

## Fire Crew Saves Christmas

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 23.34 hrs fire crews from Consett and High Handenhold attended a serious house fire in Blackhill, Consett. Five family members including three young children were trapped in the house.

The fire had started accidentally in the ground floor living room and was discovered when the domestic smoke alarms actuated.



Fire crews rescued the mother and 3 children from the first floor front bedroom window and the father escaped through the back door. All were taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation and were released the next day.

This could have quite easily been a tragedy involving the five family members.

Thankfully, in August 2004 the red watch crew from Consett fire station carried out a home fire safety visit and fitted two smoke alarms that were provided by the Community Safety Partnership.

Following the fire the family visited Consett fire station to say special thanks to those who saved their lives. Considering their ordeal they were in good spirit and enjoyed the visit.

Green watch crew provided gifts for the three children and the retained crew gave the parents a £50 gift voucher, which was a donation from Cooperative Retail Logistics.

