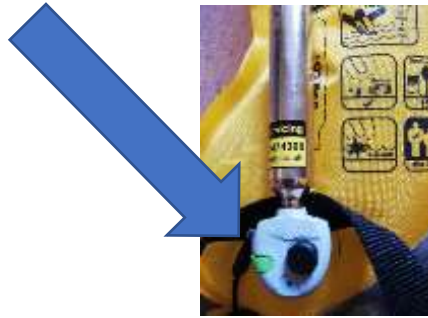


## **How to complete an annual Life Jacket Test**

Our life jackets should be checked once a year. The safety Officer maintains a register of those checks.

1. Inspect the life jacket for any damage. Check that both buckles engage and release correctly.
2. Undo the velcro and unpack the life jacket. Look for any signs of wear or damage. If mould is present, wash with mild detergent.
3. Check that the whistle is present.
4. Check that the green tag is present. This is dislodged if the inflation cylinder is fired. The Safety Officer has spare green tags which simply push home.



5. Unscrew the cylinder and check that the foil cap is intact. This is pierced when the cylinder is fired. The Safety Officer has spare cylinders. Screw the cylinder back in firmly.



6. Inflate the life jacket. Do not do this by mouth as the moisture in breath causes the life jacket to deteriorate. The electric tyre pumps now supplied with many cars instead of a spare wheel work very well through the mouthpiece of the life jacket. Do not over inflate – just enough for the jacket to achieve its correct shape. Leave for 24 hours.



7. Deflate by reversing the mouthpiece cover and using that to press onto the release valve in the mouthpiece. Replace the mouthpiece cover.



8. Carefully fold the life jacket following the existing folds if possible. Fold the sides first and fasten the Velcro, then fold the top.



9. Ensure that the firing toggle is accessible not tucked inside.



10. Ensure that the webbing is not tangled.

11. Record the check.