

SEAHOUSES LIFEBOAT STATION - *RNLI NEWS RELEASE*

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

From Press Officer:



Lifeboats

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report 25 / 2008

DIVER WITH POSSIBLE SERIOUS HEAD INJURY OFF SEAHOUSES

DATE/TIME LAUNCHED	RETURNED TO STATION	LIFEBOAT(S) LAUNCHED	WEATHER	WIND	SEA STATE	VISIBILITY
Saturday 23rd August 2008	14.27hr	Inshore Lifeboat	Part Cloudy	ENE Force 4	Slight / Choppy	Good

At **14.22pm** on **Saturday 23rd August 2008**, Seahouses Lifeboat Operations Manager had been monitoring the marine radio channels, when he became aware of an incident involving the Dive Charter Boat "**Sovereign 3**". A diver aboard that vessel had sustained a possible serious head injury. The L.O.M. contacted Humber Coastguard, offering Lifeboat assistance, but it was declined at that time as the RAF Helicopter from Boulmer was being requested. On hearing further radio traffic, and discussing the options with an ambulance crew who had attended Seahouses Harbour, the L.O.M. decided to launch the Inshore Lifeboat "Peter Downes" without delay. It was vital to get some medical attention to the diver as quickly as possible, while awaiting the helicopter. All RNLI Volunteer Lifeboat crews receive extensive Maritime First Aid Training. One of the Ambulance Crew was also a member of Craster Lifeboat Crew, and offered to go out with the Seahouses Inshore Lifeboat, which he did. The casualty was treated by the ambulance crewman and Station Lifeboat Mechanic John Harvey from the Inshore Lifeboat, on board the "Sovereign 3" as it returned to Seahouses. It his possible that his injury was caused by hitting the vessel's stationary propeller while surfacing from a dive, although this is yet to be confirmed. The Diver's injuries were not as serious as first thought, although he still had some deep lacerations to his head and cuts to his hands. There was no immediate signs of any diving illness (bends), so it was decided to transfer him by road to the Seafield Road Helicopter Landing Site at Seahouses. An Air Ambulance had also attended, and the casualty was flown directly to Wansbeck Hospital for treatment, and the RAF Helicopter and Lifeboat were stood down. He was on of a party of divers from Bradford, who had been diving near the Goldstone, at the Farne Islands, and was believed to be in his late 30s/early 40s.

Ends.

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

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

Donation Hotline : 0800 543210