Winter 1999/00

Lifeboat

The magazine of the RNLI

In this issue...

- Looking to the Future
 Results of the RNLI's 'Visions and Values' exercise
- Lifeboat Services
 Silver Medal and Thanks on Vellum
- The Winning Touch
 Some winning entries from the 1999
 photographic competition



 Flying the flag – see contents page for more details...





The Lifeboat

Winter 1999/2000

In this issue...

Number 550

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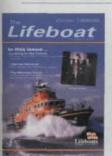
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Front Cover



Arranmore's new Severn class, Myrtle Maud, (ON1244) shows off her new livery during trials. Inset: Cromer Coxswain Richard Davies, carries the RNLI colours at the Festival of Remembrance in November joined by Director Andrew Freemantle and Cromer Secretary, Chris Barnes.

Main photo: Gilbert Hampton Photography. Inset photo: courtesy of the Royal British Legion.

News and Views

The latest news from and about the RNLI

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The 175th year looking back

After a remarkable year the 175th anniversary programme formally ends at the 2000 London Boat Show.

There was more total media coverage of the RNLI's birthday in one day on 4 March than in six normal months!

The launches in September 1998 of the anniversary book 'Rain Later, Good' and of the Celebration Ale gave huge awareness and considerable income which continues to come in. The book is already on its second print run and has to date given over £18,000 in royalties. Sales of 202,000 bottles of beer have so far produced some £16,000 with still more to come in.

The London Taxi has carried over 20,000 passengers in its year of operation and many more Londoners will have seen it drive past. It has been used at major London events including London Lifeboat Day and the Chelsea Flower Show and is being kept on for an extra six

The launch of the wet knuckle ride at Drayton Manor Theme Park attracted crowds of all ages with the pop group Steps stealing the limelight. In May and June alone over 150,000 people braved Storm Force 10 with 1p per person riding it being donated to the RNLI.

The Anniversary Roadshow tour is complete with an estimated 100,000 people having either been through it or seen it. Its tour took it from Greenock through every region except Ireland right down to Brighton. The vehicle will now be re-liveried for Sea Safety use during the year 2000

Both the last-ever Royal Tournament and the Edinburgh Tattoo played to capacity crowds with the RNLI presence at both gaining high levels of acclaim. Over 230,000 people attended the Tattoo and saw the RNLI on 25 separate occasions with many more seeing it on television. A further 20,000 saw the two RNLI performances at the Royal Tournament. Sports commentator Barry Davies gave his services free for the Tournament and the flotilla in June.

Gateshead Borough Council, in partnership with the RNLI, won the coveted gold medal at the Chelsea Flower Show for their spectacular floral launching lifeboat. The exhibit received further attention at the Gateshead Summer Show and at the Scottish Flower Show.

By far the biggest event was the grand flotilla of 48 lifeboats old and new, UK and overseas at Poole in June with over 10,000 people witnessing the spectacle. These included RNLI supporters from all over the UK and Ireland and 120 delegates and partners from the 40 countries who were at the International Lifeboat Federation Conference in the same week. The huge co-opera-tion of Poole Borough Council, the Police and the Harbourmaster made the day go without a hitch. Working with The Daily Telegraph produced three

good articles, two colour photographs and a 'leader' and some sponsorship.

The hard-hitting cinema commercial went on release across the UK and Ireland as scheduled on 3 September for two non-consecutive weeks. The 60

Offshore update

Offshore, the RNLI's membership grade for sea users, was launched to divers at the recent Dive 99 show at the NEC and received some high-profile endorsement from leading divers. Michelle Cove, a stunt diver on the new James

Bond film, 'The World is Not Enough', and Tanya Streeter, world number one female diver and world record holder went along to lend their support. A new competition to win an inflatable boat complete with trailer and outboard also helped to attract over 50 new recruits at the show thanks to generous donations and support from Avon, Mariner and

Snipe. At the time of going to press it was hoped to have a

underwater draw' for the lucky winner who will be announced in the Spring issue.

Top - Michelle and Tanya lend a hand with recruitment. Above - the competition winner will be taking away an Avon inflatable complete with Mariner outboard and trailer.

New lifeboat named at Port St Mary

Port St Mary's new Trent class was named on 17 July at the New Quay, in glorious sunshine.

The boat is the fifth to be funded by the Gough Ritchie Trust which was established in 1990 following the death of Mrs Ann Ritchie, a generous RNLI supporter. Mr W. Neil Crowe, Chairman of the trust, handed the lifeboat over to RNLI Chairman, David Acland. The lifeboat was then named Gough Ritchie II by Lady Daunt, wife of the Lieutenant Govenor of the Isle of Man.

Sorry!

Due to pressure on space, several naming ceremonies have had to be held over for future issues.

second advert went into 227 cinemas and should have been seen by an estimated one and a half million cinema goers and has also been seen on TV

There were two surprise and unplanned events which have captured the imagination during the year - the first was the unprecedented media interest in the presentation of the millennium plaque for the Severn class lifeboat by Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott. Every national newspaper attended the photocall resulting in front page pictures on The Times and Telegraph and pictures in every national newspaper.

The second was an initiative from the Mayor of Poole to appoint borough residents as ambassadors to take specially commissioned Poole Pottery bowls to each of our 223 lifeboat stations on his behalf to commemorate the anniversary. The community interest and goodwill that has resulted, along with the press coverage of the handovers, has been quite amazing.

The Lifeboat is published four times a year and is sent free to RNLI Members and Governors. The next issue will be Spring 2000 and will appear late March 1999.

News items should be received by 31 January, but earlier if possible. All material submitted for possible publication should be addressed to the Editor, The Lifeboat, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.

Photographs intended for return should be

accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope. Contributions may be held for subsequent issues and to reduce costs receipt will not usually be acknowledged unless requested.

For further information on how to join the Institution as a Member or Governor contact the Membership section at RNLI Headquarters, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.

Any products or services advertised in The Lifeboat by third parties are not in any way endorsed by the RNLI and the RNLI any of the information.

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Gotcha Hewitt!

Many readers will have seen famous celebrities singing the praises of Lerwick lifeboat Coxswain, Hewitt Clark, when he was the star of television's 'This is your Life' in November.

London Weekend Television, contacted the RNLI to consider an exceptional crew member to be put forward for the show and Hewitt was selected as the most decorated lifeboatman.

Months of collusion followed with station officials and Hewitt's wife – ever fearful that he would get wind of what was afoot. It was decided the best time catch Hewitt would be when he attended a Royal Garden Party in Edinburgh on 7 July. RNLI Press Officer, Tanya Hall, asked Hewitt if he could take part in a bogus TV interview for BBC Scotland after the garden party. Knowing Hewitt to be a reluctant media star everyone was worried he'd say no, but luckily he agreed and was well and truly 'gotchad'!

We are told that the party afterwards was a great celebration and the last person left at 8.00am next day!

AGM/APA dates

The 2000 Annual General Meeting of Governors and Annual Presentation of Awards will take place on Thursday 18 May at 1130 and 1430 respectively.

As usual both meetings will be held in the Barbican Hall Centre, London and the name of the guest speaker will be announced as soon as it is known.

Show time again...

Once again the RNLI will be present during the London Boat show at Earl's Court in January – and those who receive this issue of the magazine in time should hurry along to stand 60E to see the latest hi-tech displays and futuristic stand design!

As well as all the usual attractions including the membership, souvenirs and static displays, there will a 'storm sensory area' where members of the public can get some idea of what it's like to be out on a rough weather shout. Standing in the half-lit room, visitors are shown the RNLI cinema advert whilst being blasted by wind and fog and experiencing thunder and lightening! There will also be an elegant water feature at the front of the stand to draw the crowds into the Sea Safety area where the focus this year will be on SEA Check – giving visitors the opportunity to sign up for the free safety equipment advisory service.

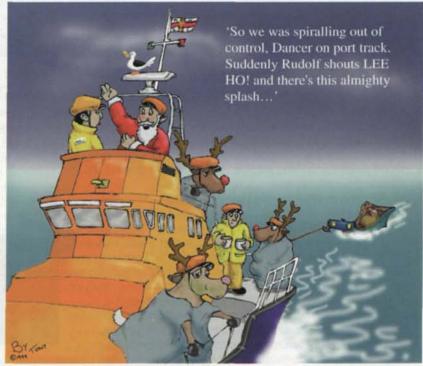
Cromer design award



Cromer lifeboat community and the design team that built the station's new £3m slipway boathouse had a proud day on 16 December when the project won the prestigious Graham Allen Award for Conservation and Design.

The award is given annually to the building which had made the most significant contribution to the built environment within the North Norfolk District Council area. Councillor Henry Cordeaux, chairman of the judging panel said of the boathouse, '...an excellent design, which is impressive without being out of scale, and which retains traditional features while being a fitting and workmanlike base for the lifeboat into the next century.'

Pictured above is the Council's Conservation and Design Manager together with Mrs Blanche Allen, widow of Graham Allen, presenting the award plaque to project architect Steve Bond and the design team.



By the time this issue of **The Lifeboat** reaches you, the excitement of Christmas will have probably long subsided, but we couldn't resist reproducing this cartoon by freelance artist, Tony Parsons who is a crew member of Blackpool lifeboat. We just hope that Santa managed to deliver all his presents on time...





New England in Autumn?

The lucky winners of the Spring Lottery will enjoy a really splendid prize – a fly/drive holiday, with accommodation, for two people to New England, USA. There they will enjoy the rugged coastline of Maine, the history and charm of Boston, and lush forests with majestic mountain backdrops.

If the winner chooses to holiday in the Autumn, they can marvel at the famous red, russet and gold fall foliage. In addition they will receive £500 spending money to make their holiday even more enjoyable.

Also, there are eight cash runners-up prizes ranging from £100 to £1,000. If you would like the opportunity to win any of these great prizes, remember to return your tickets to RNLI HQ before 14 April 2000. If you would like to receive tickets or if you would like more tickets, please contact Rebekah Rose who will be pleased to help. You can contact Rebekah on (01202) 663219, 8.30am-5pm weekdays.



Campbeltown's lifeboat named

Campbeltown's new Severn class lifeboat was named *Ernest and Mary Shaw* by donor, Mrs Mary Shaw, at a naming ceremony at The Old Quay in Campbeltown on 28 August.

The lifeboat was provided by a generous gift from the estate of the late Ernest Shaw



and his widow Mary to mark their admiration and respect for lifeboat crew members.

Lottery price changes

Recently the RNLI has reviewed various ways of further improving the Lifeboat lottery. One of the areas of research was ticket price and looking at changing the price from 50p to £1, but with a book containing five, £1 tickets rather than ten, 50p tickets.

In effect a book of tickets would stay the same price, but the changes would minimise costs and reduce the number of counterfoils. Please be assured that your chances of winning should stay the same – although you may buy fewer tickets at £1, other purchasers will also be buying fewer tickets.

Furthermore, research on this subject was carried out with a small number of supporters during September. Their overwhelming response was to encourage the introduction of the £1 ticket. Therefore the RNLI will proceed with the £1 ticket for the Summer lottery.

We hope you agree this is a good idea, and that you will continue to support the lifeboat service via the lottery. Should you have any queries regarding the above, please contact Julia Fish at RNLI headquarters on (01202) 663000, between 9am-5pm weekdays.

Another success for Queen Victoria

The beautifully restored 1887 pulling and sailing lifeboat, Queen Victoria, was in action again on 30 May when she was hauled overland from Bembridge to Sandown on the Isle of Wight. Queen Victoria is thought to be the oldest surviving RNLI lifeboat in existence and has been used for many events and re-enactments including Lynmouth, Poole and

Whitby (see page 6 for details). She was acquired as a derelict by the Bemberidge lifeboat coxswain and, after much fundraising, was restored to her former glory at the Classic Boat Museum.

The Isle of Wight event was a re-enactment of the difficult rescue of the brig John Douse in 1877, when the lifeboat had to be hauled six miles overland to Sandown Bay. The weather was so tempestuous that it was impossible for the lifeboat to launch at Bembridge and get around Culver Cliff to reach the stricken brig, hence the decision to go overland. The lifeboat successfully launched and rescued some of the brig's crew in very difficult conditions.

The re-enactment went extremely well and the six miles were covered in three and a half hours using four shire horses and many volunteer 'launchers'. The event was



organised by the coxswain and crew of the Bembridge lifeboat and further projects with the *Queen Victoria* are being planned for the near future. The lifeboat is available for other events nationwide and anyone interested should contact Martin Woodward on 01983 873125.





South Caper

The 1999 RNLI South African Cycle Challenge

You would think that choosing to cycle in South Africa in October would be a great idea... sunshine, blue skies and warm seas. Well 23 intrepid cyclists

will be happy to contradict you! They cycled more than 400kms from Port Elizabeth to Cape Town, along deserted dirt track beach roads and through mountain passes (seven to be precise). They endured rain nearly every day, had no clean or dry clothes, were 'attacked' by baboon and slept ten to a room on some nights. But ask any of them what they thought of the experience and, to a man, they will all agree it was one of the most challenging but rewarding experiences of their lives.

The aim of the challenge was to reach the most southerly tip of South Africa and, in doing so, the most southerly lifeboat station. In fact, whilst en route, the cyclists visited three of South Africa's National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI) lifeboat stations and were given the opportunity to meet and chat with the lifeboat crews. Each cyclist was asked to raise a minimum of £2,500 (some have raised two or three times this amount)

of which a small percentage is donated to the NSRI in recognition of their help in organising the cycle challenge.

The RNLI's Product Manager, Anne Maton, said, 'The rain simply added to the challenge. En route, we were rewarded with stunning scenery, heard frogs and weaver birds, and spotted whales and dolphin. The NSRI crews were wonderful and, all in all, it was a highly successful money-raising event - one that I would be delighted to repeat."

If this has whet your appetite, Anne is planning to run two bike rides next year; the first is to Iceland in August and then she will repeat the South African challenge later in the year. For further information, Anne can be contacted on 01202 663376.



First lifeboat challenge

At the beginning of June, 120 teams from all over the UK and Republic of Ireland took part in the first ever RNLI Lifeboat Challenge. Teams of four had just 48 hours in which to visit as many of the RNLI's 223 lifeboat stations as possible. They could travel by any mode of transport they liked as long as they raised a minimum of £400 in the process.

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The event really fired the imagination, with teams participating in the Challenge in a variety of ways: by helicopter, motorcycle, car, boat, horse and foot. The Triumph Stag Owners Club entered teams right around the country. Other teams included the Police force, armed forces, ambulance and fire service, a team of diving instructors and many lifeboat crews.

Trophies were awarded to the UK and Irish teams who visited the most stations (Craster lifeboat crew with 68 and the Black Ravens with 37 respectively). Prizes of top-of-the-range camera equipment were presented to the teams who raised the most money (British Aerospace/CSC helicopter team with a staggering £28,467).

In total almost £100,000 has been raised, with money still coming in. Due to its success, it has been decided that the Lifeboat Challenge should take place every two years. If you would like further information about it, please contact Anne Maton, Fundraising Product Manager, on (01202) 663376.

Film processing envelopes

Many readers may have noticed a distinct absence of film processing envelopes in the past two issues. At the time of going to press we are considering an alternative service.

We should have some news shortly - sorry for the inconvenience.

Model thanks

In the Autumn issue, Maureen La Frenais, RNLI Display and Visits Coordinator, announced that she was updating the list of lifeboat model makers and made a plea to budding modellers to supply her with details of any current or past projects and photographs.

Response to the appeal was very encouraging, giving the RNLI a very useful contact base for future displays and events. A big thanks goes out to all who kindly got in touch.

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The Visiter revisited

By Sue Denny, RNLI Press and Public Information Manager

enry Freeman, pictured above, has graced the RNLI's
175th anniversary publicity material throughout the year.
But it took until August Bank Holiday weekend before the
heroic Whitby coxswain came into his own. For it was Henry
Freeman who, in January 1881, led the historic lifeboat pull, six
miles overland in a howling blizzard,
from Whitby to Robin Hood's Bay
to save the crew of the collier
The Visiter...

On Bank Holiday Sunday morning thousands of supporters gathered all along the route from the Whitby Lifeboat Museum to Robin Hood's Bay to witness the re-enactment of the area's most famous rescue.

In 1881, the area was blanketed in snow, the bitter cold winds were howling and the only sources of power were men and horses. Surely, 118 years later, on a warm and sunny summer day, it would be a much easier to pull a replica of the Robert Whitworth (in fact the lifeboat used in the pull was the ex-Bembridge lifeboat – the beautifully restored Victoria) over the hilly route. Well, not necessarily! Organiser Ian Hudson wanted the reenactment to stick as closely as possible to the methods used during the original rescue.

Many the participants were current lifeboat crew members and coastguards with a group of local players acting out the key characters. The 'Honorary Secretary' brought news of the disaster and told the families of those on board the Visiter that it would be impossible to launch at Whitby

because of the weather. Coxswain Freeman, played by Peter Thomson, former Whitby lifeboat coxswain and curator of the lifeboat museum, declared that with the help of the townspeople he would take the lifeboat overland to Robin Hood's Bay and launch there.

In 1881, teams of farm horses were used in shifts along the route. But as working horses are few and far between in 1999, just four Bass shire

horses were enlisted to help over 100 sponsored volunteers.

Using the original carriage, specially restored for the occasion, the long uphill pull began. Crowds lined the route and supporters followed as the team climbed past the famous Abbey and on to the Hare and Hounds at Hawsker.

The stage from the Hare and Hounds to the top of the moor, was the final one for the horses. Once they were unhitched, it was time for something unavailable in the 1800's, but required today for health and safety reasons – a vehicle was attached for the descent into Robin Hoods Bay – not to do the work, but to be there should the lifeboat run out of control on the steep hill.

It was just as hard, if not harder, to go down hill as to go up and the arrival at the Victoria Hotel, was delayed as the pullers edged their way down through the narrow country lanes.

Now was the time for the big decision – whether to call it a day at the Victoria – which is actually in Robin Hoods Bay – or to take the lifeboat down the one in three hill to the beach and launch her.

As the pullers took a much needed break, the coxswain decided it would be too dangerous to carry on with such large crowds, they had achieved their goal by reaching Robin Hoods Bay in five hours.

Giving the old heave ho!

However, the coastguard team offered to act as marshals and clear everyone off the hill and so at 3pm the process of inching the lifeboat down the hill began. The Victoria's owner, Bembridge coxswain Martin Woodward, went ahead, close to the ground, as the

lifeboat was edged forward.

All the team's strength was expended holding the lifeboat back, to prevent her rolling out of control into a house or a shop. Those of us fortunate enough to have secured a vantage point on the sharp bend by the Laurel Inn were certain that was as far as she would go. Surely they would never get her round that corner?

Inch by precarious inch she came, passing an outhouse by a whisker on one side and barely missing a shop on the other, until her bow was pointing directly into the window of the Laurel Inn. At times it was one foot forward and four back to get her into position until miraculously she was round the tight bend and on her way to the next obstacle – the

bridge.

With the carriage too wide to go across the bridge, the team had to lift the boat off and, using

skids, take her over the bridge and down to

the water's edge.

But what a sight greeted them when they reached journey's end. Thousands of people had gathered to welcome them. Some had waited all day, unaware of the dramas that had gone before.

The lifeboat finally touched the water just after 6pm, over nine hours after leaving Whitby. The Whitby crew took up the oars and to the great delight of the crowd rowed the lifeboat away.

At the time of going to press it is not yet

known how much sponsorship was raised but we do know that over £3,000 was collected on route.

The above water colour by John Freeman, entitled 'The Pull', shows the lifeboat passing the Hare and Hounds. John is selling a limited edition of unframed prints at £20 each with half the profits going to the RNLI. John can be contacted on (01947) 602799







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LIFEBOAT SERV

Three fishermen saved with just minutes to spare

long service in a severe gale and heavy, broken seas has earned Achill Island's Coxswain/Assistant Mechanic, Brian Patten, the RNLI's Silver Medal. The remainder of the crew will receive framed Chairman's Letters of Appreciation and Silver Medal Service Certificates.

With seas constantly sweeping the lifeboat and casualty Coxswain Patten had taken the Arun alongside a 75ft fishing vessel, passed a tow line and snatched her to safety just minutes before she would have drifted ashore on an isolated rock off the Irish coast.

The lifeboat's involvement began at 0430 on

Saturday 27 February when the MRSC at Malin Head notified the station's honorary secretary that the fishing vessel Carrigeen Bayhad suffered engine failure off Achill Head. At that time she was just 3 miles offshore, drifting down onto the rock-strewn headland in the severe west-southwest gale.

Conditions were so bad at the scene, with 47knot winds and two tidal streams converging off a rocky headland that the lifeboats engine bilge was flooded and toe rails and stanchions smashed by the sheer weight of water. The crew were thrown to the deck by the waves as they broke over the lifeboat and yet were still able to pass a tow no less than three times.

The location is one avoided by local people as two strong tidal streams meet off the headland, causing irregular breaking seas. That night those seas were being heaped up into 8m high breakers

by the severe gale force winds.

The Arun, Soldian, launched at 0450 and began the 14 mile passage to the casualty. Uppermost in the crews' minds was the proximity of Carrigeen Bay to the rocks at Carrickakin of the tip of Achill Head and her rate of drift towards them.

Coxswain Patten pushed Soldian through the darkness as hard as he dared - the 7m seas on the port bow giving the crew a very rough ride as the Arun pitched and rolled at maximum speed.

Approaching the casualty's position the crew could see nothing in the pitch dark, and the radar screen was picking up only wave 'clutter' - which was hardly surprising with seas 7-8m high and the radar scanner less than 6m above sea level.

Flare

Radio communication was finally established, and the skipper of the fishing boat was asked to fire a

> white parachute flare so that the lifeboat could locate her. The flare was whipped away so quickly by the gale force wind that it was of no help, so the final approach through the mountainous seas and complete black-out had to be made using the lifeboats VHF radio direction finder.

With no engines the casualty was rapidly running out of electrical power, and her final radio transmission was to the effect there was only sufficient power left to illuminate the wheelhouse.

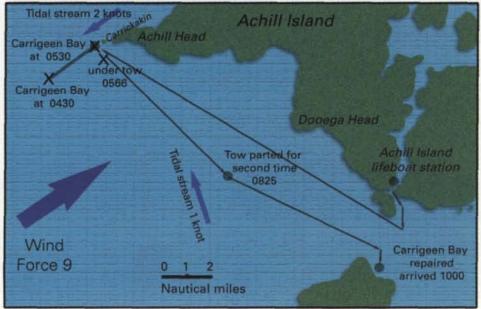
Fortunately during the conversations the lifeboat crew had learned that Carrigeen Bay had some large tyres on board and the skipper had been asked to rig one on a bridle at the bow of the casualty. The stretch in this large tyre would help to reduce the 'snubbing' or snatching which would threaten the tow line as the strain was taken up in the big

When Soldian reached the casualty at

Arun class 52-10 Soldian The Crew Silver Medal Coxn /Asst Mech Brian Patten Chairman's Letter

The Lifeboat

Medal Service Certificate Mechanic Stephen McNulty Crew Members Thomas Kilbane John Johnston Raymond McKenna Liam Fallon Edward Corrigan



LIFEBOAT SERWICES

0530 she was a mere 600 yards from the rocks of Carrickakin, with a recently arrived Irish Air Corps helicopter hovering overhead and illuminating the scene.

Carrigeen Bay had attempted to anchor, but the anchor was dragging and she was still being swept ashore with wind and sea on her starboard quarter.

It was soon obvious that it would be impossible to transfer the three crew safely on to the lifeboat so Coxswain Patten decided that the only option was to tow the fishing vessel clear of danger.

Two tidal streams were meeting off the headland and the conditions had worsened still further. Violent seas up to 8m high were now sweeping both lifeboat and casualty, and would do so for the next hour.

Heaving line

Brian Patten took Soldian to the north of the casualty and approached her from the leeward side, easing up to her port quarter with crew members John Johnston and Tommy Kilbane clinging to the starboard rail at the bow ready to pass a line.

John Johnston managed to land a heaving line on Carrigeen Bay's aft deck at the first attempt, but the casualty's crew could not retrieve it. Liam Fallon threw another and this time the line was passed successfully. This was no mean achievement as the lifeboat crew were repeatedly being knocked to the deck by the seas breaking over the top of the wheelhouse.

As the casualty's crew took the line towards the bow Brian Patten eased *Soldian* along her leeward side until she lay just forward of the fishing vessel and head to wind.

With the tow line attached to the large tyre the next problem was releasing the casualty from her anchor cable. She had no power to veer or cut the cable so *Soldian* took the strain and applied

sufficient power to break the cable. Only then could the full scope of the tow be paid out – with the crew again exposed on the aft deck – and the slow tow away from danger started.

Later calculations showed that Carrigeen Bay was probably some eight minutes away from being swept ashore.

Five minutes after taking up the tow a huge sea hit the lifeboat and fishing vessel, breaking the tow line. The sea was so big that it forced a considerable amount of water into the lifeboat's engine room through the ventilator and also smashed the starboard toe rail and guard rail stanchions.

Both vessels were still only 600 yards from the vicious lee shore as the crew returned to the aft deck to repeat the tow line manoeuvre.

Despite the darkness the crew could see the waves breaking against the rocks of Carickakin – when they were not themselves under water.

With exceptional seamanship Brian Platten brought Soldian around in a repeat of the earlier manoeuvre and then held her in position for an agonising five minutes while Carrigeen Bay's crew secured the line.

Low water

With the tow re-established the long tow home began at about 5 knots. Good progress was made, despite the terrible conditions, until at 0825 the tow parted again. For the third time Coxswain Patten managed to pass a tow line without the two vessels coming into contact and the tow resumed.

With low water approaching and seas already breaking heavily on the bar it would not be possible to enter A chill Sound, so the lifeboat took *Carrigeen Bay* up into the shelter of Clare island, they arrived at 1000, intending to wait for more water.

However while waiting for the tide the casualty's engineer received enough information via his mobile phone to effect repairs and the fishing vessel was able to reach Cloghmore pier under her own power, escorted by the lifeboat.

Two inshore lifeboats save man cut off by tide

A service by Redcar's Atlantic 21 and D class to a man cut off by the tide some five miles away from the station has earned Atlantic Crew member Tony Wild, D class helmsman Mark Greaves and D class Crew Member Derek Robinson a framed letter of appreciation from the RNLI's Chairman.

The Atlantic had been launched at 1506 on 30 May 1999 into a northeasterly Force 4 and seas which increased from 3ft at the launch site to 6ft to 9ft at the scene. The D followed two minutes later.

It took only ten minutes for the faster Atlantic to reach the man where she tried to anchor and veer down to the casualty. However the waves and undertow made it difficult to hold station, so Crew Member Tony Wild swam ashore with a line — with some difficulty. The stranded man was a non-swimmer and refused to swim to the lifeboat, despite the urgency of the situation.

By now the D class had arrived and it was decided she would try to beach. However as she tried to ride in on the back of a wave she struck a rock, slewed round and filled. Helmsman Mark Greaves recovered the situation and he and Crew Member Derek Robinson jumped out to hold the boat head to sea on the beach.

The casualty was taken aboard and a number of attempts made to get off the beach. Derek Robinson was swept off his feet several times and once the boat was swept high and dry, despite the efforts of the three lifeboatmen.

Eventually the D class made it out to sea, slightly damaging her propeller in the process.

to rendezvous with the Atlantic, which had in the meantime been dealing with her own problems.

While attempting to recover the line it had fouled the port propeller, stopping the engine, and while this was being freed the starboard engine struck a rock and also stalled. Fortunately it restarted immediately and the port engine was also freed.

The casualty was transferred to the Atlantic – shaken but uninjured –and was landed at Redcar at 1610, with the D class returning some five minutes later.

The Chairman's letter remarks that "..this was a well-executed service carried out in difficult conditions".



LIFEBOAT SERVICES

Two saved from yacht in onshore severe gale

A service by Shoreham's Tyne class lifeboat in June 1999 has earned her coxswain Peter Huxtable the Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum.

The service was carried out in onshore winds which were gusting up to Force 9 - conditions which prevented the nearer Brighton lifeboat - an Atlantic - from putting to sea.

It was at 2052 on 2 June 1999 that Solent Coastguard contacted Shoreham. A 34ft yacht, *Trimley Maid*, was unsure of her position somewhere off Brighton Marina in poor weather

conditions.

Although Brighton was much closer the south westerly wind was onshore and gusting to Force 9 with one-and-a-half knots of Spring ebb running against it. The seas were up to 6m high and the conditions were far in excess of those specified for Atlantics.

Once clear of Shoreham harbour entrance the station's Tyne, Hermione Lady Colwyn, set course to the east, with a big quartering sea making life difficult as Coxswain Peter Huxtable kept the Tyne on course as she rolled and yawed constantly.

While on passage the lifeboat crew tried to locate the yacht by VHF DF and by eye, finally finding her about a mile-and-a-quarter to the south east of Brighton Marina – further out to sea than initially thought.

The lifeboat arrived at 2127 to find sea conditions continuing to deteriorate, partly because of the reflected waves from the Marina walls. The yacht was trying to make ground to windward to stay clear of the lee shore but was making little progress.

decided to escort the casualty into the marina.

However 20 minutes later it was obvious that the plan was not going to work, as the yacht's auxiliary engine and small jib were insufficient to enable her to make ground to windward.

Coverging Huytable was concerned about the

Coxswain Huxtable was concerned about the casualty's crew in the atrocious conditions at night and considered the options. To stand off and wait for the weather to improve would probably exhaust the yacht's crew, so the only workable option was to take her in tow.

The two crew were elderly and reluctant to leave

the security of the cockpit to attach a tow so it was

Shoreham Harbour

Line

To avoid transferring a crew member, with the associated dangers, the Tyne was positioned upwind and astern of the casualty and a close pass made to throw a heaving line. This was successful at the first attempt and the slow tow to windward began.

At one point the yacht was completely knocked down by a wave, but although Coxswain Huxtable had to go astern to avoid towing the yacht under the tow line held.

By 2226 lifeboat and casualty were at the entrance to the marina – where conditions could only be described as atrocious. Waves were

reflecting off both sides of the entrance forming what is known as a 'clapotic' wave train which can easily cause vessels to broach – with the almost inevitable result being a collision with the piers or grounding on the spending beach inside the entrance.

Shortening up the tow line Coxswain Huxtable managed to negotiate the hazardous entrance and enter the inner marina.

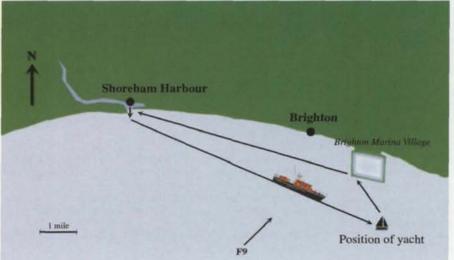
Brighton's Atlantic and another RIB owned by Station Mechanic Richard Pearce were standing by inside the marina – where conditions were still fairly bad – and because of the limited space and the windage of the larger Tyne it was decided to hand the tow over to the Atlantic so that she could berth the yacht while the Tyne headed back out to sea.

She was only able to make about 9 knots into the seas, arriving home at 2322.



The Lifeboat
Tyne 47-040
Hermione Lady Colwyn
The Crew
Thanks on Vellum
Coxswain Peter Huxtable

Thanks on Vellum
Coxswain Peter Huxtable
Vellum Service Certificates
2nd Coxswain Peter Lowe
Mechanic Mark Blatcher
Asst Mech Michael Fox
Emerg Mech Simon Tugwell
Crew Member Charles Hubbard



LIFEBOAT SERVICES

Special Vellum for Doctor's services in severe conditions

special Doctor's Thanks on Vellum has been awarded to Doctor Peter Fay of Kirkwall for his outstanding courage and determination following a service by Kirkwall's Severn class lifeboat *Margaret Foster*.

Dr Fay volunteered to go aboard the lifeboat in a Force 9 Severe Gale, even though he had never been to sea on one before.

A crew member aboard the rig support vessel Stream Truck had been taken ill with a suspected heart attack, when the vessel was some 17 miles to the north east of the lifeboat station, and Pentland MRSC had asked that the lifeboat be launched at 2100.

Coxswain Geoffrey Gardens took the Severn, Margaret Foster, to sea at 2121 with her full crew and also Dr Fay from the local medical practice, who had volunteered to go out even though he had never been on a lifeboat before.

His first trip was to prove something of a baptism of fire, as once the Severn cleared the shelter of the harbour she was soon exposed to the full force of the weather - a south easterly Severe Gale Force 9 which was producing seas some 35ft high.

As the lifeboat made her way at best speed towards the vessel the impact from one wave was so severe that the laser plotter stopped working, although it was re-started a short while afterwards.

At 2246 the lifeboat reached the casualty, but conditions here were so bad that it was impossible to transfer the Doctor.

Coxswain Gardens decided to escort Stream Truck to Deer Sound, where enough shelter was found to get the doctor aboard, accompanied by Crew member Robert Hall. The manoeuvre was carried out without too much difficulty - the lifeboat coming alongside the casualty's leeward side at about eight knots and pressing her port shoulder against the vessel with the aid of the bow thruster.

Doctor Fay had been seasick since leaving Kirkwall, and was still suffering badly, but once aboard the casualty he immediately set up his equipment and, with medical supplies from the casualty and the lifeboat and help from Crew Member Robert Hall, stabilised the patient's condition.

Shelter

Even in Deer Sound the conditions were too rough to transfer the patient, so more medical supplies were transferred aboard and the lifeboat escorted *Stream Truck* to Kirkwall, acting as her pilot through the tricky inshore waters and passing pilotage instructions by radio.

Once in the shelter of Kirkwall Bay the patient could finally be taken aboard the lifeboat and landed at the lifeboat's berth in Kirkwall, from where he was taken to hospital by ambulance.

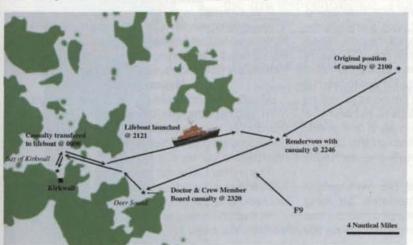
Dr Fay was awarded his special Doctors Vellum for his outstanding determination and professionalism, and Crew Member Robert Hall has also received a letter of appreciation from the RNLI's director.



Thanks on Vellum

Kirkwall

The Lifeboat
Severn 17-13
Margaret Foster
The Awards
Special Doctor's Vellum
Dr Peter Fay
Director's Letter of
Appreciation
Crew Member Robert Hall





Above Kirkwall's Severn class *Margaret Foster* pictured on trials before going to the station.

LIFEBOAT SERVICES

All-weather lifeboat coxswain swims to the aid of casualty during service by the inshore lifeboat

Swimmer saved by lifeboat Coxswain

n a remarkable service at Cromer Richard Davies, Coxswain of the station's all-weather lifeboat, has been awarded the RNLI's Thanks Inscribed on Vellum and the three man crew of the inshore D class lifeboat have received Vellum Service Certificates.

What makes the service remarkable is that Coxswain Davies was aboard neither of Cromer's lifeboats at the time.



But to begin at the beginning. It was at 2148 on Saturday 2 October that the station's Honorary Secretary, Chris Barnes, heard from Yarmouth Coastguard that two people had been seen in the water to the east of Cromer Pier. They were about 150 yards out from the beach and some 250 yards from the inshore lifeboat house. The CG asked for one of Cromer's lifeboats to be launched—with the station choosing which they thought was more suitable.

Chris Barnes spoke to Richard Davies and, although it was dark and the D class has very limited night capability, it was decided to launch her because the casualties were very close inshore.

Tidal Stream

Ten minutes later the D class was at sea, manned by Senior helmsman Adrian Woods and Crew Members Martin Steward and Adam Lincoln.

The wind was a moderate southwesterly Force 3 to 4 with a half-metre swell and good visibility but a strong 2-knot spring tidal stream was sweeping to the east.

Chris Barnes and Richard Davies made their way to the beach, where the casualties were reported to be, to help coordinate the rescue.

As they arrived they saw one man being helped by two volunteer St John's ambulance members. However to seaward they could see the second man still in the water about 150 yards away and being swept to the east by the tide.

Chris Barnes went back to his car to fetch a portable floodlight which he intended to use to indicate the casualty to the D class, but when he returned he could see the man in the water being dragged under and calling for help. By now it was clear he was in grave and imminent danger.

Without any regard for his own safety Coxswain Davies acted immediately. Stripping off some of his clothes he plunged into the sea and swam across the tidal stream towards the casualty. Initially the man was uptide of a sea defence groyne but as Coxswain Davies swam out the casualty was set down-tide and passed the seaward end of the groyne.

Altering his course to intercept the man Richard Davies was able to make contact about 20 yards downtide of the groyne, grab his clothing and start to tow him back uptide to the groyne.

Remarkable

After a remarkable swim Coxswain Davies reached the groyne and was able to use it to support both him and the casualty while waiting for the lifeboat to arrive.

Meanwhile aboard the lifeboat Adrian Woods was not aware that Coxswain Davies was in the water. He had an approximate idea of the where the casualties had been, but was finding it hard to locate them exactly because of the back scatter from the lights on Cromer Pier.

As he approached he heard a voice calling for help over the noise of the outboard engine, and homing in on the voice he was somewhat surprised to see Coxswain Davies on the groyne supporting the second

Shaping a course towards them he soon took them aboard the lifeboat and headed for the beach as quickly as possible.

The casualty was taken straight to a waiting ambulance where he was assessed by the station's Honorary Medical Adviser and then taken to hospital. He suffered a brief respiratory failure en route but fortunately responded rapidly to resuscitation.

Hypothermia

Meanwhile Coxswain Davies had begun to suffer from mild hypothermia, but after being examined by the doctor he declined treatment and was taken home to warm up. He suffered no ill-effects from his unexpected Winter swim.

The inshore lifeboat returned to her station at 2206 and was ready for service again just ten minutes later and only 28 minutes after putting to sea.

In that short time she had taken part in a service which undoubtedly saved a man's life.

The Lifeboat D class D436 Chloe

Adam Lincoln

The Awards
Thanks on Vellum
Coxswain Richard Davies
Vellum Service Certificates
Helmsman Adrian woods
Crew Members
Martin Steward



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the future of the lifeboat

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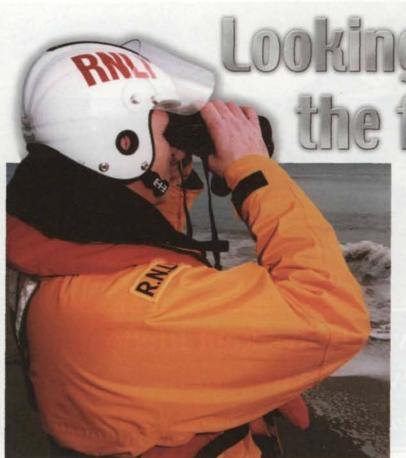
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In June the RNLI asked its supporters to help quantify its 'Vision and Values' for the future.

Here Andrew Freemantle, Director of the Institution, reports on the outcome

any thousands of people intimately involved in the work of the RNLI, including crew members, shore helpers, volunteer fundraisers, staff, Shoreline and Offshore members and Governors, contributed to the Vision and Values exercise last June.

The purpose of this article is to tell you what we did, how it was done and, crucially, what the practical outcome of this exercise is.

The exercise seemed to generate tremendous strength of feeling – both positive and negative. Some of you felt it was simply a waste of time and money, that it was the work of highly paid external consultants or that we were trying to fix something that isn't broken. On the other hand, many of you were delighted to have your opinions sought and relished the opportunity to contribute to the future direction of the RNLI.

The Vision and Values exercise was not an attempt to redefine the purpose of the RNLI – we are all unanimous in our understanding of the RNLI's purpose (to save lives at sea), where the Institution has come from and where it is now. The aim of this exercise was to stimulate comment about the RNLI's future by consulting with a wide cross section of people who have an interest in or involvement with the RNLI. The resulting Vision and Values statements will help us in planning for our future. Whilst we are all tremendously proud of the Institution's history, we should also be aware that organisations that stand still rarely flourish.

Having read the ideas and comments made in the thousands of completed questionnaires and letters we have received, there is no doubt that there are parts of this exercise that we could have done better. Despite very careful planning and consultation, hindsight seems to bring a new perspective!

We could have used more appropriate language and we could have asked you to respond in a less structured way than by using a questionnaire. Perhaps most importantly of all, we could have explained better how your feedback would be used so that you appreciated that the words you submitted for the Vision and Values statements would help guide the RNLI's strategic plan for 2000 and beyond.

WHAT DID WE DO?

Back in February 1999, an in-house team of five, led by Ian Ventham, the Head of Fundraising, and comprising staff members from the Operations, Technical and Fundraising Departments agreed a plan to elicit views on the future of the RNLI.

HOW DID WE DO IT?

We decided to use a simple questionnaire distributed to the following people, all of whom have a strong interest in the future of our organisation:

- · All crew members and shore helpers
- All Committee of Management, Executive, and Standing Committee members
- · Station and Financial Branch Officials
- All Souvenir Secretaries
- · All staff members
- A 3% representative sample of Shoreline, Offshore, and Governor members.

The questionnaire was designed 'in-house' but the non-profit making body, Electoral Reform Ballot Services, were asked to carry out the printing, mailing and receipt of replies, because they could do this more efficiently and cheaply than we could ourselves. Some 30,000 questionnaires were despatched in June.

Response

In all, 2,558 questionnaires were sent back representing a response rate of approximately 8.5%. Perhaps surprisingly, this response rate is considered by experts to be neither very high, nor very low; certainly, it is considered to be a very representative sample of your views.

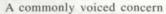
We also received many hundreds of letters in addition to the completed questionnaires.

What did you say?

Clearly, there were some strong views about the exercise and many people wrote back either directly to the RNLI or on the questionnaire to criticise it as a waste of time and money. Overall, 10% took this view. On the other hand, 90% of you responded with real enthusiasm

and offered some considered opinions and innovative ideas.

The main purpose of the questionnaire was to collate the actual words that should appear in our Vision and Values statements. As well as submitting your words, many of you also added additional comments and views. 7% of respondents offered a general statement of support for the RNLI and praise for the crews and 5% of you voiced the opinion that the purpose of the RNLI should remain unchanged. Another view frequently aired was the value of the voluntary nature of the RNLI and the importance of state-of-the-art boats and equipment for our crews.





(emanating mainly from volunteer fundraisers themselves) was the current average age of our supporters and volunteer fundraisers. Many of you felt that we should be taking active steps to recruit younger volunteers and members. Innovation was close to your hearts too; you felt that we should become more proactive in our educational role with more work in the Sea Safety arena and that we should concentrate on developing creative and diverse methods of fundraising.

We were delighted and impressed to receive over a hundred poems and limericks which clearly represented hours of creative thought. There was plenty of humour and light relief contained in them, together with some very emotional and stirring poetry. Interestingly, the poems reflected the overall view, with 90% of them positive and supportive and 10% of them negative. Space prevents us from printing them all, but we hope that you enjoy the cross section we have chosen.

WHICH WORDS DID YOU CHOOSE?

We have grouped together similar words to produce a 'top six' list of words for the Vision and another list for Values. The percentages are the proportion of all respondents who suggested each word listed:

UISION

Excellent / best / professional / first choice / efficient / effective	71%
Trustworthy / reliable / responsive / dependable / dedicated / committed	61%
Innovative / creative / progressive / modern / forward thinking / planning	52%
Recognised / respected / acknowledged	49%
Understanding / caring / meeting individuals needs	36%
International / world class / world leader / leadership	33%
UALUES	
Courageous / brave / dedicated / committed / selfless	84%
Expert / professional / quality / efficient / effective	79%
Voluntary / volunteers	62%
Reliable / trustworthy / dependable / responsible, responsive	50%
Recognised / respected / acknowledged	47%
Community / accessible to all / available	46%

A lowering sky
A heaving sea
A crippled boat waiting anxiously
A lifeboat racing to its aid
Another rescue safely made

WHAT NOW?

Using the most commonly used synonyms and following detailed discussion with senior staff of the RNLI and Trustees, the following decisions have been made:

PURPOSE

'The RNLI exists to save lives at sea'

UISION

'To be recognised universally as the most effective, innovative and dependable lifeboat service'

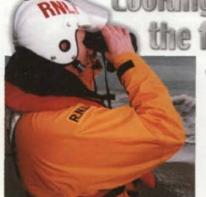
UALUES

In all we do or say we will:

- · Recognise the courage, commitment and humanity of our crews.
- · Maintain our volunteer ethos.
- Harness staff professionalism and expertise in support of our volunteers.
- · Strive for high standards.
- Preserve our independence and the trust of the public.
- · Encourage open and effective communication.

ACTIONS

- Improve lifeboat cover:
 - Reach 95% of casualties within 30 minutes of launch.
 - Reach virtually any point out to 50 miles within two hours of launch in fair weather.
 - 68 Severns and Trents on station by the year 2005.
 - All Atlantic stations to have A75s by 2005 (except where replaced by FIB1).
- · Develop new lifeboat designs:
 - Develop Fast Slipway Boat 2 (FSB2) to enter service in 2004.
 - Develop:
 - Fast Response Boat (FRB1) to enter service in 2005.
 - Fast Inshore Boat (FIB1) to enter service in 2002.
 - Inshore Boat (IB1) to enter service in 2001.
- Pursue innovative ways of extending the role of the RNLI to save more lives:
 - Trial use of light hovercraft to add to lifeboat cover in suitable locations.
 - Investigate rescue cover on inland waters.
 - Research beach safety and rescue cover.
 - Prepare plans to support civil emergencies.
- · Expand the sea safety initiative:
 - National awareness of Sea Check.
 - Children's sea safety campaign.
 - Fishermen's safety campaign.
 - Leisure sea users campaign.
- · Continue to raise enough money:
 - Sustain regional fundraising and membership.
 - Develop new markets (eg Offshore).
 - Sustain legacy messages.
 - Develop other fundraising where cost effective.
- · Significantly increase public awareness:
 - Address family audiences more effectively.
 - Improve press contacts nationally and locally.
 - Improve visitor access to stations and Headquarters.
 - Further develop RNLI website.
 - Create regional youth education programme.
 - Bring the levels of prompted awareness of the under 20s to at least 40% by 2003.
- Invest in development and training of volunteers and staff;
 - Establish an RNLI college and develop it as an acknowledged centre of excellence.
 - Obtain external accreditation for training, where appropriate.
 - Create externally validated certificates of competence.
 - Introduce competence based training throughout the RNLI.
 - Introduce progressive development training and opportunities.



continued

- Encourage innovation:
 - Design and introduce a suggestion scheme.
 - Measure the quality of services in the RNLI against those of other organisations.
 - Seek to identify potential in performance appraisal.
 - Maintain competitive staff terms and conditions.
- Improve welfare for retired volunteers, staff and their families:
 - Create RNLI Family Association.
 - Improve use of Lifeboatmens' Benevolent Fund.
 - Investigate other needs (eg sheltered housing) for retired crew.
- Improve the RNLI's service to the International Lifeboat Federation (ILF):
 - Introduce enhanced services to ILF Members on the basis of voluntary subscriptions.
 - Double the membership of the ILF.
 - Provide an efficient and cost-effective service to sell ex-RNLI lifeboats.
 - Offer training courses for overseas lifeboat services and other appropriate organisations.
 - Offer training and assistance overseas, where appropriate.

Selfless is what we are
Respect is what we need
Courageous can describe us
We are a caring breed
Teamwork is our key
A professional approach indeed

Finally, may I offer my warmest thanks to all those who a contributed to this exercise, the good sense of which I hope is much clearer now than it may have been at the outset!

Am Funni

Andrew Freemantle Director

As we said, not everyone was in favour of the Vision and Values exercise. Truthful as ever we add this poem as a tailpiece...

When I'm standing outside Tescos Collecting in the rain I like to think my efforts Are never done in vain But now I know my money Rescues no-one from the seas But goes instead to paying for Daft questionnaires like these!

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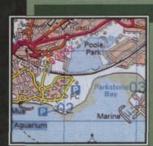
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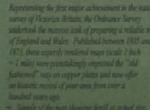
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In this issue he reaches the most westerly station in England and shapes a course back up the coast to the north...

ince dropping anchor in Fowey and rushing back for the ILF conference and the 175th celebrations in Poole so much has happened that it is difficult to believe that we are still in the same millennium let alone the same vear.

Before weighing anchor for the next leg of the trip a quick glance back is in order to check up on what we have left in our wake. Work is now well in hand at Brighton, and Whitstable's boathouse has been demolished with the new one rising from the rubble. Plans are in hand for new facilities at Mablethorpe and Southend and at Hartlepool one of a series of new pontoon berths for the Severn and Trent fleet has been completed - another is under construction at Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight.

But onward: time, tide and the new millennium are pressing and we have yet to round Lands End. Leaving Gribbin Head behind we pass Megavissey to enter Carrick Roads and the extensive deep water refuge of the Fal estuary.

In 1993/94 Falmouth saw the relocation of its lifeboat station to a site adjacent to the new Port Pendennis development. The Arun, since replaced by a Severn, was brought alongside to a new pontoon berth and a boathouse built to house the station's Atlantic 21 and provide the crews with modern facilities. The project was unusual for the RNLI in that it was carried out jointly with the Coastguard, and the new building houses both organisations in separate sections.

Heading due south briefly we pass the Helford River and approach Lizard Point. This most southerly point of mainland Britain is rich in lifeboat history with the old boathouse at Cadgwith still standing. The current slipway boathouse at The Lizard was built in the 1960s and was one of only two major new boathouses built in the middle years of this century. Its location is spectacular, inset into the rugged coastline and reached by a steep flight of steps. It is with trepidation that our thoughts turn towards the major works that will be necessary in the future to house the successor to the Tyne at this beautiful but remote location.

In 1991 a new inshore lifeboat station was opened at Marazion on St Michael's Mount when an existing building was converted to house a D class.

Nearby the Penlee lifeboat lies afloat in Newlyn harbour, not far from the slipway boathouse at Mousehole from

which the then Penlee lifeboat Solomon Browne launched on that fateful day in December 1981. A memorial garden, laid out by the council and funded by a donation from the Port Talbot branch, commemorates the tragedy at the old boathouse.

The last port of call before finally setting a course north is St Mary's on the Isles of Scilly. The islands, some 25 miles off Lands End, present a tranquil scene after the bustle of mainland Cornwall. Although, like its predecessor, the station's new Severn class lifeboat lies afloat the slipway boathouse remains operational, housing the crew facilities and the boarding boat. The stone-built boathouse was originally constructed in 1903 and was refurbished in 1994 when improved crew facilities were provided.

It is always a personal pleasure to return to Sennen Cove. On this occasion it literally marks a turning point in our journey. At last we are heading north, having rounded the furthest point on mainland England from our starting point in Berwick-upon-Tweed. The lifeboat station at Sennen Cove dominates the western end of the bay and is unique in having two slipways, one to launch the lifeboat and one to recover.

The recovery slip is shorter and tidally limited, but has its toe in the lee of a breakwater which gives the small harbour some shelter from the Atlantic swell after its thousands of miles of uninterrupted fetch.

Since 1991 the station has been the subject of a whole series of projects. These have included substantial rebuilding of the slipways, whose reinforced concrete had reached the end of its life after an admirable 70 years of service; the construction of the RNLI's first purpose built viewing gallery

within the cavernous masonry boathouse with its internal turntable; and the excavation of several thousands of tonnes of rock from the approach channel to allow the lifeboat to launch at low tide and permit a Tyne to replace the previous Mersey.

This work, carried out far from the nearest harbour of refuge, had to be land-based and involved the construction and later removal of an access roadway well out into the sea. Excavation could



St Ives - a rugged hansom building by day or by

only take place for a few hours at each low tide and had to continue through the winter nights to make use of all the available time and avoid the busy summer season.

> By the time further improve-

ments - to give the crew improved facilities and to accommodate the

next generation of fast slipway lifeboat - have been completed some £1m will have been expended to give this key station a working life well into the next century.

The smooth sands of Sennen are soon left behind and replaced by the weathered granite which makes both the coastal road and the sea journey to St Ives such a delight. From 1991 until 1994 the station's new Mersey class lifeboat, Princess Royal, was a centre of attraction, parked in the open outside the Sloop Inn next to the public slipway!

The full story of the building of the new boathouse, and of the public inquiry which preceded the final granting of the Harbour Revision Order needed for its construction, require more space than is available here. However since 1994, the final product has been there for all to see -a sensitive design to suit the prominent position with very solid construction to meet the exposed position.

Granite reclaimed from an old railway viaduct faces up a reinforced concrete plinth which is founded on bedrock well below beach level. The boathouse itself was constructed from freshly quarried local granite and is roofed in slate from nearby Delabole.

The opening of the new boathouse restored the lifeboat's direct access into the harbour which had been lost in the 1920s, and brought to an end the journey around the oftencongested seafront road from boathouse to launching slipway.

The comparison between St. Ives and our next port of call - St Agnes - can hardly be greater. Here the station's D class is housed in a boathouse tucked into the hillside, from where it launches with the aid of a tractor down a short stretch of road and a ramp on to the beach. Apart from an occasional problem with the tractor house doors the station has made little demands upon our time, and my own theory

Newquay - a vast improvement



is that this is such a delightful spot they are keeping quiet in case too many people find it.

mastional materials and

root line low enough to be

mobifusive-

Sandy beaches and surf are features of this coast and as we head NE we pass numerous spots frequented by surfers waiting patiently for that special wave before

reaching Newquay, where the lifeboat station is set in the small but busy harbour.

The recent allocation of an Atlantic 75 to replace the station's C class and operate alongside the D class meant that the existing 1960s prefabricated garage type building was completely inadequate.

The local authority saw the design of the new lifeboat house potentially setting the standard for the longer-term development of the harbour and, as with several of its

Cornish sister stations, the conception and gestation of the design was not without complications and a few tears. If a successful outcome justifies a degree of strife then the Newquay project is a superlative example - great success, much strife.

As with St Ives a traditional design of natural stone set under a slate roof has worked well, but Newquay does have a feature unique amongst the Institution's 223 stations - it incorporates a chapel.

difficult position at the

foot of high cliffs

The previous boathouse had been located alongside a 100-yearold wooden chapel and after another story too long to be told here (just wait for my memoirs!) agreement was reached to acquire the site provided that a replacement for the chapel could be provided.

The old building was past economic repair and in no condition to be moved bodily as had been mooted at one point. Timber from the old chapel was, however, used in

interior of the new building, which was completed autumn of 1994.

The coastline swings slightly more to the north as we cross Watergate Bay and pass Berryls Point and Bedruthen Steps. Then there is broad sweep of Constantine Bay with its generally peaceful beach - frequented by the ubiquitous surfers.

> Rounding the light at Trevose Head we lie to the east of the spectacular line of rock pinnacles against which the slipway of Padstow lifeboat station is outlined. Built in 1968 this station belongs to the elite family of RNLI slipway stations set in spectacularly difficult positions. While the claim by some that the building of this station rated second in Cornwall only to the

building of the Tamar Bridge may be a little exaggerated there is no denying that it was a considerable feat of engineering

The boathouse is some 70ft above an isolated beach at the foot of very high cliffs, and it was no small task to have to strip back much of the reinforced concrete encasement to the steel columns which supporting the building. The repairs were necessary because corroding steel had expanded within the concrete and split the beams and columns. After cutting out and replacing the corroded sections of steel the concrete encasement was replaced with sprayed concrete. This was a work of art which will only appreciated by a few, but which should give the station a long additional lease of life and form a foundation for future works to accommodate the next design of Fast Slipway Boat

Across the Camel estuary and some distance upstream lies the small village of Rock. Here, just east of the landing for the Padstow ferry, the RNLI permanently established a new D class station in 1995, operating from a Portakabin and a container. The initial plans for a permanent boathouse were rejected as the traditional pitched slate roof would have produced a building which was considered too high. The final design with its low profile airfoil shaped roof retained the use of local stone and has proved very popular

Arrival in Port Isaac is dramatic whether by land or sea. Sheer cliffs line both sides of the entrance into the small tidal harbour and it is no surprise that the village has a long lifeboat tradition, which has become built into the fabric of the village in the form of several old boathouses and other more unusual signs. At first sight it seems incongruous that





North again...

the Post Office, perched high above the harbour on the steep hill leading down into the narrow winding main street, should have been a lifeboat house despite it characteristic architecture.

Historic photographs in the windows confirm the fact, and there are grooves in the wall worn by the ropes used to haul the old pulling and sailing lifeboat up and down the hill in the 1800s. A new boathouse was subsequently built at

Port Isaac, the ground floor of the Slipway Hotel is returned to its earlier use

the bottom of the hill and housed the station's lifeboat until 1933, when the station was closed. The boathouse subsequently became a garage and flat attached to the Slipway Hotel.

When the inshore lifeboat revolution hit Port Isaac in 1967 the station was reopened and the lifeboat kept in a fish cellar opposite the hotel. After several years of searching for more adequate accommodation the ground floor of the Slipway Hotel garage became available, and in 1994, after major renovation, the building was returned to its original use to the advantage of lifeboat operation and crew comfort.

Sailing north the coast is rugged, and although popular with holidaymakers there are few

places that combine suitable conditions and communities

large enough to support a lifeboat. It is thus with some relief that we successfully drop anchor in the shelter of the massive breakwater which joins Chapel Rock to the shore and provides shelter to **Bude's** small tidal anchorage and the entrance to the town's unique sea lock. Regrettably at the time of our arrival the lock was not operational due to damage to the gates, thus denying access to the canal and the small locked basin.

The canal was constructed in the 1800s to transport sand from the beaches for agricultural use inland but its commercial life was short lived before the railway took over the trade. In common with Port Isaac Bude's long lifeboat history was interrupted by a period without a boat but was rejuvenated with the arrival of a D class in 1968.

The town's old boathouse – now a house – stands on the south side of the canal just landward of the road bridge which replaced the old swing bridge and denies navigation to all but the smallest of craft.

In past times the lifeboat used to be launched with the aid of a team of horses which towed the boat through the streets – today the fast response ILB launches in minutes from the slipway adjacent to the sea-lock. There is a pressing need to provide improved facilities for the crew and lifeboat but despite the expenditure of much time and effort since the mid-1980s a solution has so far eluded us - hopefully the situation will be resolved in the not too distant future.

Our late August visit coincided with the preparations for the town's lifeboat days and flags were flying and displays were being erected for what has become one of the most successful events of its kind in the country.

As we reluctantly departed by road back to Poole all was set for a holiday weekend of fun, sun and music with the weather set fair and participants in the coincident Bude Jazz Festival taking over the hotels.



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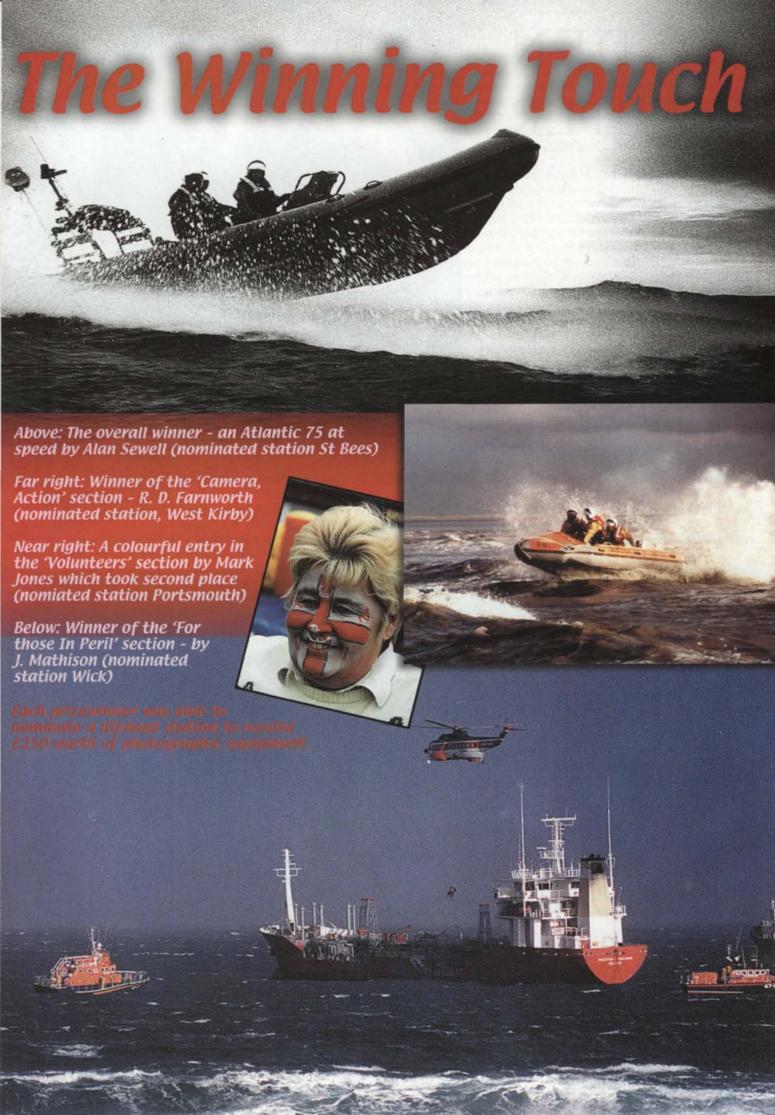
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The Winning Touch

Following the success of the RNLI's 175th anniversary photo competition in 1998 another was opened in 1999 to happy snapping lifeboat crew members, station officials, branch members and supporters in the quest to find stunning display shots for the RNLI's stand at the Earls Court Boat show in 2000

As with the 1998 competition there was a sackload of wonderful entries and as ever choosing the winners was a difficult task for the judges. Unfortunately we don't have room to print all the winning images from all categories but printed left is the overall winning picture and selection of the 'best of the rest'...

STORIN FORGE

Stormy Stan, lifeboatman extraordinary, and his pal Eric the seaguil are always to be seen in the Storm Force News, the magazine exclusive to Storm Force members, the RNLI's club for under 16s.

As well as bringing exciting competitions, puzzles, salty sea tales, jokes and cartoons, the magazine lends advice to young people and runs a number of interesting and informative articles. Eric and Stan thought they would let *The Lifeboat* reproduce another recent article from Storm Force News - just to let the adults see what they are missing!

Turn the page and find out all about training for disaster...

For further information on how to join Storm Force contact: Storm Force HQ, RNLI, West Quay Road, Poole, Porset. BH15 1HZ





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LINER EXPLODES IN WORKINGTON HARBOU

- MANY FEARED DEAD, 100 INJURED

'Sirens blasted across Workington as black clouds of smoke rose above the town. Roads were blocked as ambulances and fire engines hurtled towards the docks, blue lights flashing. A liner had exploded, injuring many people. The blaze was under control and rescue services, including the lifeboat, were already helping shocked and injured passengers from the burning ship...' (West Cumbrian Evening News and Star, May 1996)

PASSENGERS RESCUED FROM BLAZING 'Lifeboat crews raced to the scene of an exploded boat on Saturday. Casualties suffering from burns, cuts and bruises Were Washed ashore...

Last year over 700 lifeboat launches were to inciden casualties who needed medical treatment. The type medical incidents lifeboats are called out to are many an varied and include heart attacks, hypothermia, seasickness, appendicitis, poisoning (stings), spinal injuries, burns and cuts.

react in a disaster situation.

ortunately none of these casualties needed hospital

treatment as these were medical exercises, acted or test how lifeboat crews and other emergency services

First aid is all part of the training that lifeboat crews receive and, in each lifeboa division, this includes a mini medex (medical training exercise) which is carried out one year. Often these exercises are so realistic that passers-by think they are a real emergency!



'Casualties' are made up to show nasty injuries.



The lifeboat lau to the scene of incident.







Chris Davey SHPO

and clamber over rocks to reach the casualties.



Chris Davey SHPO



They provide any treatment they are



© Chris Davey SHPO Whitstable lifeboat station

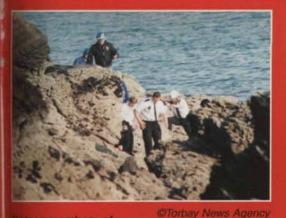


are brought ashore and take to hospital if necessary.

The casualties

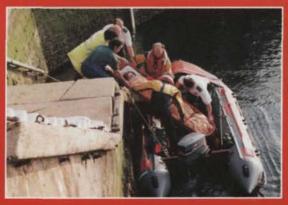
he importance of these training exercises is often shown in real emergencies and one such example showed how closely the emergency services work together. In this particular rescue a lifeboat, Coastguard cliff rescue teams, police and ambulance were all involved. A 15-year old girl plunged 15 metres from a Torquay cliff top when she lost her footing and fell from the pathway onto the rocks below. Despite slipping the whole height of the cliff, the girl escaped with minor injuries and was discharged from hospital after treatment. Police, ambulance and Coastguard units mounted a full-scale emergency rescue, but the only way to get to her was by climbing over the headland from Meadfoot beach.

From the rocks . . .



Phileen members of Coastguard cliff rescue sams from Torbay and larry Head were wolved in the rescue.

... to a lifeboat



Torbay's inshore lifeboat was called out to pluck the girl from the rocks and take her across the bay to Haldon Pier.

She was landed there and taken to hospital by ambulance.

... and then to hospital



CHerald Express (Torqua

WHY IT MATTERS

Two weeks ago, a Fraserburgh boy of 13 was swept off a breakwater by a huge wave. The rough sea was tattering him against the wall and it took every ounce of the lifeboat crew's seamanship to pluck him from the water

He was injured and unconscious, but the lifeboat crew

managed to keep him alive until the imbulance arrived. But things were far from well. In hospital, the botors were deeply concerned. The boy had been put on a life support machine. He stayed there, fighting for his life, his parents at his bedside.

the faces of the Fraserburgh interest crew were glum when they heard the news. Had their efforts the in vain? Then word came that the youngster was improving. The

faces at the lifeboat station brightened. The usual ban resumed. On the following Saturday the boy was we enough to go along to the station with his grate parents to say thank you to the crew who saved his li

There was heartfelt emotion in the handshakes that we exchanged. The boy's parents handed over a generous

donation to the RNLI. But how of you adequately say thanks is saving the life of your child?

It was the look on the faces of to crew that said it all. Their great reward was to see the young it well on his way to recovery."

(The Sunday Post, October 1993) ©D.C. Thomson & Co. Ltd.



Fraserburgh lifeboat crew

Without the training it could have all been so different . . .



Lifeboat station histories

The History of the North Deal Walmer and Kingsdowne Lifeboats

by Jeff Morris

published by the author at £2.50 (including post and packing)

A new book by this prolific chronicler of lifeboats station histories – this time covering three stations which have dealt with casualties near the notorious Goodwin Sands of the southern coast of Kent.

Only the first to be established, Walmer, is still an operational RNLI life-boat station and this book covers its activities from its inception in 1856 right through to the present day.

Walmer may be the sole survivor, but it too has seen considerable changes during its lifetime. It was closed from 1912 to 1927 and then became an inshore lifeboat station in 1990, with the withdrawal of the offshore lifeboat. At this time an Atlantic 21 joined the D class, which had been there since the earliest days of inshore lifeboats in 1964.

Happily the classic boathouse survives on the beach - sympathetically extended at the seaward end to accommodate the two inshore lifeboats.

The two now-defunct stations joined

the fray a little later after it had been found that the Walmer boat could have difficulty in reaching some casualties on the sands - the North Deal boat a little to the north in 1865 and Kingsdowne to the south just a year later in 1866.

The decision to put a motor lifeboat at Walmer, the most suitable situation to launch the new boat, sounded the death knell for the two nearby stations, Kingsdowne succumbing in 1927 and North Deal following in 1933.

All of the events are covered in detail in Jeff Morris's book, along with some of the more notable services carried out by the three stations and all illustrated with contemporary photographs.

The History of the North Deal, Walmer and Kingsdowne Lifeboats can be obtained from Jeff Morris at 14 Medina Road, Coventry CV6 5JB for £2.50 including post and packing.

The History of the Stromness Lifeboats

by Jeff Morris

published by the author at £2.50 (including post and packing)

This second edition of Jeff Morris's detailed history of the various Stromness lifeboats and lifeboat houses builds on his original work to bring the story right up to date. The new edition now covers the arrival of the new Severn class in late 1998 and her naming in mid-1999.

Stromness forms part of the lifeboat cover for the wild and often treacherous waters around the Orkneys, and the ac-

> counts of services carried out by lifeboats stationed there should leave no one in any doubt of the kind of conditions which can be encountered there. Just a little to the south on a smaller

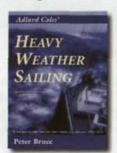
island lies Longhope, etched into the public memory by the lifeboat disaster there in 1969 when all eight crew members lost their lives when the lifeboat capsized.

For the yachtsman

Heavy Weather Sailing

by Peter Bruce published by Adlard Coles Nautical at £30 ISBN 0-7136-4425-7

This fifth edition of Adlard Coles' classic book, heavily revised by Peter Bruce



with the cooperation of many who knew the original author, should be compulsory reading for any passagemaking yachtsman.

Most of us fervently cope that we will never experience conditions like those depicted (and reading about them will no doubt make us even more careful to avoid them) yet a knowledge of theory and practice may still come in handy one day.

Thoroughly up to date and packed with useful information and anecdotes.

Go on... frighten yourself!

The Happisburgh Lifeboats

by Nicholas Leach

published by the Norfolk and Suffolk Research Group at £2.50 ISBN 0 9522799 3 2

Nicholas Leach's small volume on the lifeboats of Happisburgh takes in not only the RNLI station at Happisburgh itself but also an earlier RNLI station at Mundesley a little to the north (closed in 1895 and reopened in 1972 by an independent rescue service) and Bacton which was also closed - this time as long ago as 1882.

The books reviewed here are

NOT available from the RNLI.

Please see either the address

given in the text or contact a

good bookseller quoting the

author, full title and ISBN

Happisburgh (pronounced Hazeborough, more in keeping with the Haisbro Sands nearby) was also closed for a considerable time. As motor lifeboats became more common they could cover extended areas and made small stations like Happisburgh redundant. Hence from 1926 until 1965 casualties off Happisburgh were handled from Cromer.

It was the leisure revolution of the late '50s and early '60s which led to a new need for a lifeboat in the area and as a result one of the new D class inflatable lifeboats came to the area in 1965.

Housed first in a temporary building on the site of one of the earliest boathouses and, since 1988, in a more substantial structure, Happisburgh's new generation of lifeboats have been busy ever since.

Copies of The Happisburgh Lifeboats can be obtained from the Norfolk and Suffolk Research Group at 4 Paines Orchard, Cheddington, Bedfordshire LU7 OSN

Lifeboat Celebrations

by Nicholas Leach

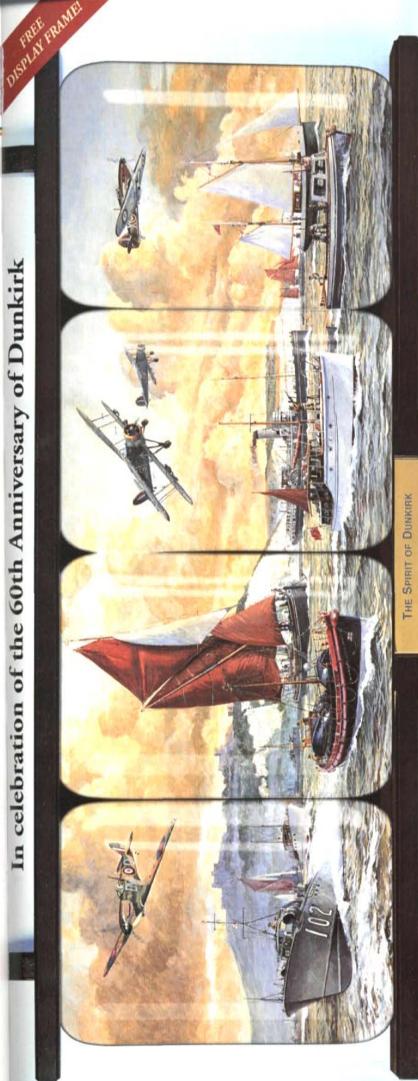
One of the highlights of the 175th Anniversary Celebrations of the RNLI this past year was undoubtedly the lifeboat flotilla held at Poole on 19 June - during the 1999 International Lifeboat Conference.

Lifeboats from many European countries - current and historic - took part and Nicholas Leach has produced a souvenir booklet in almost record time.

Here are details and photographs of all of the lifeboats taking part - together with a few which were not part of the flotilla itself but played a part in the proceedings.

Copies can be obtained from Nicholas Leach at 7 High Trees, Birmingham B20 1HS at £3.50 plus 50p postage and packing.

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Dunkirk



Lifeboats

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High Seas

More views of RNLI lifeboat stations from the air...



St Helier - South Division



Porthdinllaen - West Division

Porthdinllaen (non Welsh speakers can try 'Porth-incline' as a rough approximation) is home to a slipway-launched Tyne. The station's remote location, in a small cove on the north-west coast of the Lleyn Peninsula, is obvious from this photograph - a far cry from the more populous area of St Helier above..

Although only seven miles or so by road from Pwllheli it is more like 40 by sea through the notorious Bardsey Sound at the end of the Peninsula and the next all-weather lifeboat to the north is nearly 40 miles away across Caernarfon bay at Holyhead.

St Helier, on the Channel Island of Jersey, is the RNLI's most southerly lifeboat station. A Tyne lies afloat alongside a pontoon just outside the 'cill', which keeps enough water in the marina basin for local and visiting yachts to stay afloat.

Jersey's tidal range is one of the largest in the world with a rise and fall of up to 35ft, creating very strong steams and rough water around the rocky islands. The rocks exposed at low water can be seen in the background of the main photo.

Main photo (left) Ref 665478 Detailed photo (below) Ref 665482



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Main photo (far left) Ref 645245 Detailed photo (near left) Ref 645240

Please note new prices

People and Places

lan picks the winners



lan Ventham, RNLI Head of Fundraising and Marketing, (pictured with Judith Saint, Finance and Systems Manager) drew the winners of the Lifeboat Lottery on 29 October. The 87th draw, which took place at lifeboat headquarters in Poole, raised over £298,400 for Institution funds.

First prize, a week for two in a luxury Warner Historic Hotel, went to Mrs E Shepherd of Staple Hill in Bristol. Second and third prizes, both weekend breaks for two

also in a luxury Warner hotel, went to Mr A Brimson of Bletchley, Milton Keynes and Mrs C Kelly of Oakley in Bedfordshire.

The cash prize winners were:

- £200 Mrs O E Pike, Bexhill on Sea.
- £100 Mr and Mrs B Wheeler, Barnet, Herts; Mr A Beech, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire; Mr and Mrs J Allan, Anstruther, Fife; Mr R Ward, Ipswich and Ms M Lawrence, Worthing, Sussex.

On Station

The following lifeboats have taken up duty:

All-weather

Weymouth – Arun 52-18 (ON1073) Robert Edgar on 4 September 1999

Tynemouth – Severn 17-20 (ON1242) Spirit of Northumberland on 21 October 1999
Newhaven – Severn 17-21 (ON1243) David and Elizabeth Acland on 8 November Inshore

Port Talbot – D550 no name on 26 August 1999

Alderney - D551 no name on 26 August 1999

Aberdovey – B758 Sandwell Lifeline on 12 September 1999

Clovelly - B759 Spirit of Clovelly on 5 October 1999

Slipway launch in lights...









Every year hundreds of people flock to see the laser and light shows during the Walsall Illuminations. In the 1999 event, one of the many features was the above display depicting a 'splashy' slipway lifeboat launch from a boathouse into a lake!

Little lifeboat darlings



Pictured is Peel's Lifeboat Princess for 1999, Zara Sweeney, and her attendants (left to right) Toni Biggane, Rachel Warburton and Natasha Le Moignan. The girls recieved second prize at the Peel carnival in August when their float was entered in the princess floats section.

Lifeboats live on in Oz

Ex-Arun lifeboat, Spirit of Tayside, was sold to the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol and placed on station at Port Stephens, New South Wales in September. This picture was taken as the boat was being lifted out of the water at Tilbury docks, just prior to shipping.

Six Waveneys have also been

sold to the RVCP and will be stationed at Botany Bay, Narooma, Ulladulla, Sidney, Broken Bay and Batemans Bay. Three of these vessels have already arrived in Australia, two more are due to arrive in Sidney as we go to press, and the final one will be saying g'day sometime in the new year.

WANTED



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(or write for further details)

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To: Lifeboats MasterCard, Help Desk, RNLI, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ.

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What and Where

The lifeboat fleet of the RNL!

It's back again by popular demand! The following is a print-out from LINCS, the RNLI's Lifeboat INtegrated Computer System, and is correct as of October 1999. Lifeboats are sometimes moved between stations and are frequently replaced temporarily by relief boats. The information provided in the 'On Station' section of 'People and Places' in *The Lifeboat* will help to keep this list up to date.

Aberdeen	Inflatable	D-536	Margaret II	
Aberdeen	Arun	52-30	Mickie Salvesen	ON1135
Aberdovey	Atlantic	B-758	Sandwell Lifeline	
Abersoch	Atlantic	B-582	Borrough Of Solihull	
Aberystwyth	Atlantic	B-704	Emil Mary	
Achill Island	Trent	14-28	Sam And Ada Moody	ONIZE
Aith	Severn	17-14	Charles Lulbury	ON1232
Aldeburgh	Inflatable	D-520	Bub Saraige	
Aldeburgh	Mersey	12.34	Freddie Conper	ON1193
Аздетеу	Inflatable	D-551.	No Name	
Alderney	Trent	14.04	Roy Barker I	SOUT SO
Amble	Inflatable	D-417	Thomas Campbell	
Amble	Mersey	12-19	The Four Boxs	0N1176
Angle	Inflatable	D-493	Isabella Marr	
Angle	Ivne	47-011	The Lady Kank	DNIII
Anstruther	Mersey	12-17	Kingdom Of Fife	DNII /4
Appledore	Atlantic	B-742	Douglas Pales	
Appledore	INDC	47-027.	George Gibson	OFLINO
Aran Islands	Severn	17-06	David Kirkalidy	ONITI
Arbroath	Inflatable	D-4/1	Couchmakers Of London	
Arbroath	Mersey	677	Incheape	161100
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Atlantic College	Arlantic	R.554	American Ambascodor	
Rafficotton	Trent	14.75	Austin Lidbury	CINO
Ballyglass	Severa	17-15	Bryan And Gordon	ONIZ
Baltimore	Ivne	47-024	Hilda Jarrett	ONHE
Bangor (Co.Down)	Atlantic	B-584	Youth Of Ulster	
Barmouth	Inflatable	D-524	Pilgrim	
Barmouth	Mersey	12-26.	Morra Barrie	ONTI 85
Barra Island	Sevem	17-12	Edna Windsor	ON 1330
Barrow	Inflatable	5113	Modeller II	
Barrow	N. C.	4/-014	James Bibby	Control
Baniman	Arlanda	H 56.1	Blue Pater II	DIAM'S
Bembridge	Inflatable	D-503	Cradis And Tom	
Bembridge	Type	47-018.	Max Airken III	ON1126
Berwick-Upon-Tweed	Inflatable	7570	Sunrise	
Berwick-Upon-Tweed	Mersey	12-32	Joy And Charles Beeby	1611NO
Blackpool	Inflatable	D-442	Edgur Law	
Blackpool	Atlantic	B-748	Bickerstaffe	
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Relief Fleet	B-561.	Marjory Turner			Atlantic	B-586.	Clothworker
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52-10.			ON1057		Atlantic 75	75	
52-11.	Ann		ON1058		Atlantic	B-700.	Susan Peacock
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47-002.	Joan Woods		ON1075		Atlantic	B-705.	Vera Skillon
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52-22	Bonella Farrant		ON1081		Atlantic	B-718.	Rotaract I
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47-004.	(Civil Service No.40)		ON1095		Affantic	B-723.	Walters Lifeboal
52-31.	7		ONH03		Atlantic	B-732.	Elizabeth Ann
52-34.	Margaret Russell Fraser		ONITOS		Atlantic	B-734.	Amy Constance
47-017.	d Anne Aisher		ON1122		Atlantic	B-736.	Toshiba Wave Warrior
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14-15.	Henry Heys Duckworth						
14-22	Edward Dake Of Windsor		ON1226				
	Dora Foster Medougall		ON1228				

Sharpe's Classic All Seasons Axa Life Inshorer Sea Ranger

Inflatable Inflatable Inflatable

Inflatable

Marjorie Table 32 Jill Gatti Phyllis Mary

Anthony Jeanne Frances Elsie Frances I Maureen Samuels

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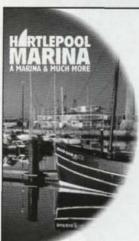
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BLOOMING MARYELLOUS! &



During the RNLI's anniversary year, branches, guilds and supporters from all over the UK and Republic of Ireland celebrated in a number of novel and interesting ways – with many of the green fingered amongst them saying it with flowers...



Well dressing – a
Derbyshire tradition dating
back to 1350 – is a
thanksgiving for the purity
for the water in the village
wells. The Sir William
Hillary display, left, was
designed by Ruth
Markwell for the West
Hallam branch and the
lifeboat design, right, was
created by locals for the
Ashford in the Water Well
Dressings.

The displays are created entirely of natural materials, such as fresh small flower heads, petals and leaves, which are laid on moist clay.





Left – this flower bed, in the shape of an Atlantic lifeboat, was created on a roundabout in Sheerness. The three dimensional display was painstakingly created by inmates of Standford Hill and Elmey prisons for the local ladies guild. Picture by courtesy of Sheppey Gazette and Times.

Below left – Minehead guild commissioned this display in conjunction with Minehead town council parks who arranged the plot on one of the main approaches into the town. The display also featured in the Britain in Bloom competition in which Minehead came second in the regional judging. Photo: Steve Guscott.





The above photograph was sent in by a RNLI member who spotted this colourful 175 flag design bedding at Southsea in Hampshire. The display was the result of much hard work on behalf of the Portsmouth and Southsea guild. Photo: W J Beer.

175 years of filling the coffers...



Watch out, Stan's about!

Storm Force mascot, Stormy Stan just loves to get in on the action. The larger-than-life hero opened proceedings at Staithes Harbour fete in September and tried his hand at weightlifting with his new friends from

Robbo's Gym. The day proved to be a great success with crowds flocking to the stalls, watching lifeboat and helicopter displays and listening to the Dormanstown Juvenile Jazz band. An evening barbecue and fireworks display followed with the event's final amount raised topping £6,500.

Stan also turned up to anniversary celebrations the same month in Gloucestershire

when the county's 11 fundraising branches came together to coordinate a special fete, picnic and proms - raising over £5,000. Lord Neidpath kindly allowed the branches to use the grounds of his beautiful historic house,



Far left - Stan shows off his muscles at Staithes Harbour fete. Left - Geoff Dalton of Cotswold Falconry Centre, shows Stan and a Storm Force member one of the wonderful birds of prev which were on display.

which is set in the Cotswolds. Attractions on the day included falconry, archery, morris dancers, craft fayre and stalls with Radio Gloucester broadcasting live from the event. The Gloucestershire Constabulary Band and the

Cotswold Male Voice Choir gave a superb performance which was followed by a firework finale.

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The Fundamental Winning fundraising friends

Some more examples of how branches and guilds are encouraging individuals and groups to get involved with fundraising activities and events...

Accidental help

When 11 year old Lauren McBoyle of Colsterworth fell of her bike breaking both her wrists, she was understandably upset. However when people asked to sign her plasters she decided to charge them for the privilege.

Lauren had been present at her local Brownie Pack when Grantham Branch gave a talk on the RNLI and ways to raise funds. Lauren

Lifeboats

has already raised £50 for the branch, but hopefully her next fundraising scheme will prove less painful!

Cadet rescue

For the past 10 years Honley and Brockholes branch have arranged an annual lifeboat pull to boost RNLI coffers.

Unfortunately the branch ran into some difficulty finding volunteers to help with the September event and, at one point, feared they



would have to cancel altogether. Luckily the local newspaper, the Huddersfield Examiner, ran a number of articles appealing for willing groups and in response to the appeal, the Huddersfield Sea Cadet Corp at TS Highburton offered its services. The enthusiastic cadets pulled the inshore lifeboat for 15.5 miles in 7 hours – collecting the grand sum of £1,540 along the way.

Festival friends

The liaison between Peterborough branch and the organisers of the Peterborough Beer Festival started by chance in the 1980s when the lifeboat flag day coincided with the festival. Robert Amor, son the then branch chairman, Charles, asked if he could collect at the event.

Sadly, Robert passed away in 1989 but his good work continued. By 1991 the collection had grown to £1,200 and, as more and more people attended the festival each year, the money increased and the organisers, Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), thought it would be nice to purchase a lifeboat bearing the name *Peterborough Beer Festival* with the cash raised.

The first D class lifeboat bearing this name went on station at Redcar in 1997 – a second has been purchased but does not go into service until 2002. It is hoped that *Peterborough Beer Festival 3* will be an Atlantic 75, since the money raised at the 1999 festival was over £11,000.



As a tribute to Robert who first cemented the bond between CAMRA and the Peterborough branch, a framed picture of him was recently presented by his parents to the Redcar lifeboat crew (shown above). The photograph, along with its dedication, will hang in the Redcar boathouse.



Having a ball

The Royal Solent Yacht club held its annual charity auction and regatta on 29 and 30 May - raising a whopping £15,480 for RNLI funds.

The weekend event which also included a ball, a barbecue lunch following the yacht racing, and a prizegiving tea was a runaway success – even though Yarmouth crew members who were attending literally had to run away to a shout during the barbecue, leaving the wives with the cooking!

VIPs and guests danced to the sounds of popular local band 'The Accelerators' until the early hours with the support of the Wight Diamond Roadshow.

Just the auction itself brought in £9,000 with the draw and tombola together netting almost another £2,000 for the coffers.

The Fundraising update



Duckhams buy a new Atlantic 75

Duckhams recently announced that they would fund a new Atlantic 75 to replace *The Alexander Duckham*, which went recently retired after several years of active service.

In September, to thank previous crews of the old boat, Duckhams hosted a celebration at the two stations where the Atlantic 21 was based for most of its life – Falmouth and West Mersea. At each event, the Duckhams Brand Manager – Vikki Adamson, spoke of the bravery of the crew and

handed over a special certificate and a copy of Duckhams Centenary Book. The new boat is planned for construction in 2002 and is likely to be named the Alexander Duckham II – we will keep you informed of progress

Fred Olsen fund another

Fred Olsen, who have been fantastic supporters of the RNLI for several years, are also very close to completing the funding of another Atlantic 75. In fact, Its probably more accurate to say that the passengers and crew of it's cruise liners are close to the

fundraising target. On-board raffles, donations, and other events have raised over £65,000 over the past two years which is a fantastic effort by all concerned.

The cruise line also regularly donates a special cruise to a lucky competition winner from the Watermark catalogue, a prize that has proven itself to be highly successful in recent years.

Turn odd shares into a donation

Do you have a few odd shares floating around which would possibly not be worth the commission when sold? If so, the RNLI would like to hear from you. Our broker Charles Stanley Ltd specialises in selling small volumes of shares from UK registered companies. They collect together small share units until they have enough to sell cost effectively on our behalf. Last year alone, this scheme raised £8,000. If you can help, please contact Tizzy Perkins today on (01202) 663212.







Lewis drops in

Actor Kevin Whately, known to many as Inspector Lewis of television's Inspector Morse, took time out of his busy schedule to open the Seahouses lifeboat fete on August 30.

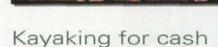
Kevin, together with his actress wife Madeline, brought the sunshine with him which helped to attract huge crowds and make the day a roaring success. The ladies of Seahouses guild, who organised the event, were delighted with the outcome – a boost of nearly £12,000 to lifeboat coffers.



Caribbean queens

St Agnes ladies guild won top prizes with their Cornish Caribbean display in the local village carnival recently – receiving cups for the best charity group float and the best music and dance.

The carnival is followed each year by lifeboat day, in which the village branch has raised £20,000 in the last 10 years in addition to its usual fundraising.



A group of kayaking instructors arrived at Poole in September to present the local lifeboat crew with money raised during a tough three-day expedition promoting safe sea kayaking.

The presention was an novel one – instead of the usual cheque, the team handed over a kayak made out for £1,300.



Over the top

Daredevil gran, Barbara Page, threw caution to the wind in August by abseiling 325ft down Blackpool's fastest rollercoaster and raising over £1,000 for the lifeboats in the process.

Barbara, a member of Blackpool ladies lifeboat guild, is chairman of the Fylde and District Federation of Townswomens Guilds and hopes her stunt will also help convince people that the organisation is about more than knitting and jam making – she's certainly convinced us!



The Fundamens 175 years of filling the coffers...





Photo: Courtesy of Newsquest Oxfordshire Ltd.

Football clubs by foot

John Pope, committee member of the Rushden branch, completed a sponsored walk in August, raising £411 for lifeboat coffers.

He walked 26 miles from Peterborough United football club to Rushden and Diamonds football club in seven and a quarter hours. John encountered some bad weather on the way and got a soaking but finished in good shape with only a couple of blisters.



A class of its own

John Long recently retired as second coxswain of the Barrow lifeboat. In order to relieve his withdrawal symptoms, the crew built him his own 'lifeboat' as a retirement present.

John discovered that his one-man 'solong class' lifeboat is a great fundraiser – at the recent station gala a large sum of money was raised from taking pictures of children sitting in the boat and the branch now intend taking it to presentations at local schools.



Photo: Emyr Williams

Inland lifeboat

Shoppers in Didcot town centre got a surprise in June when they were greeted with a D class inflatable lifeboat.

Didcot branch decided to put on the display to help raise awareness and mark the RNLI's anniversary but they also ended up collecting some £140 in donations. Landlubbers and children were able to don lifejackets and wet weather gear to give them a taste of being a lifeboatman – without getting wet!



SCI funds an Atlantic

Peter Hindley, Chief Executive Officer of Service Corporation International (SCI) recently drew the winning ticket in the company's national raffle in aid of the RNLI.

The raffle along with many other fundraising activities was topped off with a generous donation by SCI Corporate funds bringing the grand total to £61,500 – enough to fund an Atlantic 75 for West Mersea lifeboat station.



Committee cheque

In September members of the Pembrokeshire 175 Anniversary committee visited Cardigan lifeboat station to admire the new Atlantic 75 lifeboat *Tanni Grey* and to present a cheque for £7,000, part of the final balance of the Welsh fundraising appeal to purchase the boat.

The cash had been raised from a very successful garden party in Pembroke Castle, which raised £4,000, together with generous donations from local firms and individuals.

...In Brief ...

Sanderstead and Selson branch joined forces with Coulson, Kenley and Purley branches in July to hold a fundraising event in the Whitgift centre, Croydon. The event raised a total of £4,260 – £1,400 of which was from souvenir sales.

In July Ulverston branch, in Cumbria, held a party at the home of its vice-chairman to celebrate the RNLI's 175th anniversary. Ulverston is a small branch but raised some £4,700 in 1998 and over £1,500 in 1999. The branch have given support to the Barrow lifeboat station over the last two years, donating over £1,000.

Beckenham branch held a coffee morning on 7 September in the grounds of St Pauls church, Kent-raising £1,655 in 1½ hours!

A team of students from Queen's College Taunton, visited RNLI HQ on 17 September to present a cheque for £700 which was raised during an expedition to the Arctic Circle. The team was the youngest ever from a British school to complete such a tough challenge, with their ages ranging from 15 to 18. The expedition took the canoeists along the Muonio/Torino river though Norway via the Fjords into Finland — completing a gruelling 40km every day.

The ladies of Carmarthen and River Towy guild recently held another successful annual luncheon at their local boat club, collecting over £1,000 for lifeboat coffers.

Whickham branch were once again at the Gateshead flower show on 31 July and 1 August—collecting over£740 for RNLI funds.

Graham and Steven Davey from Hitchin completed the Three Peaks challenge in July, raising £210 for the Institution. The challenge took them 23 hours from the ascent of Ben Nevis up to the descent of Mount Snowdon, taking in Scafell Pike on the way.

Hull ladies lifeboat guild recently organised a fashion show, at a local hotel, raising £500 for the lifeboats. Guests enjoyed a very professional show given by 'County Classics' and 'Trio'.

Notice to contributors:

We are always pleased to receive any material intended for publication. However, due to space restrictions and the huge quantity of submissions received, it is impossible to publish every article received.

In order to keep administration costs down, contributions will not usually be acknowledged. Every contribution is considered and we do try to be as fair as possible. So keep those articles coming in – yours could be featured next time.

SHOWCASE FROM THE RNLI

The wonderful music of the Royal Marines' Bands has always shown their mastery of the art of military music; however, their extraordinary talents extend so much further into the music world providing, today, a wide variety of combinations ranging from full symphony orchestras and concert bands to chamber orchestras and dance bands etc. These all complement the ceremonial and military music acclaimed for many years all over the globe.

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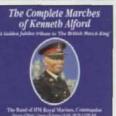
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Lifeboats

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Royal Marines is enhanced by the guest appearances of Emer McParland and Don Lusber.

Major John Perkins has had a very distinguished career as a Director of Music in the Royal Marines and, in addition to his talents as a composer and arranger, he is a fine violinist. His virtuoso solo in the recording "The Ashokan Farewell" (soon to be released as a CD single) has become one of the most requested pieces played on Classic FM over the past three years and was received with great enthusiasm in three solo performances in the Royal Albert Hall earlier this year. He has completed a number of recordings, some specifically for the RNLI of which he has always been a passionate supporter. Each CD sold realises a profit for the RNLI of approximately £5 per recording

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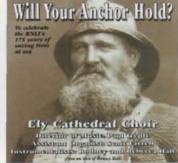


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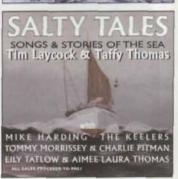
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Arun: Jul 2 and Jul 4 D Class: Jul 2 and Jul 12 Aberdovey Atlantic 21: Jun 7, Jun 24, Jun 26 (twice) and Jul 27

Abersoch Atlantic 21: Jun 4 (twice), Jun 6, Jun 18 and Jun 20 Achill Island

Trent: Jul 18 Aldeburgh Mersey: Jul 13, Jul 25 and Jul

D Class: Jul 4, Jul 5, Jul 13, Jul 25 and Jul 27 Alderney

Trent: Jun 19, Jun 22, Jun 25, Jun 29, Jul 5, Jul 6, Jul 25 and Jul 31

D Class: Jun 12 and Jun 17 Angle

Tyne: Jun 2, Jul 2, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 24 and Jul 25 D Class: Jul 5 and Jul 11

(twice) Anstruther Mersey: Jun 19, Jun 26 and Jul 25

Appledore Atlantic 75: Jun 27, Jul 27 and Jul 29

Tyne: Jun 13 Aran Islands Arun: Jun 5, Jun 10, Jun 12, Jun 21, Jul 7, Jul 8, Jul 9

(twice), Jul 17 and Jul 21 Arbroath Mersey: Jun 19 (twice), Jul 4,

Jul 8 and Jul 11 D Class: Jun 19 and Jul 4 Arklow

Trent: Jun 8, Jun 12, Jun 13, Jun 25, Jul 6, Jul 16, Jul 26

and Jul 30 Arran (Lamlash) Atlantic 21: Jul 22

Arranmore Tyne: Jul 20 and Jul 29 Ballycotton

Trent: Jun 1, Jun 19, Jun 30, Jul 1 (twice), Jul 7, Jul 19 (twice), Jul 27 and Jul 28

(twice) Ballyglass Severn: Jun 11, Jun 12, Jun

13, Jun 17, Jun 18 and Jun 20 Baltimore Tyne: Jul 9

Bangor (Co.Down) Atlantic 21: Jun 4, Jun 6, Jun 15 (twice), Jun 18, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 26 Jun 28 and Jul 4

Barmouth Mersey: Jun 19, Jul 11, Jul 12 and Jul 31 D Class: Jun 12, Jul 7, Jul 11,

Jul 12, Jul 13, Jul 17, Jul 25 (three times), Jul 26 (four times), Jul 27, Jul 30 and Jul

Barra Island Sevem: Jun 5, Jul 12 (twice) and Jul 20

Barrow D Class: Jul 9, Jul 11 (twice) and Jul 31 Barry Dock

Arun: Jun 9 (twice), Jun 13, Jul 4 (three times), Jul 24 and Jul 30 Beaumaris

Atlantic 21; Jun 5, Jun 14, Jun 19, Jun 22, Jun 25, Jun 26 Jun 27, Jul 10, and Jul 16 Courtmacsherry Harbo (twice), Jul 5, Jul 9, Jul 11, Jul 12. Jul 15. Jul 17. Jul 18 (twice) and Jul 19 Bembridge

Tyne: Jun 6, Jul 12 and Jul 30 D Class: Jun 3, Jun 17, Jun 18, Jun 27, Jul 3, Jul 27 (twice) and Jul 28

Berwick-upon-Tweed Mersey: Jul 31 D Class: Jun 15 (twice), Jul 25 and Jul 28

Blackpool Atlantic 75: Jun 9, Jun 19, Jun 22, Jul 2, Jul 11, Jul 30 and Jul

D Class: Jun 9, Jun 19, Jun 22, Jul 2, Jul 11 and Jul 29

Trent: Jun 13, Jun 21 (twice) and Jun 25 D Class: Jul 3 Borth

D Class: Jun 11, Jun 14, Jun 26. Jul 10 and Jul 11 (twice) Bridlington

Mersey: Jun 24, Jul 11, Jul 19 and Jul 24

D Class: Jun 13, Jun 20, Jun 29, Jul 5, Jul 10, Jul 11 (three times), Jul 12, Jul 30 and Jul

Brighton Atlantic 75: Jun 4, Jun 16, Jun 28 (twice), Jul 3, Jul 6 (twice), Jul 7 (twice), Jul 8, Jul 10, Jul 11, Jul 18 (twice), Jul 19 (twice), Jul 21, Jul 22, Jul 24, Jul 25 (twice) and Jul 26

Buckie Arun: Jun 21, Jun 23, Jun 25, Jul 9, Jul 14, Jul 16 and Jul 19 Bundoran Atlantic 75: Jul 4, Jul 8, Jul 11,

Jul 12 and Jul 14 Burnham-on-Crouch Atlantic 75: Jun 10, Jun 12, Jun 14, Jun 17, Jun 19, Jun 25,

Jun 26 (twice), Jul 5, Jul 10 (twice), Jul 11, Jul 12, Jul 18, Jul 23 and Jul 25 D Class: Jul 10 Burry Port D Class: Jun 10

Calshot Brede: Jun 19, Jun 27, Jul 7, Jul 11, Jul 13 and Jul 26 Campbeltown

Severn: Jun 1, Jun 2, Jul 5 and Jul 12

Arun: Jul 31 D Class: Jul 31 Cardigan

Atlantic 75: Jun 4, Jun 11, Jun 14, Jun 20, Jun 27, Jun 30 and D Class: Jul 14

Castletownbere Arun: Jul 17 and Jul 28 Cleethorpes

D Class: Jun 13, Jun 14, Jun 19, Jul 6, Jul 11 (three times), Jul 18, Jul 23 Clifden

Atlantic 75: Jul 18 and Jul 24 D Class: Jun 17 and Jul 24 Clogher Head

Mersey: Jul 6 Clovelly Atlantic 21: Jun 13, Jun 20,

Courtmacsherry Harbour Trent: Jul 10

Criccieth Atlantic 75: Jun 12, Jun 18, Jun 19, Jul 11, Jul 17, Jul 26 (three times), Jul 28 and Jul 30 Cullercoats

Atlantic 21: Jun 24, Jun 26 (three times), Jun 28, Jun 30, Jul 2, Jul 6 (three times), Jul 11 and Jul 18

Donaghadee Arun: Jun 22, Jun 28, Jul 5, Jul 8 (three times) and Jul 15 Douglas

Tyne: Jun 3, Jun 6, Jun 8 and Jun 21

Dover Severn: Jun 2 (twice), Jun 3, Jun 7, Jun 10, Jun 13, Jun 25, Jul 2, Jul 5, Jul 8, Jul 12, Jul 13 (four times), Jul 14 (twice), and Jul 18 (twice) Arun: Jul 28 and Jul 29

Dun Laoghaire Trent: Jun 1, Jun 7, Jul 11 and Jul 26

D Class: Jun 13, Jun 16, Jun 17, Jun 20 (twice), Jul 3 (twice), Jul 9, Jul 11, Jul 19 and Jul 26 Dunbar

Trent: Jun 13 (twice) D Class: Jun 5 and Jun 15 Dungeness

Mersey: Jun 5, Jul 5, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 12 (twice) and Jul

Dunmore East Trent: Jun 18 Eastbourne

Mersey: Jun 3, Jun 6, Jun 9, Jun 16, Jun 20, Jun 26, Jul 1 (twice), Jul 2, Jul 3, Jul 10, Jul 11 (three times), Jul 15 (twice), Jul 18, Jul 20, Jul 22, Jul 24 (twice), Jul 25, Jul 27 and Jul 31

D Class: Jun 10, Jun 13, Jun 20, Jun 23, Jun 25, Jun 27 (three times), Jun 30, Jul 2, Jul 3 (twice), Jul 4, Jul 10, Jul 15, Jul 16, Jul 24, Jul 27 (twice), Jul 28 and Jul 31

Exmouth Trent: Jul 4, Jul 21, Jul 27 and Jul 30

D Class: Jun 5, Jun 21, Jul 1, Jul 2, Jul 9, Jul 21 (twice), Jul 22, Jul 26, Jul 27 (three times), Jul 28 (twice) and Jul 30

Evemouth Trent: Jun 15, Jun 26, Jul 7 and Jul 8 Falmouth

Severn: Jun 9, Jun 20, Jul 11, Jul 12 (twice) and Jul 19 Atlantic 21: Jun 1, Jun 20 (twice), Jul 12, Jul 23, Jul 27, Jul 28 and Jul 29

Fenit Trent: Jun 1, Jun 5, Jun 19, Jul 3, Jul 4 (twice), Jul 26, Jul 27, Jul 28 and Jul 30 D Class: Jul 4, Jul 24, Jul 28

(twice) and Jul 30 Filey Mersey: Jul 11 D Class: Jun 12, Jul 14 and Jul

Fishguard

Trent: Jul 29 D Class: Jun 28 and Jul 29 Flamborough

Atlantic 75: Jun 5, Jun 19 (twice), Jun 26, Jul 11 (three times), Jul 25 and Jul 31 (twice)

Fleetwood Tyne: Jun 12, Jun 22, Jun 26, Jul 3, Jul 18 and Jul 24 (twice) D Class: Jun 16, Jun 22, Jun 23, Jun 24, Jul 3, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 12, Jul 17, Jul 19 (three times) and Jul 24

Elint D Class: Jun 8, Jun 15, Jul 9 and Jul 12

Fowey Trent: Jun 27, Jul 10 and Jul

D Class: Jun 26, Jul 10, Jul 13, Jul 15, Jul 27 and Jul 28 Fraserburgh

Tyne: Jul 1' Galway Atlantic 75, Jun 6 and Jun 20 Girvan

Mersey: Jun 4 and Jul 11 Happisburgh
D Class: Jul 18 (twice) Hartlepool

Tyne: Jun 18, Jul 3, Jul 13 and Jul 16 Atlantic 21: Jun 17, Jun 27 Jul 4, Jul 13, Jul 17 and Jul 24 Mersey: Jul 21 (twice)

Harwich Severn: Jun 5, Jun 6, Jun 11, Jun 12, Jun 17, Jun 28, Jul 9 and Jul 17 Atlantic 21: Jun 8, Jun 10, Jun

11, Jun 12 (three times), Jun 13, Jun 19, Jun 20 (twice), Jun 21 (three times), Jun 27 (three times), Jul 3, Jul 5, Jul 9 (twice), Jul 10 (three times), Jul 11, Jul 12, Jul 13, Jul 17, Jul 19, Jul 21, Jul 24, Jul 25 (three times) and Jul 31

Hastings Mersey: Jun 23, Jul 11, Jul 23 and Jul 24

D Class: Jun 10, Jun 21, Jun 24, Jun 25, Jul 4, Jul 10, Jul 11 (four times), Jul 12 (three times), Jul 13, Jul 14, Jul 23, Jul 26 and Jul 28 (twice)

Hayling Island Atlantic 75: Jun 09, Jun 19 (twice), Jun 27 and Jul 17 D Class: Jun 13 and Jul 17 Helensburgh

Atlantic 21: Jun 4, Jun 9, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 23, Jun 29, Jul 4 (twice), Jul 5, Jul 10, Jul 16, Jul 17, Jul 22, Jul 26 and Jul

Helvick Head Atlantic 21: Jun 1, Jun 11, Jun 15 (twice), Jun 16, Jul 1 and Jul 15

Holyhead Arun: Jun 5, Jun 13, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jul 2, Jul 4, Jul 9 and Jul 13

D Class; Jun 28, Jul 3, Jul 11 and Jul 28 Horton & Port Eynon

D Class: Jun 1, Jun 8, Jun 13, Jun 19, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 14, Jul 17 (twice), Jul 27, Jul 29 and Jul 30

D Class: Jun 16, Jun 23, Jun 26 and Jul 10

Hoylake Mersey: Jun 1, Jun 19, Jul 24 and Jul 31

Humber Severn: Jun 8, Jun 20, Jul 24 and Jul 30

Hunstanton Atlantic 75: Jun 3, Jun 25, Jun

26, Jul 3, Jul 11, Jul 17 and Jul 26 Ilfracombe

Mersey: Jun 24, Jul 10, Jul 30 and Jul 31 D Class: Jul 9, Jul 10, Jul 24 and Jul 26

Invergordon Trent: Jun 23, Jun 28 and Jul

Severn: Jun 25, Jul 9 and Jul Kilkeel

Atlantic 21: Jun 4, Jun 26, Jul 11 and Jul 20

Kilmore Quay Mersey: Jun 9, Jun 14, Jun 18, Jul 8 (twice), Jul 10, Jul 11 and Jul 29

Kilrush Atlantic 75: Jul 2 and Jul 31 Kinghorn Atlantic 75: Jun 6 (twice), Jun

20 (twice), Jun 29, Jul 10 and Inl 25 Kippford D Class; Jul 30 and Jul 31

Kirkcudbright Atlantic 21: Jul 27 Kirkwall Severn: Jul 15, Jul 24 Kyle Of Lochalsh Atlantic 75: Jun 5, Jul 5, Jul

17, Jul 18 and Jul 26 Largs Atlantic 75: Jun 8, Jun 13, Jun 14. Jun 19. Jul 6 (twice). Jul 10, Jul 11 (four times), Jul 12, Jul 18, Jul 28 and

Jul 30 Larne Arun: Jul 4, Jul 20 and Jul 31 (twice) Lerwick

Little & Broad Haven D Class: Jul 25 (twice) Littlehampton Atlantic 21: Jun 2, Jun 8, Jun 20, Jul 4, Jul 7, Jul 10, Jul 28

Severn: Jun 6 and Jul 4

and Jul 29 Llandudno Mersey: Jun 4, Jul 4 (twice) and Jul 17

D Class: Jun 10, Jun 13, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 24, Jul 4, Jul 13, Jul 17, Jul 25, Jul 28 and Jul 29 (rwice) Lone

D Class: Jul 26 Lyme Regis Atlantic 75: Jun 17, Jun 20, Jun 22, Jun 26, Jul 4, Jul 7, Jul 11 (three times), Jul 12, Jul 17, Jul 26, Jul 27 (five times), Jul 28 (twice), Jul 29 (twice) and Jul 31

Lymington Atlantic 21: Jun 2, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 26 (twice), Jul 17

Lifeboat launches

(three times), Jul 19 and Jul 31 Lytham St. Annes Mersey: Jun 23

D Class: Jun 15, Jun 23, Jul 14 and Jul 28 Mablethorpe

D Class: Jun 16, Jul 11 (twice) and Jul 14

Macduff Atlantic 21: Jul 4, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 16 (twice), Jul 17 and Jul 19

Mallaig Arun: Jun 7, Jun 8, Jun 14, Jun 23. Jul 25 and Jul 26

Marazion D Class: Jun 16, Jun 20, Jun 21, Jul 11 and Jul 16

Margate Mersey: Jun 20, Jul 18, Jul 26 and Jul 28

D Class: Jun 7, Jun 15, Jun 16, Jun 17, Jun 20, Jun 21, Jun 28, Jul 2, Jul 11 and Jul 19

Minehead Atlantic 75: Jun 12, Jun 16 and Jun 27

D Class: Jun 16 Moelfre

Tyne: Jun 20, Jul 11 and Jul 17 D Class: Jun 15, Jun 20, Jun 30, Jul 12, Jul 23, Jul 27 and Jul 31 (four times)

Montrose Tyne: Jun 4, Jun 17, Jul 6, Jul 7 and Jul 12 D Class: Jun 17

Morecambe D Class: Jun 15, Jun 16, Jul 12 (twice), Jul 16 and Jul 24

Atlantic 21: Jun 2, Jun 6 (twice), Jun 9, Jun 15, Jun 18, Jun 20, Jun 21, Jun 22, Jun 26, Jul 3, Jul 4, Jul 6, Jul 9, Jul 10 (twice), Jul 13, Jul 17 (three times), Jul 18 (twice), Jul 27 and Jul 28 (twice)

New Brighton Atlantic 75: Jun 1, Jun 8, Jun 19, Jul 4, Jul 6, Jul 9, Jul 10 (twice), Jul 11 (twice), Jul 18 and Jul 31

New Quay (Cardiganshire) Mersey: Jun 2 and Jun 4 D Class: Jun 2, Jun 20 and Jul

Newbiggin Atlantic 75: Jun 24 and Jul 11 Newcastle (Co.Down) Mersey: Jun 10, Jun 16, Jul 20 (twice), Jul 24 and Jul 27 D Class: Jul 8, Jul 20 (twice), Jul 24 and Jul 27

Newhaven Arun: Jun 4 (twice), Jun 6 (twice), Jun 9, Jun 10 (twice), Jun 17, Jun 26 (twice), Jun 30 (twice), Jul 3, Jul 10, Jul 19, Jul 24 (twice), Jul 25 and Jul 29 (twice)

Newquay (Cornwall) Atlantic 75: Jun 13, Jun 20, Jun 23 and Jul 30 (twice) D Class: Jun 9, Jun 11, Jun 13, Jun 20, Jun 23, Jun 26, Jul 14, Jul 23 and Jul 30

North Berwick D Class: Jun 3, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 27, Jul 9 and Jul 25 North Kessock

D Class: Jul 17 Oban

Trent: Jun 1, Jun 6, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 27, Jul 4, Jul 7, Jul 12,

Jul 13, Jul 18, Jul 20, Jul 22, Jul 26 (twice) and Jul 29 Padstow

Tyne: Jun 9, Jun 13 and Jul 28 Peel Mersey: Jun 3, Jun 26 and Jun

Penarth Atlantic 75: Jun 9 (twice), Jun 20, Jun 25, Jul 11, Jul 12 (twice), Jul 18, Jul 19 and Jul

D Class: Jul 11, Jul 19, Jul 24 (twice), Jul 26 and Jul 31 Penlee Arun: Jun 4

Peterhead Tyne: Jun 18, Jun 21 and Jul 5 Plymouth Arun: Jun 12

Poole Atlantic 75: Jun 4 (twice), Jun 13, Jun 19 (twice), Jun 20 (twice), Jun 21, Jun 30, Jul 1, Jul 2, Jul 3 (twice), Jul 4 (twice), Jul 8, Jul 10, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 12, Jul 13 (twice),

and Jul 25 (twice) Brede: Jun 2, Jun 6, Jun 15, Jun 21, Jun 30, Jul 3, Jul 4 (twice), Jul 10, Jul 11, Jul 13

Jul 17 (three times), Jul 24

and Jul 25 Port Erin Atlantic 21: Jul 8, Jul 15 (twice) and Jul 26

Port Isaac D Class: Jun 27 Port St. Mary Trent: Jul 15 D Class: Jul 15

Port Talbot D Class: Jun 29, Jul 27, Jul 29 and Jul 31

Portaferry Atlantic 75: Jun 28 Porthcawl Atlantic 75: Jun 11, Jun 20, Jun 27 (twice), Jul 4, Jul 9 (twice), Jul 10, Jul 11 (six times), Jul 12, Jul 18, Jul 19

Tyne: Jul 11 and Jul 31 Portpatrick Tyne: Jun 25, Jul 16, Jul 25

Porthdinllaen

and Jul 27 Portree Trent, Jun 10, Jun 14, Jun 15,

Jul 17, Jul 18 and Jul 27 Portrush Arun: Jun 6, Jul 11 and Jul 13

D Class: Jun 5, Jul 8 (twice), Jul 9 (twice), Jul 11 (three times), Jul 16, Jul 23 (three times) and Jul 29

Portsmouth Atlantic 75: Jun 6, Jun 8, Jun 19, Jun 20 (twice), Jun 24, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 16, Jul 18 and Jul 26 (twice) Atlantic 21: Jul 29 D Class: Jun 6, Jun 16, Jun

19, Jun 24, Jul 16 and Jul 25 Pwllheli Mersey: Jun 20 and Jul 24 D Class: Jun 19

Queensferry Atlantic 75: Jun 20, Jul 11, Jul 12, Jul 16, Jul 17 (three times) and Jul 20

Ramsey Mersey: Jul 8, Jul 12 and Jul

Ramsgate Atlantic 21: Jun 19, Jun 21 and Jun 22

Red Bay Atlantic 75: Jul 9, Jul 10 (twice), Jul 14, Jul 16, Jul 30 and Jul 31

Redcar Atlantic 21: Jun 1, Jun 14, Jun 20 (twice), Jul 6, Jul 11, Jul 17 and Jul 20

D Class: Jun 1, Jun 16 and Jul

Rhyl Mersey: Jun 4, Jul 24 and Jul

D Class: Jun 3, Jun 4, Jun 21, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 18, Jul 24, Jul 25, Jul 27 (twice) and Jul 28 (three times)

D Class: Jun 4 Rosslare Harbour Arun: Jun 18 and Jul 25 Rye Harbour

Rock

Atlantic 75: Jun 13, Jun 25, Jul 10 (three times), Jul 11 (11 times), Jul 12 (four times), Jul 18 (twice), Jul 25 (twice), Jul

27 and Jul 28 St. Abbs Atlantic 21: Jun 4, Jun 5, Jun 26 and Jul 8 St. Agnes

D Class: Jul 8 and Jul 25 St. Bees Atlantic 75: Jun 3, Jun 8, Jun

18 and Jun 21 St. Catherine Atlantic 21: Jun 14, Jun 18,

Jun 20 (twice), Jun 27, Jul 8, Jul 11 (twice), Jul 14 and Jul 18

St. Davids D Class: Jun 4 St. Helier Tyne: Jun 14, Jun 16, Jun 27, Jul 3, Jul 6 and Jul 22 St. Ives

Mersey: Jul 8 D Class: Jul 2 St. Mary's

Severn: Jun 7, Jul 6, Jul 11 and Jul 12 St. Peter Port

Severn: Jun 2, Jun 14, Jun 15, Jul 2, Jul 12, Jul 13, Jul 24, Jul 26 and Jul 27

Salcombe Tyne: Jun 4, Jun 11, Jul 2, Jul 13, Jul 14 (twice), Jul 20, Jul 27, Jul 30 and Jul 31

Scarborough Mersey: Jun 8, Jun 16 and Jul 21

D Class: Jul 4 Seahouses

Mersey: Jun 1, Jun 17, Jul 10, Jul 24, Jul 30 and Jul 31 (twice)

D Class: Jun 17, Jul 10, Jul 11, Jul 24, Jul 30 and Jul 31 (twice)

Selsey Tyne: Jun 9, Jun 13 (twice), Jul 11, Jul 23 and Jul 24

D Class: Jun 10, Jul 9, Jul 10, Jul 11 and Jul 28 Sennen Cove Tyne: Jun 6, Jul 4, Jul 11, Jul 22 and Jul 26

D Class: Jul 11, Jul 22, and Jul

Sheerness Trent: Jun 12 (twice), Jul 6,

Jul 17, Jul 20 (twice) and Jul 21 (three times) D Class: Jun 9, Jun 11, Jun 12 (twice), Jun 21, Jun 25, Jun 26, Jun 27, Jul 4, Jul 6, Jul 9, Jul 13, Jul 14, Jul 15, Jul 17

(four times), Jul 19 (twice), Jul 26, Jul 27 and Jul 30 Sheringham

Atlantic 75: Jul 10 (twice) and

Shoreham Harbour

Tyne: Jun 2, Jun 4 (twice), Jun 5 (twice), Jun 9, Jun 12, Jun 19 and Jun 25 D Class: Jun 1 and Jul 11

Silloth Atlantic 75: Jun 2, Jun 14 and Jul 7

Skegness Mersey: Jul 3, Jul 23, Jul 26 and Jul 27

D Class: Jun 4 (twice), Jun 19, Jul 11, Jul 14, Jul 17, Jul 23, Jul 24, Jul 27 and Jul 30 (twice)

Skerries Atlantic 75: Jun 6, Jun 17, Jul 9 (three times) and Jul 31

Southend-on-sea

Atlantic 21: Jun 12, Jun 14, Jun 15, Jun 16, Jun 17 (twice), Jun 19, Jun 21, Jun 26, Jun 27, Jul 2, Jul 4, Jul 7, Jul 10 (four times), Jul 11 (seven times), Jul 13 (twice), Jul 15, Jul 20, Jul 25 and Jul 28

D Class: Jun 17, Jun 19 (twice), Jul 2, Jul 9 (twice), Jul 12, Jul 13, Jul 18, Jul 24 (twice) and Jul 28 (twice) Southwold

Atlantic 75: Jun 13, Jun 28 and Jul 18 (twice) Staithes and Runswick Atlantic 21: Jul 3

Stornoway Severn: Jun 22 Stromness

Severn: Jun 20 and Jul 8 Arun: Jun 5 Sunderland

Trent: Jun 2, Jun 13, Jun 17, Jun 18, Jun 26, Jun 28 and Jul

D Class: Jun 26, Jun 28, Jul 28 and Jul 30 Swanage

Mersey: Jun 9, Jul 3, Jul 4, Jul 9, Jul 10 and Jul 11 D Class: Jun 1, Jun 6, Jun 9, Jun 23, Jul 3 (twice), Jul 4, Jul 13, Jul 24 and Jul 26

Teesmouth Tyne: Jul 6, Jul 11, Jul 13, Jul 25, Jul 26, and Jul 27

Teignmouth Atlantic 21: Jun 15, Jul 4, Jul 13, Jul 30 and Jul 31

Tenby Tyne: Jun 3, Jul 5 and Jul 21 D Class: Jun 10, Jun 26, Jun 29 and Jul 21

The Lizard Tyne: Jul 16, Jul 17, Jul 26 and Jul 28

The Mumbles

Tyne: Jun 1, Jul 17 and Jul 27 D Class: Jun 7, Jun 11, Jun 16, Jun 19, Jun 21, Jun 26, Jul 2, Jul 7, Jul 11, Jul 12, Jul 14, Jul 17, Jul 26 (twice), Jul 27 and Jul 31

Thurso Arun: Jun 5 and Jun 24 Tighnabruaich Atlantic 75: Jul 6 and Jul 31

Tobermory Arun: Jun 6, Jun 11, Jun 14, Jun 23, Jul 7, Jul 8, Jul 11, Jul 22 (three times), Jul 24, Jul 27 and Jul 31

Torbay Arun: Jul 17, Jul 24 and Jul 26 D Class: Jun 6, Jun 12, Jun 26, Jun 27, Jul 3, Jul 15, Jul 22, Jul 25 and Jul 26

Tramore D Class: Jun 18 and Jul 2 Trearddur Bay Atlantic 75: Jun 5, Jun 6, Jun 7, Jun 18, Jun 19, Jul 3, Jul 11, Jul 15, Jul 24 and Jul 26

Troon Arun: Jun 2, Jun 3, Jun 13, Jul 3 (twice), Jul 12 and Jul 25 (twice)

(twice)

Tynemouth Arun: Jun 4, Jun 12 (twice). Jun 13, Jun 27 (twice), Jun 29, Jul 6, Jul 10, Jul 14, Jul 17, Jul

26 and Jul 30 D Class: Jun 21, Jun 22, Jun 25, Jul 6 (three times), Jul 12, Jul 16 and Jul 26

Valentia Severn: Jun 4, Jun 28 and Jul 19

Walmer Atlantic 21: Jun 30 and Jul 9 D Class: Jun 19

Walton & Frinton Tyne: Jun 3, Jun 5 and Jul 10 Wells

Mersey: Jun 26 D Class: Jun 26, Jul 10, Jul 20 and Jul 29

West Kirby D Class: Jul 4, Jul 11 (twice) and Jul 16

West Mersea Atlantic 21: Jun 2, Jun 12, Jun

16, Jun 19, Jun 20, Jun 21, Jun 26, Jul 18, Jul 24 and Jul 31 Weston-Super-Mare

Atlantic 21: Jul 19 and Jul 24 D Class: Jul 19 Weymouth

Arun: Jun 2 (twice) and Jun 7 Arun: Jun 10, Jun 14, Jun 17, Jun 19 (twice), Jun 26, Jul 3, Jul 4 (twice), Jul 16, Jul 19, Jul 24, Jul 26 (three times) and Jul 31

Atlantic 75: Jun 2, Jun 19, Jun 25, Jun 26, Jul 4, Jul 16, Jul 19, Jul 24, Jul 25, Jul 26 (twice) and Jul 27

Whitby Trent: Jun 6, Jun 8, Jun 19, Jul 3 and Jul 14 D Class: Jun 24 and Jul 26

Whitstable Atlantic 21: Jun 2, Jun 4, Jun 13, Jun 22, Jul 3, Jul 10, Jul 16, Jul 17, Jul 18 (twice), Jul 23, Jul 24 and Jul 28 (twice)

Wick Trent: Jun 27 Wicklow Tyne: Jun 9, Jun 23, Jul 1, Jul 8 and Jul 25 D Class: Jul 17

Withernsea D Class: Jun 12, Jul 15, Jul 18 and Jul 31 Workington

Tyne: Jun 2 and Jun 8 Yarmouth (LO.W.) Arun: Jun 2 (three times), Jun 6, Jun 8, Jun 18, Jun 26 (twice), Jun 27, Jul 14, Jul 15, Jul 24 (twice), Jul 26 (twice) and Jul 31

Youghal Atlantic 21: Jul 24 and Jul 25

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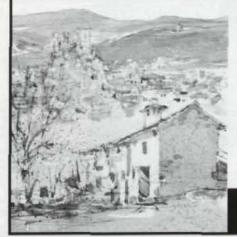
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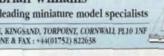
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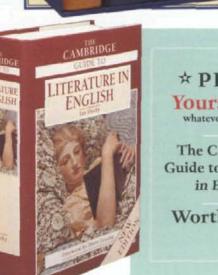
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