



# Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team

Mountain and Cave Rescue in Swaledale and Wensleydale

## NEWS RELEASE

### Wrong turn leads to Seasonal Safety Advice from Rescue Team

On Sunday afternoon 16 December a group of five people in two Landrovers took a wrong turn that led to both vehicles getting completely bogged down several miles from the nearest road. They alerted the police by mobile phone and members of Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team (SMRT) were asked to assist.

The combined local knowledge of SMRT members enabled them to identify the approximate location of the incident from the group's description of the landscape they could see around them. By the time the twenty Team members arrived an hour later, however, it was dark and already very cold. The vehicles and their occupants were located near Summer Lodge Tarn in Swaledale.

The group included one person with severe mobility problems who was taken from the scene by stretcher and all members of the group were taken by the Team to safety in Reeth.

Speaking afterwards, Rescue Controller Paul Denning said that a number of seasonal lessons could be learned that apply to drivers and walkers alike.

"Of course we understand that many people get pleasure from driving vehicles off road but this incident highlights the importance of planning a suitable route and being well prepared for all eventualities.

By making sure that you tell someone where you are going and the time you expect to be back and carrying additional warm clothes and a good working torch you can significantly improve your chances in the event of an emergency.

Conditions in this part of the world can change and become life threatening very quickly so good preparation for any excursion into the countryside is important. "

**ENDS**

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