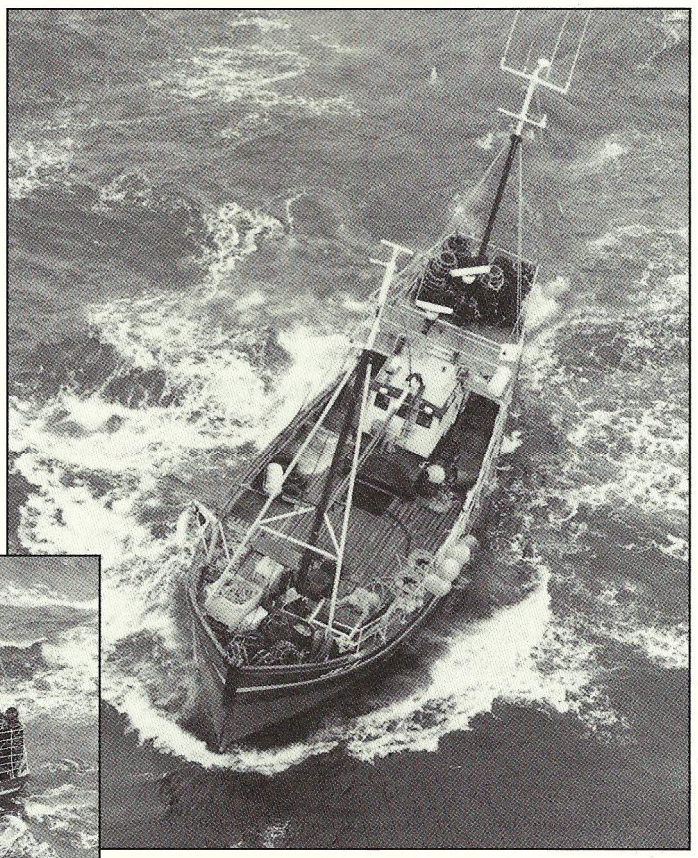
St Remy heads for shelter

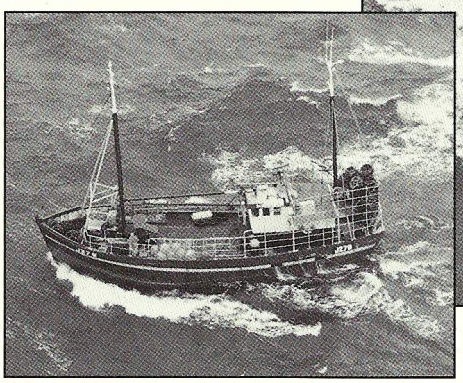
Three crewmen were airlifted to safety by Sumburgh Coastguard search and rescue helicopter when their fishing vessel *St Remy* started taking in water from a damaged bow.

"We were just about to start fishing when we saw that there was movement in the bow and the boat was taking on water, so I decided to turn her around and head for home," said skipper Mick Sketchley. At first, Mick didn't think the damage to the 65-foot vessel was too serious, but as the situation worsened he was forced to call Coastguard for immediate assistance.

The helicopter provided the vessel with extra pumps while nearby boats *Tyleana* and *Maersk Chancellor* helped to shelter the stricken vessel from the weather. Three non-essential crew were airlifted to safety, leaving the skipper and the mate to man the pumps.

Kirkwall lifeboat stayed close by in case the situation took a turn for the worse. However, 10 hours after the initial call, *St Remy* was safely escorted into Kirkwall harbour.





Jersey registered crabber *St Remy* in trouble 20 miles north west of Orkney.

Sector Officer wades in to help

MAN OVERBOARD

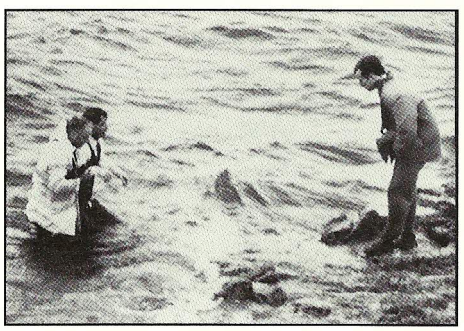
A man who fell from the Aberdeen bound P&O ferry *St Clair* as it was leaving Lerwick in Shetland recently was helped out of the water by Sector Officer, Alex Wylie.

A member of the public on the shoreline raised the alarm after seeing the man apparently jump from the deck of the ship as it was coming through the harbour.

Lerwick lifeboat, *Soldian*, was immediately sent out as details were still being taken from the witness and Lerwick harbour tug, *Kebister*, was also alerted.

As the man neared the shore he had difficulty with the last few yards because of boulders, rocks and seaweed beneath the surface of the water. Alex waded in up to his waist to support the man as he made his way towards the beach and drove him to the nearby Gilbert Bain Hospital in Lerwick where he was treated for hypothermia. After a night in hospital under observation the man was released.

After the incident Alex said that the water had been pretty cold as he waded in - still wearing his suede shoes. A member of staff at the MRSC was reported to have murmured something about Alex's "blue wade shoes!"



Sector Officer Alex Wylie, left, helps a man to shore after he apparently jumped from the P&O ferry *St Clair*.

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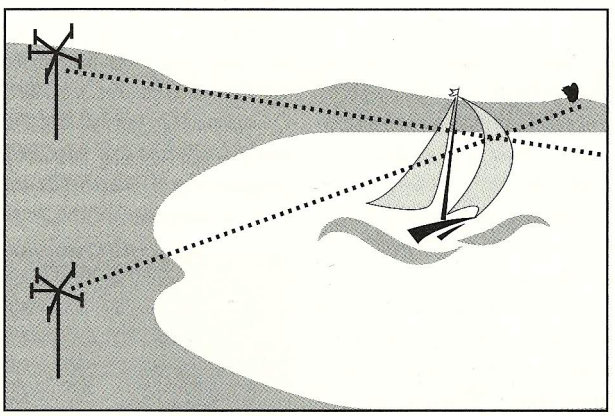

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