



▶ Watch One-Minute World News

Last Updated: Saturday, 2 February 2008, 12:37 GMT

✉ E-mail this to a friend

🖨️ Printable version

News Front Page



Africa

Americas

Asia-Pacific

Europe

Middle East

South Asia

UK

England

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Wales

UK Politics

Education

Magazine

Business

Health

Science &

Environment

Technology

Entertainment

Also in the news

Video and Audio

ADVERTISEMENT

Programmes

Have Your Say

In Pictures

Country Profiles

Special Reports

RELATED BBC SITES

SPORT

WEATHER

ON THIS DAY

EDITORS' BLOG

Injured captain winched off ship

A cargo ship captain who was seriously injured in a force 10 gale off the Isles of Scilly is in hospital after being rescued by helicopter.



The vessel is heading for Falmouth

The aircraft lifted six other people from the ship 70 miles off Land's End. Two of them had less serious injuries.

The three are believed to have been hurt when a giant wave hit the vessel and the cargo shifted.

▶ Watch **Dramatic sea rescue**

Rescue attempts had to be abandoned overnight because of the extreme weather conditions and darkness.

After Saturday's successful mission, Chief Petty Officer Dave Rigg said: "We pitched up on scene. I got lowered down on to the deck, went in, assessed the three casualties first.

"They were all fairly stable so whilst I was doing that I called for my colleague from the Ambulance Service.

He then assisted me getting them into the stretcher - we then got the casualties into the aircraft and made our way back."

He said the injured people told him they were hurt when a violent wave hit the boat.



Chief Petty Officer Rigg said it was frightening for the passengers

"The cargo then shifted and bounced them across the bridge hitting obstacles, obstructions and each other, it was pretty frightening for them."

He said four uninjured people had been taken to a hotel.

Two of them, German tourists on their honeymoon, told the BBC it was very frightening.

The said it was good to be on dry land and described it as a "very special honeymoon".

The ship is now sailing towards Falmouth and is expected to arrive later on Saturday.

Henry Purbrick from Falmouth Coastguard said: "The coastguard tug has been tasked to go and stand by and escort them in.

"They will be anchored out side Falmouth because they've only got one anchor - they've lost an anchor at some stage.



BBC Cornwall
Sport, travel, weather, things to do, features and much more



BBC Devon
Sport, travel, weather, things to do, features and much more

SEE ALSO

- Battle to restore power to homes 02 Feb 08 | North Yorkshire
- Carriageway opens after snowfalls 02 Feb 08 | England
- Island fears over 'trawler rats' 02 Feb 08 | Highlands and Islands

RELATED BBC LINKS

BBC Weather

RELATED INTERNET LINKS

- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Royal Navy
- RAF

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

TOP CORNWALL STORIES

- Wife fears for oil worker husband
 - Driver jailed for festival death
 - Support cuts 'could save' police
- 📡 | News feeds

MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW

MOST SHARED | MOST READ

- The forbidden toilets of China
- Tornado causes damage in New York
- Does the sex debate exclude men?
- Hong Kong voters go to the polls
- Alps shooting search set to go on
- US woman snaps up \$50 'Renoir'
- Nicaraguans flee erupting volcano
- Fighting cuts Aleppo water supply
- Greece: The pain behind the beauty
- In pictures: India prepares for Kumbh Mela

Most popular now, in detail

"Then surveyors from Falmouth will go and survey the vessel and decide where they go from there."

'Pitch black'

During the first rescue attempt, a helicopter hovered over the ship for nearly an hour.

Flt Lt Jonathan Singh, the captain of the helicopter, said the conditions were "horrendous".

"It's obviously pitch black out there, it's extremely dark with no sort of cultural lighting at all at that distance from land," he said.



There were 31 passengers and crew on board the ship, the Horncliff, which had been travelling to Dover carrying a cargo of fruit from Costa Rica.

Falmouth Coastguard said the vessel, which lost about 90 containers of fruit in the storm, had suffered some damage and was listing slightly.

The Horncliff, a 12,887-tonne cargo ship which is flying the Liberian flag, was built in 1992.

Power cuts

Elsewhere in the UK the extreme weather conditions have left thousands of homes without power and caused chaos on the roads.

Blizzards swept across Scotland and northern England on Friday and winds reached 80 mph bringing down many trees.

The A66 in County Durham has now reopened after heavy snow trapped 200 drivers and passengers who had to be rescued.

About 1,600 homes remain without power in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Experts have boarded the Irish Sea ferry Riverdance which beached off Blackpool after helicopters and lifeboats rescued the crew and passengers.

Fourteen crewmen were also flown to safety after their trawler, The Spinning Dale, was pushed into rocks off St Kilda in the Western Isles on Friday.

 [E-mail this to a friend](#)

 [Printable version](#)

Bookmark with:

[Delicious](#)

[Digg](#)

[reddit](#)

[Facebook](#)

[What are these?](#)

[StumbleUpon](#)

FEATURES, VIEWS, ANALYSIS



[Ghost town](#)
Has China's housing



[The guerilla plant](#)
How the world's



[Walking away](#)
Why Royal Ballet

[bubble burst?](#)

[oldest clove tree
defied an empire](#)

[principal Sergei
Polunin quit](#)

[Most Popular Now](#)

The most read story in Africa is: [Saudi 'reprieve' in sorcery case](#)

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

[E-mail news](#)

[Mobiles](#)

[Alerts](#)

[News feeds](#)

[Podcasts](#)

MMIX

[Back to top ^^](#)

[Help](#) | [Privacy and cookies policy](#) | [News sources](#) | [About the BBC](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Advertise with us](#)