



Inshore Lifeboat, at 6.05pm on 07 August 2019

The Swanage lifeboat volunteers were at home getting ready to go to the lifeboat station for their regular Weds night training when their pagers rang out.

The inshore lifeboat (ILB) had been requested to launch to investigate reports of a kayak with 2 POB in difficulties in the Old Harry Rocks area. The kayakers were reported as shouting for help and unable to make headway against the offshore wind.

The ILB launched and was quickly on scene. In the time it took for the crew to assemble and get to the scene the kayak had been taken in tow by a passing yacht, so the lifeboat rendezvoused with the yacht and took over the tow. At that point it became apparent that they were part of a family group in 2 kayaks. The other kayak in the group had also been taken in tow by a different yacht so they rendezvoused with that yacht, reunited the family, made sure that everyone was OK and accounted for before returning them to Knoll Beach. With all the people now safely ashore the lifeboat was released to return to Swanage arriving back just in time to launch with a different crew for training.

Don't forget that lifeboat week 2019 starts on Fri 9th Aug, head to www.slbw.org.uk for more details.



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

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has launched to 19 further incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has also responded to 11 incidents.

This gives a total of 39 incidents, so far, this year

