

WRECK SECTION No. 445

Wreck Report No. 14384

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 68000 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 27/57 Date of writing this report 29th April, 1957.

Ship's Name m.s. "LISBETH M" of London Tons Gross 939 Net 457

Built at Heusden When 1953 11 Casualty notice sent to Owner 24.4.57. Owner's reply 26.4.57.

Owners Metcalf Motor Coasters Ltd.

Managers T.J. Metcalf

Address 4, New London Street, E.C.3.

WRECK SECTION No. 445

M.M. c/c
2765

Classification details

✦ 100A1	✦ LMC N11,53
5,56	
	ts 11,53 OG

Date of Casualty 4th April, 1957.

Details of Casualty

Sunk by collision off Margate in dense fog.
The Owners concur.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

LISBETH M. — North Foreland Radio, Apr. 4.—Following received from British steamer SIR JOHN SNELL (London for Antwerp):

At 7 3 a.m., G.M.T.: Mayday (distress signal), been in collision with motor vessel Lisbeth M. (Plymouth for London). I am anchored one mile NE. of N.E. Spit Buoy, don't know if the Lisbeth M. is sinking or not.

At 7 9 a.m., G.M.T.: Correct position is eight cables NW. of N.E. Spit.

At 7 11 a.m., G.M.T.: Our lifeboat is away and alongside the other ship. We have to wait for her return before knowing what has happened.

Margate, Apr. 4. — Margate lifeboat launched at 7 12 a.m. to go to vessels in collision one mile north of N.E. Spit Buoy.

North Foreland Radio, Apr. 4. — Following received from tug Jean Bart at 7 22 a.m., G.M.T.: Proceeding position of collision.

Following received from Dutch tug Clyde at 7 30 a.m., G.M.T.: Bound for collision position.

Following received from tug Sun XIX at 8 4 a.m., G.M.T.: Proceeding collision.

Following received from Trinity House steamer Vestal:

At 8 18 a.m.: Proceeding position, 4 1/2 miles away.

At 9 15 a.m., G.M.T.: Position N.E. Spit buoy four cables distant, am bearing from buoy 330 deg. true. Margate pilot cutter now alongside, neither of us seen anything so far.

Following received from tug Crested Cock at 9 21 a.m., G.M.T.: Position at Red Sand Buoy, hope to be in vicinity in one hour.

Following received from Margate lifeboat at 9 27 a.m., G.M.T.: Searched and found large disturbance in water and oil slicks 1 mile SSE. of SIR JOHN SNELL. Master of SIR JOHN SNELL perturbed about his lifeboat, which went away in charge of second mate and with six hands in direction of shouting. SIR JOHN SNELL seen nothing on her radar, presumed drifting in vicinity

between North Foreland and North Goodwin Light-vessel.

North Foreland Radio, Apr. 4.—From North Foreland Radio to all stations: Reference collision of steamer SIR JOHN SNELL and motor vessel Lisbeth M., Lisbeth M. sunk, all except two of crew accounted for. Resume normal working with caution, keeping sharp look-out for remaining two of crew.

Following received from coastguard at Deal at noon, G.M.T., intercepted between rescue aircraft and SIR JOHN SNELL: Position of Lisbeth M. lat. 51 27 12 N., long. 1 27 6 E.

Dover, Apr. 4.—Reported that lifeboat of steamer SIR JOHN SNELL had landed nine survivors at Kingsgate, who were taken to Margate General Hospital. Three reported drowned and two missing. Understood owners state that motor vessel Lisbeth M. had crew of 12 and two Worcester cadets on board. Lisbeth M. had cargo of stone. Margate lifeboat towing lifeboat of SIR JOHN SNELL to Margate.

Margate, Apr. 4.—Motor vessel Lisbeth M.: Margate lifeboat has returned.

London, Apr. 4.—Steamer SIR JOHN SNELL and motor vessel Lisbeth M. collided off Margate in fog early to-day. Margate coastguards reported visibility was nil when they collided.—Exchange Telegraph Company.

London, Apr. 4.—Survivors said that motor vessel Lisbeth M. was badly holed and sank quickly. They believed one of the missing men was trapped when the ship went down. An official of the owners, Metcalf Motor Coasters, Ltd., confirmed that three of the crew of the Lisbeth M. were dead and two missing. The dead were given as the master, Captain Arthur Abel, the chief engineer, W. Heather, and the third engineer, J. Wilkinson. The coastguard, George Andrews, and an assistant steward, E. Ewer, are missing.—Exchange Telegraph Company.

Dover, Apr. 4.—Regarding the crew of motor vessel Lisbeth M., the following were taken to Margate General Hospital and have now been discharged: Fitzpatrick, Ewen, Dunn Wall, Cornelius (cadet), Maclean, Lark (cadet), Lundell, Schout. Captain Abel, chief engineer Heather and Ewer were in Broadstairs mortuary. Wilkinson was last seen swimming towards the shore. Andrews is missing.



Stated Record SUNK BY COLLISION 4,57

Date of Committee FRIDAY 3 MAY 1957

Committee's Minute Sunk by collision 4.57

