

## Regulars

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*The Newsletter of  
Kendal Mountain Rescue  
Team  
January 2002*

# The Mintcake

*Incorporating Ecake, the electronic Newsletter for the Kendal Mountain Rescue Team.*

## Editors Comments

I would like to start this edition of the newsletter by wishing every reader a happy new year.

In this edition you will find an update to dates for the diary (including details of the Winter Scotland trip). Rob has chipped in with some details of interesting FREE software and some GPS updates. You will find the minutes of the recent main committee minutes. Also this edition is giving you the chance to become a glossy magazine star. Read on to find out how.

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## NOTICE

**If you wish to use the team parking area outside base it is important that you display a team**

**sticker or membership card. Failure to do so could result in a nuisance sticker been placed on your car.**

## Dates for the Diary

Winter Training trip 1,2,3<sup>rd</sup> March - Badaguish - Contact Andy Beavon for Details

Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup> - Winter Preparation - Andy Dell

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Snow Skills - Andy Beavon

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February - Night time Navigation - Andy Clifford

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Snow Navigation - Andy Beavon

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Scenario

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Scenario - Dan Shields

## Your Help is needed

Liz Parkes is putting together a history of Kendal Mountain Rescue team as part of our participation in the Cumbrian Mountain Festival 2002 which is part of the United Nations International Year of the Mountains. If anyone has any information, photographs, reports or stories that might be useful please contact Liz.

## Main Committee

**Minutes of Main Committee Meeting:  
9th January 2002**

Present: Rob Brookes/ Sue Brookes/ Trevor Cotton/ Andy Dell/ John Hall/ Eddie Harrison/ Tina Judson / Steve Kelley/ Chris Marsden/ Liz Parkes/ Keith Pittman/ Peter Waring.

## Matters arising from the minutes:

1). Members Handbook

**ACTION:** to raise @ next Ops & Members meeting.

2). Revised Constitution sent to Charities Commission?

**ACTION:** John Hall to ask Secretary.

## Officers' Reports:

a). *Equipment & Medical*

1). Purchase of new Team clothing awaiting return of forms.

2). Completed forms for Brasher socks to be returned to Dagmar.

3). Whitby knives ordered.

4). 7 GPS donated to Team by L&A.

**ACTION: Refer to Equipment & Medical WG.**

5). Patient handling straps have arrived and 3 are now in each Medisac.

6). Entonox sets: British Oxygen have lent the Team a trial light weight set.

**ACTION: John Hall compare weight and costings with old style.**

7). Radio Communications:

Report from the Minutes of the Communications Sub Committee held on 17/11/01

(available on MRC website):

1. Authorisation given for High Band Channel 1 to be operated at 25MHz until end 2009,

to facilitate coms with SAR helicopters (this channel may be called 53).

2. Authorisation is anticipated for marine channels 0 to 73 to be used by SAR to communicate with helicopters.

A proposal for the use of 5 extra High band frequencies is being formulated

All helicopters are fitted with Low Band and the standard practice is for helicopters to monitor Low Band and then move off this after contact (typically to Channel 73).

Report from the Lake District TETRA Project (L&A) has been published in "Land Mobile".

The following recommendations were accepted @ the Main meeting:

**By 01/01/05 MR communications will use High Band.**

**All Search Controls should support High Band Channel 1 by end 2002.**

**ACTION for KMSRT: referred to Rob Brookes.**

The following points were confirmed:

1. All existing Vehicle radio sets will become illegal by October 2002.
2. The costs involved are covered by this year's budget.

*b). Base & Vehicles*

1). Martin Campbell is back on Base cleaning rota.

2). Base exterior lights are in hand.

3). Nuisance labels for parked cars causing obstruction to KMSRT have been purchased.

4). The Team **photocopier and computer are the responsibility of the B&V WG.**

**Dudley Holyoake is in charge of the computer.**

5). The front door lock has been replaced (cost £300).

**6). Team Members will need to display KMSRT stickers or membership card when parking @ Base.**

**ACTION: Newsletter Editor to inform Team members.**

7). Mobile 2 replacement:

The Committee agreed the following: Mobile 2 is currently competent, and is due for replacement in 2004. Next year is an opportune time to fund raise for it's replacement (coincides with the Team's 50th anniversary).

**ACTION: Ops & Members to recommend vehicle type and to report back to the Main Committee.**

**ACTION: Fund Raising WG to plan fund raising for vehicle replacement.**

8). B&V WG is concerned about delays in repairing Team vehicles and will be studying the contract between Fire Brigade and Team.

*c). Team Leader*

1). Last year the Team responded to 21 Call Outs and 1 incident.

2). He has given the names of members eligible for a Queens Golden Jubilee Medal.

3). Training: The Training panel will be setting up the following:

**A provisional members training programme,  
Peripheral training programmes for the Leader Groups and Operational Supporters.  
A core training programme.**

The Team Leader thanked the Training Officer for his work during the difficult Foot & Mouth period and expressed confidence in his role. The Committee agreed with these sentiments.

4). Longsleddale: A gate is to be placed across Gatescarth Pass at BrownHowe Bottom. The Team will be given a key to open the gate. A key will be kept in each vehicle.

*d). Membership Secretary/ Training Officer:* nothing to report.

*e). Treasurer*

Last month's expenditure exceeded income.

The new clutch for Mobile 2 cost £529.

Sue and Rob Brookes raised £32 from a book signing event @ Ottakers.

£50 was donated again by the Pearsons (call out on Nan Bield Pass c.Dec 93).

Current account: £66105.88.

Rob Brookes is currently researching the possibility of replacing the land line link to Parklands with a radio link. This would save considerable income.

*f). Chairman & LDSAMRA*

Next meeting: 23rd January 2002.

*g). Fund Raising*

1). £400 has been received following the WG's application to the Provincial Trust to go towards providing waterproofs for Team members.

2). Morrison's Collection 17/11/01:

£279.38 (less than previous year).

3). ASDA Collection: 23/03/02.

4). Presentation: 30/01/02 @ Base for Kendal Scouts.

5). Liz has applied to SLDC for a Town Centre Collection date for next year.

6). Police Letter re: collection box thefts in the area has been given to Bill Morris. To be discussed @ future WG meeting.

7). KMSRT has agreed to take part in the Cumbria Mountain Festival 2002 (in celebration of United Nations International Year of the Mountains).

The festival is linked with Switzerland, and supported by Business Link who consider this to be a Golden opportunity to put Cumbria back on it's feet following Foot & Mouth.

**KMSRT Open Days:** planned for bank holiday w/e of June/ August and the Team will assist with events held @ Brewery Arts Centre/ Brockhole.

The Committee advised Liz to Liaise with the Fire Brigade to attempt co-ordination of Liz is compiling a history of the Team for the Open Days, and would appreciate any help with her research.

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Simon's spheres:

1st prize No. 15 G I Perry/ 2nd prize

No. 28 B Minton/ 3rd prize No. 65 E M Dean.

h). *Secretary*

**ACTION: Secretary** to check with LDSAMRA that new phone line has been placed on LDSAMRA's Total Care.

## Any Other Business:

1). Concern was expressed that the Ops & Members & Main Committee meetings are losing their intended distinct roles.

**ACTION: Team Leader.**

2). Swimmarathon: The Committee agreed for John Hall to enter a team to represent KMSRT.

## Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 6th March 2002 @ Busher  
Walk starting @ 7.30pm.  
The meeting closed.

## Garmin GPS Updates

For all those of you who like to stay ahead of the field, there are operating software updates available for Garmin Etrex and GPS 12 receivers.

Rob will update your GPS if you give him enough notice and turn up at an Equipment & Medical evening. If you have the IF cable, the flash programs will be on the team computer by the time you read this, in the 'FREEBIES' folder.

I have interface cables for both of the above types but no other makes of GPS apart from Garmin

For info:-

**The Etrex update is version 2.11** and the **GPS 12 update is 4.58**. Check your software version via the 'System' page on the Etrex and on the start-up screen on the GPS 12.

If anyone has a specific Garmin update request, let Rob know and if it's on the website E & M will down-load it for you and update your GPS. The operation

takes about a minute and does not alter any settings you have made to your device.

Most GPS receivers need updating now as the 'official' magnetic variation figures have changed.

The removal of selective availability has meant a number of manufacturers have reduced the lower end of the various speed and distance scales as measurement is now more accurate.

## Free software

They can all be found on the team computer in a file called "Freebies". There's a shortcut on the desktop. Most of the files are too big to go on a floppy but some will. I suggest that anyone who wants a copy of any of them should just email the file as an attachment, to their own machine.

They are all either self extracting .zip files or installation programs. Some might need you to have WinZip on your computer but you'll find that in the folder too.

If anyone feels that they can't cope with the above but might like the programs, either bring your kids down to base and get them to do it for you or contact Rob who will burn them onto a CD. Cost, as always, is a pint of Guinness.

The programs are described as follows; Some I've tried but most I haven't. They are all completely free (Freeware).

### 1.. AOLSpeed.exe

Reduce the time that AOL 4 & 5 spend reading from your hard drive.

### 2.. Aurorae.zip

Aurorae style screen saver.

### 3.. Dozer.zip

Win ME/98 revamp of an old screen saver where a bulldozer ploughs up your screen.

### 4.. Erasor.exe

Use this program to completely remove any deleted files from your machine. Avoid doing a Gary Glitter. (No, pressing the 'Delete' key doesn't do this.)

### 5.. FAXMachine.exe

Turns your scanner and computer into a FAX machine.

### 6.. ICQ2001b.exe

Current version of the Internet messaging and chat software.

### 7.. KakKill.zip

A small program that specifically eradicates to KakWorm virus from ones computer.

### 8.. Photocopier-free.exe

Turns your scanner/printer setup into a photocopier.

### 9.. RamIdle-XP.exe

Increase the amount of RAM available to your system.

### 10. rss.scr

Different and randomly selected screen savers.

### 11. SlideShowFull.zip

Make a slide show out of your piccies.

### 12. ss.exe

Send SMS (text) messages to a mobile phone from the comfort of your computer. I've tried this one and it does work. (Sorry Nick!!)

### 13. V2Email\_1\_0en.exe

Send and receive voice messages via email.

Don't blame me if they don't work but they should.

All have been virus scanned in their compressed form.

## Base and Vehicles Working group

Members have no comments on future Team vehicles - you must be joking!

In the last Mintcake there was a request for input from Team members on the design of the replacement vehicle for Mobile 2. There were none, so we are going with the Treasurer's specification and getting a 2nd hand Reliant Robin with roof rack.

Seriously, we do want to know your thoughts - so we have extended the

deadline for comments to the end of March. Please let us know what is good and bad about the existing vehicle. If you propose a change or a new use then include some justification as to why; but you don't need to provide detailed solutions - we have to do that! (Unless you do have a solution of course, then let us know.) Don't be shy, put your name to your ideas as we may need to pick your brains for further information. Please let us have your thoughts on the big items ('we don't need 3 vehicles or 4-wheel drive because ?'), the not-so-big items ('all seat belts should be rally harnesses because ....') and the small ones ('make sure there is a light, pen and paper so the passenger can note radio messages'). So that they can all be considered, please put your thoughts in writing and leave it in the Vehicle Officers pigeon hole at base. Bear in mind that the new Mobile 2 is intended to be operational with the Team for 10, possibly 15, years - so we want to get it right!

With input from: you, from Operations & Membership Sub-Committee and by talking to vehicle manufacturers and other teams it will be possible for a detailed specification, cost and purchase / modify / run-in programme to be prepared. Even though the purchase of the vehicle will not be until at least 2003, we need to start working on the specification now. Planning, by the Publicity and Fund-Raising Working Group, for the 'Wheels Appeal' (to be run as an integral part of the Team's '50th year' publicity events) will start later this year. By then, the Base & Vehicles Working Group want to be able to provide details of how much is required to be raised, what the money will provide and how long it takes from placing orders to being operational. This information can't be produced until the use specification is produced - so it's over to you for that initial input

## GET YOUR SOCKS ON

Thank you all who attended the Brasher Sock Testing evening.

However, the deadline for returning the properly filled forms is January 31<sup>st</sup>.

So I am expecting to see those in the Equipment pigeonhole on my return from holiday! So those of you who went home with more than 2 pairs of socks, have a lot of work to do! Remember, if we don't do it properly we could lose all that hard work previously put in. Mike from Brasher found the initial input during the session helpful and is looking forward to the forthcoming information.

### CLOTHING, OLD & NEW

Those hill going members who have not returned the OLD KIT questionnaire; please do so by the **end of December**.

New Kit fitting would have started by the time you read this, so just a reminder:

- Those of you, who would have missed both opportunities to try the sizes on in the Base, please find your way to Kentdale Rambler during January to try the sizes there. Mike and John are aware of this and would be happy to assist you.
- For any other peculiarities follow the form you have been given/received.
- Whatever you decide, please leave the form in my pigeonhole by the **end of January 2002**.

### Magazine Star??

Andy Dell has recently received this email appeal. If you are interested please contact Andy.

Hello

I was just wondering if anyone could help me - I work for B magazine, a monthly glossy for women in their 20s - and we're doing a feature on men that save your life. We would love to interview a mountain rescue team member - we'll be shooting them on location and then interviewing them. Maybe someone could call me on 020 7664 6533 and I'll fill you in further!

Thanks very much for your time

Sarah Maber