



Both Lifeboats, at 1.43pm on 16 August 2020

Both lifeboats were called into service today, on the final day of ‘virtual’ lifeboat week 2020. The volunteer crews launched both the Inshore lifeboat (ILB) and all-weather lifeboat (ALB) to assist other agencies in a search for a missing person, believed to be in the Purbeck area.

The boats were tasked with searching the coastline between Swanage, around Old Harry and Studland, through to Poole Harbour entrance. The D class ILB searched close inshore and the Shannon class ALB stood further offshore as they searched in tandem.

As the boats were making a second pass of the coast back towards Swanage, the volunteers from Swanage Coastguard reporting finding belongings possibly related to the missing person on the top of Ballard Down. A concentrated search was undertaken of that shoreline area and a casualty was spotted. Two crewmembers were placed ashore and further equipment was requested. Paramedics, by this time, had arrived in Swanage and were transported to the scene.

The casualty was made ready for transfer by ILB back to the boathouse and a waiting ambulance and then both boats were able to re-house before being made ready for further service a little before 6.00pm. Our thoughts are with the casualty’s family and friends at this time.



This year, Swanage’s lifeboats have responded to 9 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 38 incidents responded to, so far, this year

