



Borders Search and Rescue Unit



(The teams MK7 pictured above on a recent training exercise).

Referred to as 'The Father of Scottish Mountain Rescue' and 'The Fox of Glencoe', Hamish MacInnes died on November 22nd at the age of 90. He was known as an international climber, who filmed and took part in documentaries on climbing, and was a safety advisor on movies such as Clint Eastwood's 'The Eiger Sanction', and 'Monty Python's Holy Grail.' He founded the Glen Coe Mountain Rescue Team, (which he led for 30 years), the Search and Rescue Dog Association, and with Eric Langmuir was co-founder of the Scottish Avalanche Information Service. He also wrote 26 books including The International Mountain Rescue Handbook.

It was in his role as an inventor that the BSARU had a connection with Hamish. He developed the first folding aluminium Mountain Rescue Stretcher, and the team's first stretcher was one of these MacInnes MK 1 stretchers. Hamish went on to develop his design through to a MK6, the team having a number of these, which went back if repair was needed. Always innovative and with the aim of producing a one piece stretcher for use in disasters, military operations, and helicopter and mountain rescue he created the MK7. For the MK7 Hamish used new composite materials, as well as titanium for the handles, head and footrest.

Quite a legacy for a man from Gatehouse of Fleet.

<https://www.scottishmountainrescue.org> and <http://www.bordersar.org.uk>

BSARU is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SCO23213

Seymour Haugh