



Seahouses Lifeboat Station

Tel : 01665 720370

From Station Press Officer

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report No 11/2003

DIVERS WITH BENDS SYMPTOMS GIVEN ASSISTANCE.

Date: Sunday 08/06/03 **Callout time:** 12.45pm **Launch time:** N/A
Wind speed: 1/2 **Wind direction:** NNE **Sea state:** Slight/Moderate
Weather: Clear **Visibility:** Clear/Cloudy **Casualty:** Divers.
Recovery Time: 2pm **Coastguard Incident No:** DIN.329
Location: Seahouses Harbour. **Lifeboat:** Station Landrover only.
Crew: *Ian Clayton, Eric Stanwix, Stuart Patterson and D.L.A John Hanvey.*
Launchers: N/A

Details: At 12.28pm on Sunday, 08th June 2003, Humber Coastguard received a call for assistance from the 5 1/2 metre Diving RIB (Rigid Inflatable Boat) "NERYS", which had divers suffering symptoms of the Bends (Decompression sickness which can prove fatal) off the Whirl Rocks, at the Farne Islands. The boat recovered their other divers and made straight to Seahouses Harbour, while getting Medical Advice from the Coastguards. On reaching the harbour, they were met by a local Auxiliary Coastguard Unit, and realising that the diver's supply of oxygen was running low, the assistance of the Lifeboat Crew was requested. The Lifeboat Landrover travelled to the harbour slip, with a fresh supply of oxygen, and transported the two casualties, a male aged 46yr, and a female aged 34yrs, both from the Leeds area, to the Helicopter Landing site beside the Seaford Restaurant at St Aidans, Seahouses. The helicopter from RAF Leaconfield, was guided to the site by the Lifeboat Crew and Coastguards, and the casualties were airlifted to the nearest available decompression chamber at Hull. The Dive Boat "Nerys" was assisted by the "Volante," which had itself been subject of a Lifeboat Call-out yesterday.

All Lifeboat Crew members receive marine first aid training, which includes administering of oxygen. Oxygen given to a "Bends" diver, can have very beneficial effects and assist in their recovery. On this occasion, the RAF Boulmer helicopter was engaged in the Lake District. Once the helicopter had lifted safely, the Station Landrover and crew returned to station.

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Donation Hotline : 0800 543210



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Ends.

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