



RNLI PRESS RELEASE

REPORT No: 17/99

Boat aground on Farne Islands.

At 4.31pm on Friday 6th August, 1999, only hours after going to the assistance of the yacht "Fairwinds", Tyne Tees Coastguard again requested the immediate launch of the Seahouses All Weather Lifeboat, to go to the aid of the Seahouses vessel "Sovereign", which had run aground on the Knivestone in the Farnes Islands. The boat had twelve divers aboard and was skippered by Jonathan Dawson. The Seahouses vessel "Three Sisters" also went to his assistance. The boat was able to free itself from the rocks and was escorted by the lifeboat, under command of 2nd Coxswain Michael Douglas, back to the safety of Seahouses Harbour, where it will later be examined for damage to its hull. The divers were transferred to the "Three Sisters" and landed at Seahouses. No one was hurt in the incident, and visibility was poor at the time, due to thick fog patches. Sea conditions were calm.

Ends.

6.20pm 6th August 1999.

Addendum to Boat aground on Farne Islands.

Further to Report No 17/99 yesterday, which made reference to the "Three Sisters", which had run aground on the Knivestone in the Farnes Islands, it now appears that this was incorrect. Radio traffic at the time was confused, and it has now been established that the "Three Sisters" was in fact offering assistance, and it was "Sovereign 3" skippered by Andrew Douglas from Seahouses which had run aground, and not as previously stated. It is believed that this vessel had suffered minor damage to its propellor.

Ends.