

SEAHOUSES LIFEBOAT STATION - **RNLI NEWS RELEASE**



Tel: 01665 720370. From Station Press Officer:

Lifeboats

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

THREE PERSONS ATTEMPT TO CROSS HOLY ISLAND CAUSEWAY ON FOOT.

Call Out No:	28	/ 2004			
Day:	Friday	Time:	4.28pm	Date:	17 th September 2004
Weather:	Fine	Wind Speed:	Force 4	Direction:	South/West
Visibility:	Good	Sea State:	Moderate 1 m swells		
Lifeboat(s) Launched :	Inshore Lifeboat	Crew: -	Edward Fordy, Stuart Patterson, Gary Annison.	Shore Crew:	Ian Clayton, Neil Calvert, John Hanvey.
Returned to Station:	5.10 pm	Service Duration:	40 min	Coastguard Incident No:	028435

Details: At 4.28 pm, on Friday 17th September, 2004, Humber Coastguard received reports of three persons trying to wade across the Holy Island Causeway, over an hour outside of the safe crossing time. High tide at Seahouses was 5.21pm, being a Spring or higher tide, which meant that the water flowing over the causeway could be deep in places and very hazardous to anyone trying to cross on foot, with a strong risk of them being swept off. The Seahouses Coastguard vehicle was dispatched, and Seahouses Inshore Lifeboat was requested to launch. A Search and Rescue Helicopter from RAF Boulmer was also scrambled. Two fire crews from Berwick, an ambulance and a police unit were also called to the scene. Just before the Inshore Lifeboat reached the Refuge Box, the Helicopter arrived and winched the walkers from the elevated refuge box.

Lifeboat and Coastguard personnel remain dismayed that individuals still see fit to disregard the Safe Crossing notices prominently displayed. The cost of mounting such a rescue operation is not inconsiderable, and the incident could have been completely prevented by common sense, or by seeking advice from local occupants on the Island, before attempting to set out.

Safe Crossing times for Holy Island Causeway that day were :-

From 0900 to 15.10, and from 21.10 to 03.20 (Sat)

Ends.

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Vision : To be recognised universally as the most effective, innovative and dependable lifeboat service.

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