

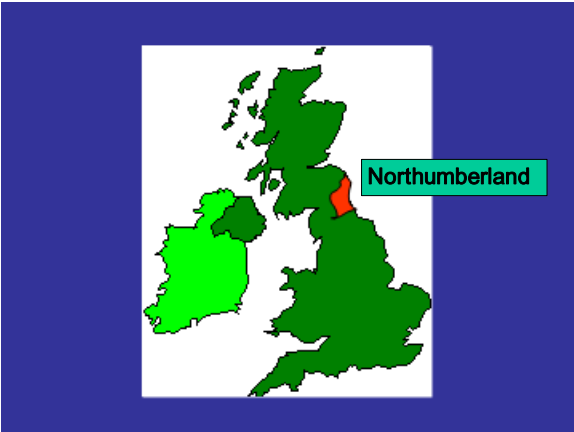
## Pete Roberts

Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team  
The Centre for Search Research [www.searchresearch.org.uk](http://www.searchresearch.org.uk)



## Pete Roberts

- ✓ Active member of Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team since 1973
- ✓ Currently Team Leader
- ✓ Formed The Centre for Search Research in 1998 with Dave Perkins
- ✓ Presented papers at conferences and taught courses around the UK, Ireland, USA and Canada



70% of searches in non 'mountainous' terrain

## The presentation

- The UK Missing Person Behaviour Study
- The Initial Response (to a SAR incident)
- The Six Step Process
- Future Research

... and all in 20 minutes!!



### The U.K. Missing Person Behaviour Study August 2011

Dave Perkins and Pete Roberts  
Northumberland National Park MRT  
The Centre for Search Research  
Ged Feeney  
Penrith MRT and  
Statistics Officer for Mountain Rescue (England)

[www.searchresearch.com](http://www.searchresearch.com)

Free

UK based

Reviewed

Updated

## Where does the data come from?

- Mountain Rescue England & Wales (MREW) collects data about incidents that Rescue Teams have been involved in at the behest of the Police
- It is collected and collated by the MREW Incident Statistics Officer
- This is analysed by The Centre for Search Research (TCSR) and a report published
- 2011; 2005; 2004; 2002

## Where does the data come from?

### Terrain type

- Urban 26%
- Farmland 24%
- Woodland 14%
- Water 6%

**Total 70%**

## Overall statistics and categories

• children aged 1 to 16	113
• climber	3
• Dementia	194
• despondent	457
• development problems	37
• fell runner	7
• health related	8
• miscellaneous	29
• mountain biker	6
• other vulnerables	83
• psychological illness	63
• substance related	33
• walker (solo)	132
• walkers (group)	95
• water related	11
• <b>total reported incidents</b>	<b>1271</b>

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} 50% +

## Changes to categories and significance testing

### Children, 1 to 16 years

..... formed by merging children, 1 to 6 years; children, 7 to 12 years and children, 13 to 16 years.

No significant difference (statistically) and gives us a more robust volume of data of 113 cases.

## How do we use them – context

- The Initial (and immediate ) Response
- Search is an Emergency
- The 'golden hour'
- Developing a search plan – **where?**

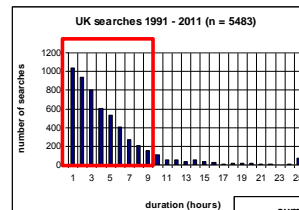
## How do we use them – context

### • The Immediate Response

- What we do straight away
- Gives us a plan for the first hour or two
- Uses resources we have available now
- Uses guidelines based on dead or alive

## Reporting the results

- a. Category definition
- b. Terrain type
- c. Fatality rate
- d. Outcome – condition when found
- e. Location found
- f. Distance from IPP
- g. Possible scenarios

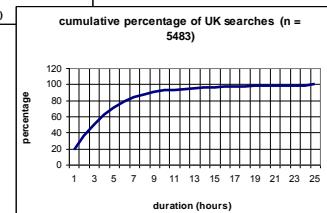


Mean = 4.2 hours

Median 2.2 hours

**The Initial Response**

50% > 3 hours  
80% in 6 hours  
90% in 9 hours



## How do we use them – context

### • The Initial Response

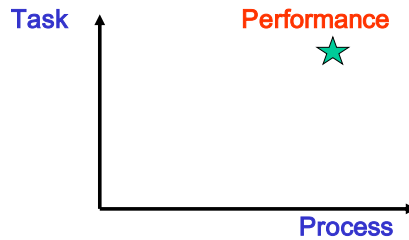
- What we do next
- Gives us a plan for the next 'shift' – 8 hours
- Uses additional resources
- Uses MPB statistics to develop scenarios

# Missing Person Behaviour Statistics

..... generally

- information from past incidents that involved searches for missing persons
- it tells you about the outcome ...
- ... and this helps you to **plan the search** for the person who is currently missing
- a planning tool, that deals with generalities and not absolutes

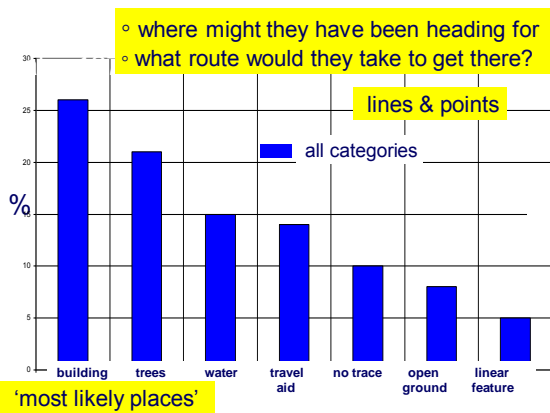
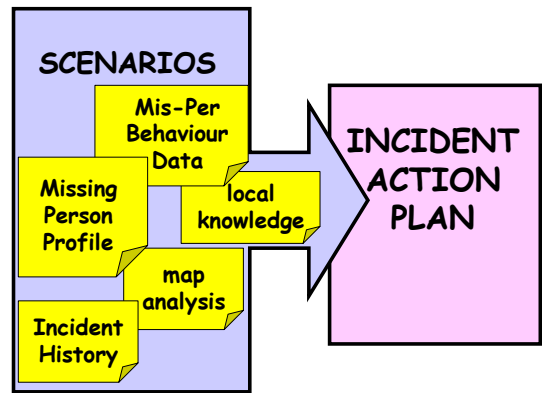
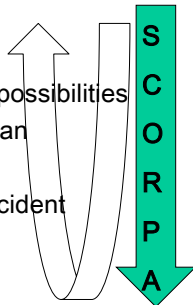
# Management, Planning and Problem Solving



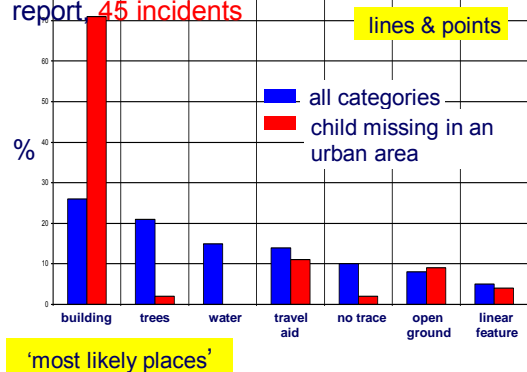
## How do we use them – context

### The six step process

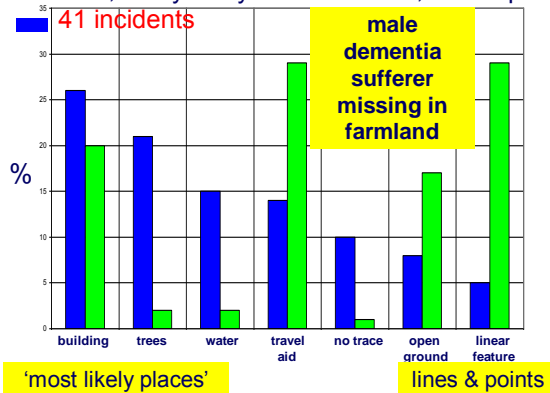
- Size up (the problem)
- Contingencies – what are the possibilities
- Objectives - Incident Action Plan
- Resources
- Planning - Organisation of incident
- Action



UKMPBS, analysis by location found, 2011 report, 45 incidents



UKMPBS, analysis by location found, 2011report,



## Future Research

**Missing with Dementia** – A multidisciplinary, multiagency study of the experiences and decisions of people with dementia, carers and practitioners when someone is reported as missing or anticipated that they may become missing.

Led by Professor Charlotte Clarke  
 Head of School of Health and Social Science  
 University of Edinburgh

Funding applied for to NIHR (National Institute for Health Research)

## Future Research

### Four Work-packages:-

- 1 Analysis of Northumbria Police data
- 2 Interviews with people with dementia who have been reported as missing to the Police
- 3 Interviews with people with dementia who have not been missing
- 4 Production of guidelines for Police and SAR agencies – theory and practice

