

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea



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News Release

Portree RNLI lifeboat help Fire Brigade reach Raasay House Fire

Date: 18/01/2009

Author: Alasdair Mackenzie, Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer

Reference: Portree 001 2009



Portree RNLI Lifeboat launched in the early hours of Sunday morning to transport Portree Fire Brigade to attend Raasay House which was on fire.

Portree RNLI Lifeboat with five crew aboard launched at 0220 on Sunday 18 January 2009 to take five members of the Portree Fire Brigade and their equipment to the Island of Raasay to attend a fire at Raasay House. Passing Churchton Bay en route to the Ferry Pier at Suisinish, Raasay House was seen to be engulfed in flames and lighting up the night sky.

Portree RNLI Lifeboat arrived at the Ferry Pier on Raasay at 0300 and having put the Fire Brigade members and their equipment ashore proceeded to Sconser to await the arrival of a Fire Officer from Inverness. The Fire Officer was taken to Raasay and the Lifeboat then returned to Portree. In the meantime the Raasay Ferry had taken the Fire Engines from Portree and Broadford from Sconser to Raasay.

Passing Churchton Bay on the way home about 0610, the fire appeared to be out but it is understood that little was left of Raasay House.

Notes to editors

- Portree lifeboat station has been operating since 1990. To learn more about the lifeboat station go to www.rnli.org.uk/portree
- The RNLI is a registered charity and continues to rely on voluntary contributions and legacies for income.

RNLI media contacts

For more information please telephone Alaisdair Mackenzie RNLI volunteer lifeboat press officer on 01478613826 [day tel] or 01478613059 [eve tel] or 07827281485 [mobile number] or Rachel Martin Media Relations Manager for Scotland on 01738 443255/07786 668903

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 www.rnli.org.uk/press

Key facts about the RNLI

The RNLI charity 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 100 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.

A charity registered in Scotland (SCO37736) and England and Wales (209603). Charity number CHY 2678 in the Republic of Ireland

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