



**Both Lifeboats, at 4.40pm on 11 January 2020**

The first incident of the new decade saw the inshore lifeboat (ILB) being requested to rescue two persons cut off by the tide between Ballard Point and Old Harry. The ILB launched and was quickly on scene, but the sea conditions made approaching the casualties difficult. The all-weather lifeboat (ALB) was requested to launch to provide cover.

The ILB used a technique known as ‘veering’ to approach the casualties, who were sheltering in a cave. The ILB’s anchor was set and the boat driven astern towards the cliffs, in tricky conditions, using the anchor to prevent the boat surging backwards in the waves.

The casualties were soon picked up and the anchor recovered. The casualties were then transferred to the ALB to keep them warm and give them a more comfortable ride back to the boathouse.

**Both boats were recovered at 5.25pm**



**This year, Swanage’s lifeboats have responded to one incident together.**

**The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has not yet launched to any other incidents.**

**The D class inshore lifeboat has not yet launched on other services.**

**This gives a total of 1 incident responded to, so far, this year**

