

Saturday 20th June, 2015.

For immediate release

Southend's RNLI Lifeboat Crews Launched To Jetski

Southend on sea's RNLI volunteer lifeboat crew launched the search and rescue hovercraft at 20.40hrs to reports of a broken down jetski, off of Shoebury Common.

The hovercraft arrived on scene, to find one jetski and three persons trying to manoeuvre it back ashore.

The three men were firstly ferried safely back ashore by the hovercraft, to the Shoebury Common Slipway and then it returned to pick up the jetski.

On the return journey back to the inshore lifeboat station, the hovercraft crew diverted some 150yds to the Sand's Restaurant on the sea wall at Western Esplanade, to pay a surprise visit to newly married lifeboat crew member and station mechanic Greg Sears and his Wife Natalie, at their wedding reception.

The hovercraft and its crew naturally drew a great deal of interest from all around, and so then proved a perfect impromptu wedding picture opportunity. How often does a hovercraft turn up at a wedding reception?

RNLI media contacts

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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. 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.