



# Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team

## Mountain and Cave Rescue in Swaledale and Wensleydale

### NEWS RELEASE

## From Training to Reality ... Again!

Following the crash of the helicopter at Catterick earlier in the month when members of the Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team (SMRT) were on a training exercise and first at the scene, they were called out again today (Sunday 26 August) when training in the same area.

About thirty members of the Team were undertaking a training exercise when the police requested their assistance at 10-30am. A mountain biker from Scarborough had come off his bike near Storthwaite Hall in Arkengarthdale. He was unconscious and the alarm was raised by his fellow bikers.

The SMRT doctor and Team members attended immediately to provide assistance. The mountain biker was approximately a kilometre from the road and had his condition allowed it the Team would have stretchered him to an ambulance. On arrival, however, the Team became aware of a suspected spinal injury and in the event the Great North Air Ambulance was called and removed the injured biker to James Cook Hospital.

Team Rescue Controller Paul Denning said after the incident "Once again the importance of regular training for mountain rescue teams has been highlighted. Even on a Bank Holiday Sunday our volunteer members are prepared to give up time to improve their skills. We were able to be on the scene of this incident very quickly and it demonstrated good partnership with the air ambulance service."

Further information on the Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team can be found on the team web page at [www.swaledalemrt.org.uk](http://www.swaledalemrt.org.uk)

**ENDS**

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