



All-Weather Lifeboat, at 11.21am on 20 May 2020

Swanage's all weather lifeboat (ALB) was launched this morning when a small angling boat with 2 persons on board requested assistance using a mobile phone. Their outboard engine had failed, and they had anchored to stop themselves drifting rapidly west in a strong ebb tide. The lifeboat launched and was alongside the boat just a few minutes later. A tow was established and the 2 crew of the small boat remained on board while passage was made towards Poole, from where the boat had been launched.

With regular exercises currently being suspended, the volunteer crew took the opportunity to test much of the boat's equipment throughout the incident.

At about 1.15pm the 15' boat was placed alongside Poole Quay, where the occupants were able to wait safely for a replacement engine being brought by a friend.

The lifeboat left the scene and returned to Swanage, arriving just after 2.00pm.

To help protect the public and our volunteers, we urge people to:

- Take care near cliffs - know your route and your limitations
- Have a plan - check the weather forecast and tide times
- If you fall into the water unexpectedly, FLOAT TO LIVE. Fight your instinct to thrash around, lean back, extend your arms and legs, and Float
- If boating, ensure your equipment is functioning and maintained
- In any coastal emergency dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 3 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 5 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has launched to 4 other services as well.

This gives a total of 12 incidents responded to, so far, this year

