



Inshore Lifeboat, at 5.08pm on 13 June 2020

A busy spell for the Swanage RNLI volunteers continued today with another call for the D-Class inshore lifeboat (ILB). A windsurfer had been spotted by the volunteers from Swanage Coastwatch to the north of Old Harry Rocks. They were concerned for the windsurfer's safety so called the UK Coastguard. The Coastguard then requested the ILB and the volunteers from Swanage Coastguard. The ILB launched, made a sweep of Swanage Bay to check for the windsurfer before heading north to carry out a search around Old Harry Rocks. They also requested that the all-weather lifeboat (ALB) be launched as the choppy conditions were making searching difficult from the ILB. As the ALB was preparing to launch word came in that the windsurfer in question was safely ashore on Swanage Beach so the launch was cancelled and the ILB was stood down to return to station. As the ILB approached the station they were redirected to the Western side of Swanage Pier to investigate reports of multiple people in the water. They were quickly on scene and nothing untoward was found. There were a number of mooring buoys in the area and a friendly seal, it's thought these could have been mistaken for people. With the situation resolved the ILB was released to return to station.



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 4 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 6 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 8 other services.

This gives a total of 18 incidents responded to, so far, this year

