

Registered Charity No: 511072

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team
Financial Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024

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For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Report of the Trustees of Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team For the year ended 31 December 2024

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team, Smelt Mill Cottages, Trough Road, Dunsop Bridge, Clitheroe, BB7 3BH is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners, No. 511072. It is an unincorporated association governed by constitution adopted on the 8th October 1980 and last amended on 10th October 2012. It is a member of the Mid-Pennine Search and Rescue Organisation which is a regional body of Mountain Rescue England and Wales (MREW).

The Charity is administered by the Executive Committee consisting of 11 Trustees elected from the membership of the Charity:

Chairman	Mr D. Matthews
Secretary	Mr C. Myerscough
Treasurer	Mr C. Shelley
Team Leader	Mr J. Earnshaw (until 29th February 2024)
Team Leader	Mr R. Gilder (from 31st July 2024)
Deputy Team Leader	Mr J. Willoughby
Resources Officer	Mr K. Hindle BEM
Casualty Care Officer	Mr D. Stuart
Fund Raising Officer	Ms L. Robinson
Training Officer	Mr R. Gilder (until 31st July 2024)
Training Officer	Mr G. Tagg (from 31st July 2024)
Smelt Mill Officer	Mrs C. Bond
Team Representative	Mr R. Gibbs (until 24th April 2024)
Team Representative	Mr P. Shanahan (from 24th April 2024)

The objects of the Charity, as specified in the constitution, are *“to provide efficient search and rescue services, primarily but not exclusively on mountains and fells, for the benefit of any person or persons in need of such services and also promote public safety in this subject by whatever charitable means the Executive Committee think fit”*.

In carrying out these objectives the main areas of activity are throughout a large part of Lancashire covering 875 sq. miles including the Forest of Bowland, the West Pennine Moors, Silverdale and Warton AONB, and a large area of lowland and estuaries. The Team also assists other Mountain Rescue Teams when called upon in order to provide additional resources in neighbouring areas.

During 2024 the team responded to a total of 54 incidents. The Team call-outs involved assisting Lancashire Police in conducting searches for 9 missing, vulnerable and injured persons. The team responded to and attended incidents to assist North West Ambulance Service, stabilising and evacuating 23 casualties from inaccessible situations and involved working with the Helimed Air Ambulance and HM Coastguard Helicopters on 12 occasions. The members of the community assisted by the Team during 2024 included 15 hill walkers and 7 casualties where a mountain bike was involved. The team was involved in the recovery of two deceased persons.

This wide range of activities clearly demonstrates that the Trustees have taken regard of the Charities Commission guidelines in relation to providing public benefit. Almost all of these casualties were in locations where their safe and speedy rescue, treatment and evacuation could not have happened effectively and urgently without the manpower, skills and resources of the Rescue Team.

During 2024 the Team Leader and others have interacted closely with Lancashire Constabulary, North West Ambulance Service, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and the Lancashire Resilience Forum. It is the Team's intention during the coming year to continue to maintain its operational capability through these relationships and opportunities for joint training. During the year the charity has reviewed and updated a number of operational and non-operational policies and procedures.

During 2024 the team undertook various initiatives for fund raising and opportunities for promotion in the public arena, providing talks and visits to school groups, walking clubs and other public organisations, additionally we provided events to promote public safety in the hills, and displays at public events.

As well as supporting on-going search and rescue operations, the Charity was able to carry out its aim of increasing security and safety of its bases, replacing aging medical equipment and replacing an aging LandRover with a vehicle more suited to current operational needs. All 2024 expenditure was on Search and Rescue activity, equipment and consumables, and the expense of maintaining operational property.

The Charity's free reserves at December 31st 2024 stood at £105,496 representing approximately 12 months operating expenses at 2024's level. This is lower than the aspiration, but in 2024 there was significant 'one-off' expenditure on all its bases. As at December 31st 2024, the Charity also held restricted and allocated funds totalling £360,684. This sum has been allocated to various projects to maintain the Charity's longer term operational capacity.

During 2024 the Executive Committee initiated the process of transferring the charity to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. It is anticipated that the Charity will be fully merged into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (charity no. 1202266) following the AGM in April 2025. All assets, property will then be transferred to the CIO.

The Charity is entirely reliant on voluntary contributions and our current finance levels allow the charity to confidently safeguard the medium to long-term operability of the Rescue Team. Bowland Pennine MRT is hugely grateful to all who contribute to the Charity. It is our aim to thank every donation we receive, but the move away from cheques towards on-line donation platforms means we receive an increasing number of anonymous donations. We take this opportunity to thank EVERYONE!

For and on behalf of the Trustees,



Mr D. Matthews
(Chairman of the Trustees)

Date: 23rd April 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

We report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 4 to 11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £25,000 and we are qualified to undertake the examination by being qualified members of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:-
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act:
and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirement of the 2011 Act have not been met and with the methods and principals of the Statement of Recommended Practice:
Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met, or:-

2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robin Oatridge & Co Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Black Bull House
353-355 Station Road
Bamber Bridge
Preston, PR5 6EE
Date: 28th April 2025

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	<u>Note</u>	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Fund Raising	1		2,643.22		3,324.08
Fell Races and Team Events	2		10,200.00		2,844.00
Donations	3		20,399.89		48,536.40
Other Income	4		24,358.79		229,275.01
Smelt Mill	5		17,321.00		9,362.67
Interest received	6		6,729.67		3,592.83
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total incoming resources			81,652.57		296,934.99
 Resources Expended					
Team Operational Expenses	7	61,205.79		65,395.22	
Vehicle Expenses	8	19,331.61		24,496.11	
Smelt Mill Expenses	9	31,498.51		14,361.89	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total Resources Expended			112,035.91		104,253.22
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net Incomings For The Year			-30,383.34		192,681.77
			<hr/>		<hr/>
 Funds					
Balance Brought Forward					
As at 1 January 2024			1,276,648.07		1,083,966.30
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Balance Carried Forward					
As at 31 December 2024			1,246,264.73		1,276,648.07
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

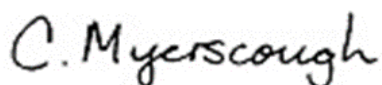
The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of these accounts

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	<u>Note</u>	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	781,283.45	769,294.74
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank and in Hand	11	466,181.28	508,553.33
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,247,464.73	1,277,848.07
Liabilities			
Amounts Falling Due Within One Year		1,200.00	1,200.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,246,264.73	976,550.08
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Funds			
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		-30,383.34	192,681.77
Balance Brought Forward As at 1 January 2024		1,276,648.07	1,083,966.30
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,246,264.73	1,276,648.07
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Approved by the Committee
and signed on its behalf



C. Myerscough
Secretary

Approved by the committee on 23rd April 2025

The notes on pages 6 to 11 form part of these accounts

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Note 1 - Fund Raising		
Flag Days:		
Chorley	405.28	315.06
Garstang	843.90	1,213.75
Clitheroe	588.85	701.49
Lancaster	464.17	717.43
Blackpool	0.00	0.00
Ormskirk	0.00	0.00
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	2,302.20	2,947.73
Collecting Boxes	341.02	376.35
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	2,643.22	3,324.08
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 Note 2 - Fell Races and Team Events		
Borrowdale Fell Race (Scafell Hotel)	1,100.00	1,150.00
Bowland Fell Runners	0.00	425.00
MTB Races	400.00	350.00
Fell Race	300.00	302.00
Team Events	0.00	0.00
Pennine Trails	1,000.00	600.00
3 Peaks Cycle Cross	7,400.00	17.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,200.00	2,844.00
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
 Note 3 - Donations to the Team		
Donations Received	20,399.89	48,536.40
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,399.89	48,536.40
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due to anonymous donations via social media and online. We are extremely grateful for all donations received and would like to thank everybody that has donated to the team.

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Note 4 - Other Income	2024	2023
Subscriptions	330.00	375.00
Gift Aid	2,540.71	2,905.93
Tax refund - VAT reclaim	9,694.27	13,142.51
Sales of Personal and Safety Equipment	0.00	386.02
Lectures	342.00	886.45
Grants	6,000.00	5,500.00
Legacies	4,256.81	200,724.10
Local Council's	160.00	5,355.00
100 Club Donations	1,035.00	0.00
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	24,358.79	229,275.01
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Note 5 - Smelt Mill Income	2024	2023
<u>Donations</u>		
Anonymous Donations	620.00	683.67
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	620.00	683.67
<u>Other Income</u>		
Use of Smelt Mill	16,701.00	8,679.00
COVID Related Council Grant	0.00	0.00
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	17,321.00	9,362.67
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Note 6 - Interest Received	2024	2023
Royal Bank of Scotland (Team Deposit Account)	4,569.93	2,910.73
Scottish Widows (Team Deposit)	1,656.87	376.94
Nat West (Team Deposit)	23.51	0.00
Virgin (Smelt Mill)	479.36	305.16
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	6,729.67	3,592.83
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Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Note 7 - Team Operational Expenses	2024	2023
Water rates	448.37	357.50
Rates	1,175.51	1,005.00
Service charges	280.61	174.42
Rent - Cop Lane	0.00	240.00
Electric and gas	2,779.44	1,660.38
Repairs and security at Team bases	11,050.26	1,284.28
Insurance	4,477.98	4,034.02
Telephones, radio licence & message line	1,765.27	2,041.73
Postage (fund raising mail shot)	181.11	107.49
Printing, copying and stationery	292.01	390.69
Equipment repairs	0.00	0.00
Radio parts and equipment	3,316.58	7,255.45
Equipment Consumables	2,979.57	0.00
Consumables and medical stores	17,857.17	6,064.16
Training & exercise courses	3,177.40	2,704.24
SMS Texting	1,384.63	1,551.82
Protective clothing and attire	1,035.00	29,479.98
Legal	0.00	0.00
Web Design	930.00	180.00
Dog costs	1,298.39	0.00
Misc	1,289.07	1,025.37
D4H Subscription	562.12	865.00
Catering	1,959.30	1,522.69
Just Giving	216.00	216.00
Depreciation	2,750.00	3,235.00
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	61,205.79	65,395.22
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Note 8 - Vehicle Expenses	2024	2023
Fuel	3,495.60	4,098.20
Maintenance	5,356.89	10,967.37
Vehicle Insurance	2,987.89	2,918.54
Depreciation (Note 10)	7,491.28	6,512.00
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	19,331.66	24,496.11
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Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Note 9 - Smelt Mill	2024	2023
Electricity	2,419.91	2,460.86
Telephone	339.35	236.04
Rates	270.46	248.48
Insurance	981.00	1,315.20
Coal and logs	633.25	383.25
Catering and consumable stores	1,481.88	489.22
Activities and domestic equipment	1,240.92	0.00
Repairs and renewals	3,946.51	2,776.95
Propane	2,096.61	814.00
Heating oil	1,356.13	768.37
TV licence	159.00	159.00
Accountancy	1,200.00	1,200.00
Postage, printing and stationery	4.89	0.00
Fire safety checks	586.44	639.69
Electrical testing and repairs	875.67	1,936.58
Boiler service and repairs	570.20	544.19
MR challenge	1,154.83	0.00
Repairs and gas safety project	12,181.46	0.00
Depreciation - Note 10	0.00	0.00
Course Fees	0.00	320.00
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	31,498.51	14,291.83
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Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Note 10 - Tangible Fixed Assets

Motor vehicles	Value As At 01/01/24	Addition	Depreciation	Disposal	Value As At 31/12/24
Mercedes Sprinter (MK05VDA)	361.62		90.00		271.62
Land Rover (X417XBV)	66.28		-3,933.72	4,000.00	0.00
Land Rover (RX59FEG)	309.56		77.00		232.56
Minibus (YJ61NHM)	449.26		112.00		337.26
Land Rover Defender (YX63JZD)	1,378.45		345.00		1,033.45
Bike Trailer	34.30		9.00		25.30
Landrover (PN65 GAA)	2,974.64		744.00		2,230.64
Ifor Williams Trailer	916.34		229.00		687.34
Navara Pick-up (PN20TEU)	13,044.38		3,261.00		9,783.38
Transit Minibus (WM21 ZGL)	0.00	26,230.00	6,558.00		19,672.00
Total Motor Vehicles	19,534.82	26,230.00	7,491.28	4,000.00	34,273.54
Properties					
Smelt Mill Training Centre	501,971.99				501,971.99
Unit 3 Creamery Industrial Estate	229,451.14				229,451.14
Total for Properties	731,423.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	731,423.13
Other Fittings					
New Radios	12,574.25		1,886.00		10,688.25
Plant and Equipment	5,708.86		856.00		4,852.86
Fire Alarm	53.68		8.00		45.68
Total for Other Fittings	18,336.78	0.00	2,750.00	0.00	15,586.78
Total Fixed Assets	769,294.74	26,230.00	10,241.28	4,000.00	781,283.46

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

**Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Note 11 - Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Team				
RBS Current Account	9,862.77		15,633.86	
RBS Deposit Account	288,637.74		336,567.81	
Scottish Widows	133,128.13		131,046.26	
Nat West Account	2,540.41		0.00	
Nat West Savings Account	7,023.51		0.00	
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		441,192.56		483,247.93
Smelt Mill				
Virgin Current	85.52		83.52	
Virgin Deposits	24,903.20		25,221.88	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00	
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		24,988.72		25,305.40
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		466,181.28		508,553.33
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Note 12 - Reserves

	2024	2023
Free Reserves	105,496.51	101,331.82
Allocated Reserves	360,684.77	407,221.51
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	466,181.28	508,553.33
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