

Saturday 8th August, 2015.

For immediate release

## **Southend RNLI Hovercraft Kept Busy**

**Southend on sea's RNLI volunteer lifeboat crew launched the search and rescue hovercraft from the inshore boathouse at 15.00hrs to reports of three persons in danger of being cut off by the flooding tide at the Mulberry Harbour.**

The hovercraft located the three who were making their own way back to shore and were happy to be left after being given safety advice.

Whilst returning to station the hovercraft crew picked up four children aged 10/11years approx. 300yds offshore and suffering the effects of cold but otherwise ok.

The children were safely ferried back to waiting coastguard at Jubilee Beach to find their parents.

The hovercraft was then tasked to another group, but on arrival they were ok and making their way to shore.

The next call was to a missing 8yr old child in the area of The Prince Of Wales Jetty. The hovercraft was en-route but was stood down when the missing child was found safe and well.

The final call was to three people having difficulties to the west of the pier some 300yds offshore.

The hovercraft crew located a man, a woman and child who were cold and a bit distressed, picked them up, along with two others who were going out to assist. All were ferried safely to Three Shells beach and did not require any medical attention.

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)
- James Oxley, RNLI Public Relations Manager (London/South East/East)  
Tel- 0207 6207425 or 07786 668825 / [james\\_oxley@rnli.org.uk](mailto:james_oxley@rnli.org.uk)
- Sophie Coller-Nielsen RNLI Press Officer(London/South East/East)
- Tel- 0207 6207426 or 07785296252 / [Sophie Coller-Nielsen@rnli.org.uk](mailto:Sophie.Coller-Nielsen@rnli.org.uk)
- 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.