



All-weather Lifeboat, at 2.23pm on 8 July 2019

The busy spell for the Swanage volunteers continued today with a call for the all-weather lifeboat. The UK Coastguard had received a faint radio message from a 22' yacht in difficulties.

The yacht's exact position and the nature of their problem was uncertain, but they were requesting assistance. The lifeboat launched and a course plotted to the St Albans Head area where the casualty was thought to be.

As the lifeboat approached the area the volunteers from St Albans Head Coastwatch had been able to identify the yacht and an accurate position was passed to the lifeboat. Once on scene a crew member was transferred on to the yacht to investigate the problem and check what assistance was required. It turned out that the yacht had suffered rigging failure and that combined with engine issues meant that the skipper was struggling to make way.

The yacht was taken in tow back to Poole Harbour where it had set off from earlier in the day. As the lifeboat approached Poole harbour Poole lifeboat had become free from a previous tasking and they were requested to take over the tow. They kindly agreed and the tow was handed over just outside the harbour. The Swanage crew were then free to return to station.



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 9 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has launched to 14 further incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has also responded to 8 incidents.

This gives a total of 31 incidents, so far, this year

