



Mountain Rescue Council

Charity No. 222596

Mountain Rescue Council England & Wales

Incident Report 1996

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MOUNTAIN RESCUE COUNCIL

ENGLAND AND WALES

INCIDENT REPORT 1996

This year's incidents and accidents in England and Wales are summarized as follows:-

	INCIDENTS	FATALITIES	INJURED	TOTAL PERSONS ASSISTED
1996	697	27	538	1059
1995	656	52	474	900
1994	634	39	486	929
1993	610	53	323	902
1992	649	62	582	998

All clinical diagnoses and causes of incidents are those made on the spot; not all incidents have follow up reports from a Coroners Court or hospital.

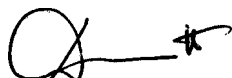
There has been another welcome reduction in the number of reported fatalities. The incidence of climbing deaths is down to four from the previous years total of six. At 19, the fatalities amongst fell walkers is down from the previous year's figure of 27; medical collapses, probably heart attacks, accounted for 9 and mishap the remaining 10. There were 2 drownings, one of whom was a diver.

The other sports activities produced 68 incidents, an increase of 24 on last year, and almost at the 1994 level.

The category of "Consultancy" was instigated last year. There were 23 such incidents in this category and these are included in the total number of incidents.

This year, there were 209 calls representing more than 27250 man-hours for Mountain Rescue Personnel to assist the Police and Ambulance services with non-mountain incidents. This represents an increase of 45% and 9% respectively. It should be noted that three searches alone consumed 12,310 man-hours, and during two periods of severe winter weather, 4,040 man-hours were given in providing assistance to the local ambulance service. In total, in the non-mountain category, there were, unfortunately, 21 fatalities.

Finally, 32 sheep, 9 dogs and a cow were rescued for local residents.



D A C Noott.
Hon Statistics Officer.

MOUNTAIN INCIDENT REPORT 1996

Type	Lake Dist	NE Eng	York Dales	Mid Pen	Peak Dist	North Wales	South Wales	SW Eng	Total 1996	Total 1995	Total 1994
ROCK CLIMBING											
Incidents	12	2	2	1	20	17	0	0	54	57	56
Casualties	12	1	3	1	20	26	0	0	63	73	70
Fatalities	0	0	0	0	(2)	(2)	0	0	(4)	(5)	(5)
SNOW/ICE CLIMBING											
Incidents	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	8	6	3
Casualties	6	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	11	12	4
Fatalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1)
FELL WALK (Apr-Oct)											
Incidents	180	10	20	13	42	71	18	19	373	334	303
Casualties	225	19	29	14	47	91	170	43	638	488	465
Fatalities	(5)	0	0	0	(3)	0	0	0	(8)	(22)	(10)
FELL WALK (Nov-Mar)											
Incidents	71	4	6	11	18	36	8	5	159	161	153
Casualties	87	4	7	17	18	68	11	30	242	240	300
Fatalities	(5)	0	(2)	0	(2)	(1)	(1)	0	(11)	(5)	(15)
SEARCHES INJURED											
Incidents	3	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	9	13	18
Casualties	3	1	0	5	1	1	1	0	12	16	34
Fatalities	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	(1)	0	(2)	(4)	(5)
SEARCHES UNINJURED											
Incidents	37	6	4	7	2	15	13	16	100	98	102
Persons	88	15	13	9	3	40	155	66	389	224	341
CRAGFAST UNHURT											
Incidents	12	0	0	0	1	16	2	0	31	23	20
Persons	22	0	0	0	1	37	2	0	62	44	23
TOTAL MOUNTAIN											
Incidents	310	26	37	39	94	134	32	25	697	656	634
Persons	367	35	52	57	98	196	181	73	1059	900	929
TOTAL INJURED											
Incidents	221	19	39	41	89	109	13	7	538	474	486
FATALITIES											
Mountain	12	0	3	0	7	4	1	0	27	52	39
Non-Mountain	8	3	0	1	1	2	1	5	21	18	23
HELICOPTERS (inc Non-Mountain)											
TOTAL	55	9	0	5	4	80	4	6	163	173	220
SEARCH	9	5	0	2	2	7	2	0	32	27	27
RESCUE	49	5	0	2	3	75	3	2	139	121	171
NON-MOUNTAIN	1	4	0	6	0	2	1	7	21	23	19
SARDA	23	3	0	4	3	3	6	7	49	67	57
OTHER ACTIVITIES											
Paragliding	4	1	2	0	3	1	0	0	11	9	10
Hang gliding	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Mountain Bike	8	5	0	2	4	0	0	1	20	16	12
Trail Bike	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	4
Equestrian	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	4	3
Orient/Run	5	1	22	7	1	0	0	0	16	5	19
Toboggan	0	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	7	0	3
Aquatic	3(1)	1	2(1)	0	0	2	0	0	8(2)	8(4)	10(3)
Aircraft	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5(15)	3(4)
Occupation	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	6
NON-MOUNTAIN											
Incidents	55	14	0	53	35	10	24	22	213	144	106
Persons	191	14	0	63	39	12	73	19	411	147	116
Fatalities	8	3	0	1	1	2	1	5	(21)	(18)	(23)
SARDA	8	6	0	18	13	9	13	11	78	82	61

FREQUENCY OF INJURIES - ENGLAND AND WALES 1996

Type	Fell Walking Winter	Fell Walking Summer	Rock Climb	Snow /Ice Climb	Other Sports	Total 1996	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993	Total 1992
Lower Leg, Knee & Foot	66	137	13	3	23	242	171	221	210	184
Upper leg	3	4	1	1	1	10	10	14	13	50
Pelvis	4	5	3	0	1	13	8	24	13	18
Chest	6	7	6	0	3	22	15	17	8	5
Back & Neck	12	8	12	0	12	44	41	26	25	3
Internal	0	4	2	0	2	8	4	8	2	8
Arm & Shoulder	16	25	11	2	9	63	51	30	54	29
Head fatal No helmet	2	1	1	0	0	4	10	3	6	15
Head fatal With helmet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Head injury No helmet	20	38	18	1	3	80	52	52	41	43
Head injury With helmet	x	x	6	0	3	9	11	4	7	7
Multiple Abrasions	8	6	1	0	10	25	13	21	18	14
Exhaustion Summer	x	14	0	0	8	22	11	16	14	23
Exhaustion Winter	1	x	0	0	1	2	6	4	3	10
Hypothermia Fatal Summer	x	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Hypothermia Fatal Winter	1	x	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2
Hypothermia Non-Fatal Summer	x	7	1	0	0	8	11	15	8	23
Hypothermia Non-Fatal Winter	10	x	0	0	2	12	12	5	7	30
Heart Attack Fatal	4	5	0	0	0	9	14	18	25	28
Heart attack Non-fatal	2	5	0	0	0	7	6	7	10	14
Illness	5	29	0	0	1	35	41	38	22	39
Drowning Mountain	0	2	0	0	1	3	4	3	5	5
Drowning Non-mountain						4	8	7		

There was one case of burns caused by a camping stove.

MAIN CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS - ENGLAND AND WALES 1996

	TOTALS 1996	TOTALS 1995	TOTALS 1994	TOTALS 1993	TOTALS 1992
Slips fell walking poor footwear (now recorded elsewhere)				N/R	102
Slips fell walking snow/ice conditions	42	50	26	35	14
No axe +crampons	42	44	25	33	8
Falls rock climbing or abseiling					
Roped	7	8	8	11	16
Solo	37	37	45	40	13
Falls ice/snow climbing or abseiling					
Roped	0	1	1	0	3
Solo	5	2	2	2	2
Belay or runner failure					
Climbing	9	6	11	4	17
Abseiling	0	1	0	2	5
Rock fall	8	7	7	3	8
Avalanche	3	3	1	0	2
Collapses (medical)					
Fatal	9	15	18	25	26
Non-fatal	53	52	45	15	48
Inexperience, ignorance, incompetence & footwear					
April-October	30	20	35	20	91
November-March	25	14	23	8	53
Suicide		3	2	2	4
Attempted suicide					8
Lightning strike	0	0	1 0	0	0
Aircraft	1	5 (15)	3 (4)	2 (3)	
False alarm	24	42	47	30	
Hoax	2	2	2	3	
Other sport		45	64	47	
Occupation	5	1	3		