

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2014.

For immediate release

## **Southend's RNLI Hovercraft Assist Two On Grounded Yacht.**

**Southend on sea's RNLI Search and rescue hovercraft was launched from the inshore boathouse at 18.45hrs to a 23ft sailing yacht that had run aground south of Two Tree Island Slipway, Leigh.**

The volunteer crew arrived on scene to find the vessel, with two men aboard, both fit and well, stuck on the mud and unable to be towed off due to the ebbing tide. The yacht's anchor was set and with the sailors happy to return to their vessel later on, were safely ferried the short distance to Two Tree Island slipway by hovercraft, where they were met by the Southend Coastguard team. Southend hovercraft returned to station for a wash down and refuel.

### **RNLI media contacts**

- Denis Freeman - Southend Lifeboat Station Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer. Tel- 07710406661, [sue-den-adwalk@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sue-den-adwalk@blueyonder.co.uk)
- Tim Ash, RNLI Public Relations Manager (London/South East/East) 0207 6207426 / 07785 296252 / [tim\\_ash@rnli.org.uk](mailto:tim_ash@rnli.org.uk)
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- For enquiries outside normal business hours, contact the RNLI duty press officer on 01202 336789

**RNLI online:** For more information on the RNLI please visit [www.rnli.org.uk](http://www.rnli.org.uk). News releases and other media resources, including [RSS feeds](#), downloadable photos and video, are available at the RNLI [Press Centre](#).

**Key facts about the RNLI:** The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea. Its volunteers provide a 24-hour search and rescue service around the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland coasts. The RNLI operates over 230 lifeboat stations in the UK and Ireland and has more than 140 lifeguard units on beaches around the UK. The RNLI is independent of Coastguard and government and depends on voluntary donations and legacies to maintain its rescue service. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824 its lifeboat crews and lifeguards have saved over 137,000 lives.

Visit the RNLI's official [YouTube channel](#) for more films and follow our rescue stories on [Twitter](#).

A charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC037736). Charity number CHY 2678 in the Republic of Ireland.