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## **West Cornwall RNLI Lifeboat crews support the need to get teenagers vaccinated against the deadly Meningitis disease.**

**Recently the Lizard RNLI lifeboat crew took part in a campaign to highlight the need for university fresher's and college students to receive the vaccination for meningitis ACWY. Now the crews of both the Penlee & Falmouth lifeboats have also shown their support.**

Teygan Sugrue was only 19 years old when he tragically died from the deadly strain of meningitis B. He was in his first month at university in Manchester and it is evident that university students in their first month are more susceptible to contracting meningitis, due to their closeness to other students.

Members of Teygan's family have teamed up with the charity Meningitis Now, to try to ensure that all teenagers starting college or university are made aware that they can go to their local GP surgery and receive a vaccination for meningitis ACWY.

The Lizard lifeboat crew got to hear about the campaign and felt they needed to help highlight this important vaccination programme and now the crews at Penlee and Falmouth lifeboat stations are also showing their support.

Recently Ailsa Sugrue, Teygan's mother, visited the Penlee lifeboat station and met with coxswain Patch Harvey and other crew members. Ailsa said 'A very big thank you to the amazing crew and support team of the lifeboat at Penlee, in allowing us to promote the new Meningitis Vaccine for university freshers. Penzance is home to Penwith College which also runs university courses.

Ailsa, along with other members of her family then travelled to Falmouth to meet with the lifeboat crew, who broke away from an inshore lifeboat training exercise to talk to the family. Falmouth has a big university population and the crew wanted to also show their support for the vaccination programme. Ailsa said 'Thank you to the Falmouth Lifeboat crew who teamed up with the Sugrue family, to allow us to take this amazing photograph to promote the new meningitis vaccine for University fresher's. This is also to raise awareness of this terrible disease which suddenly took the life of Teygan Sugrue at only 19 years old. He was a much loved son, brother, grandson, nephew and cousin'.

Luke Wills, Coxswain on the day said 'It is an honour for us to be involved in this initiative to show to the thousands of students in Falmouth the advantages of being a part of the meningitis vaccination programme.'

For more information about meningitis, the need for vaccinations, visit the Meningitis Now website or to find out if you are eligible to receive the vaccination ACWY please contact your local GP surgery.