



Both Lifeboats, at 2.20pm on 5 July 2020

An urgent call to the UK Coastguard sparked a rapid response involving three lifeboats, a rescue helicopter and the Swanage Coastguard volunteer team this afternoon.

Five people in two inflatable dinghies had been blown offshore from Studland and reports suggested that they were now in the water – both Swanage lifeboats launched in around 10 minutes from the initial call and made best speed in breezy conditions towards Old Harry.

Fortunately, a local boat was able to recover both the dinghies and the people and get them back to shore safely, so most of the rescue assets were able to stand down. The Swanage lifeboat and Poole lifeboat were asked to confirm the safety of the casualties and liaised with Swanage Coastguard on middle beach. With everyone confirmed safe and well the lifeboat returned to Swanage.

As the lifeboat was being recovered a report came in that a 22' yacht had been dis-masted in the vicinity of Old Harry, so the volunteers re-launched. Poole lifeboat arrived at the scene quickly and was able to take the small yacht in tow, so again the Swanage lifeboat was able to return to station



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 5 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 9 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 9 other services.

This gives a total of 22 incidents responded to, so far, this year

