



Emergency Procedures

Rescue Services

The basics of what happens in a rescue
and what you need to do

Introduction

**In the event of you and your crew needing rescue
you will receive help either by sea or by air**

**This presentation deals with the basics of both
scenarios**

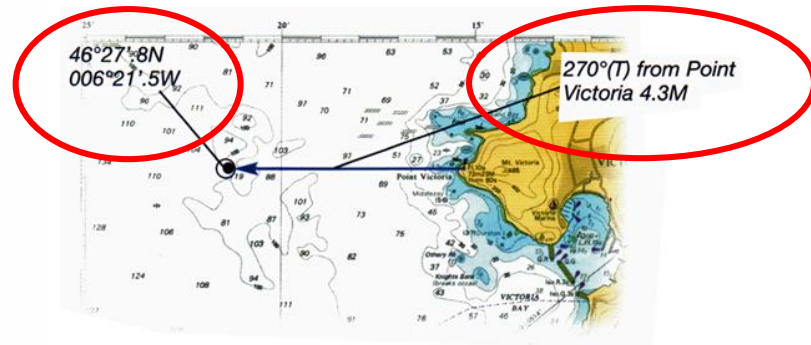


Calling for Help

Use the VHF radio to alert the coastguard and other vessels in your area

Tell them **1. your boat's name**
2. your position

...either by latitude and longitude
...or range and bearing



3. number of people on board
4. what assistance you require

Calling for help

Most modern sets have digital (DSC) calling

You may not have time to send a voice call but most modern VHF sets can...

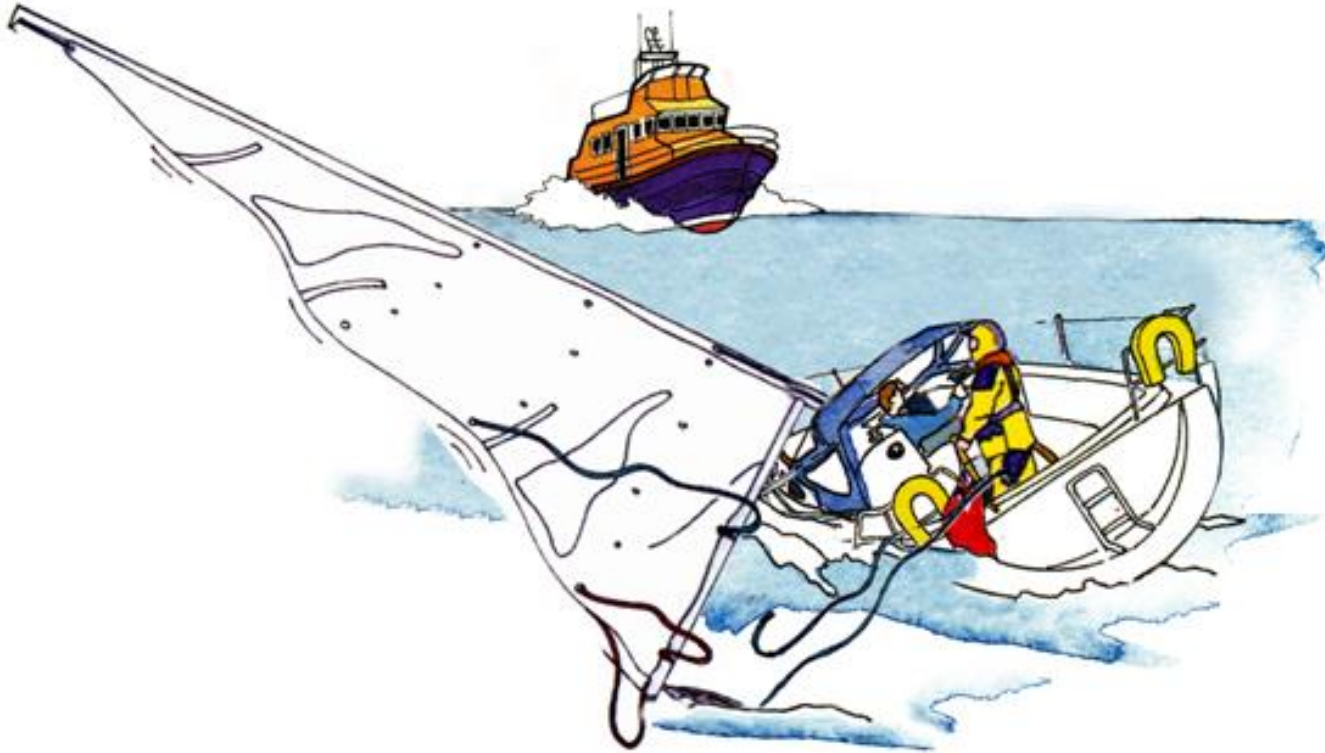


...send a distress alert call at the press of a button

...are linked to a GPS receiver to give your position to other VHF DSC stations

Lifeboat Rescue

In many maritime countries (but not all) there are marine rescue services



In the UK we have the RNLI which provides comprehensive cover around the coast - unlike most countries it is funded **totally** by voluntary contributions

Lifeboat Rescue

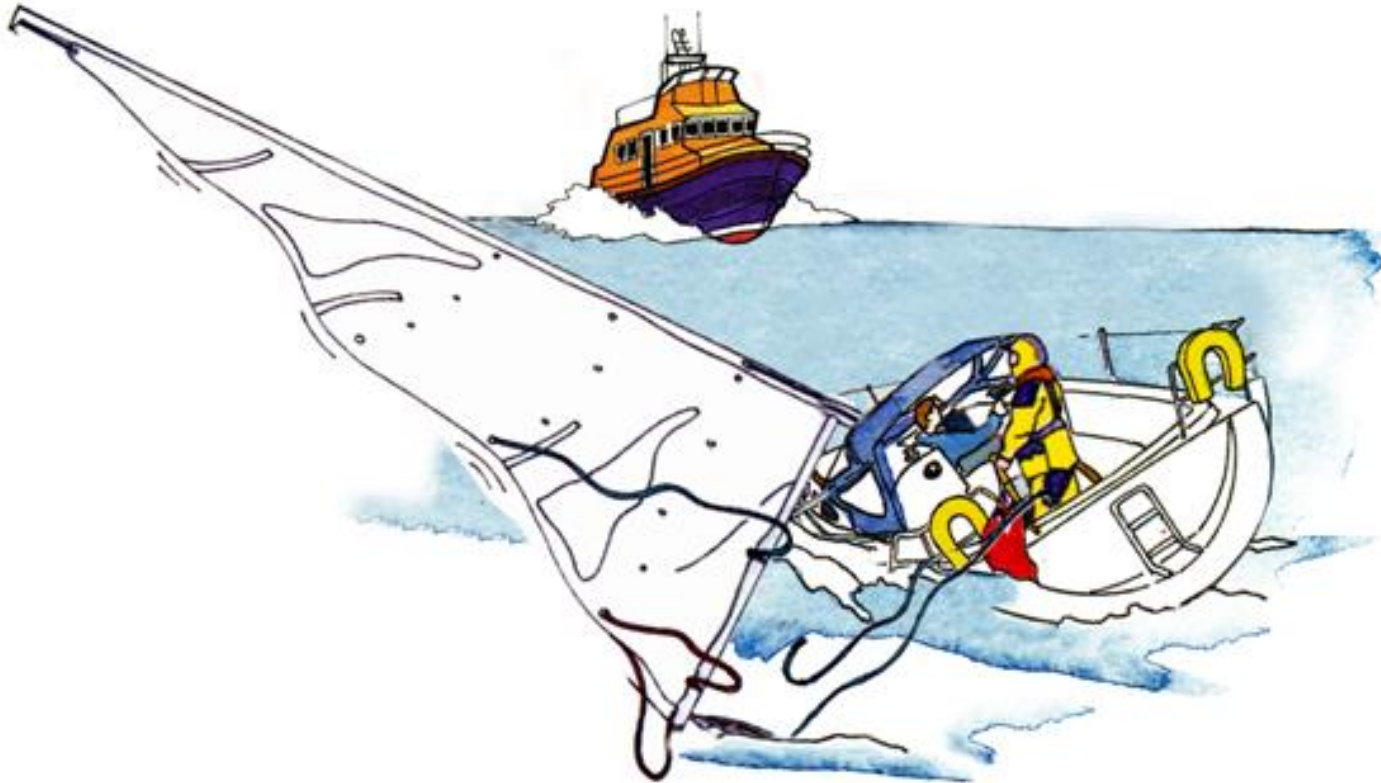
The lifeboat coxswain will want to talk to you to assess the situation



Make sure there are no lines in the water which could foul the lifeboat's propeller

Lifeboat Rescue

Any casualties will be taken off



You may be taken in tow but the lifeboat's priority is to save lives not salvage boats

Helicopter Rescue



The helicopter pilot will make contact by VHF



Helicopter Rescue

A brief will be given



Listen carefully, take notes and follow the instructions

Helicopter Rescue

A weighted line is lowered



DO NOT attach it to the boat

Helicopter Rescue

Use the line to guide the helicopter crewman to the vessel



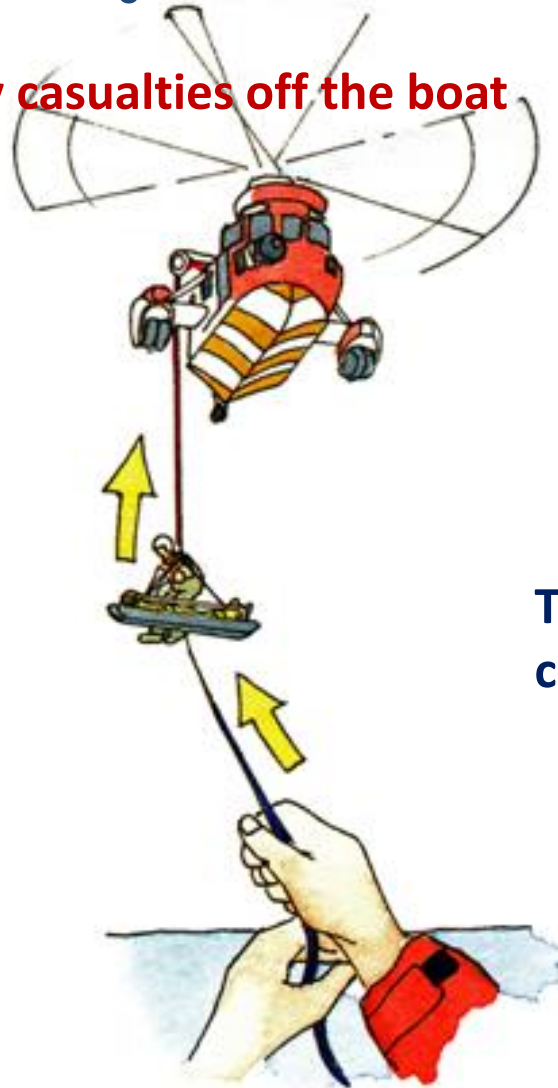
Helicopter Rescue

A crewman will land on deck, unhook and assess the situation



Helicopter Rescue

The crewman will take any casualties off the boat



The line is used to control his swing

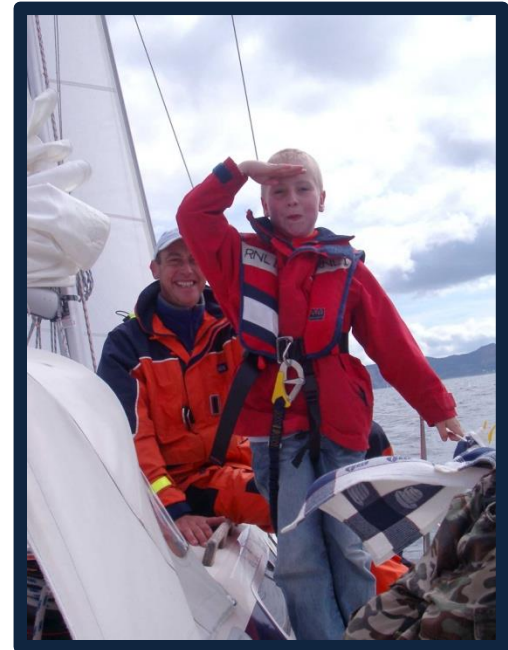
Summary

Depending on your position and the emergency you will receive help either by sea or by air

They will contact you by VHF, listen and do **EXACTLY** what they say – there is no negotiation

They have no obligation to save your boat, their **only** interest is saving lives

If you coastal cruise – support our rescue services and **join the RNLI**



Further Reading



We highly recommend
RYA Boat Safety Handbook (G103)

You can buy a copy of this book by visiting our on-line shop at
www.penguinsailing.com