

MIZEN TIDE CLOCK

MIZEN TIDE CLOCK depicts a rescue at sea every 15 minutes. A Yacht is sailing past the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse when a member of crew is injured. The skipper makes a May Day call on his radio asking for help. The RNLI Lifeboat from Baltimore launches to come to their assistance, but they need more help and call the Rescue Helicopter from Shannon to assist. The winch man takes the injured crew member up into the helicopter and flies to the hospital in Cork.

The Tide Clock at the base is connected to the Clock at the top. It indicates High and Low, Falling and Rising Tides.

THE MIZEN TIDE CLOCK

Constructed by Stokes Clocks, McCurtain Street, Cork.

Sally Stokes: Design and drawings
Paul Stokes: Electronics and IT
Sean O'Leary: Art work
Philip Stokes: Management and Construction

TIDAL ECOLOGY MURAL

The ecology of the shore from low to high tide is very complex. Here in the mural you can see the variety of sea and plant life that thrives in these specialised habitats.

Designed, researched and painted by Jules Thomas

RESCUE AT SEA

In the Mizen Tide Clock the call from the yacht is just 'May Day' (because of time restrictions), but in reality this is what might happen when a boat gets into difficulties at sea.

Weather Forecast All ships, all ships, all ships – This is Mizen Coastguard Radio, Mizen Coastguard Radio, Mizen Coastguard Radio. An area of High Pressure over the South Coast of Ireland will give mainly fine weather for the next 24 hours. Mizen Coastguard Radio listening on Channels 4 and 16. Over

Hi, Sean – I'm in the boat in Baltimore harbour. I've just listened to the forecast and it looks like it's going to be a good day – there's a nice breeze for a sail to Mizen – will you come?

Hello, Pat – Yes, I'd love to! Give me ten minutes and I'll be aboard.

Just as the yacht is sailing beyond the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse

Sean: The tide's just turned and it's freshening. The wind's getting up; I think we had better turn back – I don't like the look of that sea. Let's check the forecast.

Weather forecast Security, Security, Security, All ships, All ships, All ships. This is Mizen Coastguard Radio. Gale warning for Lundy, Fastnet and Irish Sea . An area of Low Pressure in the mid Atlantic is moving rapidly eastwards towards the South west of Ireland. Winds Southwest to West Gale Force 7 - 8 gusting severe Force 9 at times. This is Mizen Coastguard Radio listening on Channels 4 and 16.

Pat: Sean, did you hear that? We'd better go about and head back to Baltimore. Mind your head with the boom.

But the boom comes over quickly and Sean gets a knock on the head.

Pat: What's happened? Are you OK? Sean, Sean! (No response)

Pat: Mizen Coastguard Radio, Mizen Coastguard Radio, Mizen Coastguard Radio. This is Yacht Colleen, Yacht Colleen, Yacht Colleen calling on Channel 16. Over

Mizen Coastguard: Yacht Colleen, this is Mizen Coastguard receiving you loud and clear on 16. Over

Pat: Mizen Coastguard – this is Yacht Colleen I have an injured man on board needing immediate medical attention. He's unconscious after being struck by the boom. We need urgent assistance. Over

Mizen Coastguard: Yacht Colleen, this is Mizen Coastguard. You have an injured man on board and you require immediate assistance – please give your position. Over

Pat: Mizen Coastguard, this is yacht Colleen. My position is 51'25" N 09' 45"W Over

Mizen Coastguard Radio: Yacht Colleen, this is Mizen Coastguard. I will task Baltimore Lifeboat and Rescue Helicopter 115 from Shannon for you. Over

Baltimore Lifeboat: Yacht Colleen, this Baltimore Lifeboat. We're on scene and will be alongside you shortly. Have casualty ready for transfer. Due to the seriousness of the injury we will await Rescue Helicopter 115. Over

Baltimore Lifeboat: Baltimore Lifeboat calling Helicopter 115. We have injured man aboard and ready for lifting. Over

Helicopter 115: Helicopter 115 calling Baltimore Lifeboat. We are lowering man to lift casualty. Over

Winch man lowered and taken up again supporting the injured man.

Helicopter: Helicopter 115 calling Mizen Coastguard. We have casualty on board and are in transit to Cork Hospital. Over and Out

Baltimore Lifeboat: Baltimore Lifeboat calling Mizen Coastguard. We are returning to base with Yacht Colleen in tow. Over and Out.

Please support RNLI Lifeboats! www.baltimorelifeboat.ie

Sources:

Tides and Currents

Reader's Digest Atlas of the World, A World Of Wonders, Toucan Books Ltd., London, 1989

Related websites: <http://www.tideclocks.com/science.asp>

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<http://home.hiwaay.net/~krcool/Astro/moon/moontides/>

Tidal Ecology Mural

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Complete Irish Wildlife, Paul Sterry, Harper Collins, 2004

Ireland's Marine Life, Eds. Matt Murphy & Susan Murphy, Sherkin Island Marine Station Publications, 1992.