



## Seahouses Lifeboat Station

Tel : 01665 720370

From Station Press Officer:

### **LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION**

INCIDENT REPORT 8/2002.

### **VESSEL REPORTED OVERDUE.**

At 8.20pm on Saturday 04 May, 2002, a member of the Seahouses Lifeboat crew was informed that the 20ft motorboat "Minitaur", had failed to return to Seahouses Harbour, having left at approximately 11am that morning. Checks with the harbour authority and Humber Coastguard, neither of whom were aware of the vessel's intentions. The owner's car was still parked beside the moorings. The Station Manager and Humber Coastguard were immediately notified. They requested an immediate launch of the Seahouses All weather Lifeboat while it was still daylight, and local coastguard teams were called out. A search was commenced in the area of the Farne Islands and towards Holy Island, as the boat was last seen heading north. The Search and Rescue Helicopter from RAF Boulmer which was returning from an incident at St Abbs, also joined the search between Holy Island and the Farnes. The lifeboat crew were able to provide a detailed description of the vessel, and it was located at anchor in the haven at Holy Island, by the Helicopter. The occupants were traced to a local public house, and were intending to stay overnight at the Island. The search was then cancelled, and the lifeboat and coastguards returned to their respective stations.

It is always advisable to inform the Coastguard or the Harbour staff of your intentions when taking a pleasure craft to sea. At the very least, let someone obvious know, particularly if your trip may be an extended one ! Had this been done in this case, this search operation could have been avoided. Fortunately, this vessel was located quickly, and the crew were found to be safe and well, before the search had become more extensive.

*Weather conditions at the time were wind Force 2-3 north easterly, clear visibility, with slight to smooth sea conditions.*

**Coastguard Log No H.270 refers.**

[www.seahouseslifeboat.co.uk](http://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**