

About the RNLI



Lifeboats

What we do



2022:

10k volunteer crew

238 lifeboat stations

16k people rescued

242 lifeguarded beaches

23k people aided

506 lives
saved



RNLI 200

1824-2024



Safety at the RNLI



Lifeboats

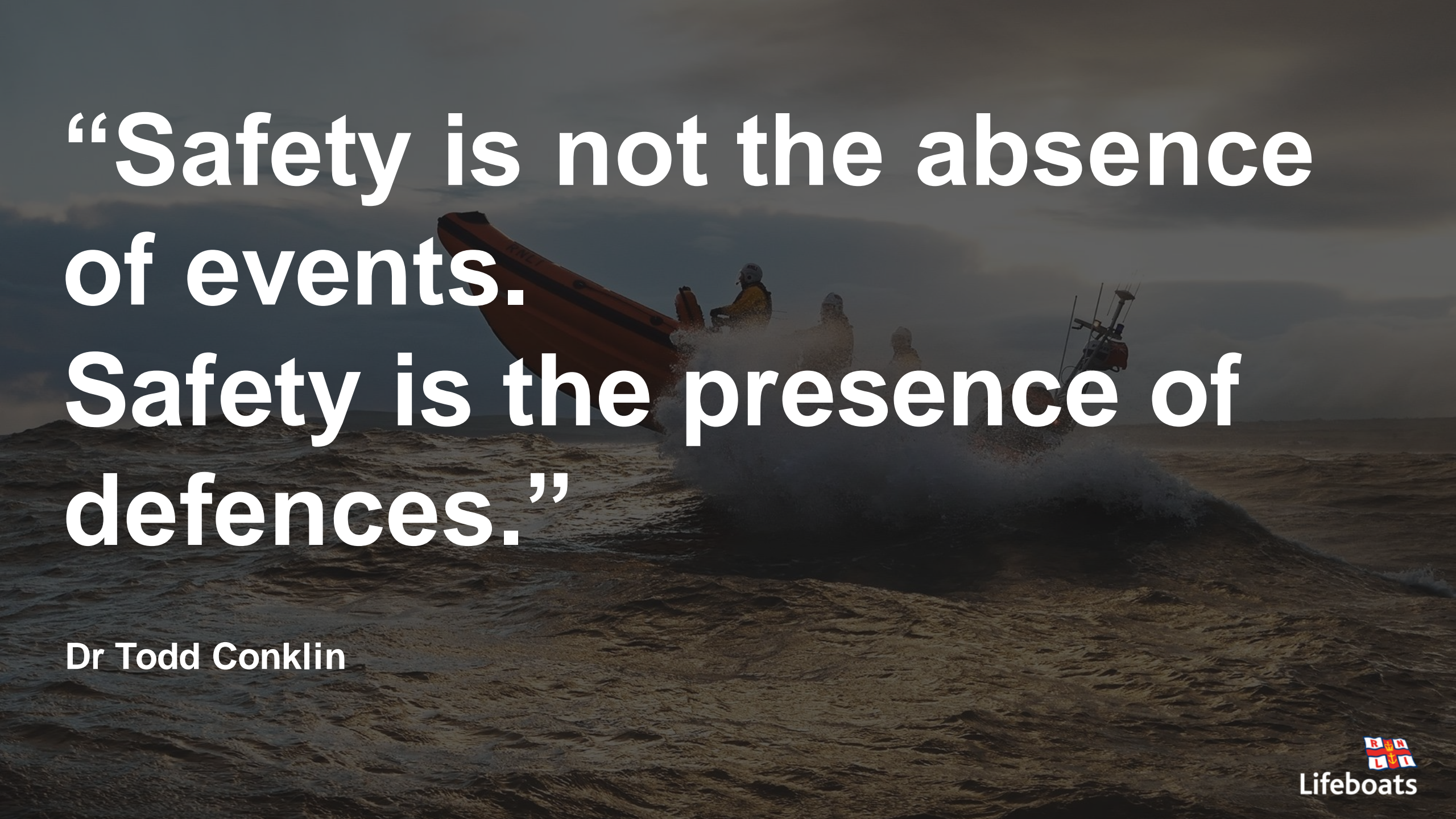


1854



1940



A red inflatable lifeboat is shown in the middle of a rough sea, with several crew members visible inside. The boat is moving through dark, choppy water, and the sky is overcast. The overall scene conveys a sense of urgency and the importance of safety equipment.

**“Safety is not the absence
of events.
Safety is the presence of
defences.”**

Dr Todd Conklin

**Safety is not the absence of events,
it is the presence of defences**

We must be able to assure ourselves and others that
our safety defences are present and effective

By **continually improving** our safety defences
we build resilience and the **capacity to fail safely**

The people who do the work know the most about it
and we must learn from them to improve our safety defences

We can only learn if **people feel safe to speak up,**
so we need a **culture of trust and learning**

Our choice

Blame and
punish



Learn and
improve



2020: Safety Learning Team
launched

Human Factors at the RNLI



Lifeboats





We take volunteers, predominantly non-mariners, and have a few hours each week to make them lifesavers



We provide them with fast boats and blue lights to operate a 24/7 emergency service



We send our crews into extreme conditions that most mariners would avoid, sometimes from their beds



We charge them with conducting high-risk rescues in a hazardous and highly unpredictable environment



We empower them to be autonomous in their operations and to make the right decisions to keep themselves and casualties safe



NOTECH Coxswain training



Mass casualty rescue innovation

Where next for RNLI Safety?

SMS alignment to external standards

Launch of Independent Assurance function

Critical risk (STKY) mapping and assurance

Human Factors and NOTECH training enhancements

Vessel ergonomic improvements (D, B, Severn class)



An aerial photograph of two RNLI lifeboats on the ocean. The larger boat is grey with an orange cabin and has 'RNLI 16-22' written on its side. The smaller boat is orange. Both are moving through the water, leaving white wakes. The text 'Questions?' is overlaid in large white font across the center of the image.

Questions?