



## Seahouses Lifeboat Station

Tel : 01665 720370

From Station Press Officer

### LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report No 19/2003

#### TWO DIVERS WITH BENDS SYMPTOMS AT SEAHOUSES HARBOUR OFFICE.

**Date:** Sunday 20/07/03    **Callout time:** 10.50am    **Launch time:** N/A  
**Wind speed:** 4    **Wind direction:** SW    **Sea state:** Moderate, 1.5m swells  
**Weather:** Bright    **Visibility:** Good    **Casualty:** Diver  
**Recovery Time:** N/A    **Coastguard Incident No:** DIN.491  
**Location:** Seahouses Harbour.    **Lifeboat:** Two Crew Members with Oxygen Kit.  
**Crew:** *Ian Clayton, Stuart Patterson.*  
**Launchers:** N/A

**Details:** At 10.50am on Sunday, 20th July 2003, Humber Coastguard requested the Lifeboat Crew to assist with oxygen for two divers from the dive boat "North Shore", which had been diving at the wreck of the Somali, between Seahouses and Beadnell. The divers had come ashore and were now outside of the Harbour Office, and appeared to be suffering symptoms of the "Bends",. The divers were running out of oxygen from their club's supply, and only had one bottle in use. The Lifeboat crew administered oxygen until an ambulance arrived. It was agreed that the divers required immediate transfer by helicopter to the decompression chamber (Hypervaric Unit) at Hull. Humber Coastguard made arrangements for a Rescue Helicopter from RAF Boulmer to attend the scene, which had to be diverted from another incident at Middlesbrough. The female diver appeared to be in some distress, and may have swallowed a quantity of seawater. They were then transferred by ambulance to the helicopter landing site on Seafield Road, where they were placed into the care of the helicopter crew and flown to Hull for treatment.

The casualties were in their 30s, one male and one female, from County Durham, and were from of a party of divers from the Peterlee Sub Aqua Club.

Ends.