



All-Weather Lifeboat, at 3.39am on 21 August 2020

The Swanage volunteers were woken from their beds in the early hours this morning. They were requested to launch the all-weather lifeboat (ALB) to assist in a search for people potentially missing from a RIB in Christchurch Bay. The RIB had been found in the surf line and it wasn't clear if there had been anyone aboard.

Mudford lifeboat was already on scene and had been searching for 2 hours along with Coastguard teams from Southbourne and Lymington. Yarmouth lifeboat was also launching and the Coastguard Helicopter was on scene too.

The Swanage volunteers launched and made their way to the search area arriving on scene 40 minutes later. Crew with searchlights were positioned on deck and the search started. After two legs of the search more information was coming in over the radio and it was becoming increasingly likely that the boat had broken its mooring rather than someone had fallen overboard from it.

With this new information all units were released and the Swanage crew were back on their slipway at 06:15. The boat was then washed down, refuelled and made ready for service.



This year, Swanage's lifeboats have responded to 10 incidents together.

The Shannon class all-weather lifeboat has also launched to 17 incidents.

The D class inshore lifeboat has additionally launched to 14 other services.

This gives a total of 41 incidents responded to, so far, this year

