



## Seahouses Lifeboat Station

Tel : 01665 720370

From Station Press Officer

### LATEST CALL OUT INFORMATION

Launch Report No 8/2003

### DIVER SUFFERING BENDS SYMPTOMS AIRLIFTED TO ABERDEEN.

**Date:** Sunday 11/05/03    **Callout time:** 2.14pm    **Launch time:** n/a  
**Wind speed:** n/a    **Wind direction:** n/a    **Sea state:** n/a  
**Weather:** Clear    **Visibility:** Clear    **Casualty:** Diver.  
**Recovery Time:** n/a    **Coastguard Incident No:** DIN.233  
**Location:** Seahouses Harbour.

ON THIS OCCASION IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO LAUNCH EITHER LIFEBOAT, AS THE LIFEBOAT CREW MET THE CASUALTY AS IT BERTHED AT SEAHOUSES.

**Details:** At 2.14pm on Sunday, 11th May 2003, Humber Coastguard received a call for assistance from the charter boat "Guide Me", on passage to Seahouses from the Farne Islands with a party of divers. One of the divers was suffering the symptoms of the "Bends" (decompression sickness). The Lifeboat crew were paged, and met the boat as it arrived, to assist with oxygen till the arrival of a helicopter and ambulance. The diver was then transferred to a Seaking Rescue Helicopter from RAF Boulmer, which flew the diver to the nearest available decompression chamber at Aberdeen.

All Lifeboat Crews are trained to administer oxygen, as part of their marine first aid training. Both the Inshore and the larger All Weather lifeboat carry oxygen, and the Seahouses Lifeboat Station has additional supplies due to the high volume of divers who frequent the coastline. Oxygen can be very beneficial to a person suffering the early symptoms of the "bends", and can assist in their safe recovery from this potentially life threatening condition, but a period in a decompression chamber under specialist medical supervision will still usually be essential.

Ends.