



Seahouses Lifeboat Station

Tel : 01665 720370

From Station Press Officer

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report No 18/2003

DIVER WITH BENDS SYMPTOMS AT SEAHOUSES HARBOUR OFFICE.

Date: Saturday 19/07/03 **Callout time:** 10.55pm **Launch time:** N/A
Wind speed: 4/5 **Wind direction:** SW **Sea state:** Moderate, 1.5m swells
Weather: Bright **Visibility:** Good **Casualty:** Diver
Recovery Time: N/A **Coastguard Incident No:** DIN.485
Location: Seahouses Harbour. **Lifeboat:** One Crew Member with Oxygen Kit.
Crew: *Ian Clayton.*
Launchers: N/A

Details: At 10.55am on Saturday, 19th July 2003, the Seahouses Harbour Master alerted a passing member of the Lifeboat Crew, that a diver from the dive boat "Below Zero", which had been diving on the Blue Caps, at the Farne Islands, had come ashore and was now outside of the Harbour Office, and appeared to be suffering symptoms of the "Bends",. The diver was running out of oxygen from his club's supply, so the Lifeboat Crewman returned with a fresh supply from the Lifeboat Station, after alerting Humber Coastguard. An ambulance attended, it was agreed that the diver required immediate transfer by helicopter to the decompression chamber (Hypervaric Unit) at Hull. Humber Coastguard had meanwhile scrambled a Rescue Helicopter from RAF Boulmer to the scene. The diver appeared to be quite poorly, suffering pains to his head and arms, and was in some distress. He was then transferred by ambulance to the helicopter landing site on Seafield Road, where he placed into the care of the helicopter crew and flown to Hull for treatment.

The Coastguards stress that where a diver suffers any "Bends" symptoms, they should be contacted at once (VHF radio or phone), so that the necessary emergency evacuation procedures can be put underway. Delaying this call could have very serious consequences to a badly affected diver, by unnecessarily delaying life saving treatment.

This casualty was a 18 yr old male, from Clitheroe in Lancashire, and was one of a party of divers from the Abraham Moss Sub Aqua Club. Ends.

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

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

Donation Hotline : 0800 543210