

2013 Incidents

07.12.13

At 09:15 fishing vessel Fidelitas issued a PAN PAN following total engine failure. At the time her position was about ten miles south east of Start Point. Brixham Coastguard contacted watchkeepers to ask whether they had the vessel in sight and subsequently for actual weather conditions. At 10:40 the vessel was under tow and shortly after that the PAN PAN was cancelled.

06.12.13

Watchkeepers sighted 20 to 30 dolphins about one mile off the Lookout heading east. Half an hour later they sighted the same pod heading west. Watchkeepers notified both Brixham Seawatch and our neighbouring station, Froward Point, of the sightings.

03.12.13

At 10:50 watchkeepers sighted about 20 dolphins a quarter of a mile off the Lookout heading east. They reported the sighting to Brixham Seawatch.

16.11.13

At 12:40 watchkeepers sighted a large pod of dolphins about one mile south of the Lookout. They reported the sighting to Brixham Seawatch.

21.10.13

At 12:58 watchkeepers were contacted by Brixham Coastguard following a 999 call reporting a flashing light seen off Gara Rock. The watchkeepers advised that the only object in sight in that vicinity was a yellow yacht racing mark. A visual watch was maintained centred on the area concerned. At 13:27 the Coastguard stood the incident down. The 'flashing light' was thought to be the sun glinting on the racing mark.

19.10.13

At 15:00 yacht True Blue contacted the Coastguard by radio to advise that she had steering problems but was continuing on passage to Dartmouth. At the time watchkeepers were unable to see her but were able to track her through AIS using the Lookout's Vessel Tracker computer system. At 17:02 conditions improved and the yacht became visible. Watchkeepers passed her position, sail number and current weather/sea state to the Coastguard who thanked them for the information.

15.10.13

Yacht Spellbinder, passing Prawle Point, called on VHF channel M1 to report that she had just sailed through a sizeable pod of dolphins. An eagle eyed trainee watchkeeper subsequently spotted the dolphins in the Range to the west of the lookout. We reported the sighting to Brixham Seawatch.

10.08.13

A member of the public reported a paddle-boarder possibly in difficulty between Bigbury and Salcombe. At 15:00 Brixham Coastguard contacted us and asked us to keep a lookout for the paddle-boarder. At 16:16 we saw a craft matching the description off Bolt Head to the west of the lookout and notified Brixham Coastguard. At 16:31 we told the Coastguard that the paddle-boarder had entered Salcombe harbour and were thanked by the Coastguard who were now able to close the incident.

2013 Incidents

08.08.13

The skipper of yacht Nightowler phoned the lookout for a weather forecast and later in the afternoon he phoned again asking us to contact the Coastguard to update the passage plan he had given by radio to the Coastguard. We contacted Brixham Coastguard with the message to be relayed to Falmouth Coastguard.

06.08.13

This morning we heard the skipper of yacht Golden Otter calling the Coastguard on VHF 16 to say he was drifting in extremely light winds off Bolt Head and his engine had failed. He hoped to fix the engine before proceeding. Shortly after at 10:15 we were contacted by Brixham Coastguard and asked to keep Golden Otter under observation which we did for the next two hours. Eventually the skipper gave up trying to fix his engine and accepted a tow from a passing yacht back into the Salcombe Estuary. We reported this to the Coastguard who closed the incident.

20.07.13

On Saturday afternoon, with an easterly wind against the tide, there were severe overfalls (rough water) off Start Point to the east of the lookout. At 13:22 we saw a small motor boat travelling east entering the overfalls where it was lost from sight. The water was too disturbed to be certain the craft had safely rounded the headland. We contacted the next watch station to the east, NCI Froward Point, and reported a possible casualty to Brixham Coastguard. Fortunately, at 14:08, Froward Point reported that the craft had safely entered the River Dart and the Coastguard closed the incident.