

LIFEBOAT

ISSUE 621 | AUTUMN 2017



THE RNLI IS THE
CHARITY THAT
SAVES LIVES AT SEA

OFFSHORE EDITION

Your 16-page *Offshore* magazine is inside



SEASONED LIFESAVERS

How safety lives on when the summer is over

PLUS:

GIVE IT A GO

Get swimfit in the pool this autumn

BLUE PETER SCRAPBOOK

Celebrating 50 years of treasured lifeboats

Welcome

What will you discover this autumn?

The 'back to school' feeling is a receding memory for many of us, but I still find autumn brings a clean slate and the instinct to try something new. This issue, we meet volunteers who moved home to start a new life – and join the RNLI (page 42). And our friends at Swim England share their poolside tips to get you ready for outdoor swimming next summer (page 28).

This is also the season for hunkering down against the elements, and we've brought you our top armchair adventures to see you through the storms (page 30). Lifeguards on many beaches will have lowered their flags too – what innovations could keep beaches safe in the meantime? Find out on page 24.

Through all of this, our lifeboat crews remain on call to save lives in all weathers. Our rescue stories this issue prove once again that treacherous conditions can strike at any time of year.

Thanks to all of you who've got in touch with your views on the last issue. I'm pleased to say that Launches are back (page 32), so you can catch up on all our lifeboat calls since January. We love to hear from you, so keep those ideas coming.



Philly Byrde
@ByrdeSong



PHILLY BYRDE
LIFEBOAT EDITOR

SAVING LIVES AT SEA IS BACK

Have you been enjoying the BBC's second blockbuster series on our brave lifesavers? Head to RNLI.org/SavingLives to get the inside scoop on the stories featured or catch up on the BBC iPlayer.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP

From January 2018, when you're next renewing your membership you'll notice our annual rates have seen a modest increase. Find out more and see the new rates in News on page 5.

AUTUMN 2017 ISSUE 621

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The RNLI was founded in 1824. Today it provides a 24-hour search and rescue service out to 100 nautical miles from the coast of the UK, Republic of Ireland, Isle of Man and Channel Islands; on the tidal reaches of the River Thames; and on selected inland waterways. It also provides a seasonal lifeguard service on appropriate beaches in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Channel Islands; and flood rescue. The RNLI is independent from Government and relies on voluntary contributions and gifts in Wills for its income. It is a charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC037736). Registered charity number 20003326 in the Republic of Ireland.



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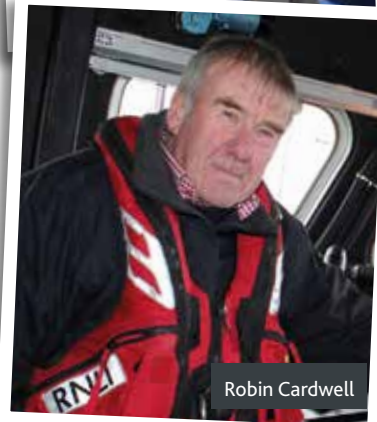
News

Your guide to what's been going on in the world of the RNLI

Birthday Honours for RNLI three



Ron Cannon



Robin Cardwell



Paul Metcalfe

Three volunteers who have given decades of service to the RNLI were recognised with MBEs in the Queen's Birthday Honours, announced in June.

Ron Cannon has been an active RNLI volunteer for 53 years. Following in the family tradition, he was a crew member at Ramsgate for 37 years – and the coxswain for 25 of those.

Robin Cardwell has served Portrush RNLI for 27 years in a variety of roles. After many seagoing positions, Robin volunteered as lifeboat operations manager and also supports the community's fundraising activities.

Paul Metcalfe has been involved with Eastbourne lifeboats since 1980, including as a shore helper, crew member, mechanic, fundraiser and recently the lifeboat operations manager.

We send warmest congratulations to Ron, Robin and Paul. Have a wonderful day when you receive your honours.



AGM update

We held the 2017 RNLI AGM in Glasgow for the first time in June, meaning many supporters were able to attend this special event, hear about the RNLI's progress and ask questions for the first time.

Unfortunately, the number of governors attending fell just short of the required level to pass the day's business. Despite exploring solutions on the day, we decided to rerun the AGM to ensure all resolutions are passed lawfully. At the time of going to press the rescheduled meeting is due to take place on 13 September at our headquarters in Poole. See RNLI.org/agm2017.

SAVING LIVES AT SEA RETURNS TO OUR SCREENS

As this issue arrives, we'll be well into the 12-part BBC Two series *Saving Lives at Sea* – the show airs every Tuesday at 8pm. From the remote and rugged coastline of Aith in the Shetlands, to the packed sands of Woolacombe in Devon, the series gives a unique insight into the lives and work of our volunteer lifeboat crews and lifeguards. Many of these teams have been carrying special equipment for the past year, to capture dramatic rescues on camera. If you've missed some episodes, UK viewers can catch up on the BBC iPlayer, or visit RNLI.org/SavingLives for the inside story behind the programme and our people.



Photo: RNLI/Nigel Millard

Pulling together for water safety



Tower Crew Member Helen Church helps launch a partnership with Nicholson's pubs, who will be training staff to use rescue throw bags and share Respect the Water messages.

HOMECOMING FOR CITY'S LIFEBOAT



City of Sheffield prepares to leave Poole

A retired Tyne class lifeboat has come home to the city that funded her, becoming the first modern lifeboat to be displayed at the National Emergency Services Museum. *The City of Sheffield* arrived at the museum on 17 June, where she will be on display for at least 5 years.

Funded by the people of Sheffield (who raised an incredible £420,000 between 1987 and 1988) and a bequest from Mary Mable Walker, the lifeboat went on to serve at Whitby, Ramsgate, Hartlepool and Sennen Cove. She found her permanent home at Poole Lifeboat Station in 2001.

'*The City of Sheffield* was a faithful servant during her 15 years on service here at Poole,' says volunteer Jonathan Clark. 'We are one of the busiest coastal stations so she was kept active. I was very proud to be the coxswain at her wheel.'

Thank you for answering our Mayday!

Thousands of you bought badges, donned wellies and more to answer our Mayday appeal this year. We're thrilled to share that the fundraising total has now reached £607,316.



Your membership

From January 2018, you will notice that rates have increased at your next membership renewal. This is the first rise in 3 years, and ensures that our lifesavers continue to have a stable funding base. Your regular support as a member is incredibly valuable as we plan for the future demands on our rescue and prevention services. If you have any queries please contact our Supporter Care Team using the details on page 2.

Membership	New price
Shoreline member	£32
Joint Shoreline members	£58
Offshore member	£76
Joint Offshore members	£128
Governor	£102
Joint Governors	£160

TOP OF THE CLASS

Twenty-three young people from Golspie High School, Dornoch Academy and Kinlochbervie High School made an historic 70-mile crossing – the first ever – from the east to the west coast of Sutherland in aid of the RNLI.

With a support team of volunteers, teachers and the Army, they walked for 5 days in wild country and in all weathers, slept under canvas, suffered midge attacks, and pressed on despite blisters. Organiser Patrick Marriott says: 'The pupils were amazing. They showed real determination and no little courage. The venture was all about unlocking talent by stretching them and giving them challenges.'

The team hope to exceed their target of £5,000. Money raised will go to funds for their schools, as well as Sutherland Coastal Rescue (for the RNLI Lochinver lifeboat and the Dornoch rescue boat) and the Friends of Sutherland Veterans.



Photo: RNLI/Lochinver

Intrepid explorers visit Lochinver Lifeboat Station along the way

Welcome to your selection of community news for Scotland. For all the latest rescue and fundraising stories from where you are, head to **RNLI.org/news**

Tobermory



Crew children, photographed in 2012

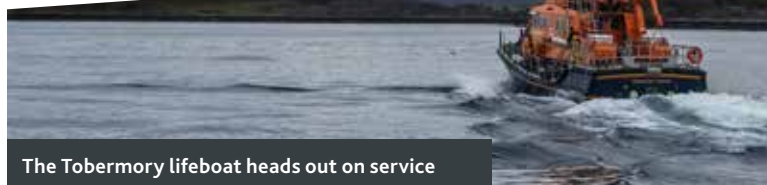


Photo: RNLI/Sam Jones

The Tobermory lifeboat heads out on service

First shout

Longstanding RNLI supporters will recall an iconic image of crew kids dressed in oversized yellow kit, shot by Nigel Millard for the photo book *The Lifeboat: Courage on our Coasts*. In July, one of those children – Alex Anderson, now aged 17 – went on his first shout as a fully fledged crew member!

Tobermory's all-weather lifeboat *Elizabeth Fairlie Ramsay* was launched on the evening of

19 July, just 24 hours after Alex received his pager, following the detection of an emergency position-indicating radiobeacon (EPIRB) in Loch Scridain. The device was registered to a fishing boat but was eventually located on the shore.

Alex follows in the footsteps of his father Jock who was station mechanic until his retirement last year.

Portree

Photo: RNLI/Portree



Lifeboat Operations Manager Sandy Gray with Glynis Padgett and the Applecross Boatpull Team

THE PORTREE PULL

Applecross Boatpull Team has for the last 15 years set itself the annual challenge of pulling a replica lifeboat to an RNLI lifeboat station – collecting donations along the way.

This year the team raised a whopping £4,000 for the station. And Glynis Padgett honoured the memory of her husband Tony – who sadly passed away this year

having been a member of the boatpull team since its inception – by collecting an incredible £1,850 in lifesaving donations.

On the same day, Lifeboat Operations Manager Sandy Gray received a presentation for his tireless work looking after crew and station over the past 6 years. He passes the mantle to John Ellis.

Photo: Stuart Campbell



Brian Robertson is running eight races this year for the RNLI

THE GREAT EIGHT

RNLI rescuee Brian Robertson is running a 'Great Eight' series of races throughout 2017, in thanks to those who rescued him.

In 2015 Brian had an accident that left his arm severely crushed. He says of the RNLI, Coastguard and NHS staff who helped him: 'Thanks to their quick and professional response, the negative impact on my quality of life has been minimised.' He adds: 'Every day that I can turn the key to open the house door, or just tying my shoe laces, I feel blessed to be able to do so.'

At time of writing Brian has run seven of these eight events and raised £1,039. The final race is the Islay Marathon on 10 September.

Support him by donating at justgiving.com/onyersel.

WHAT'S ON

FISH SUPPER

Fish Supper is back for 2017 on the weekend of 13–15 October. Host your own event or visit RNLI.org/events to find one near you.

MUSIC AND MERRIMENT

Friday 3 November, 8pm

Dalgety Bay Sailing Club

Entertainer John Morgan makes a welcome return for an evening of music and merriment, put on by Dalgety Bay Fundraising Branch. Contact Rachel Stewart on 01764 65574 or rachel_stewart@rnli.org.uk for more information and tickets.

COFFEE AND DANCING

Saturday 25 November, from 9am

Kinghorn Church Hall, Burntisland, Fife

Pick up some Christmas gifts and treats at Kinghorn lifeboat's Christmas Fayre at the parish hall this November. Contact Rachel Stewart on 01764 65574 or rachel_stewart@rnli.org.uk for more information and tickets.

NEW YEAR SWIM

Monday 1 January 2018, 12pm start

Rhu Marina pontoon, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire

Brave the cold for our brave volunteer crew and take a dip in the chilly January waters of the Firth of Clyde. Beginning at the pontoon and ending at the lifeboat station. Share a hot drink with fellow fundraisers afterwards. Free admission, donations on the day.

Want to share your RNLI news and events with *Lifeboat* readers?
Email supportercare@rnli.org.uk.

RESCUE

Our lifeboat crews and lifeguards carry out thousands of rescues every year (see launches on page 32). Here are just some of those caught on camera, and see the list below for more reports:

6 EXMOUTH | PAGE 10

7 PORTHCAWL | PAGE 14

8 ST BEES | PAGE 16

You can also watch and read the latest rescues online at [RNLI.org/news](https://www.rnli.org/news)



1 OVERBOARD AND ADRIFT **CRANTOCK | 23 MAY**

Three RNLI lifeguards had just finished a training session when they spotted two capsized kayakers, clinging to their craft and drifting out to sea in strong currents. With their rescue boards and, according to Lifeguard John Steadman, 'a lot of hard paddling', they were able to bring the pair and their kayaks ashore. John adds: 'Thankfully they were wearing lifejackets, which I think saved them from drowning.'



Photo: HM Coastguard/Brendan Maguire

2 A FAMILY DAY OUT

HOLYHEAD | 7 JUNE

An experienced sailor and his 5-year-old grandson got driven aground in their 8m cruiser, after getting snagged in lobster-pot lines. They were spotted by nearby walkers, who quickly called the Coastguard and were able to take the child from his worried grandad. Holyhead lifeboat crew set up a tow and, under full power in blustery conditions, dragged the boat from the rocks. It was brought ashore, and the family reunited, at the nearest slipway.



Photo: RNLI/Wicklow

3 CYCLIST HELPED TO SAFETY

WICKLOW | 16 MAY

Wicklow lifeboat crew worked with other emergency services when a cyclist fell from the quayside on to Strand Beach – with the tide on its way in. They gave first aid and got him on to a stretcher, ready to evacuate onboard their D class lifeboat *Dennis-Audrey*, which was on its first shout. However, the Coast Guard cliff rescue unit were soon on scene, so our crew helped them lift the stretcher back up to the road and the waiting ambulance.



Photo: RNLI/Red Bay

4 RESCUED AFTER 32 HOURS

CAMPBELTOWN, ISLAY, RED BAY | 1 MAY

When Matthew Bryce didn't return from his Sunday morning surf, lifeboat crews from Scotland and Northern Ireland joined the search. He was found by the Coastguard helicopter on Monday evening, 13 miles from shore after 32 hours. He had held onto his board, and was in a good wetsuit, but said (via ITV): 'Do not go surfing alone. Purchase a personal GPS tracker.'



Photo: RNLI/Claire Hallett

5 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

YARMOUTH | 26 MAY

Having taken part in the first five Whitbread Round the World Races (1973–90), *Great Britain II* is a yacht with a whole lot of history. Yarmouth lifeboat crew became part of that story when the yacht's engine failed off the Isle of Wight. They towed *Great Britain II* and its 10-strong crew to a safe mooring, where they made ready for the next adventure.

THAT SINKING FEELING

Sometimes you can do everything right and the sea will still find a way to catch you out. Two friends from Bristol found this out when they decided to hit the east Devon coast for the late May Bank Holiday



Great weather:
check



Watercraft serviced:
check



Buoyancy aids on:
check



Mobiles in drybox:
check





With temperatures around 21°C in Exmouth, the holiday weekend seemed the perfect time to enjoy the water. It marked the start of what RNLI crews call 'the busy season' – the Exmouth volunteers had already dealt with four rescues over the last 3 days. On the Sunday, RNLI Helm Robert 'Tommo' Thompson popped down to the lifeboat station and had a quiet spot of lunch.

Meanwhile, Richard Harrison and his friend Jason Halliday were down from Bristol. They had just unloaded Richard's turbo-charged personal watercraft. 'Exmouth's lovely,' says Richard. 'I thought we'd go down for the day and have fun on the jet ski. It's a three-seater but easy to launch with two people.' He'd been out on it four or five times last season, and this was his first run out of 2017 after getting her serviced.

'We had our buoyancy aids, wetsuits and all the rest of it,' says Jason. 'We put the ski in the water, had a bit of fun. We headed about a mile

out, for the other side of Pole Sands [a series of sandbanks in the estuary], so as not to bother the kitesurfers.'

But leaving the River Exe, sea conditions became lively. There was a 2m swell and cross-shore winds were kicking up 2.5m waves that were making things uncomfortable on the watercraft. After 20 minutes, Richard and Jason had had enough and headed in for calmer waters.

On the way back in, the watercraft starting rolling heavily. 'I thought Jason was mucking about on the back,' says Richard, 'but he said "It's not me! It's not me!"'

Suddenly the craft's engine cut out. It rolled again and moments later a wave knocked the pair off. Both men clambered aboard and tried to restart it, only to be washed off time and again. To their disbelief, the watercraft started sinking and was dragged away by the current.

'We were virtually on the sandbar at this point,' says Jason. 'The water would have been just above chest height but

**We had been drifting
for about 40 minutes.
It seemed like hours**

Richard Harrison



the current was too strong for us to stand.' Waves continued to break and Richard, a less powerful swimmer than his friend, started to worry. 'I felt myself being swept directly out and it made me panic and thrash around. I was thinking "I've got to get out, I've got to swim back to shore."'

Even though Jason is a seasoned open-water swimmer, he knew that fighting the current for half a mile wasn't an option for either of them. They were wearing wetsuits and buoyancy aids and he tried to reassure his friend that he wouldn't drown: 'Don't kick – just float and ease your breathing. We have to let ourselves go with the tide.'

It was the right advice. The current dragged them after the ski and before long they were spotted by a kitesurfer. 'He must have seen me flailing about and panicking,' says Richard. 'He said

he'd go in and call the lifeboat. I really wanted to scramble on his board and go back with him!'

Soon they had caught up with the ski. It was vertical, with just its nose above water. They clung on, realising

They were nice chaps. They had the right kit on and had done all the right things

Helm Robert 'Tommo' Thompson

it was now safer to preserve what was left of the craft's buoyancy rather than opening the drybox to get their mobiles. 'The lifeboat crew had a better chance of spotting us with the jet ski,' says Jason.

Back at Exmouth Lifeboat Station, Tommo's pager went off at 12.25pm.

'The Coastguard reported that a kitesurfer had come to the beach and asked the first person he saw to call 999 – apparently two people were in trouble off Orcombe Point,' Tommo says. 'Waiting for more volunteers to arrive at the station can seem like an eternity in that situation. But, in reality, it's only a minute or two.'

First to arrive were Crew Members Andy Stott and Charles Swales, and by 12.30pm the three were heading out in their D class lifeboat – officially named *George Bearman II* just the week before.

Once outside the safe water mark the lifeboat crew were hailed by another kitesurfer, who told them that two people were in the water, right at the end of the river. 'That was in the opposite direction to what we'd been given,' says Tommo. 'But if someone is giving you fresh information near the scene – you've got to check it out.'

By now it was blowing a force 5 with a strong ebb tide. 'Conditions weren't brilliant,' says Tommo. 'But our guys are trained to know what to do in that kind of weather. When big waves are coming at you, all eyes are on the front of the lifeboat.'

The lifesavers followed up their new tip-off but found nothing after 10 minutes. Next, they made thorough sweeps of Orcombe Point – still nothing. Then they headed west, behind Pole Sands, where they found another kitesurfer who had seen the men. Back at the lifeboat station, a lookout confirmed the ski's location over VHF radio.

Richard and Jason had drifted a long way but by 1pm the lifeboat crew had found them and pulled them aboard. 'One of the chaps was very pleased to see us,' said Charles. 'He was cold and suffering a bit. Initially he was very chatty but then he started to go downhill – it was probably shock.'

Normally, the crew would have rigged a tow and brought the craft back in with them at this point. 'But we knew we had to get back over Pole Sands,' says Andy. 'It would have taken us longer and been pretty unpleasant in those conditions.'

'And when you've got someone looking like they're in shock, you don't know where it's going to go,' says Tommo. 'The RNLI gives us great casualty care training but we didn't want to be triaging in those conditions. We thought it best to get him ashore fast and hand him over to paramedics.' Richard had also swallowed seawater. Aware of the risks of secondary drowning, volunteers at the station called an ambulance and were joined by coastguards to help the men ashore.

On arrival Richard was cold, gasping for air and assessed as 'big sick' by RNLI shore crew. Waiting for the ambulance they gave him oxygen, blankets and a hot drink. He quickly improved and the ambulance crew later gave him the all-clear.

'Our crew and casualties always come first,' says Tommo. 'Then we headed back out for the ski. It was a potential hazard and would have triggered more 999 calls. As it turned out, it was also a really useful opportunity to put training into practice.'

Richard and Jason returned to the station later that evening with a few cases of beer for the crew. 'I really

appreciate what they did for us,' says Richard. 'They were brilliant, absolutely brilliant. All of them are so professional and they knew exactly what they were doing. And to think they don't even get paid for it. It's amazing really.'

At the time of writing we learned that Tommo had just become a grandad. Congratulations and best wishes from all at *Lifeboat* magazine!

Words: Jon Jones

Photos: RNLI/(Anna Burn, Emma Tarling, Nigel Millard)



FIGHT YOUR INSTINCT, NOT THE WATER

Jason and Richard almost certainly averted disaster by being well prepared with buoyancy aids and wetsuits. As well as his kit, Jason was equipped with useful knowledge, encouraging his friend to lie back, float and keep calm. His advice echoes the Float to Live message from our Respect the Water campaign.

Everyone who falls unexpectedly into cold water wants to follow the

same instinct, to swim hard and fight the cold water. But when people fight it, chances are, they lose. Cold water shock and exhaustion can quickly lead to drowning.

If you find yourself unexpectedly in the water, try and take a minute to float and catch your breath, before finding a way to swim to safety or calling for help. See respectthewater.com for the full guide.

ON THE ROPES

A kitesurfer, tangled in his lines, was drifting out to sea. He was dangerously close to jagged rocks and was about to take desperate measures

For Tom Davies from Bristol, it was the first time he'd kitesurfed on his own since taking lessons. It was around midday, 25 April 2017, at Rest Bay near Porthcawl. Tom realised he was in trouble when he couldn't relaunch the kite. He attempted a self-rescue, but admits: 'I made a bit of a hash of it and got tangled up in the lines.'

It wasn't a windy day, but the current was pulling him across and out to sea. For an hour and a half he tried to alert people on the shore, 150–200m away. Tom says: 'It was quite scary. Towards the end I was considering cutting my lines and making a swim for the rocks.'

Thanks to a call from a member of the public on shore, help was on its way. Lifeboat volunteers Simon Emms, Chris 'Bee' Missen, James Hill and Gareth Charnock were first to reach the station.

They launched the Atlantic 85 *Rose of the Shires* within 5 minutes. Simon was at the helm and it was Gareth's first call out for the RNLI. During the 2-mile dash to the kitesurfer, Bee briefed James and Gareth. Bee explains the very real dangers:

'Rescuing a kitesurfer is one of the higher risk jobs we do. The kite's lines are like cheese wires when they're tense. We need to get in and be in

control of the situation very quickly, otherwise people *will* get hurt.'

The crew spotted Tom, dangerously close to Hutchwns Point, a rocky outcrop. The Porthcawl Coastguard was watching from the shore.

Tom saw the orange lifeboat approaching – 'a very welcome sight'.

Up close, the crew realised how tangled Tom's leg was in the ropes, Simon wondered: 'How on earth did he get into that mess? He could have got dragged against the rocks, without any way to protect himself.'

At the front of the lifeboat, Bee quickly grabbed hold of the kitesurfer. Looking down he realised how shallow it was and shouted to Simon to get the lifeboat out of there. The crew kept a firm hold of Tom as they manoeuvred into deeper water.

'Boats and rocks don't mix,' says Simon. 'There was a real risk of damage to the hull or the propellers, which could incapacitate the lifeboat. We'd be at the mercy of the tide. And people use their hard-earned money to pay for lifeboats.'

The lads hauled Tom aboard, with his lines and kite. Tom was understandably shaken and cold, but he was put at ease by the Porthcawl crew. They loosened the lines and checked for injuries. Just 20 minutes after launching



they were all back on dry land.

Once the crew had got the lifeboat washed down and ready for the next service, Simon turned to the serious matter of enjoying a well-deserved cup of tea: 'Tea after a call out is an absolute must.'

They made sure Tom got a cuppa and even tried to untangle the rest of his lines. Tom reflected: 'The crew were excellent. I am certainly very grateful for their help, thank you.'

Words: Bethany Hope

Photos: RNLI/Nigel Millard, Stephen Duncombe



CHRIS 'BEE' MISSEN
CREW MEMBER
POLICE OFFICER
PORTHCAWL

'It's a really bad day at the office when you put a hole through your lifeboat'

'I was working nights that week, so when I got paged, I was in bed. I drove down to the lifeboat station in T-shirt and pants!

'Without help, that kitesurfer was going to get seriously hurt. Those rocks are needle sharp – it's about the most unforgiving place you'd want to come ashore, especially when tied up in rope without freedom of movement.

'The worst moment was when I realised quite how shallow it was beneath us. It's a really bad day at the

office when you put a hole through your lifeboat.

'The crew that day were second to none. You can't go back to normal life straight away after a shout like that. You spend 5 minutes hurtling towards someone drowning or in difficulty, then 20 minutes later you're back on land. The adrenaline's pumping. I couldn't sleep. But I did go back home to find my trousers!'

Watch the video of the rescue at [RNLI.org/RestBay](https://www.rnli.org/RestBay)

The right call

Liam is readying himself for the shout as he laces his shoes. 'As soon as you hear that pager, there's an adrenaline rush. And then you take a breath and you mellow yourself. You think: "Right. What could we be going to?"'

Liam McAvoy has been on the crew at St Bees Lifeboat Station for about a year. He arrives first, followed shortly by Helm Ian Wrigley. 'The winds are force 6 and there's a thick fog,' Ian says. 'A sailing yacht is disoriented and struggling to reach Whitehaven Harbour. We launch immediately.'

Belfast Coastguard give the volunteers the last known coordinates of the vessel and Liam takes position on the navigation system. Also onboard the Atlantic 85 are Crew Members Stephen Clifford and Dale Rickerby.

'Conditions coming around St Bees Head are scruffy: low cloud, low visibility, a strong wind with stronger gusts,' Ian continues. 'We're using the GPS to pick a course through the waves and along the coast, before heading out at 300°.'

Out of the mist, on the starboard side of the lifeboat *Joy Morris*, appears a sailing yacht, its black hull and white top camouflaged against sea and sky.

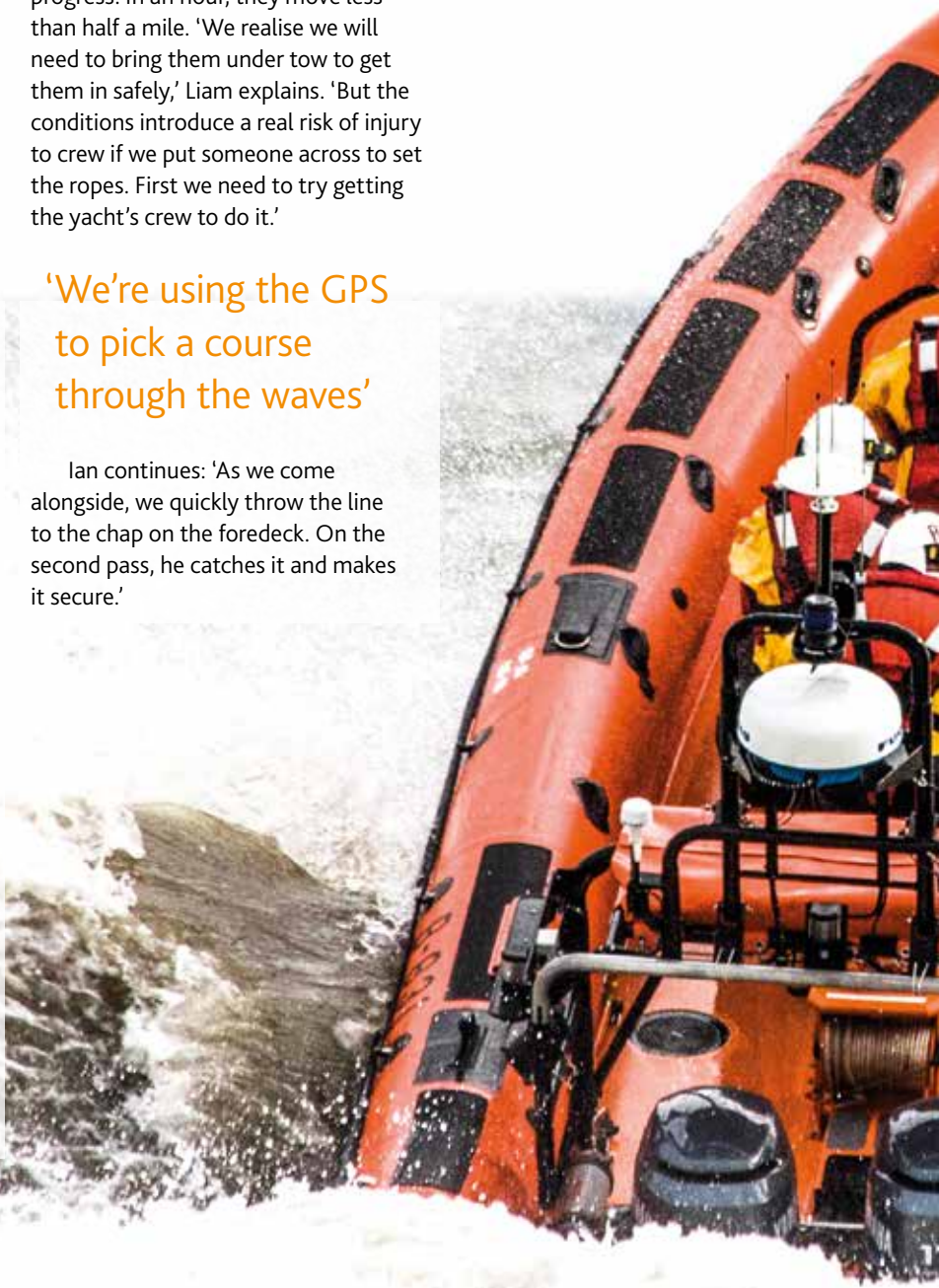
'The crew are pretty relieved to see us,' Liam says. 'It's been a long crossing for them from the Isle of Man and the conditions have worsened since they set out. They thought they'd be able to handle it but now find themselves in wind too strong for sails and with an engine struggling to make headway.'

Ian recalls: 'Shouting across to the crew we establish that some are seasick but nobody is injured. Without anyone's life at immediate risk we instruct the skipper to follow our course.'

Against the wind it is painstaking progress. In an hour, they move less than half a mile. 'We realise we will need to bring them under tow to get them in safely,' Liam explains. 'But the conditions introduce a real risk of injury to crew if we put someone across to set the ropes. First we need to try getting the yacht's crew to do it.'

'We're using the GPS to pick a course through the waves'

Ian continues: 'As we come alongside, we quickly throw the line to the chap on the foredeck. On the second pass, he catches it and makes it secure.'





With the sailing yacht under tow, they make way for Whitehaven Harbour at a steady 4 knots. Liam navigates the hazards: 'There's quite a lot of fishing in this area, so pot lines to watch out for on the way back in. Getting to the coast with a stern tow and the wind taking their vessel, we have to find a big enough gap between the lines to avoid entanglement.'

Reaching the harbour, the inshore lifeboat and sailing yacht break the tow to pass through a sea lock and find a mooring in the marina. 'Safely ashore, we give them some friendly advice,' Liam adds. 'They are very appreciative,

if a little embarrassed. It's not easy to go through something like that and anyone can be caught out, but you can reduce the chances.'

Liam's message for readers? 'Please don't hesitate to call us. If someone's in distress, don't think: "Oh we'll get through it." Make the call. That's what we're here for. We don't mind whether we're eating our breakfast, lying in bed, about to go out with our mates. It doesn't matter. We'd rather be out there making sure you're okay.'

Words: Anna Burn

Photos: RNLI/(Martin Fish, Colin Wadey)



IAN WRIGLEY
HELM | ST BEES
LIFEBOAT STATION

Safe passage

'We have a lot of jobs involving tows, but the sea state and visibility made this one more involved. Ensure your vessel is seaworthy and only set sail when you are experienced and equipped for the conditions you may face. Book a free Advice Onboard session with us if you're not sure.'

'Rescue was made more difficult because the skipper was the only one able to effectively steer the vessel and operate the radio. If you're a skipper, always show others on the boat how to use the equipment to call for help. If something had happened to that skipper on the day, his crew would've had to use the radio whether they knew how to or not.'

[RNLI.org/AdviceOnboard](https://www.rnli.org/AdviceOnboard)

BLUE PETER

scrapbook

Words: Philly Byrde
Research: Hayley Whiting
Photos: Nicholas Leach, RNLI Archive,
RNLI/(Chris Cousens, Fishguard)

Fifty years ago, the very first *Blue Peter* lifeboats went to their new homes. As this much-loved children's TV show turns 60 this year, we delve into the RNLI archives to celebrate half a century of flying the flag together

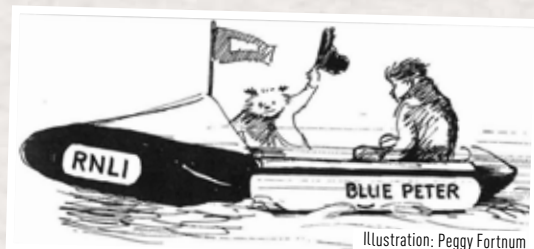


Illustration: Peggy Fortnum

1968 | Paddington to the rescue?

More at home flooding the bathroom than braving the ocean wave, Paddington finds himself rescued by a lifeboat in a special story by Michael Bond for the 1968 *Blue Peter* annual. After mistaking a demo exercise for someone in trouble, Paddington swims to the lifeboat crew's aid, only to be dragged under by his duffle coat. Valerie updates the *Blue Peter* lifeboat's rescue tally to: 'Fourteen people, one dog, one bear ... and one bear's hat!'

1970 | Going global

Lifeboat volunteers Roy Cole and Johnny Pelham come into the studio to talk about helping in the East Pakistan floods. Already familiar with the D class *Blue Peter I* at their home station in Littlehampton, Roy and Johnny help the British Red Cross to use these boats in their rescue efforts following cyclone Bhola. The team are the first British relief workers to reach the disaster area.



1967 | Paperback boats on station

Inspired by a storm force 10 warning on the radio as she drives to the studio, Valerie Singleton suggests the RNLI for the next *Blue Peter* appeal. With John Noakes groaning at the all-weather price tag (£4,000) the RNLI recommends an inshore rescue boat instead (£650). Since 1963 this new, agile craft has been rescuing beachgoers and boaters close to shore. Eager viewers fund four of them after donating old paperbacks by the ton, and an enduring partnership is born.



1973 | 1978 | 2004 | 2005

Outstanding courage

There's not much that tops a gold *Blue Peter* badge for prestige, but on four occasions *Blue Peter* crews (at St Agnes, North Berwick and Cleethorpes) have earned RNLI gallantry medals for outstanding bravery. In 1978 St Agnes Helm Peter David Bliss (pictured second left, next to John Noakes) is awarded the Silver Medal. He leads the rescue of an injured surf lifesaver trapped at the base of cliffs, taking the lifeboat through a very narrow channel in heavy 4m surf.



1994 | Ready for all weathers

The appeals have come a long way since doubts about fundraising totals in the 1960s. Following the 1993 Pieces of Eight appeal the first all-weather lifeboat funded by viewers, Trent class *Blue Peter VII*, goes on service at Fishguard.



2017 | 60th celebrations

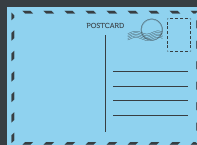
Lindsey Russell becomes the latest presenter to don the yellows and head out to sea with Beaumaris volunteers, as part of the show's 60th anniversary series. Tune in this autumn to see how she gets on!



What goes into a *Blue Peter* lifeboat fleet?



240,000
paperbacks



800,000
old postcards
and stamps



500,000
pieces of eight

Where have *Blue Peter* lifeboats served?

Blue Peter I – Littlehampton
Blue Peter II – Beaumaris
Blue Peter III – North Berwick
Blue Peter IV – St Agnes
Blue Peter V – Portaferry
Blue Peter VI – Cleethorpes
Blue Peter VII – Fishguard



Over the years viewers funded 28 lifeboats at 7 stations (the names were reused). Did you save up for an appeal? Have you crewed a *Blue Peter* lifeboat? We'd love to hear your memories.



WHO IS GUY MARTIN?

Born in Grimsby, Guy Martin is a mechanic better known for his motorcycle racing and television programmes, including *The Boat That Guy Built* and *Speed with Guy Martin*. When he's not trying to break world speed records, he's tinkering away with engines. guymartinproper.com

The RNLI and me:

Guy Martin

Motorcycle racer and TV star mechanic Guy Martin had barely dried out from our sea survival pool when we nabbed him for a chat

You had to jump in at the deep end (literally!) for capsized training earlier, how was it?

It was great. I didn't really know what to expect but the RNLI trainers explained what to do. Rather than just jumping in as you would, you look forward – don't look up, don't look down. You hold your nose, hold your elbow, and just keep walking straight.

When you work to instructions, there's no problem, no panicking. From the outside it must look extreme, but you're prepared for everything. There were no shocks. It was a great experience.

And what a set up! The dummy engines, the sounds, the crane, the waves, the rain – it's just great. And the helicopter noises? It's very realistic.

You've done quite a few water-based world record attempts. Have they ever involved the RNLI?

We were mucking about last year trying to break the world record for the fastest pedalo. The RNLI gave us a hand, just in case it all went wrong, and they were more than helpful. I got talking to them and they invited me to Humber Lifeboat Station. We went out in the boat, around the Bull Sand Fort – a fort from the First World War in the River Humber. We had dinner together too. It was brilliant. They have a wild fox that's become sort of tame. He's called Basil.

And did you have any connection with the RNLI before that?

No – well, if I saw a charity box, I'd put some change in it.

As a mechanic, would you fancy taking apart a lifeboat engine?

An engine is an engine – they are all more or less the same. There are just different marinisations that you do to them. I was just talking to the trainer about how close you have to live to a station to be a volunteer.

You'd like to be on the crew then?

Yes, I like being in sticky and risky situations. I've got a really busy job but I work in Grimsby, so I'd only be 10 minutes from Cleethorpes. It might be worth having a look! The dedication of all of the volunteers is bloody great.

'From the outside it must look extreme, but you're prepared for everything'

Lifeboat crew can be on incredibly long shouts. What's been your biggest feat of endurance?

Last year, I did the Tour Divide mountain bike race from Canada to Mexico. I slept in ditches for 2 hours a night – or whenever I got the chance – and it took me 18 days and 7 hours to complete the race. There was no outside help, you can't talk to anyone during the race, and there's no one at the start or finish line – it's the strangest thing. It's the biggest challenge I've ever undertaken and finished – it was great.

Interview: Nikki McMullen
Photo: RNLI/Nathan Williams

MY FAVOURITE ...

Coastal spot?

You could have Monaco or the Riviera but, to be honest, I like Cleethorpes.

Watersport?

I did once try riding a motorbike across a lake. We only got about 85m – it wasn't very successful but it was good fun.

Racer?

Dead simple, it's Jean-Michel Bayle. He's won Motocross and Supercross. For me, he's the most versatile and greatest motorbike racer to ever live. Legendary.

Friends of the RNLI

These corporate partners offer discounts to you and fundraising benefits for our charity



Amazon

The RNLI receives at least 5% of your order value only via RNLI.org/amazon.

Furness Building Society

This mutual has launched an affinity savings account with the RNLI. Please go to furnessbs.co.uk/community/affinity-accounts.



Coastal Spring

Look out for the Coastal Spring range of Cornish bottled water in your local shops, bars and restaurants. 1p per bottle will go to the RNLI.



Giveacar

Giveacar is a not-for-profit social enterprise that can turn your old car into cash for the RNLI. They will arrange free collection, then either sell your car at auction or scrap it with 70% of all recycling or auction revenue being paid in support of the RNLI.

To find out more call 020 7736 4242 or email support@giveacar.co.uk.

Puzzle time

Quick Wordsearch:

Can you find all the Blue Peter characters, places and creations?

B J Y R Z X N Z B Q T F B S G
I U R L L U Q Q U U E O T L U
T H R L I H E D R H L Q P X D
D X E I T V C R N E L W Z D P
J D F B T E M E H I W B T E S
I I A E L X J K A N B R H D R
L K T L E D S A M N L S E N G
Y C R C H F I B O O U W K Y O
O M O A A A R T N K E A S C A
W Y P N M S A T C B P A N R J
R L T R P N M A R N E F F A F
V N O A T Z U M O R T Y D H F
P E M B O O A E U B E F U S Q
C N Q G N S E R C G R T I P I
P O U B H C B B H W C O N P Y

BARNACLE BILL

BEAUMARIS

BLUE PETER

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH

KONNIE HUQ

LITTLEHAMPTON

MATT BAKER

MYLNE

PORTAFERRY

SHEP

NAUTICAL PUZZLES

Word Rebus

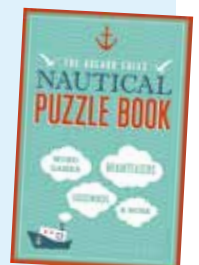
Say what you see.

KEEL KEEL



Twin Keels

From *The Adlard Coles Nautical Puzzle Book* published by Bloomsbury and reproduced with their kind permission.



It's Christmas card time!

This festive season, you can get all your RNLI Christmas cards from our partner Cards for Good Causes. At least 70p of every £1 spent on this range goes to the RNLI.



Saving Santa

Pack of 10 (RNLI03) £3.95



I Saw Three Ships

Pack of 10 (RNLI05) £3.95

To order

call **01264 363036**,
+441264 363036 (for our
supporters in Ireland)

or visit
cardsforcharity.co.uk/rnli

Delivery

£3.99 for orders up to £18
£5.99 for orders £18.01-£40
£6.99 over £40.01

Orders outside UK:
please phone for a price



Twelve Days

Pack of 10 (RNLI08) £4.50



Bethlehem

Pack of 10 (RNLI07) £3.95



Winter Robin

Pack of 10 (RNLI06) £4.25



Donkey and Friends

Pack of 10 (RNLI04) £3.95



Harbourside Christmas

Pack of 10 (RNLI02) £4.50



Giles Granny in Boat

Pack of 10 (RNLI01) £4.50



**Home for Christmas Bi Lingual
Welsh/English**

Pack of 10 (WRNL01) £3.95



Christmas at the Barre

Pack of 10 (RNLI09) £3.95

What's happening to the RNLI Shop online?

We're sorry that our online shop and mail order continue to be on hold while we improve the service. You can still buy RNLI gifts and souvenirs in person from our local shops – find your nearest at RNLI.org/find-my-nearest/shops or get in touch via the details on page 2. Thank you for your patience.

SEASONED LIFESAVERS

Every summer, RNLI lifeguards patrol more than 240 beaches across the UK and Channel Islands, keeping thousands of beachgoers safe. But how can we keep people safe as winter approaches?





A scheme being trialled on some of Cornwall's busiest beaches could be the answer to a perennial problem.

The RNLI's Community Lifesaving Equipment Pilot Scheme gives qualified lifeguards access to the equipment they need to save lives, even when they're not on duty.

Local people can also train in first aid and casualty care so that they too can access the equipment, putting lifesaving at the heart of the community.

One person backing the scheme is surfer Dan Provost from Looe, who got into trouble on the beach in December last year.

It's the day before New Year's Eve. The weather in north Cornwall is glorious and Newquay's Fistral Beach is teeming with people making the most of the winter sunshine.

As one of the best surfing beaches in Europe, Fistral attracts surfers from all over, all year round. And on this day, Dan is enjoying the water with his son Finley, his friend Christian, and Christian's son Leo.

'We'd been in the water for just over an hour. I was catching good waves,' Dan recalls. 'I caught a wave in and started paddling back out again. I saw this wave coming towards us and thought: "I'll grab that."'

Dan quickly turned and paddled to the wave and as it lifted him up on the board, he tried to get to his feet but went over the front of the board instead. As he surfaced, the wave caught the board and smashed it into his face – right in the eye.

'At first I didn't know what had happened. I thought I'd been hit by something like a jet ski,' he remembers. 'It was a hell of a wallop. I couldn't see out of my right eye. I was where the white water was breaking and I felt like I was going to pass out, but I managed to hold it together.'

'Seeing the waves coming, I grabbed my board and started to come in. I thought I'd lost my eye to be honest.'

When they realised what had happened, Christian, Finley and Leo helped Dan out of the water and made their way up the beach to the lifeguard unit.

Never off duty

Also on the beach that day was RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor Lewis Timson. It was out of season and Lewis was off duty, but he had been surfing with his dad, a former lifeguard volunteer.

'It was really nice and sunny, like a summer's day. It was packed down there. Everybody was obviously off for the Christmas break,' Lewis says.

'I was near the lifeguard unit and a group of people came out the water and started walking up towards it. There were no lifeguards on the beach, but trying the unit was their first reaction.

'I could see that one man in the group, Dan, was distressed and there

was loads of blood on his face. Thanks to the equipment scheme, I was able to open up the lifeguard unit and treat Dan straight away.'

'It was a relief that Lewis was there'

'Just having that reassurance that I was lucky and that the board had just missed my eye was good to hear,' says Dan. 'It was a relief that Lewis was there.

'He washed out my eye to remove all the sand and grit, washed the blood off my face, then bandaged my eye and head. He said that I needed to go to the minor injury unit because there were bits of fibreglass in my eye from my surfboard.'

Dan's plans for New Year's Eve were ruined. But 2 weeks later, his eye had fully healed and he was back surfing again.

'I was very lucky and I'm very grateful for everything that Lewis did for me. You don't realise that somewhere as popular as Fistral, with such a big surfing name, doesn't have lifeguards on the beach year round. It was a bit of a shock to me.

'But if there are people that regularly surf or work there who are trained to help others and have access to the lifeguard unit, then that's brilliant.'

An all-season scheme

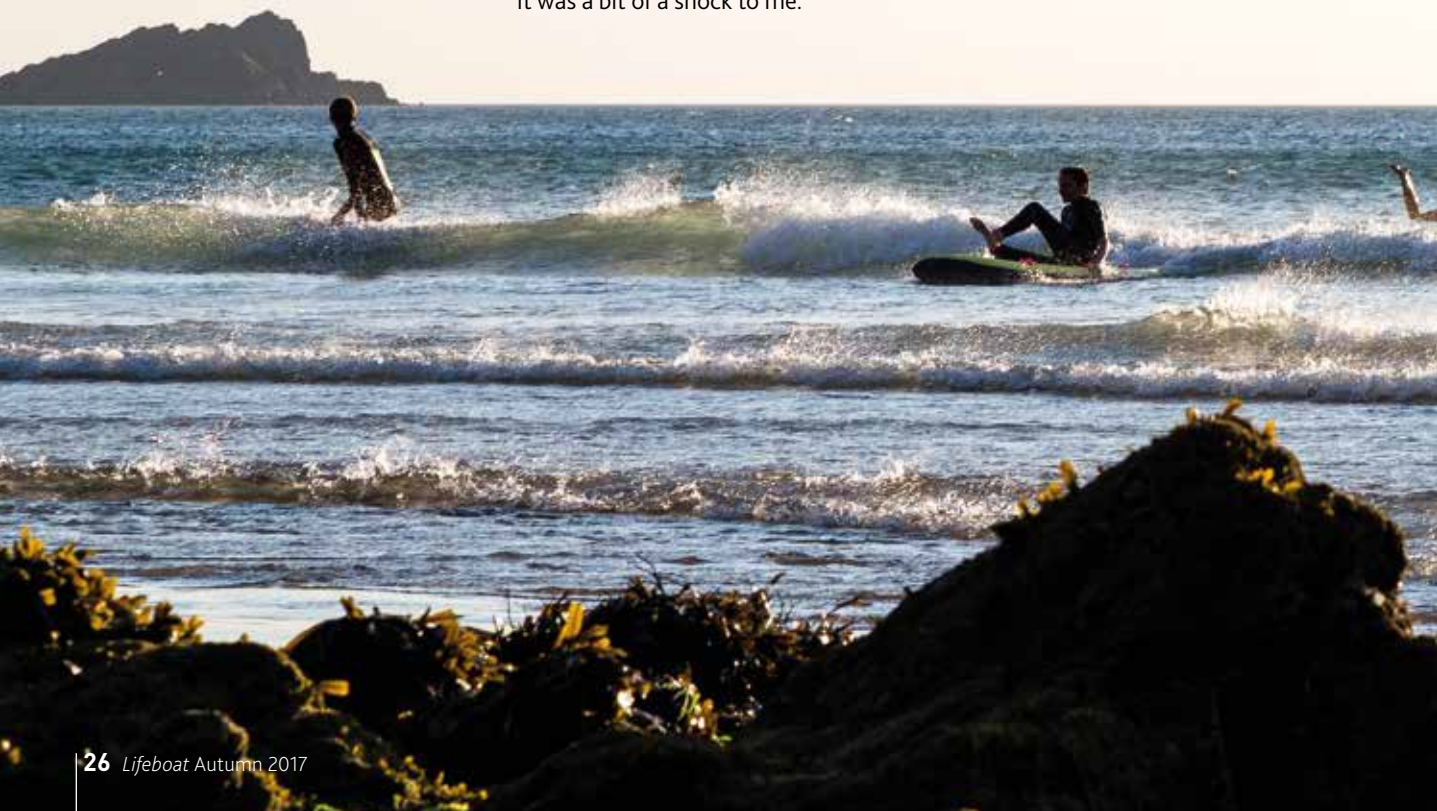
The Community Lifesaving Equipment Pilot Scheme was developed to provide out-of-hours lifesaving cover on beaches for just such incidents.

'Beaches can feel quite remote during the winter when there's no lifeguard service, but there can still be a lot of people in the water, especially with wetsuit technology,' Lewis explains.

'The scheme is really for the wintertime, but also the evenings during the summer when no lifeguards are on duty.

'All RNLI lifeguards who sign off duty at the end of the summer are kept on as volunteers. They're all qualified and know how to use the lifesaving equipment that's available.

'Many of the lifeguards are around in the winter surfing anyway, or they work on or close to the beach. They



have a code to access a key that's in a key safe on the external wall of the lifeguard unit.

'At Fistral we have an amazing facility, probably one of the best in the country. So that day I had access to a warm building with a phone, a hot shower and all the equipment that's available to lifeguards when we're on duty. Things like a full emergency responder bag, wetsuits, rescue boards, rescue tubes ... everything.'

Keeping the community involved

'We have community lifesaving responders – people who aren't qualified lifeguards but join as volunteers,' Lewis adds. 'These are people who are around the beach for much of the day during the winter, perhaps working in the surf schools or cafés or who have lifeguard qualifications.'

Responders follow the same casualty care training as RNLI lifeguards, bringing extra pairs of hands onto the beach and trained people around who can access the first aid kit.

'The course gives responders all the skills they need to provide emergency care for all casualties until paramedics arrive, or they can be taken to hospital. So the scheme really gives the community ownership of keeping people safe as well,' concludes Lewis.

'It's important to note that these community lifesaving responders do not get involved in rescuing people from the water – only qualified lifeguards should do this.'

If you see anyone in trouble in the water, call 999 or 112 and ask for the coastguard. Give as much detail as you can, including the location and the activity the person in trouble is doing.

If you have something that floats or they can hold on to, throw it to them. Help them stay calm and encourage them to float. But don't enter the water yourself. Too many people drown trying to save others.

The pilot takes off

The scheme started at Fistral Beach 3 years ago and is now running on 13 beaches around Newquay and up to

Padstow. So far the rescue equipment has been mainly used by qualified lifeguards for water-based rescues out of hours.

Area Lifesaving Manager Dickon Berriman is reassured by its progress so far. 'There's no doubt that the concept works and will be picked up wherever it's relevant around the coast,' he says.

'With the popularity of surfing and the improvement and availability of equipment we are seeing a blurring of the seasons year on year.

'We acknowledge that there are many unreported rescues and interventions carried out by surfers and other water users throughout the year. This often goes unnoticed but can also lead to further problems if those who go to help also get into trouble. This scheme is a step towards equipping rescuers with the right skills and equipment to help keep them safe while helping others.'

Words: Vicki Lovegrove-Fray

Photos: RNLI/Nathan Williams



What's in an RNLI emergency responder bag?

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Defibrillator and bag/mask valve kit | 6 Cold casualty treatment equipment |
| 2 Airway management equipment | 7 Casualty care check cards |
| 3 Protection gloves and sterilising gel | 8 Bodily fluid disposal kits |
| 4 Burns kit | 9 Medical drugs |
| 5 Trauma dressings and tourniquets | 10 Ambulance dressings |
| | 11 Fracture immobilisation straps |
| | 12 Gauze dressing |
| | 13 Oxygen |



GET SWIMFIT

These days swimming lessons aren't all about armbands or diving for bricks in your PJs. As the nights draw in, we asked swimming coach Ashley Jones to help us become confident open water swimmers by next summer

'This time of year I swim at my local outdoor pool first thing in the morning, when the water's nice and steamy'

So says Ashley Jones, a fully qualified swimming teacher, open water coach and beach lifeguard. Ashley manages the Swim England and RNLI Swim Safe programme, giving free outdoor swimming and water safety sessions to children aged 7–14 across the UK.

Ashley's passionate about getting people – young and older – in the water all year round: 'Swimming's so good for you. For me personally, the mental benefits of swimming are key.

I just switch off, putting one arm in front of the other. It gives you a full body workout, focusing on strength or endurance.' Swimming just 30 minutes a week can also help to guard against heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes.

'Anyone can swim – with the right tuition and effort,' enthuses Ashley. 'You can get adult lessons at your local pool for around a fiver. And once you've learned to swim confidently in a pool, it can be an entirely free pastime with all the open water around us.'

FANCY GIVING OPEN WATER SWIMMING A GO?

If you want to try open water swimming, it's wise to practise some specific skills throughout the year at your local swimming pool. You can get some tuition from someone like Ashley, or follow his top tips:

1. Can you float? It might sound simple, but most people can't do that picture-perfect version of floating. So we're challenging you to go and find how you float effectively. Practise floating in a swimming pool as it's a controlled environment. Then you'll know what to do in an emergency in the open water.



2. Tread water. There's no wall or rail to hold or kick off from in open water, so get used to treading water in the deep end of the pool.

3. Try sighting. In the open water there are no lane lines, so practise swimming in a straight line. Lift your head to spot a landmark in the distance to keep you on track.

4. Improve your technique. Put your head in the water to improve your body position. For front crawl, remember your leg kick – floppy ankles and long leg kicks from the hip. Practise more than one stroke so you can ease off when you need to. And remember to stretch and warm up first.

5. Find a club. Before you try open water swimming, find an organised group. You'll need to learn about all the conditions that can change – tides, rip currents, winds and more. If you've got a child aged 7–14 in your family, take advantage of the free Swim Safe sessions next year – so they can stay safe when swimming outdoors.

swimsafe.org.uk

Words: Bethany Hope

Photos: RNLI/Nathan Williams, Swim England

Autumnal adventures

As things outside take a chillier turn, explore new horizons from the comfort of home



For the artistic eye

Explorers' Sketchbooks – The Art of Discovery & Adventure

by Huw Lewis-Jones and Kari Herbert

'Our neighbourly intimacy with the seas was not fully realized by Torstein till he woke one morning and found a sardine on his pillow' – from Thor Heyerdahl's *Kon-Tiki* expedition food log. You may not dream of becoming quite so intimate with the sea, but this intriguing collection of explorers' drawings and jottings allows you to experience new worlds through their eyes. Stories scribbled on old newspaper, iceberg-specked oceans, natural history – the authors have lovingly researched and photographed their sources, giving background detail on each explorer to illuminate the imagery. Beautifully laid out in landscape, you really feel like you're leafing through a long-lost sketchbook.

Published by Thames & Hudson
ISBN 9780500252192
Price (hardback): £29.95



For the young explorer

Survivors – Extraordinary Tales from the Wild and Beyond

by David Long and Kerry Hyndman
Winner of the Blue Peter Book Award for Best Book with Facts 2017

The greatest danger in buying this book is the argument over who gets to read it first. From the woman who sailed into a hurricane to the student who was sucked under by quicksand, each chapter is a beautifully illustrated insight into human resilience and determination. Best read with a reassuring adult close at hand, the scary parts are more than overcome by one overriding message: humans are capable of incredible strength when faced with disaster.

Published by Faber & Faber
ISBN 9780571316014
Price (hardback): £14.99



For the persister

Dare to Do – Taking on the planet by bike and boat
by Sarah Outen

Sarah Outen's globe-circling adventure makes Phileas Fogg look like a Sunday stroller. When she had to abandon her boat *Happy Socks* during the Atlantic crossing due to a looming hurricane, she never thought she would see the craft again – only to be reunited thanks to Castletownbere's lifeboat crew some 3 months later! Sarah's is a powerful journey of self-discovery and adaptability, shaped by the grit of countless physical and mental setbacks. She completed her expedition in 2015, with several new records to her name.

Published by Nicholas Brealey Publishing
ISBN 9781473655287
Price: £9.99

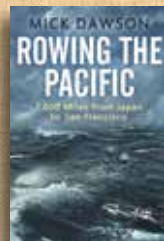


For the restorer

Mistress and Commander – High jinks, high seas and Highlanders
by Amelia Dalton

When Amelia Dalton decided to convert solid oak Danish trawler *Monaco* into a chic expedition ship for touring the Hebrides, she little expected the characters that would come her way – from reluctant shipyard workers to queasy paying guests. This memoir tangles love, loss and healthy doses of fish hold scrubbing, peppered with some salty language and humour. The crew of *Monaco* even play their hilarious part in an exercise with the Coastguard and local lifeboats.

Published by Sandstone Press
ISBN 9781910985175
Price: £8.99



For the voyager

Rowing the Pacific – 7,000 Miles from Japan to San Francisco
by Mick Dawson

After rowing across the Atlantic Ocean in 2001, former Royal Marine Mick Dawson needed a new challenge. He turned his attention to the North Pacific Ocean, determined to make the 7,000-mile crossing. It took three attempts, but with the help of his rowing partner Chris Martin, he made the epic crossing in 189 days, 10 hours and 55 minutes. Mick's account of their gruelling journey is compelling. You'll feel that you're there with them, through the near-death experiences and the equipment failures, battling extreme fatigue, frightening storms and an ocean the consistency of liquid cement.

Published by Robinson
ISBN 9781472140418
Price: £13.99



For the historian

Sir John Franklin's Erebus and Terror Expedition – Lost and Found
by Gillian Hutchinson

In 1845, Sir John Franklin led an expedition to explore the Northwest Passage – a sea route connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Their mission was expected to end in triumph. Instead, the HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* – and the 129 men aboard – were lost in the Arctic. The fate of the two ships and their crews has long been shrouded in mystery, but recent discoveries have shed some light on the voyage. Gillian Hutchinson's insight into the expedition, filled with photos, maps, paintings and objects from the National Maritime Museum's collection, is a must-read for any history buff. You're sure to be gripped by the tale of endurance, heroism and tragedy.

Published by Bloomsbury
ISBN 9781472948694
Price: £18.99 (paperback) £16.99 (eBook)

Buy these books online via
RNLI.org/amazon and Amazon will
donate a minimum of 5% of the value
to the RNLI.

Recommended retail prices may vary
from the time of writing. Post and
packaging costs may apply to books
ordered online.

3,298

RNLI RESCUE CRAFT LAUNCHES 1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2017

The launches listed here are those for which returns had been received at RNLI Headquarters and processed by 25 July 2017

Behind every launch, new lifeboat and naming ceremony listed in this section is a community of volunteers, fundraisers and supporters. Whatever you do to keep our crews ready to rescue, **thank you**.



ABERDEEN

ON1248(17-24): Jan7, Mar6, 12, 14, Apr24, May1, Jun12
D-780: Mar14

D-694: Jan26, Mar6, Apr24, Jun7(x2), 8

ABERDOVEY

B-896: Apr29, 30, May14, Jun17, 18

ABERSOCH

B-886: Jan19, Apr29, May4, 7, Jun4, 20, Jul5

ABERYSTWYTH

B-822: Feb2, Mar21(x2), 22(x2), Apr16, 29, 30, May23, 28, Jun12, 16, 25

A-78: Jan5, Feb6, Mar28, May19, 20, 26, 28

ACHILL ISLAND

ON1240(14-28): Jan5, Feb24
ON1204(14-06): Mar2, 3, 5

AITH

ON1232(17-14): Mar9, 14

ALDEBURGH

ON1193(12-34): Apr30

D-673: Apr30, May29

ALDERNEY

ON1199(14-04): Jan7, Mar12, 20, May12

AMBLE

ON1323(13-16): Jan21, Apr19, 20, Jun12, Jul12, 23, 27, 28, 29, 31, Jun4, 6, 18, 25, 30, Jul5, 9

ANGLE

ON1291(16-11): Mar9, Apr6, 9, 24, 25, 29, 30, May5, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 31, Jun4, 6, 18, 25, 30, Jul5, 9

D-776: May2, 24, 28, 31, Jun7(x2), Jul9

APPLEDORE

ON1296(16-16): Jan30, Feb12, Mar14, 28, Apr24, 29, May24

D-650: Jan2, 30, Mar5, Apr14, 27, May24, 25, 28, Jun24, Jul3, 4, 9

B-861: Mar1, 5, 28, Apr8, 24, May25, 27(x2), Jun17, 18, Jul3, 9

ARAN ISLANDS

ON1217(17-06): Feb9, Mar4, 14, Apr8, 22, 29, May20, Jun1, 3, 8, 24, 25, Jul7, 8(x2)

ARBROATH

ON1194(12-35): Jan1, Feb11, 23, 25, 26, Mar24, 30, Jun30

ON1186(12-27): May16, 27, Jun17

D-759: Jan1, 5, Feb11, 17, 23, 25, 26, Mar1, 12, 24, 30, May27, Jun10, 17, 30

ARKLOW

ON1223(14-19): Feb14, Apr13, 14, 28, May3(x3), 31, Jun14

ARRAN (LAMBLASH)

B-876: Jan7

ARRANMORE

ON1244(17-22): Jan7, 13, 15, 18, Mar24, 27, 30, Apr1, 2, 8, 14(x2), 15, 18, 30(x2), May1, 2, 20, 31, Jul8, 9, 13

BALLYCOTTON

ON1233(14-25): Apr19, May3, 10, 27, 30, Jun21

BB-570: Apr19

BALTIMORE

ON1302(16-22): Jan2, Feb12, Mar10, 24, May8, 19
B-780: Feb18, Apr29(x2)

BANGOR

B-805: Jan17, Mar25, Apr2, 3, 4, 8, 24, Jun4, 10(x2)

BARMOUTH

ON1185(12-26): Apr3(x2), May7, Jun18

D-678: Mar31, Apr3, 17, May21, 26(x2), Jun15, 18, 21(x2), Jul1, 9

BARRA ISLAND

ON1230(17-12): Mar12, 27, Apr18, May20, Jun17, 20, 30, Jul5

BARROW

ON1288(16-08): May13, 19, Jun4, 11, 25, Jul7

D-733: Jan8, 16, Feb15, Mar22, Apr7, May11, 13, Jun4, 23, 25

BARRY DOCK

ON1245(14-29): Mar20, Apr7, 15, 24, May12, 20, 22, 25, Jun6, 21, 27, Jul5(x2), 6, 7

D-638: May25, Jul7

BEAUMARIS

B-838: Jan1, 24, Mar6, 15(x2), 19(x2), 24, Apr2, 8, 15, 29, 30, May6(x2), 13, 27, Jun3, 4, 6, 11(x3), 12, 14, 15, 17(x2), 18, 26, 27(x2), 30, Jul2(x2), 5, 6, 9

BEMBRIDGE

ON1297(16-17): Jan2, Feb23, Apr30, May26, Jun4, 20, 25, 26(x2)

ON1286(16-06): Jul1(x2), 5

D-778: Jan2(x2), 4, Apr5, May5, 6, 10, Jun20, Jul1, 13

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED

ON1191(12-32): Jan11, 23, Mar4, Apr2, 29, May18, Jun8
D-777: Jan11, 23, Apr29, May14, 18

BLACKPOOL

D-732: Feb2, 8, 19, Mar11, 30, Apr17, May8, 25, 26, Jun10, 17

D-729: Feb2, 8, 19, Mar11, Apr17, 27, May25, 26, Jun10(x2), 17, 21

B-867: May8, 15

BLYTH

D-746: Jan13, Mar8, May24

B-776: Jan13, Feb17, Jun2, 3

BORTH

D-760: Apr16, 22, May25, 26, 28, Jun17, 25

BRIDLINGTON

ON1169(12-12): Jan7, Feb2, 5, 22, Mar19, 20, 23, Apr16, May14, Jun3, 9

D-721: Feb5, 20, Apr30, May20(x2), 27(x2), Jun3, 4, 10, Jul2(x3)

BRIGHTON

B-852: Jan15, 24, 29(x2), Feb5, 7, 16, Mar5(x2), 12, 19, 25, Apr5, 10, May2, 9(x2), 13, 14, 16, 25, 28, Jun2, 11, 17(x3), 18, 19, 21, 25(x2), Jul1, 2, 4, 6

BROUGHTY FERRY

ON1252(14-31): Jan7, Feb16, Mar4, 15, Apr3, May1, 4, 20, 26, 27, 30, Jun10, 17, 29, Jul5

D-780: Feb16

D-740: May1, 16, 20, 26, 27, 30(x2), Jun10(x2), 17, 29, Jul5
D-698: Mar4, 15, 18, Apr3(x2)

BUCKIE

ON1279(17-46): Feb6, Mar31, Apr6

ON1268(17-37): Apr29, May10, 19, Jun10, 18, 22, 27, 28, 30

BUDE

D-756: Jan8, Apr23, May29, Jun16

BUNDORAN

B-834: Apr7, 16, May28, Jun2

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH

D-807: May27

D-672: Jan26

B-849: Feb23, Mar23, Apr25, May13(x2), 28

BURNHAM-ON-SEA

D-801: Jan29, Feb8, Jul9

B-795: Jan29, Feb8, Apr15, Jul9

BURRY PORT

D-749: Mar25, Apr17, 29, May7, 8, 24, 25, 26(x2), Jun6, 17, 21, Jul5, 7

D-695: Mar11

B-777: Apr8, 12, 29, May8, 26, Jun17
CALSHOT

D-780: Apr30

D-748: Jan14, Feb25, Mar11, 19, 22, 25, Apr1, 2, 11, May20, Jun3, 8, 11, Jul5, 8(x2)

B-889: Mar15, 20, 22, 27, Apr2, 9, May7, 8, 13, 14(x2), Jun14

B-860: Jan2, 14, 22, Feb1, 8, 21, 28, Mar11, 26, Apr23, May17, 27(x3), 29, Jun4, 5, 8, 11(x2), 26, Jul4

CAMPBELTOWN

ON1241(17-19): Jan2, Mar3, 7, Apr17, May1, 18, 22, 31, Jun28, Jul7, 13

D-780: Jan2

D-737: Apr17, May1, 25

CARDIGAN

D-709: Apr15, 16
B-871: Feb18(x2), Apr15, 16, Jun3

CASTLETOWNBERE

ON1277(17-44):Jun10

CHISWICK

E-09:Jan7,10,11,12

E-08:Jan1,6,20,23,27,30,
Feb1,2(x2),3(x2),8,10,17,25,
Mar1,4,7(x2),11,13,15,19(x2),
21,26,29(x2),31,Apr1,2(x2),
3,5(x2),7(x3),8,9(x2),10,
11(x2),16(x2),17,18(x2),22(x2),
26,28(x3),30,May3(x2),5,6,
9(x3),10,12,13(x2),20,22,26,
Jun1,2,3,8,11,13,16(x2),17,
18,21(x2),23,24,26(x2),29,
Jul4,7,8,11,12(x2),13(x2)

CLACTON-ON-SEA

D-723:Jan15,Mar4,10,18,
May31,Jun17

B-863:Jan14,15,28,Feb26,
Mar12,Apr2,8,11,May27,
Jun3,15,17(x2),18,21,25

CLEETHORPES

D-757:Mar28,29,Apr1,16,23

CLIFDEN

ON1192(12-33):Jun20

B-869:Apr22,May27,Jun20

CLOGHER HEAD

ON1190(12-31):Jan23,28,
Mar13,Apr10,11,17(x2),
May26,27

CONWY

D-765:Jan15,20,30,
Mar11(x2),May1,23,29(x2),
Jun1,3,18(x3),23,24,Jul9

COURTMACHERRY

HARBOUR

ON1253(14-32):Feb5,12,
Mar11

ON1205(14-07):May17,Jul2

COURTOWN

D-711:Apr12,14,May14,Jul6

COWES

B-870:Feb23,26,Mar17,
25,26
B-859:Apr12,16,22,23,
May1,2,9,10,13(x2),15,20(x2),
21,23,25,29,31,Jun4,9(x2),
10(x2),14,15,16,18(x2),23,
25,26(x2),Jul1

CRASTER

D-703:Apr2,12,Jul10

CRICCIETH

B-823:Feb8,11,Apr3,8,
Jun6,18,26

A-76:Feb8

A-73:Jun18,19,26,Jul8

CROMER

ON1287(16-07):Feb4,Apr12
D-734:May28

CROSSHAVEN

B-892:Jan15,25,Feb5(x2),
6,Apr25,May5,21,31,Jun11,
24,26

CULLERCOATS

B-811:Feb2,4(x2),Mar8,
16(x2),Apr2(x3),3,May3,10,
13,14,Jun4(x2),7,17,18(x2)

DART

D-702:Feb11,Mar1,2,22,
Apr1(x3),12,May10,20,24(x3),
Jun3,14,19,24,30,Jul9

DONAGHADEE

ON1267(14-36):Mar5,25,
Apr2,8,24,May6,13

DOUGLAS

ON1147(47-032):Mar5(x2),
29,Jun4(x2),5,19

DOVER

ON1220(17-09):Jan1,
Mar12,25,Apr1,4(x2),9,
May21(x2),Jul1,4

DUN LAOGHAIRE

ON1200(14-05):Mar6,

Apr8,May17,25

D-731:Jan21,Mar16,19,28,
Apr26,27(x2),May10,20,22,
23(x2),28,Jun2

D-690:Jun14

DUNBAR

ON1266(14-35):Apr18,
Jun28,Jul1,4,8

D-762:Apr18

D-708:Jun5,21,30,Jul1,8,9

DUNGNESS

ON1309(13-02):Apr1,May8,
14,Jun4,23

DUNMORE EAST

ON1228(14-24):May28,
Jun11,15,19

ON1215(14-17):Jan6,20,
May14,Jul2

EASTBOURNE

ON1303(16-23):Mar10,22,
Apr8,14,18,May25,30,
Jul4,8(x2)

ON1286(16-06):Feb15

D-774:Jul8,9

D-744:Jan12,14,16,Feb13,
14(x2),18,28(x2),Mar10,25,
30(x2),Apr1,16,17,18,23,25,
May4,5,10,12(x2),28,30,Jun2

ENNISKILLEN

RWC-053:Jun18,25,27,
Jul13

B-773:Feb15,Jun11,18,25,
27,Jul13

EXMOUTH

ON1310(13-03):Feb2,
Mar16,Apr7,9,29,May3,Jul5

D-805:Feb2,26,Mar19,
Apr6(x2),7,8,9(x3),11,25,27,
May3,25,26(x2),27,Jun5,9,
11,13,24,25,27,29,Jul2(x2)

D-774:May1,8,13

EYEMOUTH

ON1209(14-11):Jan30,Feb9,
Apr16,24,May16,Jul2,6

D-745:Apr16,May16,Jun11,
Jul2

FALMOUTH

ON1256(17-29):Jan12,19,
Apr29,Jun11,17

B-756:Jan12,19,Feb14,
Apr1,8,26,May24,29,
Jun6,11,16,18(x2)

FENIT

ON1239(14-27):May3,25,
Jun25,Jul10

D-726:Jan1,Apr22,29,
Jun24

FETHARD

D-683:Jul6

FILEY

ON1170(12-13):Feb2,
Apr30,Jun11

D-728:Mar31,Apr16,
May27,Jun1,17,27

FISHGUARD

ON1198(14-03):Apr13,15,
16,17,May6,13,22,23,29,
Jun14,Jul6

D-789:Mar22,May22,Jun21

FLAMBOROUGH

B-820:Feb5,Apr8,9,15,23,
29,May2,26,Jun3,4(x2),10,
11,17,24(x2),Jul1,11

B-815:Jan7

FLEETWOOD

ON1321(13-14):Jan10,
Apr26,27,May15,31,Jun8

D-730:Mar13

D-719:Jan10,Apr26,May15,
Jun8,20

FLINT

D-795:Mar5,Apr15,29,
May4,29,31,Jun8

FOWEY

ON1253(14-32):Apr29,
May13

ON1222(14-18):Jan4,
Feb12,Mar3,11

D-681:Jan5,11,Apr8,16,
May18

FRASERBURGH

ON1259(14-
34):Jan9,Feb6(x2),
Apr3,Jun6,17,22,25,27
ON1225(14-21):May13,28

GALWAY

B-853:Jan8,13,19,Feb4,
Mar15,Apr18,20,22,23,
May10,Jun5,Jul5

GIRVAN

ON1196(12-37):Jul3

GRAVESEND

B-827:Jan5,6,11,29,Feb1,2,
10,11,15,25,Mar2,3,12,21,
Apr12,15(x2),21,23,24,
May1,12,13,14,20,26,28,30,
31,Jun6,11(x2),15,16,19,25,
29,Jul9,12

GREAT YARMOUTH

AND GORLESTON

ON1208(14-10):Jan12,
Feb9,10,16,May9

B-786:Jan7,12,Feb11,15,22,
Mar12,18,Apr2,11,16,
May27,Jun8,9,13,18(x2)

A-77:May31

HAPPISBURGH

B-899:Jul2

B-778:Feb15



ON-####(17-##)
Severn class
last built: 2004



ON-####(16-##)
Tamar class
last built: 2013



ON-####(47-###)
Tyne class
last built: 1990



ON-####(14-##)
Trent class
last built: 2003



ON-####(13-##)
Shannon class
introduced 2014
new cost: £2.2M



ON-####(12-##)
Mersey class
last built: 1993



E-##
E class (MK1 or) 2
new cost: £560,000



B-##
B class (Atlantic 75, 85)
new cost: £214,000



D-###
D class
new cost: £52,000



H-###
Inshore rescue hovercraft
new cost: £450,000



A-##
Inshore rescue boat
new cost: £13,000



RWC-###
Rescue watercraft
new cost: £10,000

Additional rescue craft:
BB-### Boarding boat
Y-### Y boat
X-### X boat
XP-### XP boat
FR-### and
RR-### Flood Rescue Team boat

HARTLEPOOL

ON1274(14-37):Jan5,8,
Apr14,May27,Jun19,22,
24,28,Jul1,9
B-881:Jan3(x3),7,Apr22(x2),
May5,10,26,29,Jun4,9(x2),
25,28,30(x2)
HARWICH
ON1254(17-27):Jan13,
Feb23
ON1202(17-03):Mar12,14,
23,Apr15,May2,27,Jun3,16,
22,28
B-789:Jan3,21,Mar8,14,
May5,27(x3),29,Jun1,
13(x2),15,24,26
HASTINGS
ON1125(12-002):May27,
Jul4
D-699:Jan4,5,Mar3,30,
Apr1,11,May22,24,25,30,
Jun1,3,13,15,16,26,Jul8,13
HAYLING ISLAND
D-798:Feb26,Mar6,15
D-779:Apr29,May14(x2),26,
Jun15(x2),18(x3)
B-829:Jan8(x2),10,Feb23,
26,Mar5,6,Apr10,18,
May26,27,Jul7(x2),9,12
B-825:Apr29(x2),May7,9,
14(x2),23,24,30,Jun11,15,
17(x2),18(x4),21,25
HEADQUARTERS
D-685:Mar15
HELENSBURGH
B-791:Mar24,Apr9,23,24,
May7,Jun14(x3),24,26,27,
Jul10,12
HOLYHEAD
ON1272(17-41):Jan8,
Apr10,18,May2,22,Jun20
ON1263(17-34):Jun4,5,9,30
D-791:Jan8,Feb9,May16,
20,Jun6,20,Jul7
HORTON AND
PORT EYNON
D-688:Jan26,Feb1,Apr2,
8(x2),16,29,May28,Jun11,
24,25,26,Jul2,8
HOWTH
ON1258(14-33):Feb24(x2),
Mar1,5,Jun28
D-796:Jan19,Feb24,Mar5,
May22,Jun11,21
HOYLAKE
ON1313(13-06):Apr9(x2),
Jun19(x2)
H-006:Apr9,May7(x2)
H-005:Feb4,11,Mar6,
May23,25,27,Jul2,12(x2)
HUMBER
ON1269(17-38):Jun26,
Jul5,8,9
ON1216(17-05):Jan8,13,24,
Feb8,Mar19,28,Apr1,16,24,
May6,14,20,24,28,Jun5,17

HUNSTANTON

H-003:Jan12,Apr9,May28,
Jun12,21
B-848:Mar29,Apr9(x2),12,
29,30,May12,Jul7
ILFRACOMBE
ON1316(13-09):Mar1(x2),5,
26,Apr5,10,29,May14,22(x2),
27,Jun6,7,12,15,22,Jul12
D-720:Mar7,26
D-717:Mar1,5,Apr2,10,29,
May5,14,22,Jun6(x2),12,20,
22,Jul4,5,12
ISLAY
ON1219(17-08):Jan28,
Mar21,29,Apr29,May1
KESSECK
B-873:Mar25,Apr17,May4,
26,Jun7
KILKEEL
B-812:Apr23,May12,Jun4,
6,16
KILMORE QUAY
ON1298(16-18):Jan7,Mar3,
4,19,Apr15,Jun2,3,18,
Jul1,11
KINGHORN
B-836:Feb28,Mar4,19,
Apr9(x2),28,May19,25,
27(x2),28,Jun4,6,Jul6
KINSALE
B-796:Feb12,16,Apr23,
May4
KIPPFORD
D-718:Jan18,Feb4
KIRKCUDBRIGHT
B-814:Mar31,Apr11,15,
May13,Jun2,20,24,Jul10,12
KIRKWALL
ON1231(17-13):Mar2,
Apr10,11,16,May17,23,
Jun4,24,25,Jul7
KYLE OF LOCHALSH
B-856:Feb12
LARGS
B-854:Apr8,24,May6(x2),
16,17,23,26,Jun2,8,17,24,
25,26,Jul11,14
LARNE
ON1246(14-30):Feb5,
Mar5,25,Jun11,19
D-783:Jun11,19
LERWICK
ON1221(17-10):Mar3,9,
Jun18
LEVERBURGH
ON1195(12-36):Feb21,
Jun6,14
LITTLE AND
BROAD HAVEN
D-766:Apr1,May13,26,
Jun1,4,15,16,17,Jul6,13
LITTLESTONE-ON-SEA
B-785:Feb19,May6,27,
Jun20

LLANDUDNO

ON1164(12-006):Jan20,
Jun20
D-793:Jan8,Feb2,18(x2),
Mar19,Apr22,May13,21,25,
28,29,Jun16,17,Jul2
LOCH NESS
B-763:Mar6,Apr20,May14,
16,Jun3(x2),14,16,22,30,
Jul4,8
LONGHOPE
ON1284(16-05):Mar2,6,
Apr27,30,May3,17,21,Jul4
LOOE
D-741:Mar4,Apr18,22,
May26,Jun17,18,20
B-894:Jan1,Mar4,Apr22,
23,May26,Jun17,20,Jul8
LOUGH DERG
B-781:Apr15,May1,13,27,
Jun4(x2),16,27
LOUGH REE
B-772:Feb13,Mar4(x2),13,
30,Apr6,11,15,17,22,29,30,
May8,12,27(x2),Jun3,4,
5(x2),19,25,28,Jul2(x4),6,7
LOUGH SWILLY
B-819:May12
LOWESTOFT
ON1312(13-05):Mar12,15,
16,Apr15,20,27
LYME REGIS
B-857:Jan7,Apr9,May7,14,
18,25,Jun10,17(x2),24
B-830:Feb21,Mar11
LYMINGTON
B-882:Feb20,Mar25,26,
Apr10,20,24,May7,8(x2),
21,27,Jun4,5,10,11,19(x2),
24,25,29,Jul1(x2),8,9(x2)
LYTHAM ST ANNES
ON1189(12-30):May4,24(x2)
D-800:May4,25,Jun4
MABLETHORPE
D-790:Apr29,May3,Jun18
B-887:Jan12,May3,Jun18
MACDUFF
B-804:Feb6(x2),Apr3
MALLAIG
ON1250(17-26):Jan8,14,15,
Mar10,Apr10,19,20,24,27,
May11,15,27,Jun8,21,25,
Jul3,12
MARGATE
ON1178(12-21):May8,27(x2)
ON1177(12-20):Feb15
D-706:Feb14,Mar18,19,
Apr3,May12,14(x2),16,26,
27,Jun1,14,17,27,Jul5,8
MINEHEAD
D-720:Apr15,20
D-712:Mar18,20,May5,15,
16,20,25,30,Jun22,Jul6
B-824:Mar18,20,27,Apr15,
20,May5,15,20,Jul6

MOELFRE

ON1305(16-25):Apr17,May13,
29,Jun2,3,5,19(x2),21
ON1290(16-10):Jun30
D-689:Feb4,Apr14(x2),
May19,29,Jun25,Jul11
MONTROSE
ON1317(13-10):Feb25,
Mar8,May3,Jun10,27
D-764:Mar8,Apr2,
May3(x2),23
MORECAMBE
H-002:Mar11,Apr29,
May28,Jul9,12(x3)
D-722:Jan29,Feb25,
Apr10,May10,27,28,29,
Jun12,Jul12
MUDEFORD
B-806:Mar10,Jun4(x2),18,
Jul7
NEW BRIGHTON
B-837:Feb16,Apr4,May1,
Jun4,6,19,24
NEW QUAY
ON1172(12-15):Mar21,
May13
D-754:Feb8,Apr30,May13,
23,31,Jun1,3,9,Jul8
NEWBIGGIN
B-864:Jun20
NEWCASTLE
ON1188(12-29):May27,
Jun5,17,25,Jul13
D-775:Jan19,Jun17,24,25,
Jul9
D-695:Jun3,5
NEWHAVEN
ON1243(17-21):Jan17,18,
Mar3,11(x2),31,Apr15,20,
30,May10,21,25

NEWQUAY

D-773:Jan19(x2),Mar8,
Apr25,May28,Jun14,17,
Jul4,8,9
D-720:May10,13
B-821:Jan19,Feb6,Mar8,
Apr25,May8,10,13,27,31,
Jun29,Jul2,4,8,9,10
NORTH BERWICK
D-758:Jan2,29,Feb3,
Mar19,May25,26,31,Jun5
OBAN
ON1227(14-23):Jan3,5,6,8,
10,11,12,21,25,Feb11,21(x2),
Mar1,3,26,29,30,Apr29(x3),
May2,11,18(x2),30,Jun6,7,
11,12,14,15,16(x3),17,22,
25(x3),Jul4,5(x2),8(x2),10
PADSTOW
ON1283(16-04):Feb4,9,11,
Mar18,19,Apr21,Jun15,
Jul2
PEEL
ON1181(12-22):Jan19,
May1,9,Jun3
PENARTH
D-692:Jan3,9,Feb26,
Mar11,26(x2)
B-839:Jan3,Feb27,Mar11
PENLEE
ON1265(17-36):Feb4,10,27,
Mar20,31,Apr19,22,May3,
4,7(x2),13,15,25,28,Jun9,
16,18,20,Jul6,30
B-893:Jan30,Apr13,22,27,
May4,7,13,Jun15,16,17,18,
19(x2),20(x2),Jul3,6,9

PETERHEAD

ON1282(16-03): Jan7, Mar5, 17, 26, Apr13, May28, Jun6, 28, 29

PLYMOUTH

ON1264(17-35): Jan2, Feb6, 13, Apr9, 12, 15, 16, 19, 28, May4, 11, 26(x2), 28(x2), Jun3, 5, 24, 26, 29, Jul7, 8, 11
B-775: Jan2, 21, Feb6, 11, Mar1, 5, 15, Apr9, 15, 22, 23(x2), 29(x2), May6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 26(x2), Jun4, 7, 8(x2), 11, 17(x2), 20, 24, 25, Jul2(x2), 5, 8, 11

A-31: Mar1, Apr22, May6, 7

POOLE

D-804: Mar11, 25, Apr2, 9, Jun3, 4, 27

D-798: Jan1, 13, 27, Mar23
B-826: Jan14, 26, Mar11, 12, 16, 23, 24, 26, Apr2, 9, 14, May5(x2), 11, 27(x2), 28, Jun18(x2), Jul6, 8

PORT ERIN

B-813: Mar8

PORT ISAAC

D-707: Feb11, Mar31, May24, Jul2, 9, 10

PORT ST MARY

ON1234(14-26): Jan7, May24
D-742: Jan7, May10, 24

PORT TALBOT

D-750: Mar12, Apr23(x2), May7, 9, 26, 28(x2), Jun18, 20(x2), 29, Jul11

D-713: Jan11, Feb21

PORTAFERRY

B-833: Jan14, 30, Feb2, Jun21, 25, 28

B-815: Mar4, Apr9, May3, 4, 7, 14, 18

PORHCRAWL

D-714: Jan15, 18, 21, 22, Feb24, Mar15, 20(x2), 29, Apr20(x2)

B-832: Jan5, 18, 22, Feb7, 13, 24, Mar15, 18, 20, Apr2, 20(x2), 22, 25, May1

PORTHDINLLAEN

ON1304(16-24): Apr15, 30, May2, Jun17, 18, Jul2

PORTISHEAD

B-884: Jan15, 23, 29, Mar12, Apr11, 18, May5, 11, 31, Jun13, 23 Jul2, 5, 6(x2)

PORTPATRICK

ON1301(16-21): Jun30

ON1280(16-01): Mar31, Apr19, May7, 13, 25, 28, Jun3, 17, 19, 22, Jul27

PORTREE

ON1214(14-16): Mar23, 29, 30, Apr3, 11, 16, 25, May3, 9

PORTRUSH

ON1257(17-30): Mar5, May4, 14, Jun26, Jul12

D-738: Feb4, 19, 24, Mar9, May2, 14, 20, 28, Jul12

D-695: Jun24, Jul6, 8

PORTSMOUTH

D-716: Mar4, 5, 15, 17, 24, Apr19, Jun1, 3, 18(x2), 21, Jul8, 16

B-846: Jan8, 15, 27, Feb6, 13, 26, Mar5, 15, 17, 31, Apr19, May1, 13, 15, 21, Jun2, 4, 11, 18(x3), 20, 21, 25, 26, Jul3, 6, 8

PWLLHELI

ON1168(12-010): Jan19, Apr30, Jun7

D-676: Jan12, Jun21

QUEENSFERRY

B-851: Jan8, 16, Mar13(x2), 15, 18, 22, 26, 31, Apr2(x2), 8, 15, 24, 27, 29, 30, May1, 2, 3, 12, 14, 28, Jun1, 4, 14, 19, 24, 25(x2), 30, Jul1, 6, 7, 14

RAMSEY

ON1171(12-14): Apr16, May7, 9, 29

RAMSGATE

ON1197(14-02): Jan11, 14, May29(x2), Jun3, 5, 13, Jul1
B-878: Jan14, 22, Feb25, Mar11, 25, 30, Apr8, 29(x2), May14, 16, 18, Jun3(x2), 11, 19(x3)

RED BAY

ON1213(14-15): May1, 6, Jun10

B-843: Feb5, Apr29, May6, Jun3, 6, 10, 17, 20, 21, Jul5, 12(x2)

REDCAR

D-786: Jan8, 16, 27, Mar10, 31, Apr17, Jun14, 17, 24(x2), Jul2, 8, 9

B-865: May14, 15, 29, Jun12, 15, 17(x2), 22, 24, Jul2, 6, 7(x2), 8, 9(x2)

B-858: Jan8, 28, Mar10, 15, 24, 31, Apr20

RHYL

ON1183(12-24): Mar4, 5, Jun28

D-770: Mar29, Apr15, May18, 26, 31, Jun1, 4, 19, 28, Jul8, 9(x2)

ROCK

D-772: Mar11, 21, 25, Jul10

ROSSLARE HARBOUR

ON1278(17-45): Mar3
ON1201(17-02): Apr23, 28, May3

RYE HARBOUR

B-900: Jul7, 9
B-880: Feb16, Apr1

SALCOMBE

ON1293(16-13): Apr6, 13
ON1289(16-09): Jan8, 11, 14, 17, Mar22, Apr1, May25, 27, 29, Jun7, 17, 19, 22

B-794: Jan8, 11, Apr5, 28, May14, 26(x2), 29, Jun5, 20, 22

SCARBOROUGH

ON1322(13-15): Jan3, 14, Mar31, May16, Jun10, 29, 30
D-724: Jan3, Feb28, Mar31, Apr9, May16(x2)

SEAHOUSES

ON1173(12-16): Apr2, 9, 30, Jun8, 27, 28, Jul14
D-686: Mar25, Apr2, 12, 30, Jun8, Jul9, 14

SELSEY

ON1327(13-20): Jul8
ON1146(47-031): Jan10, 20, 21, Apr20, 29, May30, Jun21, 25, 26, Jul2
D-691: Jan10, Apr14, May18, 25, Jun10, 14, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, Jul5(x3), 9

SENNEN COVE

ON1294(16-14): Mar10, 20, 26, 31, May8, 15, Jun2, 3, 4, 6, 18, 27, Jul6, 13
D-763: Apr30, Jun3, 4, 16, 18, Jul2, 12, 13

SHEERNESS

ON1211(14-13): Jan15, 21, Feb16, Mar25, 30, Apr26, May11(x2), 17, 19, 25, Jun18, 21, 23, 24, 25, Jul9

D-799: Jan2, 7, 22(x2), 29(x2), Feb1, 28, Mar3, 19, 24, 25, 28, Apr2, 9(x2), 22, May9, 10, 27, 30, Jun3, 9(x2), 10, 14, 17(x2), 18(x3), 20, 23, 25, 27(x2), 28, Jul3, 4, 8, 9

SHERINGHAM

B-835: Apr22

SHOREHAM HARBOUR

ON1295(16-15): Jan30, Feb8, Mar17, 25, 30, May1, Jun3, 4, 24, Jul2, 8

D-784: Feb26, Mar28, 30, Apr21, May6(x2), 19, 24, 28, Jun1, 3, 4, 10(x2), 22, 24, 28

SILLOTH

B-828: May6, 26, Jul11

SKEGNESS

ON1324(13-17): Apr8, 9, 24, 30, May27, Jun25

ON1166(12-008): Jan19

D-792: Jan5, Feb4, Mar29, Apr24, May27, 28, Jun2, 3, 13, 25

SKERRIES

B-866: Jan30, Feb25, 27, Mar1, 26, Apr9, 11, 15
B-830: May7, 14, 22, 25, 26(x2), 27, 30, Jun17, 18, 23, Jul5

ON STATION

ON1324, *Joel and April Grunnill*, Skegness, 11 February 2017

B-898, *Susan Margaret Forsbrey*, Relief, 23 February 2017

D-806, *Dennis-Audrey*, Wicklow, 23 February 2017

D-808, *Susan Scott*, Aldeburgh, 3 May 2017

D-809, *Eric Howland*, Relief, April 2017

D-807, *David and Barbara Chapman*, Burnham-on-Crouch, 12 April 2017

B-899, *Howard Bell*, Happisburgh, 11 May 2017

B-900, *Hello Herbie II*, Rye Harbour, 21 June 2017

NAMING CEREMONIES

ON1306, *Norah Wortley*, St Davids, 14 March 2017

ON1324, *Joel and April Grunnill*, Skegness, 1 April 2017

D-801, *Burnham Reach*, Burnham-on-Sea, 8 April 2017

ON1322, *Frederick William Plaxton*, Scarborough, 12 April 2017

B-897, *Sheila & Dennis Tongue III*, Staithes and Runswick, 15 April 2017

D-799, *Buster*, Sheerness, 23 April 2017

ON1320, *George Thomas Lacy*, Swanage, 29 April 2017

D-806, *Dennis-Audrey*, Wicklow, 6 May 2017

B-898, *Susan Margaret Forsbrey*, Relief, 11 May 2017

D-805, *George Bearman II*, Exmouth, 20 May 2017

D-803, *Donald Dean*, St Ives, 21 May 2017

ON1323, *Elizabeth and Leonard*, Amble, 27 May 2017

D-802, *Akira*, Anstruther, 3 June 2017

D-807, *David and Barbara Chapman*, Burnham-on-Crouch, 3 June 2017

D-808, *Susan Scott*, Aldeburgh, 10 June 2017

ON1326, *Dorothy May White*, Workington, 24 June 2017

LAUNCH ALERTS ON YOUR MOBILE

Follow the action wherever you are by signing up for our lifeboat launch SMS alerts. You choose which stations to follow, the charge for each message and your maximum weekly spend. You'll be one of the first to know when our volunteers have launched and you'll be supporting them at the same time!

RNLI.org/sms

SLIGO BAY

B-888:Mar19(x2),26(x3),27,28(x2),29(x2),30(x2),31(x2),Apr1,2,May21,30,Jun10,19,Jul7,8,12

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

H-004:Mar26,May21,28,Jun2,3(x3),11,17,18(x3),19(x4),20,27,Jul2,8

D-771:Mar11,25,May27,Jun3(x3),16,Jul10

D-682:Apr4,May20,26(x2),27,Jun18,22,25(x3),26

B-885:Feb23,Mar11,25,May11,21,26(x2),28,Jun10,11(x3),18,25(x5),26,28

SOUTHWOLD

B-868:Feb2,Mar18,27

ST AGNES

D-787:Apr13,May6,20,Jun19,24,26,Jul1,7

ST BEES

B-831:Jan4(x2),Jul3

ST CATHERINE

B-841:Mar4,Apr1,May14,29,Jun2,23

ST DAVIDS

ON1306(16-26):Feb20,Mar4,Apr17,21,May6,Jun3,21,23

D-704:Jan15,Mar30,May6,7,Jun6,23,Jul2

ST HELIER

ON1292(16-12):Mar4,27,Apr1,May24,25,27,Jun2,5,25,Jul15

B-835:Mar29,31

ST IVES

ON1318(13-11):Feb16(x3),Mar10,25,29,May25,Jul3,7

D-803:Mar11,25,29,May4,25,31,Jun4

D-780:Jun29

ST MARY'S

ON1229(17-11):Feb19,Apr27,Jun5,21,22

ST PETER PORT

ON1203(17-04):Feb11,Mar19

STAITHES AND

RUNSWICK

B-897:Feb21,Apr11,Jun30,Jul7

STONEHAVEN

B-762:Mar6,Apr2,29,May1,Jun17,23,27

STORNOWAY

ON1238(17-18):Feb3,Mar20,22,May5,20,29,30,Jul13

STRANRAER

D-697:Feb20,Apr22,May7(x2),Jun22

STROMNESS

ON1236(17-16):May3,4,17,Jun26,Jul4

SUNDERLAND

D-747:Jan3,4,10,17,Mar18,Apr2,May9,17,25,28,29,31,Jun11,17,21,Jul8

B-817:Jan3,4,17,25,Feb5,Apr2,5,13,20,May18,25,29,Jun13,21,Jul8

SWANAGE

ON1320(13-13):Jan11,Feb22,Mar17,Apr16(x2),26,30,May24,25(x2),27(x2),28,Jun11,18(x2),20,22(x2),Jul2(x2),4,9,11(x3)

D-752:Jan11,Feb26,Mar9,22,Apr8,30,May14(x2),25(x3),27,28,Jun7,20,22,Jul3(x2),9

TEDDINGTON

D-785:Jan10,12,28,Feb2,23,Mar5,8,16,May3,Jun21,22,Jul2

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

TEIGNMOUTH

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

B-809:Jan8,Feb8,Mar13,Apr9,16,May2,3,27,Jun6(x2),Jul1(x2),2,13

D-743:Mar5,Jul8

THE LIZARD

ON1300(16-20):Mar25,31

THE MUMBLES

ON1290(16-10):Jan22,Mar26

D-761:Jan22(x2),28,Feb11,Mar12,20,26(x2),Apr8,10,15

THURSO

ON1273(17-42):Mar25,Apr27,May3,Jun8

ON1269(17-38):Feb11,12,Mar12

TIGHNABRUACH

B-862:Jan5,Mar9,Apr2,22(x2),May1,7,25,Jul3,7

TOBERMORY

ON1270(17-39):Feb11,Apr19,29(x2),May3,6,8,21,23,27,Jun1,4,27(x2)

TORBAY

ON1255(17-28):Jan26,Feb3,26(x2),Apr4,13,22,May9,12(x2),14,15,24(x2),28(x2),Jun7,16(x2),19,27

D-788:Jan8(x3),Feb20,Mar6,12,15,30,Apr8,9,12(x2),14,19,24(x2),May3,12,22,23,25,28,30,Jun4,14,17,18(x3),25,27,Jul2

TOWER

E-09:Feb7,9(x2),23,Mar1

E-08:

E-07:Jan1,2,3,10,14(x2),15(x2),21,22(x2),24,25,28(x2),Feb3(x2),4(x6),5,6,7,10,11,14,15(x2),16,19,20(x2),21,23,24(x2),25,26,27(x3),Mar1,2,3,4,6,7(x2),8(x3),9,10,11,15,17,18,19(x2),22,25,26(x3),27,28,29(x4),30,31,Apr2,4,5,6,7,8(x2),9(x4),10(x4),11(x3),12,14(x2),15(x2),16,18(x2),19,20(x2),21,25,28(x2),29(x2),30(x2),May1,2,3,4,5(x2),6,7,8,9(x3),10(x2),11,12,13,14,16(x4),17,18,19,20(x2),22(x2),23,24,25(x3),26,28(x4),29,30(x5),Jun1(x2),2,3(x3),4(x2),5,6,8(x4),9(x2),11(x2),12(x2),14(x2),15(x2),16,17(x4),18(x3),19(x2),20,22,23,24(x2),26(x5),27,29,30,Jul1,2,5,6(x2),7(x2),8(x2),9,10(x2),11,12(x2),13(x3)

TOWER

E-09:Feb7,9(x2),23,Mar1

E-08:

E-07:Jan1,2,3,10,14(x2),15(x2),21,22(x2),24,25,28(x2),Feb3(x2),4(x6),5,6,7,10,11,14,15(x2),16,19,20(x2),21,23,24(x2),25,26,27(x3),Mar1,2,3,4,6,7(x2),8(x3),9,10,11,15,17,18,19(x2),22,25,26(x3),27,28,29(x4),30,31,Apr2,4,5,6,7,8(x2),9(x4),10(x4),11(x3),12,14(x2),15(x2),16,18(x2),19,20(x2),21,25,28(x2),29(x2),30(x2),May1,2,3,4,5(x2),6,7,8,9(x3),10(x2),11,12,13,14,16(x4),17,18,19,20(x2),22(x2),23,24,25(x3),26,28(x4),29,30(x5),Jun1(x2),2,3(x3),4(x2),5,6,8(x4),9(x2),11(x2),12(x2),14(x2),15(x2),16,17(x4),18(x3),19(x2),20,22,23,24(x2),26(x5),27,29,30,Jul1,2,5,6(x2),7(x2),8(x2),9,10(x2),11,12(x2),13(x3)

D-794:Apr29,May13,23,27,29(x2),Jun18(x2),24,25,Jul8

B-808:Mar12

B-801:Apr29(x2),May13,23,28,29

WALTON AND FRINTON

ON1299(16-19):Jan22,29,Mar2,Apr6,May28,Jun11,27,Jul1,9,13

WELLS

ON1161(12-003):Jan8,Jun25

D-797:Jan8,Mar18,27,Apr11,May15,Jun18,25,Jul6,7(x2),8,11

WEST KIRBY

D-751:May26,29,Jun21

TRAMORE

D-781:Jun5

TREARDUR BAY

D-753:Jan8(x2),Feb7,11,Apr17,30,Jul1

D-730:May13,20(x2),30

B-847:Jan8(x2),Feb2,4,7,Mar8,21,Apr10,17,30,May13,30,Jun18(x2),Jul1

TROON

ON1275(14-38):Jan16,Feb3,10,Mar1,4,29,30,Apr1,12,23,May18,26,30,Jun2,13,Jul8

D-684:Jan16,Mar4,18,29,Apr1,23,26,May26,Jun13,25,Jul8

TYNEMOUTH

ON1242(17-20):Feb4,Mar1,2,30,Apr3,13,17,May11,14,Jun4,18

D-693:Jan29,Mar1,2,18,30,May22,26(x2),29,Jun18

BB-544:Mar14

UNION HALL

B-790:Jan12,May31,Jun10,20

B-767:Apr8,17

VALENTIA

ON1218(17-07):Apr10,14,May22,Jun13,26

WALMER

D-794:Apr29,May13,23,27,29(x2),Jun18(x2),24,25,Jul8

B-808:Mar12

B-801:Apr29(x2),May13,23,28,29

WALTON AND FRINTON

ON1299(16-19):Jan22,29,Mar2,Apr6,May28,Jun11,27,Jul1,9,13

WELLS

ON1161(12-003):Jan8,Jun25

D-797:Jan8,Mar18,27,Apr11,May15,Jun18,25,Jul6,7(x2),8,11

WEST KIRBY

D-751:May26,29,Jun21

WEST MERSEA

B-879:Feb23,28,Apr10,25,28,29,30(x2),May1,13,17,27(x2),28,29(x2),Jun3,11,16,18,25,27(x2),Jul8

WESTON-SUPER-MARE

D-705:Jul8

D-696:Feb19,27,Apr2,9,15,May25(x2),26(x2),29,Jun7,9,13,14,17(x4),18(x3)

B-769:Feb19,27,May26,29,Jun7,9,Jul8

WEXFORD

D-782:Feb2,Apr23,May14,Jun4,12,16,19

WEYMOUTH

ON1261(17-32):Jan28,Mar1,11,17,Apr2,4,May1,10,14,26,28,29,31,Jun3,11,18,20,21,27,Jul2,9,10,11,12

B-774:Feb13,Mar28,Apr1,4,16,29,30,May2(x2),11,20,28,Jun6,10,20,21,Jul9(x3),11(x2),12

WHITBY

ON1212(14-14):Feb21,Apr9,18,May26,28(x2),Jun3,15,27,Jul3

D-810:

D-674:Jan28,Mar15,28,Apr9,29,May27(x2),28(x2),29,Jun5

WHITSTABLE

B-877:Jan1,3,Mar15,30(x2),Apr2,5(x2),May8,13(x2),16,17,26,30,Jun8,10,11,17,19,21,23,24,Jul2(x2)

WICK

ON1224(14-20):Jan7,Feb9,12,15,Apr30,Jun14,Jul3,4

WICKLOW

ON1153(47-035):Jan3,Mar29,Jun14,15

D-806:May16,24,Jun24,Jul9

D-671:

WITHERNSEA

D-701:Jan3,23,Apr1,15,May14,21,Jun17,19,Jul5,9(x2)

WORKINGTON

ON1326(13-19):May27,30,31,Jun24

ON1141(47-028):Jan4,Feb24,Mar12,31(x2),Apr3

D-767:Jan19,Mar12,May5

YARMOUTH

ON1249(17-25):Jun28

YOUGHAL

B-890:Jan27,Feb19,Apr19,22,May8,17,Jun3,18(x2),Jul1

Unsung heroes

Steve Robinson

Kinghorn Lifeboat Station's tractor driver tells us what it's like to be a part of the RNLI family

How are you involved with the RNLI?

I was senior helm, retiring in 1995. In 2014 I rejoined as tractor driver.

When did you first become aware of the RNLI?

I was a deep sea diver and remember one time we assisted a fishing boat with a fouled propeller, freeing it before the lifeboat came to take them in to Aberdeen.

What's it like, being an RNLI tractor driver?

In some conditions, launch and recovery can be dangerous. I was a firefighter and RAF reservist – people think it's strange if I'm not doing something with a bit of excitement about it, though!

What safety advice do you always share?

Heard the old phrase 'prior preparation ...'? If you prepare properly, then even when problems do occur you will have a good chance of solving them.

What's your most memorable shout?

One published in *Lifeboat* (Spring 2017), of a capsized dinghy off Portobello Beach. The sea was rough and the waves were picking up and moving our 8-tonne tractor.

What does being with the RNLI mean to you?

I'll never forget the story of a person in the water who had just about given up hope, when an orange blob on the horizon gave him enough lift to keep struggling. I always have that in my mind when the pager goes – that it might be someone like that.

What's your favourite spot in Kinghorn?

We have a beautiful beach. When the sun shines it's as good as any Mediterranean or Caribbean beach.

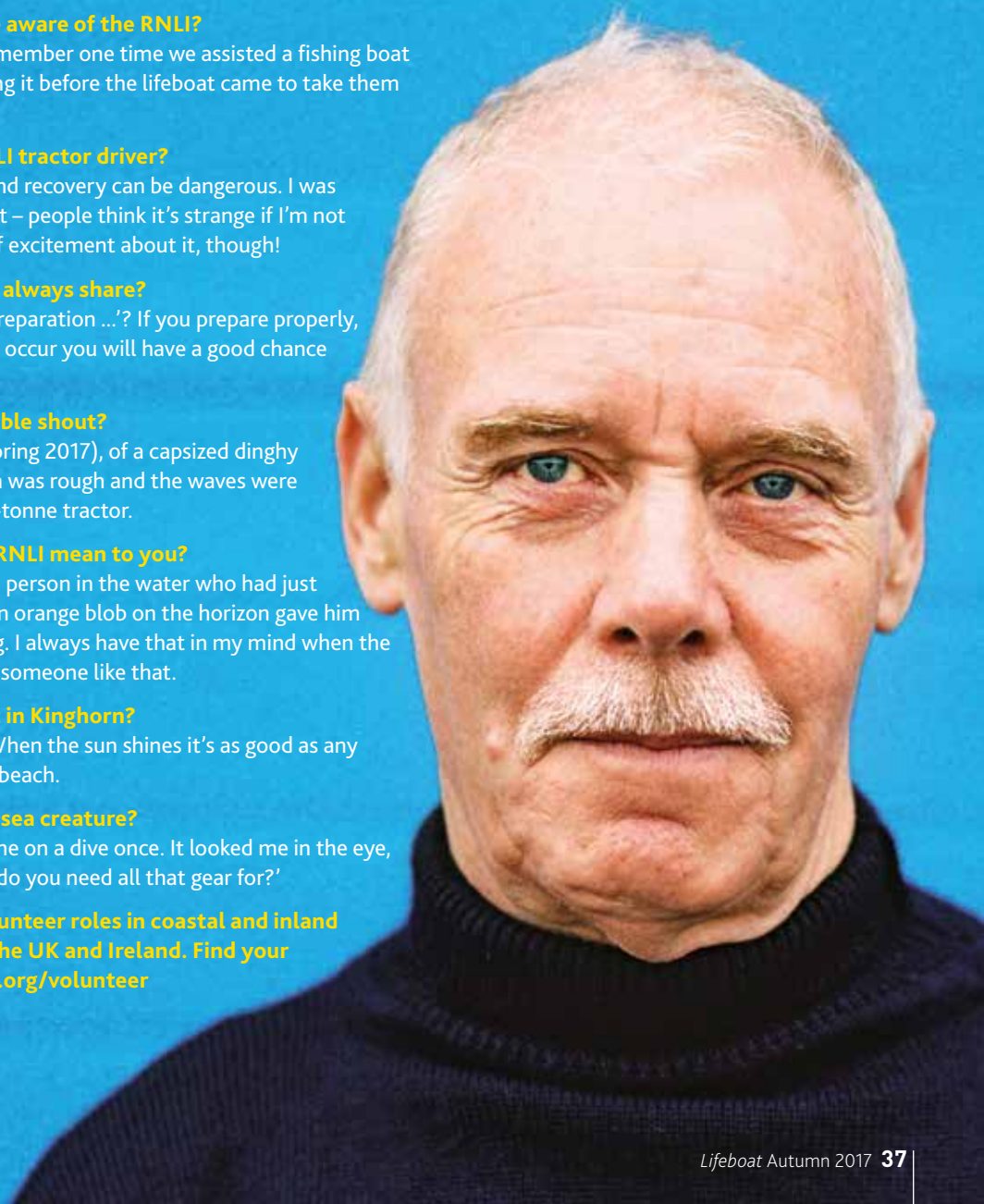
And finally: your favourite sea creature?

Dolphins. I had a visit from one on a dive once. It looked me in the eye, confused, as if to say: 'What do you need all that gear for?'

There's a huge range of volunteer roles in coastal and inland communities throughout the UK and Ireland. Find your place in our family at [RNLI.org/volunteer](https://www.rnli.org/volunteer)

Interview: Anna Burn

Photo: Kirsty McLachlan



SPECIAL DELIVERY



HAPPY MEMORIES

A scenic seascape in our last issue got one reader thinking of childhood holidays – and old RNLI friends

The lovely photograph of Ballycotton Harbour on page 23 of the summer issue of *Lifeboat* magazine brought back happy memories. My family went on holiday there for several years in the 1960s and we got to know the lifeboat Coxswain Mikey Lane Walsh and the Engineer Willie Sliney well.

The photograph was taken after an all-night rescue of two boys whose dinghy had become lost. They were discovered safe and sound drifting some miles from where they had departed. My father, a doctor, is the man in the brown coat standing in the stern of the boat. Fortunately, apart from being very cold and frightened, the boys were fine and my father's medical skills were not needed.

My brother and I returned to Ballycotton with our mother in 2010 to celebrate her 90th birthday and were interested to see how little the place had changed.

Anthony Russell qc

RESCUE IN WARTIME

Our news piece on the Little Ships of Dunkirk reminded one reader of another significant wartime rescue

Did you know that, during the Battle of Britain, Margate lifeboat rescued one Richard Hillary? Shot down in his Spitfire over the Channel and badly burned, he had given up hope when the Margate crew spotted his parachute in the water. His ordeal and rescue are described in the opening chapter of his book *The Last Enemy*. He mentions telling his rescuers that he was a descendant of RNLI founder Sir William Hillary – I wondered if this was true?

Chris Crowther



RNLI Heritage Archive and Research Manager Hayley Whiting responds:

'Pilot Officer Richard Hillary was one of many pilots rescued by the RNLI during the Second World War. These rescues included saving the lives of many German airmen. Richard Hillary is

probably the most notable pilot rescued during that period by the RNLI and for many years it was believed he was a direct descendant of the RNLI's founder Sir William Hillary. This is however not the case, confirmed to the RNLI in 1965 by Richard Hillary's father.



ON TWITTER

Presenter @Linds_bluepeter onboard at Beaumaris:

@TowerRNLI were moved to hear from a grateful mother:

Lindsey Russell @Linds_bluepeter
Follow

One of THE best shoots I've done on #bluepeter in ages. Guy, Will and Connor you are all legends. @RNLI crews are actual superheroes 🦸🏻‍♂️🦹🏻‍♂️🚢



3:12 PM - 3 Jun 2017

Dear All at RNLI tower. It's 2 years yesterday that you rescued my son from a pontoon in the Thames in the middle of the night. He has just finished his 3rd year at Uni. Thank you again for all you do xx
PS I collected again at Waterloo in April. I will never forget 😊

Write to us using the contact details at the bottom of page 2 or share your stories at twitter.com/RNLI or facebook.com/RNLI

LIFESAVING BY NUMBERS

SUMMER 2017 LOTTERY RESULTS

Congratulations to Mr IS Lindsay who won our first prize of £5,000 cash.

OUR OTHER WINNERS WERE:

2ND PRIZE: £2,000

Mr P Laws

3RD PRIZE: £500

Mrs V Guttridge

4TH PRIZE: £250

Miss PL Sugden

AND 5 PRIZES

OF £100 EACH

Mrs P Taylor

Mrs P Warren

Mr J Hutton

Mr K Tatham

Miss R Taylor

We'll report the winners of the Autumn Lifeboat Lottery in our Winter 2017-18 issue. The Winter Lifeboat Lottery will mail on 20 October 2017. The closing date is 7 December 2017 and the draw date is 21 December 2017.

To take part, please call 0300 300 9990 or email lottery@rnli.org.uk and request a lottery mailing.

Please note that, due to tax and gaming laws, Lifeboat Lottery tickets are only available in England, Scotland and Wales. Entrants must be aged 16 or over. For full details (including terms and conditions) please go to [RNLI.org/lottery](https://rnli.org/lottery) or see your lottery letter.

RNLI FAMILY: THE LIFE OF THE CHARITY

Celebrating the RNLI family, past and present

Lifeboat baby joins a tale of two stations



Photo: Karen Gratten

Congratulations to RNLI crew members Sharon and Gary, who welcomed baby Jamie (pictured) into the world earlier this year.

Gary says: 'As this is our first baby, things have changed a lot. He's a good sleeper, so we are very blessed – although it's certainly a lot different to a pager going off in the middle of the night!'

Sharon and Gary met 7 years ago, during an RNLI training exercise. The couple soon fell in love and married 3 years later. Sharon has been with Newcastle Lifeboat Station for 16 years and Gary has been a crew member at Kilkeel, where he works, for 13 years.

Before going on maternity leave, Sharon volunteered as a D class helm and a member of the Flood Rescue Team. She'd also started training to be a coxswain, which she plans to resume when she's back at the station.

Piece of cake!

We couldn't help but admire the wedding cake of Macduff Crew Member Steven and his new wife, Vicki. Eagle-eyed readers might notice how detailed this replica of Macduff's B class inshore lifeboat is, from *Lydia MacDonald's* nameplate and operational number to Steven's yellow wellies and lifejacket! Steven says: 'I've been at Macduff Lifeboat Station for about 6 years now. I love being part of the crew; it's like a second family to me!'



Photo: RNLI/Macduff

Celebrating life and remembering our friends

Remembering Craig Steadman

Over the past year, volunteers and supporters at Holyhead and Barmouth Lifeboat Stations have been working tirelessly to fund a new lifeboat in memory of Craig Steadman. Craig, a Holyhead crew member, died in 2015 after a motorbike accident.

The two stations have recently reached their target of £48,000, which will fund a D class lifeboat for Barmouth Lifeboat Station. The lifeboat will be named *Craig Steadman*, in his memory.

Peter Davies, Coxswain at Barmouth, says: 'Having a lifeboat bearing Craig's name here at Barmouth RNLI will be a huge honour for everyone at the lifeboat station and we are all delighted the appeal has reached its target.'



Photo: RNLI/Holyhead

Richard Belchamber – April 2017
Former Surveyor of Lifeboats

Commander Bruce Cairns OBE RD – May 2017
Former Chief of Operations

Trudi Graham – February 2017
Former Manager of the Fundraising Information System

Derek Hallworth – February 2017
Former Industrial Organiser – North

Marjorie Anne McHugh – May 2016
Fundraiser at the Adlington Branch

Griff Davies Owen – January 2017
Former Helm at Criccieth Lifeboat Station

Tom Peebles – April 2017
Former Divisional Engineer – Scotland

Norland (Robbie) Robertson – March 2017
Former District Engineer

Norman Stripp – March 2017
Former Rescue Records Supervisor

Ken Thomas – July 2017
Former Coxswain at Penlee Lifeboat Station

Tony Warnock – March 2017
Former Mechanic at Padstow Lifeboat Station

Bill Young – July 2017
Former Vice Chair of Medway Branch

'Geoff was a true gent'

Tributes have been paid to Geoff Ormrod, who served as a crew member for 56 years at Hoylake Lifeboat Station. Geoff joined the crew at just 16 years old and held a number of positions during his service, from signalman to

coxswain. He was part of a Bronze Medal shout in 1979, when the crew braved storm force conditions to rescue three people on a yacht.

Geoff retired as coxswain in 2001, but remained an active shore crew member. He was also an RNLI divisional assessor trainer, where he shared his decades of knowledge and experience with the next generation.

'Geoff was a true gent, with a wealth of knowledge he was always keen to pass on,' says Andy Dodd, Hoylake Coxswain/Mechanic. 'Everyone who knew him and sailed with him will miss him and his sense of humour dearly.'



Photo: RNLI/Hoylake

A new life with the RNLI

Whether they're facing the toughest conditions at sea or giving tireless hours to fundraise, RNLI volunteers show enormous dedication to saving lives at sea. We meet five people who left home in search of a new life – and found the RNLI

'Things got easier when I joined the lifeboats'

Yvonne Fairholm, Crew Member, North Berwick Lifeboat Station

While I was training to be a nurse in my hometown of West Linton, I met my other half Liam. After a while, we decided we wanted to move in together – he had a job in North Berwick, so I took a leap of faith to be with him.

I moved from a small inland town to a place on the coast – I hadn't even been on a boat before! Not having friends, that unit of support around you, was difficult. Things got easier when I joined the lifeboats – I didn't

have to rely on Liam and just hang out with his friends.

I had a medical background and wanted to use it to do something good for North Berwick – so I turned up at the lifeboat station one day and asked to volunteer on the crew. I've never looked back!

The best thing about being on the crew is the sense of belonging – being part of a close-knit group and building new friendships. Being involved with the RNLI gave me something else to offer professionally too. When I qualified as a nurse and I didn't have a job, I think it really helped me get employed – I work in Edinburgh as a nurse now.



'The hardest thing for Oz was getting used to the great British weather!'

Joy and Oz Worsely, Fundraising Volunteer (Joy) and Crew Member (Oz), New Brighton Lifeboat Station

I met my husband Oz on a cruise ship 10 years ago – I was a magician's assistant and he was a gym instructor. He's from Perth in Australia, but in the end he crossed the pond to be with me.

We lived in Manchester, but missed living by the sea because we're such water people. So we moved to New Brighton, which has been home since I was 16.

Back in Perth, Oz had been part of the Community Fire Service – he's always liked to give something back. As we now walked past the lifeboat station almost every day, I suggested: 'What about the lifeboats?'

The crew at New Brighton are great – Oz has been a member for a year now and he really

enjoys it. I'm able to help out at the lifeboat station too. I work in events and helped make our Christmas do a big success. The magician from the cruise ship came along and my friend sang with her band – it was brilliant.

Six months ago we had a baby and we'd love for our son to be involved with the RNLI one day. Volunteering gives me a good chance to meet the other mums and the other lifeboat women too. We're very lucky.



'I visited Lerwick for 2 weeks ... I knew I was going to take the job'

Ian Harms, Coxswain/Mechanic, Lerwick Lifeboat Station

I've previously worked full-time at two other RNLI lifeboat stations – Anstruther and Humber. I applied for the position of coxswain/mechanic at Lerwick and I was offered the job on Christmas Eve 2015.

I'd passed Lerwick once before when I was on passage with Girvan lifeboat crew. I'd met the old coxswain and a few of the crew members, but didn't know them very well. That was probably my biggest challenge – after all, I just came out of nowhere!

I visited Lerwick for 2 weeks to see how I'd get on with everyone, and in that time I knew I was going to take the job. So I moved up, just me and my wife and our two dogs.

I got involved with the RNLI in 2001 when I joined Anstruther Lifeboat Station. I walked past the coxswain one day and asked him: 'Do you know where I can get a cup of coffee around here?' He replied: 'There are free cups of coffee here – all you have to do is volunteer to be on the crew!' And that was it, I was sold.

Moving to Shetland has definitely made me more confident. For anyone moving to a new place, I'd say get involved in the community – for me it was always about the lifeboats and it helped me meet people.



'I came to Cork for the summer and never went back!'

Gail Marten Swanton, Secretary, Kinsale RNLI Fundraising Branch

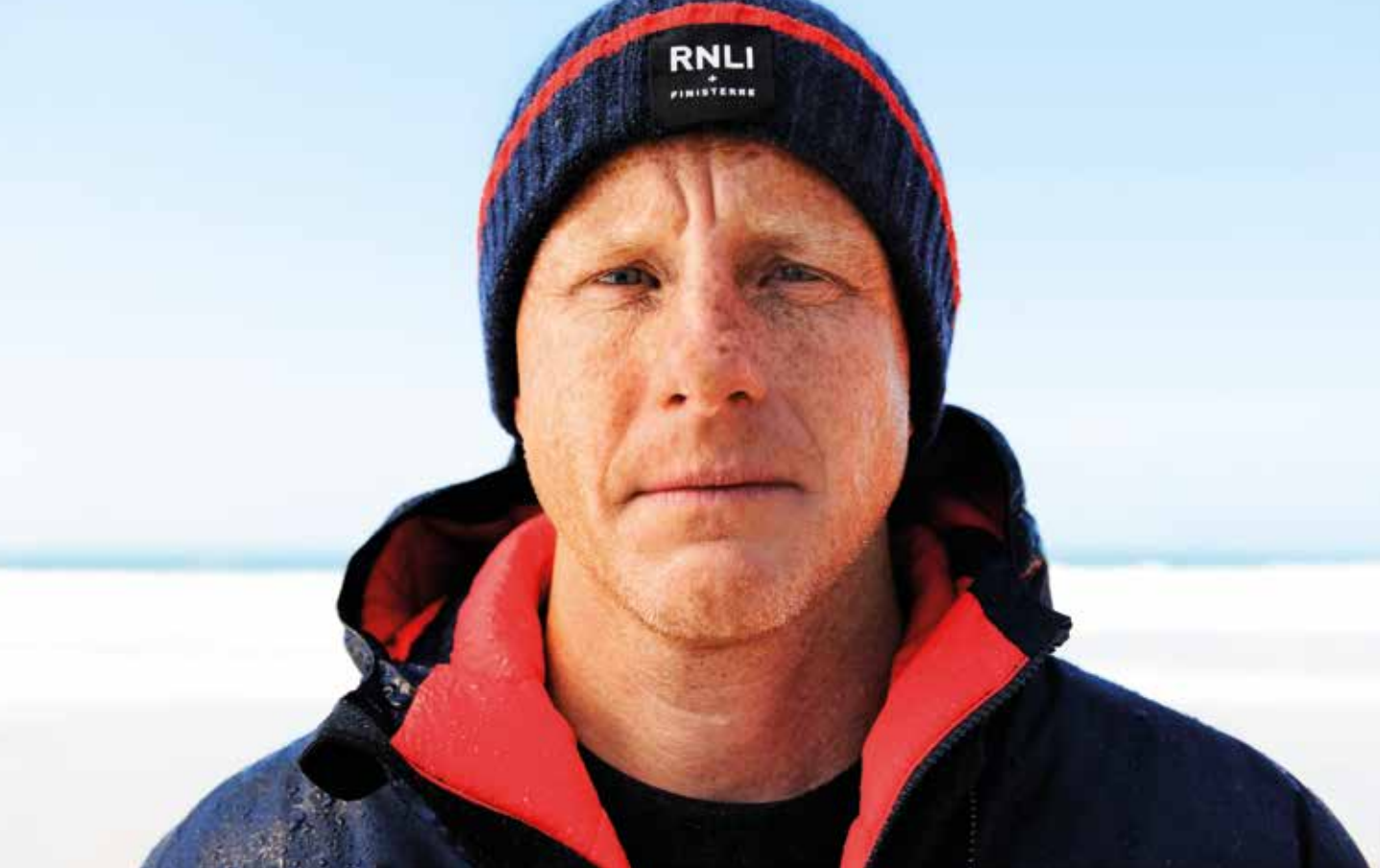
I moved to the area from Belfast in 2000. A good friend of mine owned a sail-making company near Cork. I came down for the summer to help out and never went back!

I moved over on my own, and the hardest thing for me as a young, single person was meeting new people. I was able to bring some of my home comforts from Belfast to my new home through sailing – I've sailed since before I could walk. Luckily with my job I could go out on the water and make new friends, and that's how I met my husband.

When we decided to settle in Kinsale I knew I wanted to rejoin the lifeboats (I was on the RNLI's Junior Committee as a child, advising the adults!) Volunteering at Kinsale's Fundraising Branch gave me a different group of people to meet, another network.

Could volunteering bring a new angle to your life?
Visit [RNLI.org/volunteer](https://www.rnli.org/volunteer) to find out

Words: Jasmin Downs Photos: RNLI/(North Berwick, Kinsale), Worsley family,
Jack Lowe/The Lifeboat Station Project



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