

**Buckie Lifeboat William Blannin  
Record of Service Provided for Year 2010**

No	Date	Location	Reason for Launch
1	23 January	East of Buckie to Portknockie	<p>A member of public reported sight of a red flare.</p> <p>Although a search of the area between Buckie and Portknockie was carried out by the lifeboat, nothing was found.</p> <p>HM Coastguard stood down the search after being satisfied that no one was in difficulty.</p> <p>The lifeboat then returned to station.</p>
2	01 February	South of the Cromerty Firth	<p>The lifeboat was requested to assist Invergordon lifeboat in carrying out a search for a missing fisherman. This followed a report of an empty boat drifting onto rocks.</p> <p>The missing fisherman was recovered by the Invergordon lifeboat. The Buckie lifeboat then returned to station.</p>
3	12 February	North of Lossiemouth Harbour	<p>A pleasure yacht requested assistance as all engine power had been lost and the yacht was drifting.</p> <p>Upon the arrival of the lifeboat the casualty had already been taken in tow by a fast rescue craft deployed from an oil support vessel moored near to the scene.</p> <p>The lifeboat 'stood by' until the casualty was safely towed to Lossiemouth Harbour.</p>
4	14 February	700 metres East of Buckie Harbour	<p>A person was reported as entering the sea at Portessie.</p> <p>As the location of the casualty was approx 700 m from the lifeboat station, the Y boat was launched and proceeded to the scene in advance of the lifeboat.</p> <p>Due to the close location and known</p>

			<p>difficulties of access close to the shore at low tide, launching the Y boat at the station saved vital time.</p> <p>On reaching the scene, the Y boat carried out an immediate search of the area involved. The lifeboat also carried out a search further offshore using illuminating flares. A S&amp;R helicopter also joined the search.</p> <p>The scene of the incident, as close inshore, involved navigating the lifeboat in darkness within narrow channels in low tidal conditions.</p> <p>Following police enquiries, the person was traced to a nearby public bar. Once identification was confirmed the search was called off and the lifeboat returned to station.</p>
5	9 March	East of Portgordon to Cullen	<p>A person had been reported as missing for an extended period of time.</p> <p>An extensive search had already been carried out on land by the police and local coastguard teams. The lifeboat was requested to carry out an inshore search of the coastline between Portgordon and Cullen.</p> <p>The missing person was located some time later safe and well by a member of the coastguard team near Cullen, the search was then stood down.</p>
6	17 April	5.5 miles North West of Buckie	<p>A distress call was received by HM Coastguard from a small fishing vessel.</p> <p>The fishing vessel had developed engine problems and was drifting without power in the increasing force 6 westerly breeze.</p> <p>Upon reaching the casualty a line was secured to the vessel and, together with its sole occupant who remained on board, was towed to the safety of Buckie harbour.</p> <p>Due to the strong wind conditions at the time of the incident, a drogue was attached to the vessel in order to stabilise the vessel</p>

			when being towed.
7	2 May	3 miles North of Lossiemouth	<p>The lifeboat was requested to recover a dingy and specialist equipment from the sea.</p> <p>The dingy and equipment had been dropped into the sea from the helicopter with the intention of carrying out a training exercise, however, before use of the equipment was possible, the helicopter had to return to base due to a possible mechanical problem. As the dingy and equipment had not been recovered, these were considered to be a danger to navigation.</p> <p>The dingy and equipment were removed from the sea by the lifeboat and taken to Lossiemouth Harbour.</p>
8	28 May	6 miles North of Buckie	<p>The assistance of the lifeboat was requested by HM Coastguard following an emergency call from a fishing vessel advising that a rope had been taken into the propeller and the vessel was drifting.</p> <p>Upon reaching the scene, a tow rope was passed and secured to the fishing vessel allowing the vessel to be towed by the lifeboat to the safety of Buckie harbour</p> <p>Due to the very heavy swell at the time of the incident, the offer of assistance by the local pilot was accepted. This allowed a further rope to be passed from the stern of the fishing vessel to the pilot boat thus permitting greater control over the casualty while entering the harbour mouth.</p>
9	2 June	200 metres North of Strathlene	<p>A report of a small fishing vessel drifting near rocks a few hundred metres north of Strathlene beach was received from HM Coastguard.</p> <p>Upon the arrival of the lifeboat, the casualty had by then, drifted onto the rocks and was in severe danger of being wrecked by the breaking waves against the rocks.</p> <p>Two males were on board the vessel. One had earlier attempted to jump onto the</p>

			<p>rocks sustaining a leg injury in doing so.</p> <p>The Y boat was immediately launched and was successful in attaching a tow to the casualty. The lifeboat was then able to carefully pull the casualty away from the rocks into deeper water and out of immediate danger where the situation was reassessed.</p> <p>The casualty, with the two survivors on board, were towed to the safety of Buckie Harbour.</p> <p>The injured fisherman was treated by an ambulance crew upon return to the Lifeboat Station.</p>
10	4 June	1 mile North of Portessie	<p>The lifeboat was called to assist in a search for a small inflatable dinghy that had been blown out to sea with three young adults on board.</p> <p>Although the lifeboat made for the location reported, the dinghy, by this time, had drifted further out to sea due to the light off shore breeze. The dinghy was of the small inflatable type carried by a yacht and was only kept inflated by the constant use of a foot pump. The survivors had no lifejackets nor warm clothing.</p> <p>Although the dinghy was fitted with a small outboard this was either out of fuel or had a fuel blockage.</p> <p>Both the survivors and their dinghy were taken on board the lifeboat and returned to the safety of Buckie Harbour.</p>
11	11 June	1 mile West of Buckie Harbour	<p>The lifeboat launched to provide assistance to a yacht that was drifting without power after its propeller had become fouled by a rope.</p> <p>Upon reaching the yacht a heaving line was thrown to the casualty and a tow rope was passed. Once secured, the yacht with the two crew members remaining on board, was towed to the safety of Buckie Harbour.</p>
12	25 June	3 miles North West of	The owner/ skipper of a small creel boat

		Buckie	<p>requested the assistance of the lifeboat advising that the vessel's engine was overheating and that his vessel was drifting.</p> <p>Upon reaching the casualty, a tow rope was passed from the lifeboat to the casualty. The casualty was then towed by the lifeboat to Buckie Harbour where the casualty was secured.</p> <p>The sole occupant remained with the creel boat for the duration of the tow.</p>
13	30 June	Entrance to Lossiemouth Harbour	<p>A request for lifeboat assistance was received due to two male swimmers being swept out to sea at the entrance to Lossiemouth Harbour.</p> <p>Although the lifeboat launched and was making for Lossiemouth, the lifeboat was stood down by HM Coastguard following confirmation that the swimmers had been safely recovered by others.</p>
14	30 July	West of Portknockie Harbour	<p>A request was received from a member of public that the lifeboat launch to aid a small fishing vessel that had lost power and was drifting very close to rocks near Portknockie.</p> <p>When the lifeboat reached the location it was found that the fishing vessel had already been taken in tow.</p> <p>The lifeboat 'stood by' during the tow to provide any further assistance that may be required and to ensure that both the casualty and the vessel providing the tow both reached safety.</p> <p>The lifeboat left the casualty once safely secured within Portknockie Harbour.</p> <p>Whilst on return passage to Buckie, a request was received from HM Coastguard to provide assistance to swimmers in difficulty at the entrance to Banff Harbour.</p>
15	30 July		<p>Although the lifeboat responded immediately, the lifeboat was stood down before reaching Banff Harbour as the</p>

			<p>casualties in the water had been airlifted.</p> <p>The lifeboat then returned to station at Buckie.</p>
16	6 Sept.	1.5 miles North of Lossiemouth Harbour	<p>A yacht had sustained sail damage while making for Lossiemouth Harbour due to the force 8 gale conditions that were being experienced at the time. As the yacht's engine could not be started this rendered the yacht without power and drifting in a heavy sea swell in excess of 3 metres.</p> <p>Upon reaching the casualty a tow rope was successfully passed from the lifeboat to the yacht.</p> <p>The yacht was then taken in tow to Buckie Harbour. The two crew members of the yacht remained on board the yacht for the duration of the tow.</p> <p>The poor weather conditions resulted in a lengthy and difficult tow to the safety of Buckie Harbour.</p>
17	10 Sept.	North of Cullen	<p>An emergency call was received by H M Coastguard from a member of public advising that a small yacht was in difficulty.</p> <p>Despite the poor weather conditions at the time, when lifeboat reached the yacht they were advised by the skipper that assistance was not required and all was well.</p>
18	18 Sept.	1 mile North of Findochty	<p>The lifeboat responded to an emergency call from a member of public reporting a red flare.</p> <p>Although a detailed search of the area concerned was carried out in conjunction with the shore based coastguard team, nothing was found.</p> <p>The lifeboat returned to station following HM Coastguard being satisfied that no persons were at risk.</p>
19	4 October	4 miles North of Cullen	<p>The lifeboat was requested to provide assistance to a commercial fishing vessel</p>

20	1 Dec	North of Portknockie	<p>which had developed a severe list to starboard. The vessel, which was of the catamaran design was listing due to water entering one of the two hulls.</p> <p>Although a line was secured and a tow commenced, due to the severity of the list, weather and sea conditions at the time, the two occupants of the vessel were taken aboard the lifeboat for safety reasons.</p> <p>Shortly after the transfer of the two crew members to the lifeboat, the list developed to an extent that the vessel capsized.</p> <p>Despite great difficulty due to the drag of the upturned vessel, the vessel was successfully towed to safety of Buckie Harbour where the vessel was secured and the crew members put ashore.</p> <p>A small inshore fishing vessel suffered engine failure approx. 0.3 miles north of Portknockie. As a result, the fishing vessel was drifting towards the shore. Upon the arrival of the lifeboat, a tow rope was immediately passed to the vessel and a tow commenced. Due to the low tide, the lifeboat would not have been able to enter Portknockie harbour. This resulted in the fishing vessel being towed to Buckie Harbour where it was safely secured. The sole occupant of the vessel remained on board for the duration of the tow.</p>
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