



Both Lifeboats, on 7 August 2020

Three incidents in one day kept our volunteer crews busy again today, starting with the D Class inshore lifeboat (ILB) launching to a 16' angling boat whose engine had failed close to the cliffs at Anvil Point. The crew were paged and the ILB was soon underway and heading to the scene. At the same times a local fishing boat had responded to the Mayday and had been able to get the angling boat away from the rocks giving the skipper time to restart his engine. Once on scene the ILB escorted the boat back to the Council slipway.

The second incident occurred as Swanage's Shannon class lifeboat 'George Thomas Lacy' was being brought back to Swanage after maintenance work. A call came in from the UK Coastguard asking if the crew could investigate a broken down speedboat at the northern end of Studland Beach on their way back to Swanage. The volunteers from Swanage Coastguard had located the stricken vessel and were able to guide the lifeboat to its position. After a quick chat with the speedboat's crew it was agreed to tow the boat to Swanage. Once back in Swanage the boat was secured to the Council jetty at the boatpark and the lifeboat was rehoused and washed down.

No sooner had the Swanage volunteers washed down 'George' a Mayday call was heard on the radio. A motorboat had gone aground at Old Harry Rocks and was requesting assistance. The lifeboat's engines were restarted and six minutes later the lifeboat was on scene. The motor boat had been towed to the North by a passing RIB and they were now making slow progress against the ebb tide. Two crew were placed on board to check the boat over before restarting the boat's engines and, after disconnecting the tow line, they were able to get under way under their own steam. The lifeboat then escorted the casualty vessel into Poole Harbour.

With the situation resolved the lifeboat was released to return to station to be recovered and washed down for the second time today.



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 8 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 16 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 13 other services.

This gives a total of 37 incidents responded to, so far, this year

