



# Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team

## Mountain and Cave Rescue in Swaledale and Wensleydale

### **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Happy Christmas Rescue by Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team**

A dramatic rescue by Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team (SMRT) on Christmas Eve resulted in a happy Christmas for two lucky terrier dogs and their owner.

They were walking above Askrigg when the two dogs chased a rabbit into Ellerkin Pot, a registered cave that was the scene of a remarkably similar incident two years ago.

Having fallen into the deep hole the dogs were unable to escape and SMRT was called to assist at lunchtime. The road from Swaledale was blocked by deep snow and so the Team accessed the site via Wensleydale and reached the hole at about 1500 hours.

The first terrier named Pip was recovered relatively quickly from just fifteen feet below ground, but the second dog Rolly presented a much more serious challenge. He was almost 100 feet down and had to be reached via specialist ladders.

Fortunately the rescue was completed successfully and by 1700 hours both dogs were re-united unhurt (if a little battered and bruised) with their owner in good time for Christmas Day.

The SMRT members on site were Pete Roe and William Lumb, assisted by Louise Baltiesz of Reeth, and the Rescue Controller was Paul Denning.

Speaking after the incident William Lumb said: 'Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team covers Wensleydale as well as Swaledale and we get several animal rescues each year.

The conditions this time were challenging but it was great to be part of a Christmas story that ended so happily.'

**ENDS**

Please see pictures attached to separate e-mail and notes for editors below.

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# Christmas Eve Terrier Rescue

