

Sunday 21st June, 2015.

For immediate release

Southend's RNLI Lifeboat Launched To Motor Cruiser In Difficulty On Maplin Sands.

Southend on sea's RNLI Atlantic 75 Lifeboat was launched from the pierhead boathouse at 18.00hrs to reports from Thames Coastguard of a 28ft Bayliner motor cruiser with four persons aboard, suffering engine problems on the Maplin Sands.

The volunteer lifeboat crew made best speed to the area and despite a search nothing resembling the described vessel was found. On further investigation by Thames Coastguard it was discovered that coastguard were given incorrect co-ordinates to start with and the vessel was in fact in The River Roach and so Burnham on Crouch RNLI lifeboat was tasked.

Southend lifeboat crew was stood down and was making its way back to Southend pier when the crew came across a 35ft Sealine motor cruiser with engine problems and making little progress on its passage to kent.

The lifeboat crew set up a line and towed the vessel south, in to the mouth of the River Medway where they passed it to Sheerness RNLI lifeboat to continue upriver to Rochester.

Southend lifeboat returned to the pierhead boathouse at 19.50hrs for a wash down and refuel before crew made their way home.

RNLI media contacts

- Denis Freeman - Southend Lifeboat Station Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer. Tel- 07710406661, sue-den-adwalk@blueyonder.co.uk
- James Oxley, RNLI Public Relations Manager (London/South East/East) 0207 6207425/6 or 07786 668825 / james_oxley@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](#).

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.