

# CYMDEITHAS ACHUB MYNYDD GOGLEDD CYMRU NORTH WALES MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Charity Reg. No. 700429 / Elusen Gofrestredig Rhif 700429

**President: THE CHIEF CONSTABLE, North Wales Police**

## **Chairman's Report for 2007.**

Activity in 2007 did not decrease for it was another busy, if routine, year for the Association and its Members. As in past years a number of people made significant contributions to the effective work of the Association.

The Association accepted the final report of the small group established to consider responses to international disasters. It was concluded that it would not be appropriate for the Association or its Teams to offer a response to large scale international disasters. Such a response is well beyond the normal capacity of the Association or its Teams.

The Training Officer and his sub-committee have been active through out the year. A number of joint training exercises took place. The annual Fatal Incidents course was held on 16th and 17th June, 2007 at Plas y Brenin. It was a pleasure to welcome two members of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (NWF&RS) who participated in the course for the first time. Plas y Brenin are thanked for making their facilities available. The developing co-operation between the NWF&RS Rope Rescue Unit, the Water Unit and the MRTs is welcomed. This co-operation is particularly significant with regard to operations in and around swift water.

The Communications Officer and his assistants have worked effectively to improve the communications systems. A number of repeaters have been established to improve radio coverage. Airwave for the primary purpose of maintaining contact with the Force Control Room has become fully operational.

With regard to IT very little use seems to have been made of the Association's web site. Its continuing usefulness has been questioned. A project was initiated to consider various mapping programmes to make full use of the OS map data. It was agreed in principle that, in time, each Team would be issued with a lap top computer and printer for use in planning and recording SAR operations. It is intended that there will be a common set up on all the lap tops so that there is complete compatibility and inter-changeability through out the region.

The co-operative, Mountain Safe, project between the Snowdonia National Park, North Wales Police and the Association continued with the Association making available facts and figures from its incident data base. Some members assisted with instruction on the basic Navigation courses which were held at Plas y Brenin.

The North Wales Emergency Voluntary Sector (NWEVS) was established in 2007. The Association is a member and is represented by your Chairman. Its purpose is "To support resilience and emergency preparedness in North Wales to enable effective response to emergencies by providing a forum for consultation, liaison, support and development of multi-agency integrated emergency management policies to meet legislative requirements."

Requests from medical students on elective study at Ysbyty Gwynedd continue to be received and assistance willingly given. Yet again the information held on the data base is important to the Mountain Rescue Project being run at Ysbyty Gwynedd. A system of feedback on casualties admitted to the A & E Department has been established. Feedback forms are forwarded to the relevant Team.

INCIDENTS. During the year a revised version of the MR(E&W) incident reporting programme was distributed. The new version allows for the recording of alerts/stand-bys as well as actual deployments. In addition, an audit of skills used on each incident was incorporated in the programme. In the past the reporting of information on missing persons behaviour was weak if not lacking. With the help of the MR(E&W) Statistics Officer a template for recording missing persons behaviour was developed. Revised templates of the Incident Report and the Missing Persons Behaviour Report were circulated to all teams. In 2007 the following were recorded:

Incidents (Deployments)	180
Alerts/Standbys	30
Persons Assisted	292
Unhurt	188
Injured	95
Fatalities	9

Additional details may be found in the accompanying table. The perennial plea is made for the proper completion, with information on all the items listed in the incident report and for the timely submission of reports. Where applicable members should complete and submit the Missing Persons Behaviour reports.

The Teams' response to requests for assistance continues to be as effective as ever. The Teams continue to provide a quality service. It is pleasing to note the number of occasions in which the reports list two or more Teams involved in an incident. The Teams and all their members are thanked for their hard work which is much appreciated, not the least, by the people assisted during the year

In conclusion I wish to express our sincere thanks to the North Wales Police for their wide ranging support. With out this support the Association and its Teams would not be in the strong position they are. Our sincere thanks to all the Officers and members of the Association for their continuing hard work in 2007.

**ANNUAL INCIDENTS ENTERED IN THE MRC DATA BASE**

	<b><u>2002</u></b>	<b><u>2003</u></b>	<b><u>2004</u></b>	<b><u>2005</u></b>	<b><u>2006</u></b>	<b><u>2007</u></b>
Incidents (Deployments)	150	142	120	156	154	<b>180</b>
Alerts / Stand-bys						<b>30</b>
Subjects	222	206	191	222	265	<b>292</b>
Unhurt	124	117	128	136	165	<b>188</b>
Injured	83	77	49	78	85	<b>95</b>
Fatal	13	10	12	5	14	<b>9</b>
No Trace	2	2	2	3	1	<b>0</b>
<b><u>TEAMS (Including Alerts / Stand-bys)</u></b>						
Aberglasyn MRT	14	25	15	10	19	<b>17</b>
Llanberis MRT	85	61	61	75	83	<b>76</b>
OB Wales SART	7	1	1	9	3	<b>21</b>
OVMRO	42	57	39	55	55	<b>58</b>
NEWSAR	16	10	10	14	11	<b>36</b>
SARDA(W)	4	11	18	13	18	<b>27</b>
NW CRO						
South Snowdonia SART	6	6	8	6	11	<b>15</b>
Snowdonia National Park	2	0	1	3	4	<b>12</b>
<b><u>ACTIVITIES</u></b>						
Water Sports	1	1	0	0	4	<b>2</b>
Sledging	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Ski-ing	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Snow/Ice Climbing	0	1	0	2	1	<b>0</b>
Search, Non-mountain	11	11	14	9	11	<b>35</b>
Search, Mountain	6	1	5	11	3	<b>11</b>
Rescue Team Activity	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Road Traffic Accident	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Rock Scrambling	22	22	10	29	25	<b>24</b>
Rock Climbing	13	13	15	14	11	<b>8</b>
Pony Trekking	0	0	1	0	0	<b>0</b>
Parapenting	0	0	1	1	1	<b>2</b>
Orienteering	0		0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Occupational	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Motor Sport	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Local Incident	11	9	9	6	1	<b>2</b>
Hang-gliding	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Fell Running	1	0	0	1	1	<b>3</b>
Fishing	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Fell Walking (Winter)	0	0	0	2	4	<b>0</b>
Fell Walking	85	79	60	80	84	<b>164</b>
Fell Walking (Winter D of E)	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Fell Walking (D of E)	0	2	4	0	3	<b>4</b>
Cave/ Mine Exploration	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Bird watching	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Mountain Biking	0	1	0	1	1	<b>3</b>
Animal Rescue	0	0	0	0	1	<b>5</b>
Aircrash – Military	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Aircrash - Civil	0	1	0	0	1	<b>0</b>
Abseiling	0	0	1	0	0	<b>0</b>