



Seahouses Lifeboat Station

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From Station Press Officer

LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

INCIDENT REPORT 9/2002.

YACHT AGROUND ON ROCKS AT NEWTON.

At 7.41pm on Saturday 01 June, 2002, Humber Coastguard received a radio message from the Yacht "SMOKEY BEAR", requesting urgent assistance after striking rocks at Newton Bay. Seahouses Lifeboats were paged for immediate launch. The Inshore and All Weather Lifeboats, under command of Coxswain Michael Douglas, launched at once and the Inshore Lifeboat reached the casualty at 8.09pm, being joined shortly afterwards by the All Weather Lifeboat "Grace Darling". It was established that the yacht had managed to get free of the rocks, but had sustained possible serious damage to its keel. It was not taking water at that time, so the ILB returned to station and the All Weather Lifeboat escorted the yacht for part of its journey back to Amble. Once the yacht skipper was satisfied that his boat was in no further danger, the All Weather Lifeboat also returned to station. Humber Coastguard maintained in a close radio contact with the yacht until it reached its home port at Amble shortly after 10pm, where it will be fully examined to assess its damage. The yacht had a crew of two.

Weather conditions at the time were wind Force 3-4 south westerly, clear visibility, with slight to moderate 1 metre swells.

Coastguard Log No H.360 refers.