

20th July 2009

Fowey 014 2009

Two rescues in two days for Fowey RNLI lifeboats.

At 9.24pm on Thursday evening both of the RNLI lifeboats in Fowey were launched following a report of a yacht blown ashore at Pentewan.

The volunteer crew made their way across St. Austell bay and located the yacht which had dragged anchor and was stranded on the beach at Pentewan. Crew from the inshore lifeboat '*Olive Two*' attached a tow line to the yacht and the all-weather lifeboat '*Maurice and Joyce Hardy*' gently pulled the yacht off the beach. Her anchor was recovered and she was towed safely into Fowey.

The following afternoon the coastguard again requested the service of the Trent Class all-weather lifeboat. A holidaymaker had been blown out to sea from Pentewan beach in an inflatable boat. Upon reaching the scene the volunteer crew commenced searching for the casualty, which was difficult to locate due to the rough seas camouflaging the white inflatable. The casualty was located with help from Mevagissey coastguard who were advising the lifeboat from ashore, and taken onboard. He was later landed safely ashore in Mevagissey.

This week is Lifenoat week in Fowey, with the annual RNLI Pennant Race on Wednesday 22nd July. Instead of the usual door to door collections, this year we will be towing a D Class inshore lifeboat, similar to our own '*Olive Two*', around the streets of Fowey to receive donations. This will be taking place on the evenings of Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th July. Please look out for it. Lifeboat Day will be on Saturday 25th July, with stalls on Town Quay and a barbeque at Berrils Yard. There will also be a helicopter rescue display in the harbour at 12 o'clock noon, involving both of our lifeboats and a search and rescue helicopter from Culdrose.

For further details of the Fowey Lifeboat station visit:

www.foweylifeboat.co.uk

Notes to Editors

- On average it costs £5,800 to launch an all weather lifeboat, such as the *Maurice and Joyce Hardy* and £2,200 to launch an inshore lifeboat like the *Olive Two*.

RNLI Media contacts

For more information please telephone Sam Ellis, RNLI Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer on 07970 092116 or samkellis@live.co.uk or Tamsin Thomas Media Relations Manager for the south on 07786 668847 or tthomas@rnli.org.uk or contact RNLI Public Relations on 01202 336789

RNLI online

For more information on the RNLI please visit www.rnli.org.uk. News releases and other media resources, including RSS feeds, downloadable photos and video, are available at the RNLI Press Centre www.rnli.org.uk/press

Key facts about the RNLI

The RNLI charity saves lives at sea. Its volunteers provide a 24-hour search and rescue service around the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland coasts. The RNLI operates over 230 lifeboat stations in the UK and Ireland and has more than 100 lifeguard units on beaches around the UK. The RNLI is independent of Coastguard and government and depends on voluntary donations and legacies to maintain its rescue service. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824 its lifeboat crews and lifeguards have saved over 137,000 lives. The RNLI is a charity registered in England, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland.