YAA Paramedics before being carefully extricated by mountain rescue teams to the waiting air ambulance helicopter.

Despite some challenging weather conditions, it proved to be a very successful day with all the trainees having a glimpse of a search and rescue under very difficult circumstances.

Croagh Patrick Reek Sunday Pilgrimage

25th July 2015

At the end of July Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team Trainees were in Ireland training with our friends at Dublin-Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team, helping to provide safety cover for the annual Christian pilgrimage on Reek Sunday.

Traditionally, on the last Sunday in July, thousands of pilgrims climb Ireland's "holiest mountain", Croagh Patrick in County Mayo - some in their bare feet.

This is the busiest day of the year for the local Mayo Mountain Rescue Team so assistance from up to 300 personnel is required from eleven other teams from Mountain Rescue Ireland.

Common injuries range from cuts and broken bones to hypothermia and cardiac



arrest. Generally this proves to be invaluable training for trainees and an excellent opportunity to see how other mountain rescue teams work together.

However, the annual pilgrimage had actually been cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, but despite the weather warnings and request from the gardaí and Mountain Rescue teams, hundreds still attempted to climb the mountain.

A spokesperson from Mayo Mountain Rescue said, "Eight people were assisted with minor injuries on Croagh Patrick despite advising people not to attempt the ascent due to weather conditions. All of those who required assistance were able to walk down the mountain by themselves with some suffering from mild hypothermia,"

Conditions on the mountain were said to be treacherous with heavy rain overnight, leaving the ground slippery and unstable in places.

Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team would like to thank our friends in Ireland at Dublin-Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team and Mayo Mountain Rescue Team for their hospitality and for providing yet another excellent training weekend.

Training

Hot Air Balloon Crash Training Scenario

9th Jun 2015

On the 9th of June Calder Valley Search & Rescue Team were alerted to a serious incident (training scenario) involving a hot air balloon that had crash landed into a crowd of spectators at Norland Moor, near Halifax .

Within minutes the team deployed all resources and headed to the crash site. Once on-scene it became apparent we had a major incident with multiple casualties to attend to with numerous walking wounded.

43 CVSRT members including 3 SARDA Search Dogs & Handlers were in attendance, assisted by emergency doctors from West Yorkshire Medic



Response Team.

We quickly established we were dealing with approx. 30

casualties, some with life-threatening injuries, others with a catalogue of broken bones, cuts and bruises and the walking wounded.



This was obviously a training exercise but thanks to some realistic blood and makeup, combined with the very convincing casualties who's screams could be heard across the moor, this made for a very real scenario and a true test of our Incident Management, casualty care and stretcher evacuations skills.

CVSRT would like to take this opportunity to thank all our casualties and helpers from; Scarborough and Ryedale Mountain Rescue Team, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Northowram Explorers and our very own CVSRT Active Supporters Group.



You all play such a key roll in the teams training and skills development. Thank you for helping us to be the best we can be.

Articles

CVSRT 50th Anniversary Celebrations

One Monday morning in November 1965, Mr. Robert Akrigg, a 55 year old reservoir keeper set out in treacherous conditions to check the water gauges from Gorple Cottages near Hebden Bridge, but never returned.

Water Board employees accompanied by the police, local farmers, and estate keepers were joined by Mountain and Fell Rescue Teams members from across the north of England to begin the search in earnest.

Tragically, he wasn't found during the search and it was only when the heavy snows of that winter receded (some 3 months later), that his body was discovered.

As a result of this tragedy, an inaugural meeting was held in early 1966 at Hebden Bridge Council Offices with over 30 people attending. At the meeting, Mr. Wally Keay (a former leader with Wharfedale Fell Rescue team) said,:

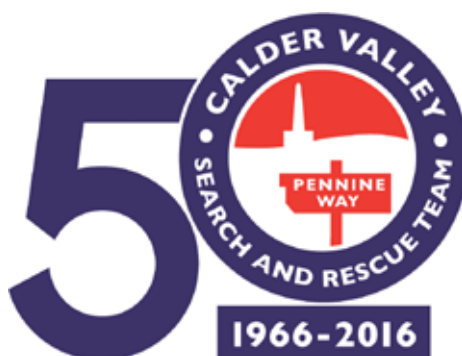
"There's nothing heroic or romantic about being in a rescue team - just 5% inspiration and 95% hard slogging. The first priority of a new team is; training in navigation and first aid"

During this meeting Calder Valley Moorland Rescue Association was formed and they sought the help of Hebden Bridge St. Johns Ambulance Brigade to assist with the First Aid training.

By 1978, the team was well established and had moved into larger premises which included garaging for the team ambulance. The council offered a long term lease on the Old Coach House, behind the Tourist Information Centre in Hebden Bridge.

In 1994, the team moved again

into The Rescue Post (RP90), a purpose built property located on land made available by the Mytholmroyd Community Centre.



Mr. W. Keay (extreme left) with a group of men at the meeting interested in forming a rescue team.

During 2006, the team reached its 40th Anniversary and received the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. Chief Constable Colin Cramphorn QPM presented the Award to team President Bob Utley at the anniversary celebrations.

In 2016, Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team will celebrate 50 years of serving the community. Whilst most things have changed considerably over the years such as; team members, equipment, vehicles, buildings, search and rescue techniques... our core principles remain the same:

To help save lives in wild and remote places.

In 2016 we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary and to help mark this very important milestone, we are planning a series of events.

Save the date in 2016 and help us celebrate.

Thanks Giving Service
Saturday 6th February
St Michaels Church,
Mytholmroyd

Youth Challenge Hike
Sunday 12th June
Combined with the Rotary Club
Wadsworth Boundary Walk

CVSRT Open Day
Saturday 18th June
Opportunity to meet the team,
see our base and vehicles

Celebration Gala Dinner
Thursday 10th November
At Berties @ La Cachette,
Elland - tickets available soon

Memorial Walk
Saturday 26th November
Walk to where it all began
with the start and finish at The
Packhorse pub at Widdop

As our friends, extended family and supporters, we hope you will join us at one or all of these events and help us mark this monumental year.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us to help you!

Articles

Brothers Complete Stoodley Pike Challenge

CVSRT were honored to be involved in a fundraising challenge for Ravenscliffe High School's Sping Hall in April.

Two brothers with cerebral palsy, Andrew (14) and Nathan (12) Greenwood, both wheelchair users, wished to climb to the Stoodley Pike monument. Due to the challenges that faced the boys in their desire to reach the summit, CVSRT agreed to aid them in their quest and carry them up.

They visited the base beforehand to meet the team and see the equipment and it was a pleasure to show them around. They were showed the the hoisting equipment that would be used to lift them to the viewing platform on the monument.

The day of the challenge dawned bright and beautiful with nothing but blue skies for miles around.



Nathan was carried in his wheelchair across moorland to Stoodley Pike by four members of Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team and Andrew was transported by stretcher in a seated position.

Both boys were then hoisted to the viewing platform of the monument to enjoy the stunning views granted to them that day.

The boys parents, Joanne and Eldred, said:

"A truly amazing day for the most inspirational challenge! Seeing the smiles on our boys faces told the story without the need for any words. Dreams really can come true!"



Articles

Reek Sunday - A Probies Perspective

by Richard Quinn

For those of you who don't know, on the last Sunday in July, for about the last 1500 years, there's been an official pilgrimage up a 764m mountain in Ireland called Croagh Patrick. The pilgrimage regularly attracts between 20 and 30 thousand people and consequently, the Mountain Rescue operation to cover the event is probably the biggest in Europe. This year 6 trainees and 2 full members of CVSRT made the trip out to support the Dublin-Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team contribution.

Despite regular training sessions throughout the last six months, almost everything that happened over the three days taught us something.

We arrived on the Friday evening and wasted no time in getting to know the lads from the Dublin-Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team, swapping stories about call-outs and shiny bits of kit.

After careful analysis and consideration of all relevant facts, I can confirm that Guinness does indeed taste better in Ireland. However even a trip out to the pub showed us something, because this was our first time wearing jackets with "Mountain Rescue" all over the back, and consequently it was our first time experiencing the public's reaction to that. It's probably best summarised by the chap who came over to our table on his way out of the pub, put down ten euros, briefly thanked DWMRT and then left. It left me feeling like we have a lot to live up to, which at the time was a surprisingly

sobering thought.

Saturday was spent training with DWMRT in preparation for Sunday. It quickly became apparent that there were far too many names to remember,



so we employed the elegant solution of calling everyone from CVSRT "Dave".

Much of the DWMRT kit being used was exactly the same as our own, the only difference being their vacuum splints and a rather nifty twin-wheel McInnes stretcher. The



main focus of the training was raising and lowering of the stretcher on very steep ground. We used the snake belay, which really came into its own as the gradient increased, as well as the V with alpine butterflies. None



of the techniques were new

to us, which was a confidence booster and underlined the quality of training which we've received so far. We also had a talk from AI about lower leg injuries and their treatment because that type of injury was by far the most likely to crop up.

As part of the day there was a really nice moment when we were privileged enough to witness the DWMRT probationers became full members of the team.

After training we headed back to West Port to have a group meal before getting a much-needed early night.

At 02:15am the alarms went off and by 02:30 we were kitted-up, in the vehicles and convoying to the hill. Driving along the narrow lanes, through the very heavy rain carried with it a real sense of purpose along with the interesting mix of nerves and adrenaline. We all knew that the year before, the CVSRT probies had dealt with a cardiac arrest and I think I can speak for all of the trainees when I say that whilst we were



very confident in our training, we were keen not to let the side down.

We arrived at the Mayo team's rescue post, located at the foot of Croagh Patrick, at 03:00. The Civil Defence put

on a really great spread and we wasted no time tucking into coffee and excellent stew (thanks for the tip off DWMRT!). The large mess-tent was getting battered by the weather, which added to the excitement of being in that space with four or five other MR teams, all of us kitting up and getting ready, accompanied by occasional radio chatter and the usual banter.

Between 04:00 and 05:00, while we, call sign 'Wicklow 4.4', made our way up the mountain, the wind was gusting to gale force 7 and had done a decent job of destroying the medical tent. It transpired that it had also completely removed the Order of Malta's tents and the temporary extension to the church at the summit. Did I forget to mention that? Yep - there's a church at the summit, which it could be argued puts Snowdon in its place. At 05:10, we were tasked to the summit to replace another team who were stretchering down a casualty. The walk would have been easy enough except for the very poor underfoot conditions on the final third



- if you picture a steep sand dune mixed with rocks, that's probably close to what the path's like there: everything moves. We reached a point approximately fifty meters below the summit at about 05:50 where we unpacked the Kisus and waited. At 06:22, Mayo Mountain Rescue issued the following via Facebook:

"Update: at the minute there is

no 8am mass this morning on Croagh Patrick. This is due to dangerous weather conditions on the mountain."

For the first time in its 1500 year history, the pilgrimage was called off. We didn't realise that at the time because we were busy getting battered by the wind. There was nowhere to hide, and nobody had thought to bring cake, so once we were wearing every item of clothing we had, the time was spent chatting, shivering and occasionally nodding off for as many as ten seconds before the wind whipped up and the kisu hit you in the face. Again.

It became clear that numbers were much lower than usual so we proceeded to the summit at about 08:30. We'd held off going up as we didn't want to take shelter away from the



pilgrims by taking up space on the leeward side of the church. Once we arrived, it struck me that there weren't very many people, about as many as you'd see on the summit of Snowdon on a clear bank holiday, but then I remembered that it was 08:30, the weather was horrible and the Garda were asking people to turn back, so really there were an awful lot of people at the summit! The second thing that struck me was that they weren't wearing mountain kit. At all. In fact, the most committed were in bare feet, but the majority were in jeans and a t-shirt. Others had brought their children! I've since read that a three year-old was treated for hypothermia.

Wicklow-4.4 didn't have a casualty on the day, but we did provide advice with regard to the wearing of shoes and one elderly male was assisted in



descending the trickiest section of the hill after he'd taken a fall which left him short on confidence. It was clear, given the numbers of people hitting the deck left right and center, that the lack of a call-out was through sheer good fortune on the part of the public that day, nothing more. The clothing people took with them in combination with the conditions on the hill were a recipe for hypothermia.

Once back down the hill, we changed into whatever dry kit we had left, which in my case was nothing, and set about another bowl of stew to warm up, thankful to be out of the cold, but at the same time, wishing we could do that every week.

It was a fantastic experience that simply couldn't be replicated elsewhere. Really good fun? Yes, absolutely. A jolly? Absolutely not.

All the CVSRT Attendees would like to thank both CVSRT and DWMRT for providing such a fantastic opportunity to learn and practice our skills. Particular thanks to AI for making it all happen, to Rollie for giving us help and guidance on the day and to Alistair, Sophie, Bryan and Graham who gave up their time to drive us to and from the airports.

Probational Members

Meet the Team - Probie Special!

Every year the team takes on new recruits to ensure that there are enough able-bodied

fully-trained team members to cover all the callouts. Keep reading to find out a bit more

about some of our latest batch of 'probies'!

Name: **Einion Jones**

Interests: Family days out, walking, hobby sheep farming, trips in our caravan and wine drinking.

Favourite outdoor activity: I simply love walking. Mountains mainly. Love walking with my family.

Why did you want to join CVSRT?

I have come to a point in my life where I feel it's time I should be the volunteer ready to help someone in need.



Name: **Richard Quinn**

Interests: Fell Running, Eating, Bouldering, Eating, Cycling, Eating, Writing, Eating and anything else that's fun.

Favourite outdoor activity: Fell Running.

Why did you want to join CVSRT?

I've always wanted to join an MR team and when I got back to the UK I decided to stop putting it off.



Name: **Dave Howarth**

Interests: Climbing, mountain biking, extreme camping and kayaking.

Why did you want to join CVSRT?

Being part of the Mountain Rescue Team seemed a great way of putting to use the skills and knowledge I've learnt over the years whilst giving me the opportunity to keep learning from new experiences.



Name: **Gary Smith**

Interests: Generally being outdoors doing outdoor stuff, doing things with my mates (walking, mtb, climbing or canoe) or doing the same things with my kids.

Favourite outdoor activity: Winter mountaineering on the west coast of Scotland - followed by beers!

Why did you want to join CVSRT?

I've been enjoying the outdoors in one form or another since I was a teenager and there have always been folk in red jackets on the periphery of things. I wouldn't walk on past if someone needed help and joining the team just seemed like something people do.



Probational Members

Becoming a 'Probie'

by Gary

Back in November 2014 six of us sat within the CVSRT base amongst a group of applicants listening to experienced team members and last year's probationers explaining what was involved. We later took part in a day navigating around the hills in the snow at the end of January before being invited to start our training with the team in February 2015.

This training has involved learning a lot of new ways of doing things such as the double rope techniques and industrial equipment used for crag rescues. This is different to the ropework used in personal climbing and adds an extra level of safety knowing that everything is backed up



for both rescuer and casualty.

I was able to observe how teams operate in more mountainous areas when I acted as a casualty for the Llanberis team during an exercise in June. In Calderdale we may not have the scale of the mountains teams such as this operate in, although crossing all three valleys surrounding Todmorden involves more climbing than an ascent of Snowdon, but

the techniques and equipment we use are the same and this explains why we are affiliated to MREW.

The impact on family time and the support at home often goes overlooked. My young kids are really excited about their Daddy going out in the red jacket having stumbled across an injured climber requiring stretching off the hill on their first outdoor climbing trip in Glen Nevis. My wife is also really supportive of the time invested each month having been a "customer" of the Glencoe team a few years ago.

I am really looking forward to my training and becoming a full member of the team!

Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team 2015

Chairman
Pete Farnell

Team Leader
Ben Carter

Deputy Leader
Jonathan Cole

Secretary
Howard Barton

Treasurer
Richard Graves

Assistant Leaders
Clive Green
Simon Thresher
Steve Westwood
Les Wilson

Equipment Officer
Richard Smith

MRC Rep
Simon Thresher

Council Members
Tom Cadbury
Peter Erhardt
Rebecca Isles
Hilary Newsome

Callout Co-Ordinators
Al Day
Rob Freeman
Ann Ogden

Training Officer
Howard Barton

Medical Officer
Rebecca Isles

Fundraising and Events
Ann Ogden

Probationary Training Officer
Al Day

Building Officer
Graham Rowley

Vehicles Officer
Steve Britton

Purchasing Officer
Jo Bradley

Newsletter Editor
Sarah Sharps

Archivist
Tracy Cokill

Social Secretary
Nathan Newsome

Media Secretary
Tim Ingram

How to donate

Most of our income comes from donations, and we are very grateful to all those people and organisations who choose to give us money. If you would like to donate, there are various ways, as listed below.

Thank you!

- Through the CVSRT website:
www.cvsrt.org.uk/support-us
- By email
fundraising@cvsrt.org.uk
- By cheque - post to:
Treasurer, The Rescue Post, Thrush Hill Road, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, HX7 5AQ
- Paypal
<http://cafdonate.cafonline.org/DonateSteps.aspx?beneficiarycampaignid=149>
- MyDonate
<http://mydonate.bt.com/charities/caldervalleyssearchandrescueteam>
- Text
Simply text from your mobile phone: 'CVSR22' plus your donation amount £5 / £10 / £20 or £50 etc to 70070
i.e. Send SMS Text 'CVSR22 £10' to 70070

In an emergency

Dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Police, then Mountain Rescue.

Be ready to give details of your location, number of casualties, any injuries and your telephone number.

Keep the telephone free — we will want to contact you.



Electronic newsletter

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Please contact newsletter@cvsrt.org.uk. Thank you!

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