

PRESS RELEASE

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team



Issued for release 19/08/24

Joss Naylor MBE, bronze resin sculpture to be auctioned for Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

In 2008 renowned Cumbrian born professional sculptor Paul Bainbridge created two bronze resin sculptures of the head of fell running legend Joss Naylor to celebrate Joss's achievement of running 70 Lake District fells on his 70th birthday. One of the sculptures was purchased by Copeland Council to take a place of honour in The Beacon Museum in Whitehaven. The other sculpture was retained by Paul who, on hearing the sad news of the death of Joss, has donated the second sculpture to raise money for Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team. Joss was the Honorary Vice President of the team and officially opened the team's new base outside Gosforth in 2018 and as you would expect Joss conducted the ribbon cutting ceremony in his own unique style using sheep shearers and baler twine.

Mitchell's Auction Company of Cockermouth have agreed to do a charity auction for the sculpture in their Antiques and Fine Art sale on 11th, 12th and 13th September 2024, the details of which can be found online closer to the auction date.

Paul Bainbridge

Born in Egremont, Cumbria, sculptor Paul Bainbridge studied at Carlisle College of Art and then went on to train as a teacher at Hornsey College of Art. Paul was then involved in art education for 25 years, becoming Head of Art at Hadham Hall School in Hertfordshire. In 1990 he became a freelance portrait sculptor with Mme. Tussaud's where he spent 12 years creating wax sculptures of many famous people, leaving in 2002 to focus his attention on creating his own sculptures, most of which are concerned with the human face or figure. He was elected to membership of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, as it was then, in 1993.

More information

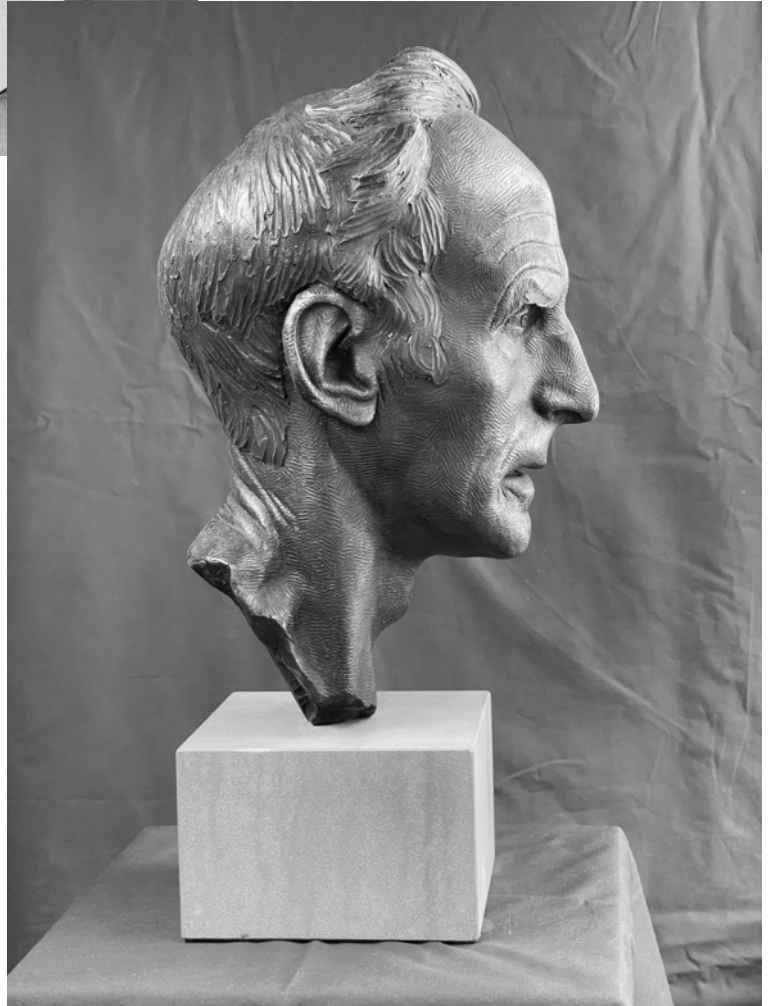
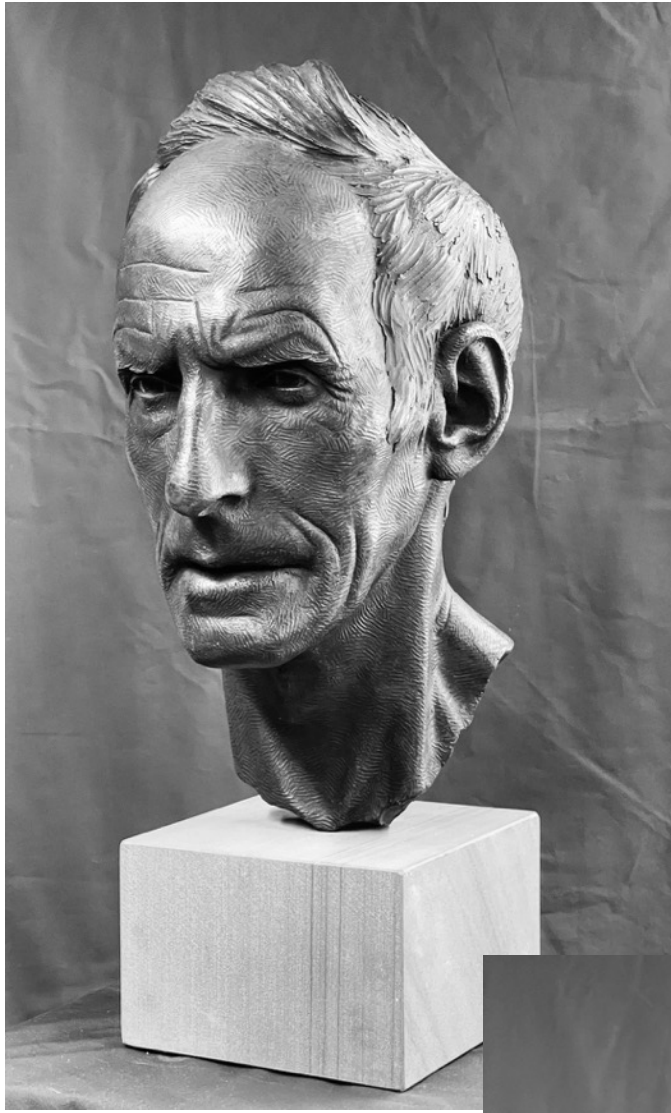
For more information about the auction contact Mitchells of Cockermouth ([01900 827800](tel:01900827800))

For Paul Bainbridge email pb.sculptor@btinternet.com or see <http://www.paulbainbridgesculptor.co.uk> (Paul is also intending to produce miniature versions of the sculpture)

Photographs of the sculpture are attached to this information

ENDS

For further information regarding this WMRT press release please contact
WMRT Press Officer Richard Warren, on 07470 496547



Joss Opening the New Rescue Base in 2018



Joss at the new base official opening of the rescue base, sheep sheers ready to cut the twine and then sharing some special moments as he remembered the old days up the valley, when rescues were carried out by farmers, climbers and anyone to hand before the volunteer teams were formed.

Notes to Editors:

Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team is one of 10 mountain rescue teams and two specialist teams that respond to '999' calls across the Lake District and Cumbria as a whole. The team is made up of 48 volunteers from all walks of life. The team's operational area includes the valleys of Wasdale and Eskdale and the surrounding mountains along with the outlying areas from Whitehaven in the North down to Waberthwaite in the South. Scafell Pike is the highest mountain in England at 978metres and a focal point for many of our callouts. The team is on call 24 hours a day 365 days a year and we are seeing a growing number of avoidable incidents due to lack of planning and preparation and failure to wear appropriate clothing and not carrying map, compass or torch, nor knowing how to use. We are now regularly responding to well over 150 callouts each year and are funded purely by voluntary donations. Callouts are split between trauma / medical emergencies and with searches for lost, missing and overdue persons and groups accounting for a third of the rescues.

Any member of the public who wishes to learn more about the work we do and support the team should visit our website.....

www.wmrt.org.uk

Safety Messages:

Walkers and those venturing out into the great outdoors are being encouraged to visit a safety information website Adventure Smart UK. This provides information on the right equipment, weather reports and skills needed to be safe on our hills.

So stay safe:

#BeAdventureSmart and make your good day better

Ask yourself three questions before you set off:

1. Do I have the right GEAR ?
2. Do I know what the WEATHER will be like?
3. Am I confident that I have the KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS for the day?

The answers to these three questions can be found on the Adventure Smart website

<https://www.adventuresmart.uk/>

