



Both Lifeboats, on 18 July 2020

Swanage's lifeboats had a busy afternoon on Saturday, both responding to a sequence of events that began when the Swanage Coastwatch volunteers reported a capsized dinghy drifting off Peveril Ledge with 1 person on board.

The D-class inshore lifeboat (ILB) launched and located the dinghy quickly and a passing boat took the sailor ashore. While the ILB was preparing to tow the dinghy to Buck Shore, a report of a small powerboat broken down towards Ballard Point, this time with 5 persons on board, resulted in the ILB leaving the dinghy to assist the new casualties. The all-weather lifeboat (ALB) was also tasked and launched a few minutes later.

The powerboat was taken in tow by the ALB and the 5 occupants transferred via ILB to the ALB. The ALB then made its way back to the council slipway, allowing the ILB to return to the still capsized dinghy to begin recovering it to Buck Shore.

Finally, just after securing the powerboat and placing the casualties ashore, a report of 3 kayakers missing in the Studland Bay area resulted in a further tasking for the ALB, which headed at best speed across the Bay. Thankfully the kayakers were located safe and well, so the ALB stood down and, after checking that the ILB was making good progress with the dinghy, returned to station.

Shortly afterwards the ILB safely delivered the dinghy to its awaiting owner.

Both boats and their volunteer crews were back at the boathouse to be thoroughly washed down and made ready for further service at around 5.00pm



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

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 11 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 10 other services.

This gives a total of 26 incidents responded to, so far, this year

