



Seahouses Lifeboat Station

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From Station Press Officer

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report No 28/2003

DIVER WITH BENDS SYMPTOMS AT BEADNELL.

Date: Saturday 23/08/03 **Callout time:** 4.06pm **Launch time:** Already on exercise.
Wind speed: 2/3 **Wind direction:** W **Sea state:** Light, 0.5m swells
Weather: Bright and Clear **Visibility:** Excellent **Casualty:** Stranded vehicle
Recovery Time: 5.00pm **Coastguard Incident No:** DIN 675
Location: Beadnell Car Park. **Lifeboat:** Relief Inshore Lifeboat / Station Landrover.
Crew: Inshore Lifeboat: Jonathon Shiel, Edward Fordy, Paul Ternent
Landrover: Ian Clayton, John Hanvey, Zeddy Annison and Stuart Patterson.

Details: At 4.06pm on Saturday 23rd August, 2003, Humber Coastguard received a report from Auxillary Coastguard Ian Stewart on Beadnell beach, that a diver had come ashore after diving on the wreck of the Somali, and was suffering from possible "Bends" symptoms. The Coastguards requested the assistance of the Seahouses Inshore Lifeboat, which was on exercise off Seahouses, as the casualty urgently required oxygen. Seahouses Lifeboat Station was also contacted, and it was decided to despatch the Station Landrover, which is fully equipped with Oxygen Therapy equipment, because of the number of diving incidents in this area. The vehicle also has emergency warning lights and siren. Crewmen aware of the incident took the Landrover directly to Beadnell, and treated the casualty, a 69 male from the Leeds area, till arrival of an ambulance. He was then transported aboard the RNLI Landrover, to the beach, with paramedics in attendance, and transferred to a Rescue helicopter from RAF Boulmer. He was then flown to the Hyperbaric Unit (decompression chamber) at Aberdeen, as the Hull unit was in use.

It is believed the diver had missed a decompression stop, while ascending from 30 metres. He was complaining of severe dizziness and had vomited.

Ends