

SEAHOUSES LIFEBOAT STATION - RNLI NEWS RELEASE

Tel: 01665 720370. From Station Press Officer:



Lifeboats

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

CAPSIZED YACHTSMAN RESCUED BY SEAHOUSES LIFEBOAT

Call Out No:	06	/ 2004			
Day:	Thursday	Time:	4.13PM	Date:	03 rd June 2004
Weather:	Fine	Wind Speed:	Force 3	Direction:	West
Visibility:	Clear	Sea State:	Slight		
Lifeboat(s) Launched :	Mersey Lifeboat	Crew:	S.Priestley (2 nd Cox), John Hanvey, Ian Clayton, Martin Malone, Neil Calvert, David Fordy, Stuart Patterson		
Returned to Station:	5.30pm	Service Duration:	15mins	Coastguard Incident No:	318

At 4.13pm, on Thursday 3rd June, 2004, Humber Coastguard received a "999" call from a member of the public, reporting a capsized yacht in Beadnell Bay, with one person clinging to the upturned hull, and in obvious serious difficulty. Further calls were subsequently received. Seahouses Lifeboat Crew were paged and requested to launch immediately. The lifeboat reached the yacht as the south side of Beadnell Bay at 4.38pm. It was found to be a blue hulled 16ft sailing yacht, "Bonnie Lass", with one crew member who was trying to stay on top of the upturned hull. The yacht had capsized in a gusty breeze, and the occupant had been thrown into the water. He was wearing appropriate safety equipment, but was unable to reach his distress flares in the upturned hull of the yacht. He was cold and wet, but did not require any medical treatment. One of the Lifeboat Crewman, David Fordy, entered the water, to assist the yachtsman, while ropes were attached from the Lifeboat, in an effort to right the yacht. Once righted with some initial difficulty, the yachtsman was taken aboard the Lifeboat into the warm and dry, while the lifeboat crewman remained in the yacht. It was then towed to the shore by the Lifeboat, where the yachtsman, at his own request, re-entered the water and waded ashore to beach his yacht where he was met and assisted by Seahouses Coastguard personnel, who had also been alerted. The Lifeboat had to then swiftly withdraw to deeper water, as the tide was falling, and the water at that point was very shallow.

The yachtsman, a male aged 58yrs, from Durham, was staying in a caravan at a local caravan park. He stated that he felt rather embarrassed about the incident, but was very grateful indeed for the efforts and rapid response of the Lifeboat crew, who had rescued both him and his yacht which had been in serious difficulties. Action by alert members of the public on the shore, by promptly reporting the incident, also played a significant part in his rescue.

Ends.

Photographs to follow.

www.seahouseslifeboat.co.uk RNLI : - Registered Charity 209603

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

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