

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009

Fowey 016 2009

## Midnight rescue by Fowey RNLI lifeboats.

**Both the Trent Class ‘*Maurice and Joyce Hardy*’ and the D-Class ‘*Olive Two*’ lifeboats were launched on Saturday morning following a report to the Coastguard of a missing person off Porthpean Beach.**

At 00.32am on Saturday the volunteer crew of Fowey's RNLI lifeboats all left their warm beds and went to sea in total darkness and moderate seas. The larger Trent Class lifeboat gave shelter for the smaller inshore lifeboat, in order for them to make safe passage across St Austell Bay. The report given to the coastguard was that a man had been seen going around the rocks to the east of Porthpean beach.

The crew searched the shoreline and found the man being washed into the sea as the waves were crashing onto the rocks. The inshore lifeboat, with Marcus Lewis at the helm, then went right into the rocks where the other two crewmembers, Christian Philp and Dean Pearce, pulled the man out of the water and safely into the boat. They then had to battle back through the breaking waves to safely clear the rocks. The man was landed safely ashore to the waiting paramedics.

Later the same day, the volunteer crew were again out on the lifeboats as both the all-weather lifeboat and the inshore lifeboat were at Charlestown to do a helicopter rescue display with a Search and rescue helicopter from Culdrose.

For further details of the Fowey Lifeboat station visit:

[www.foweylifeboat.co.uk](http://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](mailto:samkellis@live.co.uk) or Tamsin Thomas Media Relations Manager for the south on 07786 668847 or [tthomas@rnli.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.