

SEAHOUSES LIFEBOAT STATION - *RNLI NEWS RELEASE*

Tel: 01665 720370. *The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea.*

From Local Station Press Officer:



Lifeboats

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report 005 & 006/ 2010

CRASTER INSHORE LIFEBOAT CAPSIZES SOUTH OF CRASTER HARBOUR

| DATE/TIME LAUNCHED | RETURNED TO STATION | LIFEBOAT(S) LAUNCHED | WEATHER | WIND | SEA STATE | VISIBILITY |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Sun 28 th Feb 13.19hr | 17:20hr | Both Lifeboats | Squally, gusty wind. | NNE Force 6 | Moderate /Choppy | Good |

At **13:17hrs** on **Sunday 28th February 2010**, Humber Coastguard paged Seahouses Lifeboat Operations Manager, and advised him that Craster Inshore Lifeboat had capsized while on exercise south of Craster Harbour, and required immediate assistance. The LOM directed both Seahouses Lifeboats be paged for immediate launch. Due to the squally sea conditions, it was considered expedient to take the Seahouses Inshore Lifeboat by road to Craster, with the station landrover. The All Weather Lifeboat meanwhile made best speed by sea. On arrival at Craster, the LOM who had travelled with the Landrover, found that the Craster crew had managed to reach the rocky shore, and the capsized lifeboat had also been washed onto the rocks. A female crew member of the lifeboat had suffered facial injuries, and sea water ingestion. She and her two male crew colleagues, were also suffering from bruising, mild hypothermia and shock. All three were airlifted by an RAF Rescue Helicopter directly to Wansbeck Hospital. The Seahouses All Weather Lifeboat stood by offshore in case it was required, but it was decided to recover the stricken lifeboat by man-handling it across the rocky shore to the field above the shore, where it was placed onto its carriage and returned to its boathouse. There was damage to the boat and engine, and in accordance with RNLI policy, the boat was immediately placed "Off Service", and a relief lifeboat was arranged for delivery within 24 hours. The crew were released from hospital later that day, fortunately all

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with minor injuries. Good training had prevented a more serious outcome, and a formal enquiry will now be carried out by the Divisional Inspector of Lifeboats. Ends.