



## TEESDALE AND WEARDALE SEARCH AND MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2013

Welcome to the second edition of the newsletter. I hope it finds you all well and that you've had a chance to enjoy some of the fantastic weather we've had recently. This edition has a focus on fundraising and highlights some of the fantastic efforts people make in order to raise funds for the Team.

I am aware that some of you may not have received the first newsletter which went out in June, this was due to us having either no email address or incorrect email addresses and we are working on this to ensure every member receives a copy – if you didn't receive it, please contact me and I will forward it to you.

#### David Ramsden – Street Collections

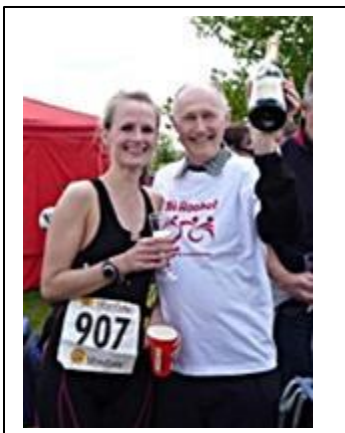
We would like to say a huge thank you to one of our associate members, David Ramsden. David attends all of our street collections no matter what the weather is doing to help support our fundraising efforts.

So David, thank you from all of the Team, we really do appreciate your efforts and the time you donate to us.

#### Rachel Richardson – Cheshire 2013 'Go Green' Triathlon

Please find below an excerpt from Rachel's Just Giving page with the story of what motivated her to undertake an incredible challenge in order to raise funds for TWSMRT:

*"Until September 2012 I couldn't swim, I couldn't run and I'd only just learned to ride a bike but I entered the Cheshire 2013 'Go Green' Triathlon. The inspiration for this madness is my dad who has been fighting cancer for eight years. He is the strongest and bravest person I know so I will be competing in this triathlon in honour of him and to raise money for his chosen charity, Teesdale and Weardale Search and Rescue Team. My dad was a founder member of the Mountain Rescue Team 40 years ago and although he has been forced to hang up his climbing boots he remains actively involved in the team as their book keeper and a Vice President. The Team work hard and have saved hundreds of lives across our region. My dad is my inspiration but the members of the rescue team are inspiration in themselves. They give their time for free and are entirely dependent on charitable donations. My dad has devoted his life to this team and now I ask you to do the same, in honour of Chris Scott..... It is the biggest challenge of my life but it is small in comparison to the challenges my dad has faced and the dangers faced by the Rescue Team."*



Rachel raised the amazing amount of £1353 so far with some Gift Aid still to come.

**WELL DONE RACHEL AND A HUGE THANK YOU FROM EVERYONE ON THE TEAM!**



<http://www.justgiving.com/racheyrich>



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### **Richard Cramb – Land's End to John O'Groats**



Richard along with two friends took on the amazing challenge of cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats (960 miles) in June. Richard raised the fantastic amount of £350 for the Team for which we are extremely grateful.

When internet connection allowed him, Richard kept a blog of their trip which you can read at [www.santacycling.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.santacycling.blogspot.co.uk)

Many thanks Richard, we really appreciate you putting so much hard work into fundraising for us.

### **Bikewise – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

The Team were invited to attend Durham Constabulary's Bikewise Event again this year which was an offer we were more than happy to accept. We had a good day out despite the rainy start and it was lovely to meet all the people who came over to say hello.

### **2013 Street Collection Dates**

We have 2 street collections left this year and if any of you could help us out for a couple of hours, we would greatly appreciate you giving up your time.

**7<sup>th</sup> December – Darlington**

**14<sup>th</sup> December – Durham**

If you think you can help please do contact me on: [associate@twsmrt.org.uk](mailto:associate@twsmrt.org.uk)

### **Great North Run – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

We have several Team members taking on the Great North Run this year:

Mark Davis  
Michael Holgate  
Pete Morrison  
Andy Murray  
Andy Neill  
Martin Hurton

And, as if the run itself isn't a big enough challenge, Mark, Michael, Peter & Andy M are adding to it by carrying a 38kg stretcher & vacuum mattress between them!

If you could spread the word so that we can get them as much sponsorship as possible, we'd be extremely grateful. Some of their Just Giving pages are listed below so please do pass on any or all of them to friends & family.

<http://www.justgiving.com/Mark-Davis488>

<http://www.justgiving.com/martinhurton>

<http://www.justgiving.com/michael-holgate2>

<http://www.justgiving.com/P-morrison>

Some other fundraising efforts on behalf of TWSMRT can be seen at:

<http://www.justgiving.com/twsmrt/friend-search?q=&s=CharitySpecific&p=1>

We are very grateful for this support and every penny raised makes a difference to the Team.



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### Open days – 28<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August

Thank you to all who managed to make it across to see us, it was lovely to meet you. We had 2 very good days and enjoyed showing people some of the Team's kit, the vehicles and the Base. For those that missed out, we will be holding another open day in the future.



### Princes Trust Day

The Team as a member of the North East Search & Rescue Association (NESRA) were invited to partake in The Prince's Charity Day (patrons HRH Princes William and Harry) on the 13th July, which was hosted by the Cleveland Team, and all NESRA teams were represented. The aim of the day was to expose children with various disabilities and from inner city environments to the great outdoors, with a range of outdoor activities. Some of the children having spent a major proportion of their life time in hospitals or in respite care.

The three local police services, Northumbria, Durham & Cleveland as well as Cleveland Fire Service, North East Ambulance Service, HART and the RAF Search and Rescue Flight also provided resources for the day.

Our Team's contribution involved our Swift Water element and the children got to be hands on with all our equipment and appeared to fully enjoy the experience. Our stand being the most popular until the Helicopter flew in.

All in all a very successful day and the feedback from the charities involved was extremely positive.

### Three Rivers Challenge Walk

Probationary team member, Anne Allen, is organising the Three Rivers Challenge Walk taking place in Teesdale on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Please have a look at <http://www.discoverdurhamdales.co.uk/> for the full details. The Team are also providing medical cover for the event.

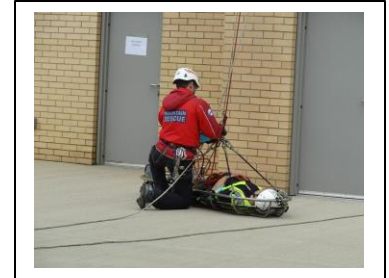




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### Bishop Auckland Fire Station Open Day – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2013

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service kindly invited us to take part in their annual open day. We were there alongside many emergency service personnel and it was an ideal venue for the public to learn more about what we all do. As well as having a fundraising stand there, some of the Team did a rope rescue demonstration from the tower.



### New Vehicle

As some of you may know the team have been resourcing funding for a third vehicle for the last five years. I'm glad to announce that we are finally in the position where we are able to order the vehicle. The vehicle will be individually adapted to meet the teams' requirements and we should take delivery in the winter.

Our present vehicles are a Land rover, referred to as 'MOBILE' and an Iveco Van, referred to as 'CONTROL'. The third vehicle will be another Land Rover and its addition to our fleet will increase our ability to respond to incidents as well providing resilience when one of our vehicles is off the road for repairs or maintenance.

This vehicle will carry all the advances in vehicle conversions, and also has been specially adapted so that medical interventions can be performed on route including CPR.

All of our vehicles are fitted so that they can be used as an ambulance, and carry patients, either directly to hospital or to transfer to a road ambulance or Helimed (air ambulance).



## TEESDALE AND WEARDALE SEARCH AND MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM

### TEAM CALL OUTS JUN - AUG 2013



11.23 04/08/2013	Request from Police for Team to look out for missing 66 year old woman. Car spotted by team member in Weardale and Police and Team Advanced Medic called.
07.00 22/07/2013	Teesdale Team were called to search for a despondent man missing from home in the Chester le Street area. Whilst searches were being conducted by the Team, police, police helicopter, search dogs and North of Tyne MRT the missing man was found in an area of woodland yet to be searched by a member of the public.
13.00 17/07/2013	Requested by Cleveland Team to assist in a search for a vulnerable 62 year old male. Missing person found as Team members assembled.
12.10 14/07/2013	The Team were called by North East Ambulance Service to assist with the evacuation of an injured mountain biker in Hamsterley Forest. The casualty's injuries were not severe and the Team were stood down whilst en route to the incident as our assistance was no longer required.
16.00 10/07/2013	Request from police to check difficult to access cave in Castle Eden Dene in continuing search for Robert Sanderson.
08.00 07/07/2013	Team have spent most of Sunday searching for middle aged man from the Peterlee area. The search has been concentrated on Castle Eden Dene, a 3 mile long steep sided valley leading to the sea. The man was last seen at a local newsagents at around 6.30am on Friday. Police are concerned for his welfare especially as he has now been missing for over 60 hours which is very out of character.
13.30 30/06/2013	Team called by North East Ambulance Service to attend to reports of a mountain biker having fallen and injured himself in Hamsterley Forest. The casualty was located and treated for arm, leg, chest and pelvic injuries before transfer to NEAS ambulance for transport to hospital.
22.18 20/06/2013	Team called by police to look for 86 year old female missing from care home. Two search dogs were deployed but stood down shortly after arriving at the care home when the missing lady was located in another area of the care home.