

Sunday 24rd July, 2016.

For immediate release

Southend's Lifeboat Crews Launch Hovercraft To Persons Cut Off By Tide During Open Day

Visitors At Southend on sea's RNLI Lifeboat Station open day on the pier saw the launch of the hovercraft to people in difficulty walking back to shore by the side of the pier.

The lifeboat crew arrived on scene to find one male, one female and a child in difficulty crossing the shellfish beds 300yds offshore, by the side of the pier and having no protection on their feet.

The hovercraft safely ferried the three casualties ashore to the inshore boathouse to be met by a Southend Coastguard team.

The hovercraft returned to the water to check on further persons in the water, that were happy to be left, before returning to open day on the pier.

RNLI media contacts

- Denis Freeman - Southend Lifeboat Station Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer. Tel- 07710406661, 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
- Sophie Coller-Neilsen, Press Officer (London/South East/East)
- Tel- 0207 6207416 / 07824416615 sophie_coller-neilsen@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. News releases and other media resources, including [RSS feeds](#), downloadable photos and video, are available at the RNLI [Press Centre](#).

For more information and photos on Southend on sea lifeboat station go to www.southendlifeboat.org

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 237 lifeboat stations in the UK and Ireland with 4,700 lifeboat crew and has more than 1,300 lifeguards on over 220 beaches around the UK and Channel Islands. 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 140,000 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.