

# LIFEBOAT



THE RNLI IS THE  
CHARITY THAT  
SAVES LIVES AT SEA

ISSUE 624 | SUMMER 2018

## 'I FLOATED TO LIVE'

Meet the people who saved themselves

PLUS:

**RESCUE**

Stranded on a car roof

**STYLE AND SUBSTANCE**

Crew kit through the years



# Welcome



## Some stories hit you right in the heart

From page 16 of this issue, we tell one of those stories. Stranded in a February sea after their kayak flooded, it was up to 13-year-old Joe to help get his dad to safety.

Thinking quickly, and using a strength he didn't know he had, the boy got them both to an island, where Moelfre lifeboat crew took over. It's an extraordinary story, told in the family's own words, and we're grateful to them for sharing it.

But not everyone has someone like Joe by their side.

That's why, for the second year running, our Respect the Water campaign is urging people to Float to Live. The message is to try not to panic if you find yourself in the water

unexpectedly, but to take a moment to float and regain control of your breathing before trying to swim to safety or call for help.

And that's just what Evan, Enda and our cover star Andrew did after seeing the campaign last year. They lived to tell their heartstopping stories from page 10.

Summer is our lifesavers' busiest season, on the beaches and at stations. We hope you and yours are all set to enjoy your time at the coast – wholeheartedly and safely.

*M Dwane*

Mairéad Dwane  
@mazzadi

Photos: RNLI/Nigel Millard, Nathan Williams



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The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea. We do so by providing a rescue service, safety education, and supervision on beaches. We also influence other organisations, policy-makers and regulators. Our crews and lifeguards have saved over 142,200 lives since the RNLI was formed in 1824. We want to halve UK and Ireland coastal drowning by 2024 and reduce drowning around the world where it's a major risk. We are independent from government and rely on voluntary contributions and gifts in Wills for income. The RNLI is a charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC037736). Registered charity number 20003326 in the Republic of Ireland





# News

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

Words: Anna Burn

Photos: RNLI/Nathan Williams, Tony Roddam

## AGM UPDATE

We're looking forward to seeing you at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 19 July. Whether you're heading to Poole or the live broadcast in London, we hope you have a lovely day and enjoy meeting up with fellow supporters.

If you need any information about the events at either location, contact the Events Team on either [events@rnli.org.uk](mailto:events@rnli.org.uk), 0300 300 9995 from the UK, or 01 895 1850 from the Republic of Ireland.

## HELLO, MAYDAY!

An iconic red phone box on the bank of the River Thames went yellow to celebrate RNLI Mayday – our annual fundraising event.

Passers by could go into the phone box and pick up the receiver to hear real-life rescue stories.

Around the UK, famous landmarks lit themselves yellow for Mayday. Sites included Blackpool Tower and the National Library of Wales.


Gareth Morrison, Head of Community Engagement, says: 'We were delighted to see so many icons going yellow. And I know our volunteers are grateful for every pound donated.'


Thank you to everyone who took part in Mayday – you've helped fund vital lifeboat crew kit.



### 2017 AT A GLANCE

 32,116 people aided

3.32M preventative actions carried out by lifeguards 

 207,839 crew hours at sea for rescues and exercises

### PRIVACY POLICY UPDATE



Since we made the move to opt-in in 2016, we've been working to be as clear as possible about how we use and protect your personal information. On 25 May this year, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force, so we've updated our Privacy Policy accordingly.

While nothing has changed in the way we look after and use the personal data you share with us, the

wording has been updated to reflect your new rights and provide more information about what we do with this information.

It can be viewed online at [RNLI.org/PrivacyPolicy](http://RNLI.org/PrivacyPolicy). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Supporter Care Team by email on [supportercare@rnli.org.uk](mailto:supportercare@rnli.org.uk), or by phone on 0300 300 9990 from the UK or 1800 991802 from the Republic of Ireland.

### LIFEBOAT ENTHUSIASTS' SOCIETY 2018 HANDBOOK

This 104-page handbook is the most complete guide available to lifeboat stations, lifeboats, hovercraft and launching vehicles. It includes an after-service list of retired all-weather lifeboats, showing last-reported locations (some have found new leases of life as wildlife tour boats and even holiday homes!). The perfect companion for visits to the coast.

Out now for £6.50, including postage. Send a cheque made payable to 'RNLI' to:

Tony Denton  
Dawn  
Upper Battlefield  
Shrewsbury  
SY4 4AA



## DUKE OF KENT VISIT



RNLI President HRH The Duke of Kent visited the All-weather Lifeboat Centre in Poole, Dorset, on 15 May.

The Duke enjoyed a tour of the site, where we build and maintain our all-weather lifeboat fleet, and met RNLI engineers and apprentices.



# SCOTLAND COMMUNITY NEWS

Words: Anna Burn. Photos: *Aberdeen Press and Journal*/Kami Thomson, RNLI/(Maeva Ryan, Troon, Nigel Millard)

## Loch Ness

### Cruise support for crew

Loch Ness Lifeboat Station volunteers are delighted to receive a generous donation of £2,064.99, raised by the staff, crew and customers of Loch Ness by Jacobite cruises in 2017.

As well as collections onboard, Loch Ness by Jacobite shared proceeds from its annual bonfire night. This year's total came as a happy surprise – far exceeding collections of £382 in 2017. Lifeboat Operations Manager Jo Stebbings presented staff with a certificate in recognition of their remarkable achievement and valued support.



Lauren MacKenzie, Jo Stebbings, Kelly MacKenzie and Linda Izquierdo Ross

Welcome to your community news for Scotland. For all the latest from where you are, head to [RNLI.org/news](http://RNLI.org/news)

## Aberdeen

### GLAMOUR, GLITZ AND BUBBLES

In March, 250 local women got together for the annual Glamour, Glitz and Bubbles fundraiser at the Douglas Hotel, Aberdeen – raising a fantastic £30,500 in support of lifeboat stations in Buckie, Macduff and Aberdeen.

Organised by prolific local fundraiser Audrey Wood – with sponsorship from WoodPlc, Nicol of Skene, Apache North Sea, Abernethy Care and Cala Homes – this year's funds bring the event's 7-year total to more than £192,000.

The RNLI holds a special place in Audrey's heart because crew searched for her son Stuart, one

of the people lost in the 2009 Flight 85N helicopter crash: 'I was astonished to discover that the crew on the lifeboats who went out to search were all volunteers. Soon afterwards, I vowed to dedicate my energy to raising funds to support the local crews.'

Audrey's dedication is not going unnoticed – Anne Scott, Community Fundraising Manager, says: 'Audrey Wood is a fundraising phenomenon in Aberdeen. The RNLI is hugely grateful to Audrey, to her event sponsors, and to the ladies who attend and are so generous with their donations and auction bids.'



Organiser Audrey Wood with Aberdeen Deputy Coxswain Robbie Coull (left) and Helm Bruce Finnie



## Troon NEW D CLASS FOR TROON

In April, Troon Lifeboat Station said a final farewell to its D class inshore lifeboat *Telford Shopping Centre* as she was replaced by new D class *Sheena*.

*Telford Shopping Centre* has served the station since December 2007, launching

251 times, rescuing over 100 people and saving 5 lives in more than 10 years' service. She was Troon's first permanent inshore lifeboat.

*Sheena* now begins her service alongside the Trent class all-weather lifeboat *Jim Moffat*.



*Sheena* arrives and *Telford Shopping Centre* departs

## Hamilton

### 80 years of fundraising

Hamilton Guild celebrated their 80th anniversary with a Mayday Cream Tea on Friday 11 May, raising a sweet £1,687.

The volunteers have run this popular event for the past 3 years – making it the cherry on top of nearly a century's fundraising and awareness building.

The current president's grandmother founded the group, and all members since have shown great dedication to saving lives at sea, despite their being 30 miles from the coast.



## WHAT'S ON

Summer is the season for lifeboat open days so be sure to check with your nearest station to find out when theirs is.

### LOCHINVER GALA DAY 22 July, 12–4pm

[Lochinver Lifeboat Station](#)

An open day for the lifeboat, including a barbecue and fantastic stalls for all the family. Contact Karen Stewart on 01571 844318 for more information.

### STRANRAER PARK FEST 17–18 August

[Agnew Park, Stranraer](#)

Stranraer Lifeboat Station's popular Park Fest returns. Confirmed so far are the Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band and former Lions rugby star Johnnie Beattie's band, the Ruck Stars. Tickets and full lineup at [lifeboatparkfest.co.uk](http://lifeboatparkfest.co.uk).

### CURRY SUPPER 22 September, 7pm

[Victoria Hall, Cromarty](#)

Cromarty and Resolis Guild is holding a curry supper, complete with entertainment and a raffle. Tickets £12.50 from Evelyn Wilson on [a.k.e.g.wilson@btinternet.com](mailto:a.k.e.g.wilson@btinternet.com).

### FISH AND CHIP SUPPER 5 October, 7pm

[Royal British Legion, Stonehaven](#)

Fish suppers kindly donated by Calum Richardson of award-winning chip shop The Bay, with homemade desserts from RNLI volunteers. Supper will be followed by a raffle, music and dancing. Tickets £10 from Karen Smith on 01569 763380.

### FLANNAN ISLES MYSTERY Until October, 2–4pm

[Breasclete Community Centre, Isle of Lewis](#)

An exhibition exploring the simultaneous disappearance of three lighthouse keepers in December 1900. Visit [breasclete.com](http://breasclete.com).

Send details of your events for the autumn issue (mid-October onwards) to [CommunitySupportTeam@rnli.org.uk](mailto:CommunitySupportTeam@rnli.org.uk).



# RESCUE

Our lifeboat crews and lifeguards carry out thousands of rescues every year. Here are just some of those caught on camera, and see the following pages for more reports:

**6 SILLOTH** | PAGE 14

**7 MOELFRE** | PAGE 16

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

Words: Jon Jones

Photos: RNLI/(Anstruther, Clifden, Bob Jeffery, Nick Watts)



## 1 DIVER DRAMA

**CLIFDEN** | 17 MARCH

Moments after taking part in their local St Patrick's Day Parade, RNLI volunteers were involved in a multi-agency operation to find some missing divers. Clifden crew took their lifeboat by road, launching at Rossroe Pier to join the search. They spotted two people on a small inflatable, clinging to a barge, who turned out to be the divers. 'Their engine had broken down,' says Helm James Mullen. 'They had tried to swim across the bay with their boat but it had become swamped. Their legs had cramped and they were exhausted.'



## 2 SNOW STOPPING US

**ANSTRUTHER** | 1 MARCH

When parts of the UK and Ireland were under a blanket of snow earlier this year, many people were stranded for days without essentials. The bad weather didn't stop our volunteers going to the rescue though – and it wasn't always by lifeboat. Anstruther crew trekked on foot to deliver medicine to those who weren't able to safely make it to the pharmacy themselves. Crew Member Martin Macnamara says: 'The weather had been severe. We saw there was a need and were happy to help members of the community who wouldn't have been able to get their prescriptions otherwise.'



## 4 HEAVYWEIGHT CONVOY

**EASTBOURNE** | 3 FEBRUARY

A 120-tonne commercial fishing vessel lost power 6 miles off the coast of Kent. Anchored to the seabed by ropes entangling their propeller, the crew of *Royal Sovereign* were stuck fast. Colleagues from their sister ship *Beachy Head* managed to cut them free but the prop was still jammed. Eastbourne lifeboat crew set up a tow and guided the vessel through the narrow entrance to the marina locks. *Beachy Head* then attached a line to the stern of *Royal Sovereign* and acted as a brake while RNLI Coxswain Mark Sawyer skilfully threaded the convoy through the locks into Sovereign Harbour.



## 3 AT THE RIVER

**MUDEFORD** | 17 MARCH

Launching to reports of a boat in trouble on the River Stour, Mudeford's inshore lifeboat crew soon realised that the situation was a little more complex. They discovered three capsized vessels and seven cold, wet and confused people scattered along the riverbank. Many of the casualties were worried about missing members of their group, so a volunteer stayed with them while his crew mates made a thorough search of the area. Once they were confident that everyone was accounted for, they recovered the casualty boats and other flotsam amid flurries of snow.



## 5 STUCK IN THE MUD

**FOWEY** | 8 APRIL

Volunteer crew members from Fowey found themselves launching for the second time in 2 days after two kayakers became stuck in the mud near St Winnow. They launched the D class inshore lifeboat *Olive Three* and headed upstream to a creek where the two kayakers had run aground in soft, deep mud. Using every piece of rope on the lifeboat to create a lifeline, Crew Member Callum Pritchard spent 40 minutes creeping across 200m of mud to fix a tow to the kayak. The casualties were wrapped in thermal blankets and taken to Penmarlam.



# I FLOATED TO LIVE

Each issue we share with you stories of courageous rescues by our lifesavers, but this last year we've been hearing from you too. Thanks to our Respect the Water campaign, there has been a different kind of rescue happening around our coasts: self rescue



The 2017 Respect the Water campaign advised people to Float to Live. If you find yourself unexpectedly in the water, don't panic. Float. Get your breathing under control before trying to swim or shout for help.

So far, seven people have come forward to share their stories of how they've remembered and made use of the Float to Live advice in a moment of danger. Here we share three of them.



## Evan, swimmer

Evan Chrisp from Newcastle, Tyne and Wear, is like many teenage boys: working towards school exams, spending his time hanging out with friends. Evan loves the beach, but last year he found himself in serious trouble during a holiday in Northumberland.

'We decided to go to Beadnell Bay to swim in the sea,' Evan recalls. 'The sea was choppy but we proceeded to jump over the waves at waist height. Two waves came over and we were washed back so that we couldn't touch the floor. We were well out of our depth. It happened so quickly.'

Evan and two of his friends found themselves caught in a rip current that was quickly dragging them away from the shore. With every effort they made to get back to the beach, the current pulled them out further.

The other two made it back to shore, but Evan was so far out that he'd lost sight of the beach.

'I remembered seeing one of the RNLI's videos as an advert on YouTube. I lay on my back and allowed myself to get my breath back, as I needed to conserve my energy and not fight the water.'

'I managed to swim sideways to the current, and slowly made my way to a moored yacht. But I'd been in the water for over 45 minutes, and my whole body had cramped up so I was just clinging on. A surfer from Beadnell came to where I was, and helped to lift me onto the boat.'

On the beach, Evan's dad had alerted the Coastguard and help was on its way. An exhausted and hypothermic Evan was finally rescued by Seahouses lifeboat crew after 50 minutes in the water.

He says: 'I have to thank the RNLI. Your simple rules about the sea not only saved my life but also my friends', as they didn't come into the water when I was stranded at sea.'



## Andrew, windsurfer

Last December, Storm Caroline hit – bringing gusts of up to 93mph at its peak in Shetland.

But while most of us were tucked up inside (and some of our crews braved the seas), Caroline was a siren call to watersports enthusiasts.

Andrew Gilbert, from Hove in Sussex, had the fright of his life when he found out just how powerful the sea can be.

'The wind was really starting to pick up, so I decided to do two more runs and come back to the beach,' he recalls.

'On the last run back to the beach, I gybed forcefully and the kit was ripped out of my hands. When I saw the kit heading towards the beach, leaving me around 500m out, I thought: "That's it. I'm not getting back." The emotion

kicked in, my heart rate started to increase and I started to panic. I thought: "This is it. This is the day I'm going to die." But I was determined not to give up. And then I remembered watching the RNLI's Respect the Water videos on Facebook.

'If I could float, that would calm my breathing down enough to get back to the beach. Conditions out there were very rough – I was being bashed from every angle. Because I was hyperventilating I was swallowing water, coughing, choking, and I really had to get into the mindset that I was going to get back to beach, and by listening to the advice I'd heard online I'd give it my best go.

'After I got my breathing under control, it was a matter of looking out for the waves, making sure my mouth was closed when the waves came,

and trying to use them to paddle and swim in a bit. In between the waves, I was floating.

'It was all about survival, and not letting my family down – my wife, my two children, all my friends. I didn't want to die that way.'



'It was all about survival, and not letting my family down – my wife, my two children, all my friends. I didn't want to die that way'



## Enda, kayaker

Enda Lonergan was kayaking off the coast of Co Mayo when he found himself in trouble.

'It was a beautiful day, weather-wise, in the month of June in the west of Ireland. Just perfect,' he says. 'And everything was going hunky dory until I didn't pay attention to a wake that was coming. Before I knew it, I was in the water.

'I was 10 feet, 20 feet, then 30 feet away from the kayak. My flotation device was now around my face because it wasn't the right size for me. I thought I was going to drown, because I couldn't swim.

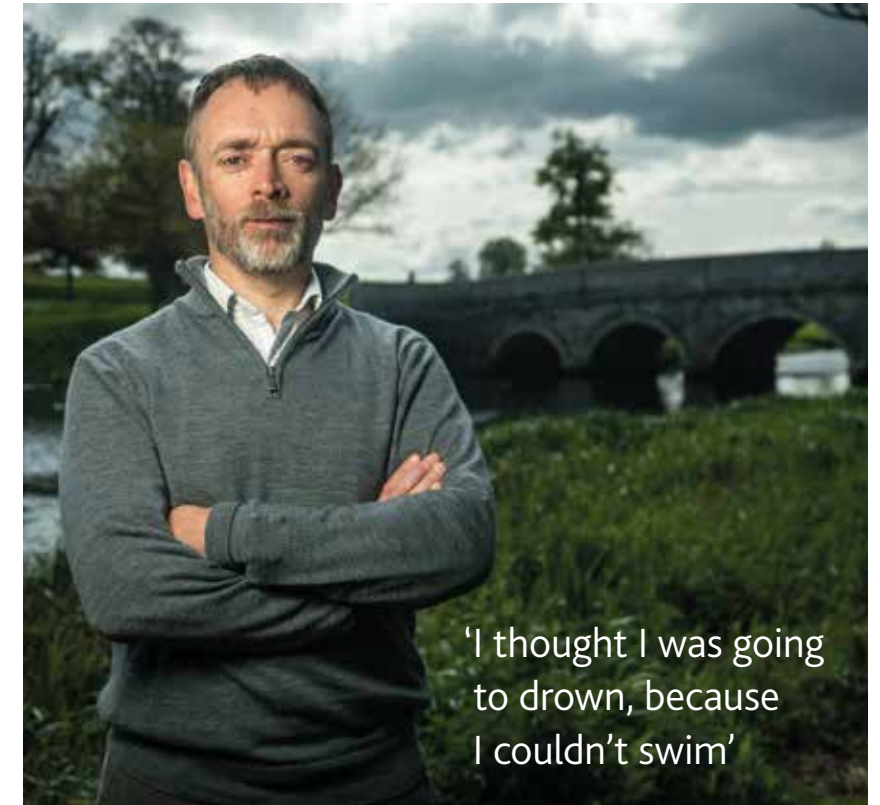
'After some splashing around, and swallowing a lot of seawater, I got this flash of inspiration where I remembered seeing the RNLI Respect the Water YouTube clip that said: "Relax, put your arms out, and you'll float." I'm so thankful I remembered it.

'At 7pm that day, having dinner with my family, that's when the shock hit me and I started to cry at the table. I realised I might very well not have been sitting there with them.'

### Respect the Water

RNLI Operations Director George Rawlinson says: 'The tragedy of drowning and accidental coastal fatalities remains with us each year. And the reality is: so many accidents are preventable.'

All who volunteer and work for the RNLI believe that life is precious. Every year, we maintain a memorial wall at RNLI Headquarters in tribute to the people who've lost their lives around our coasts: sisters and brothers, fathers and mothers, daughters and sons. As the year progresses, the number of faces and names increases and every tragedy weighs heavily.



'I thought I was going to drown, because I couldn't swim'

This is why we're working to reduce drowning by breaking every link in the drowning chain. Our Respect the Water campaign – alongside education and prevention work with watersports communities, beachgoers, children and young adults – is vital to this.

In the last year, we've been working with the University of Portsmouth to research how different body types and clothing impact on a person's ability to float. And this summer, we are building on the float message to reach more people with vital advice on how to float.

When we talk about how supporter donations help to save lives at sea, the contribution goes beyond funding our search and rescue volunteers. As an RNLI member, you are a part of this effort and we can't thank you enough.

Words: Anna Burn

Photos: RNLI/Nathan Williams

## Fight your instinct, not the water

### How to float:

1. First: keep calm and try not to panic. Your instinct will be to swim hard – don't.
2. Lean back to keep your mouth and nose out of the water and your airway clear.
3. Push your belly up and stretch out your arms and legs into a star shape.
4. Gently move your hands and feet in a sculling motion to help you float.
5. Do this for 60–90 seconds or until you can control your breathing.
6. If you can, swim to safety. If someone is nearby, raise a hand and call for help.





# CAR TROUBLE

Stranded in rising water while trying to fetch her dog, Caroline could only call 999 and hope that help would make it in time

'What could it be?' That's always the first thought Silloth lifeboat Crew Member Andrew Stanley has when the pager goes off.

'On the way to the station I could see we were in a flood tide,' he says. 'By the time we climbed aboard the lifeboat, we knew we were going to somebody who couldn't swim, stranded at sea, on the roof of a car. Urgency was high.'

With Andrew on the B class lifeboat *Elaine and Don Wilkinson* were three other crew members, including Senior Helm Steve Henderson.

'We knew the casualty was in immediate danger,' says Steve. 'We were told the vehicle was submerged. We had just minutes to get there, and get her to safety.'

Despite ideal weather conditions, getting to Caroline proved anything but straightforward.

'In that area there are very big boulders,' says Steve. 'We had to go really slowly to avoid damaging the boat.'

The other concern lay in finding Caroline before it was too late.

## Walking on water

'We had a large search area, between two villages on the coast,' says Steve. 'But it wasn't a large target – not like a vessel. We were really pleased when we spotted her, and that she was actually on the vehicle.'

'It was like she was walking on water,' adds Andy Rowe, who was also onboard that day. 'We approached cautiously – we couldn't tell which way the vehicle was facing and couldn't risk hitting it. So we stopped a short distance away.'

Crew Member Stewart Henderson was in for a surprise: 'Twenty yards out, I recognised Caroline. She's the mother of someone I went to school with. I've known her all my life.'

'She was clinging to the car, clearly distressed. Once she saw us you could tell she was delighted – but that's often when people let their guard down. I reassured her: "Everything will be alright. Don't panic. Stay there."'

## 'You've nicked my parking spot!'

'We train regularly in and out of the water,' says Andrew. 'It was so calm that day that I wasn't concerned for my own safety. I jumped in, swam to the car, grabbed hold, and put my feet through the open window onto the windowsill.'

'I joked: "You've nicked my parking spot!" and then asked if she was okay. She asked me about her dog.'

'Then I said: "Climb on my back. We're going to the boat." She was a bit concerned but she grabbed hold. She was in the water less than 60 seconds.'

'Andy Rowe and I pulled Caroline and Andrew aboard,' says Stewart. 'She was soaked and hypothermic. We focused on getting her warm – I gave her my gloves, and wrapped her in an ambulance pouch for the trip back to the boathouse.'



'When we got there, a female crew member took Caroline to the changing rooms and offered her dry clothes while we waited for the ambulance.'

## Immensely proud

'Caroline was very lucky,' says Andrew. 'It must have been terrifying. If she'd

tried to get to shore, she'd have lasted maybe 7 minutes. That's the reality.'

'I'm immensely proud of myself and the crew. Preventing somebody's death – what better thing can you do?'

Words: Mark Scott  
Photos: RNLI/Martin Fish

## CAROLINE MORGAN 'I'm eternally grateful'

'My dog was off the lead and ran on to the beach. I followed in my 4x4. But the tide was coming in fast and I couldn't get to him.'

'By the time I got back into the car the beach was flooded. That's when I called 999. Soon, the door wouldn't open. I knew I was in trouble.'

'I was just about to swim when the lifeboat arrived. Thankfully the dog was okay. But I'd dropped my

fleece, which had my phone in it, in the water. A week later, someone found it and we recovered 2,600 photos – mostly of my grandkids. So I was triply lucky: my dog, my photos, and my life!

'The rescue really makes you realise what a great job RNLI volunteers do. I'm eternally grateful. The relief at being safe will be etched on my mind forever.'





# KISS OF LIFE

A 13-year-old's quick thinking and love for his Dad keep them both alive when a February kayaking trip goes wrong



'If your casualty is quiet, you need to keep a close eye on them'

Martin 'Bonty' Jones, Helm

After a good breakfast, Paul Rowlands kissed his wife Julie goodbye and set off on an adventure with his son Joe – a kayaking trip to Ynys Dulas, an island 2 miles off Lligwy Beach.

Arriving at Lligwy, Paul realised something was missing – personal flotation devices (PFDs). He decided to press on. 'It was fairly calm,' he remembers. 'I'd done this trip loads of times before, and in some really rough weather. I thought we'd be fine.' But unbeknown to him, a hatch lid had come off and the kayak began taking on water.

About 1½ miles offshore, they capsized. 'I righted it, and Joe got back on,' Paul recounts. 'But as soon as I let it go, it went straight over again.'

Paul told Joe to straddle the upturned kayak and, kicking with his feet, began pushing it toward the island. Half an hour later, they'd gotten nowhere. Paul realised they'd have to swim for it.

'I said to Joe: "The worst thing you can do is leave your craft. But that's what we've got to do. This isn't a film. This is happening right now."' He asked Joe to take five deep breaths before getting in the water.

In the water, Joe said: 'I think we're going to die.' His voice shook with cold. 'I said that we weren't,' says Paul, 'but – if I'm honest – I thought so too.' Joe said: 'If we are, the last thing I want to do is give you a kiss.'

Paul recalls: 'He came towards me and kissed me. I told him I loved him and said: "Right, we need to go."' Seconds later, Paul lost consciousness.

## To the island

He woke to his son shouting: 'You can't die on me, Dad. Swim for me.'

'I tried,' Paul recalls, 'but my arms just couldn't work. I thought: "He's only 13, it's not fair."'

Joe reached Garreg Allan, a small patch of rocks, but Paul wasn't with him.



'This isn't a film. This is happening right now'

Paul says: 'I remember thinking: "This feels really warm and very peaceful." And I just went to sleep again.'

When Joe looked back and saw his father unconscious in the water he leaped back in. He dragged Paul's limp body to the rocks. And there, he gave his dad CPR. 'I've seen it in films, so I just tried it,' Joe recalls. 'I pinched his nose, pulled his head back and breathed into his mouth.' On Joe's second attempt, seawater came rushing out and Paul began to cough.

Joe pointed to Ynys Dulas, saying: 'The water's coming in; we need to get there.' Paul tried to stand but lost consciousness.

Joe dragged his dad 100m from Garreg Allan to Ynys Dulas, then gave him a firefighter's lift over the jagged rocks, badly cutting his feet. 'Dad had given them to me before, so I just tried copying him. I don't know how I was strong enough, but it worked.' He set his dad down out of the wind and tried to keep him awake.

## Lunch interrupted

Back at their holiday home, Julie was worried. She and Paul had a system: he'd check in at 10.45am when they arrived at Ynys Dulas. They were due back at 12.30pm.

As she cooked her boys a roast, Julie became increasingly agitated. 'When I went into the en suite where we keep the PFDs, my stomach just flipped. It had never even entered my head that they wouldn't have the lifejackets. Paul always has them. He's a firefighter and I'm a retired police officer, so we're both very protective. I felt sick.' At 12.30pm, she called the Coastguard.

Just 200m from Moelfre Lifeboat Station, professional joiner and volunteer Helm Martin 'Bonty' Jones was working on a kitchen when his pager went.

At the boathouse, he was met by Mechanic Vince Jones, Coxswain Robin Baker, Trainee Helm Josh Edwards, and Navigators Dave Priest and Aled Owen.

Setting a course for Point Lynas, where an upturned kayak had been





reported, Robin called the crew to the bridge of the all-weather lifeboat. 'I wanted them up with me to start searching with binoculars. Although we had a point to head for, the kayakers could have been anywhere.'

#### Spotted from the bridge

Josh says: 'If I was in the water, Ynys Dulas is where I'd aim for. I looked over to the island and saw two people on the rocks, one of them a boy waving his arms.'

Robin asked Josh to take command of the lifeboat's small inflatable daughter boat to take Bonty, with years of experience in casualty care, ashore.

Joe's feet were torn up, Paul's lips were purple and both were showing signs of severe hypothermia. Bonty did a capillary refill test on Paul's forehead. 'The blood took more than 5 seconds to return,' he recalls, 'an indication of acute shock.'

'And when you hear someone saying they've been resuscitated you think: "They've ingested a load of water."'

Realising there was a significant risk of secondary drowning, he radioed Robin, requesting Paul and Joe be evacuated directly from the island.

#### A little too quiet

Waiting for the Coastguard helicopter, Joe was quiet and said he wanted to

go to sleep. 'If someone is screaming, they're probably okay. If you've got a casualty who's quiet, keep a close eye on them,' Bonty explains. 'So I brought Joe down closer to me, and thought about what we might have in common that I could talk to him about.'

'I said: "Are you a football fan?" His dad goes: "No, he hates football."

"Rugby fan?"

"Yeah," he responded.

'Wales was due to play Ireland that weekend so I said: "Right, I will bet you £5 that Wales beats Ireland." Joe replied: "No, I'll bet you £5."

'He started talking and came to life for a bit.' The helicopter took them to Ysbyty Gwynedd.

There wasn't much sleep that night. Flashbacks kept Joe, still cold to his core, awake: 'Every time I close my eyes,' he said to his dad, 'I feel like I'm drowning.'

### 'People melt in difficult situations. Joe didn't.'

#### The reunion

'Joe saved my life,' Paul says. 'I work in the rescue profession. I've seen people just melt in difficult situations. He didn't. I'm immeasurably proud of him.'

Two days later, the family visited the station; Joe propped up between Mum and Dad, limping from the cuts to his feet.

'Mum was in tears and Dad was too,' Bonty recalls, 'but Joe was quiet. It was the day of the rugby match, so I crouched down to talk to him: "Remember, I'll come looking for that £5 if Wales beats Ireland," I said. I lost that bet!'

Words: Anna Burn

Photos: RNLI/(Anna Burn/Nathan Williams)



#### Kayaking safety

Looking back, Paul says he could have done many things differently: 'Wear a PFD, never set off without it. Carry a VHF radio. On top of telling someone you care about where you're going and when you'll be in contact, tell the coastguard. Then, if something goes wrong, they'll know what they're looking for – and where.'

[RNLI.org/kayaking](https://RNLI.org/kayaking)



# FREE AND FUN: SWIM SAFE IS BACK

## Sign them up for an hour. Keep them safe all summer long.

Outdoor swimming and water safety sessions for children aged 7–14 – with Swim England and the RNLI.

These hour-long sessions, run by qualified instructors and lifeguards, give children the skills they need to stay safe in and around open water.

Sessions take place at selected locations around the UK – find one near you at [RNLI.org/SwimSafeLB](https://RNLI.org/SwimSafeLB).





# GIVE IT A GO: COASTAL FORAGING

All around us, ancient varieties of food are just waiting to be rediscovered. From leaves like samphire and sea spinach to seaweeds, blackberries, beech nuts and violets – you'll be amazed at the abundance and variety

Before the rise of agriculture, our ancestors were foragers. And many of our vegetables came from the coast before we began growing them in gardens and on farms.

Jacky Pearce runs foraging courses in the Plymouth area, and students learn all about seaweeds. 'All species commonly found are edible, but some are tastier than others and some hardier species need cooking first,' Jacky says. 'Embrace trial and error to find the ones you enjoy.'

Seaweed is an abundant and underrated food source. It's high in protein (up to 25% in some species) and rich in iodine, magnesium and trace minerals such as iron, calcium and vitamins A and C. This superfood contains all trace elements needed by humans.

Jacky advises: 'Only take what you need – a little goes a long way with seaweed – and rinse well in salt water to remove any grit.'

#### What should you pack?

'A bucket and scissors. Trim the seaweed, rather than pulling it off, so that it can regenerate.'

#### What are the safety considerations?

'You're on slippery terrain, so hiking boots with good grip are a must. Check the tide times and be aware of any rocky outcrops that could cut you off as it rises. Carry a means of calling for help and tell someone where you're going and when you'll be back. If you're looking at foraging other plants



**'Embrace trial and error to find the seaweeds you enjoy'**

on the shore and coastal path, take a training course – never touch anything you're unsure of.'

#### Where and when do you look?

'Seaweed foraging is best done an hour before low water, when the plants are freshly exposed. Seaweeds anchor, rather than putting down roots, so look for rocky coastal areas and rockpools.'

**Tip:** Avoid areas where storm overflow pipes release sewage. In England or Wales, check Surfers Against Sewage's map at [sas.org.uk/map](https://www.sas.org.uk/map).

Words and photos: Anna Burn

Find recipes for Dulse Soda Bread and Hebridean Broth at [RNLI.org/foraging](https://www.rnli.org/foraging).

## THREE SEAWEEDS TO LOOK FOR:



1 **Dulse:** A forager's favourite, dulse can be added to soda bread or used to flavour and thicken a broth. Cook it first to soften it.



2 **Sea lettuce:** A delicate leafy green seaweed that can be eaten raw or fried. Great mixed into creamy mashed potato.



3 **Pepper dulse:** Simply delicious! Takes a while to recognise, but you'll know when you've found it.



# THE EVOLUTION OF LIFESAVING KIT

As we plan the rollout of the next generation of crew kit, we review a stylish and practical history of lifeboat looks – from 1824 to the present day

Through driving rain and gale-force winds, our lifeboat crews have been launching in the toughest conditions for more than 190 years.

To do this, they've relied on specialist clothing to protect them against the elements. From the first oilskins and cork

lifejackets to today's breathable new all-weather gear, we've continually pushed the limits of modern technology in the name of saving lives, and coming home safely.

Here, we explore the long lifesaving legacy of the kit hanging inside our crews' lockers.



## Headgear

### 1. 1800s–1900s: Knitted caps and sou'wester hats

Long before the invention of protective hard hats, RNLI crews focused on being warm and dry while launching oar-powered lifeboats. Bright red woollen caps were worn either on their own, or under black sou'wester hats. The sou'westers were waterproof, with a long back flap to protect the neck from spray.

### 2. 1930s: Knitted scarf-helmets

Is it a helmet? Is it a scarf? It's both! In 1936, a band of volunteer knitters produced over 1,500 hybrid designs for lifeboat crews.

### 3. 1960s: Bump caps

The introduction of the 13-knot steel Waveney class lifeboat necessitated a move towards hard-wearing headgear to prevent crews banging their heads at high speeds.

### 4. 1970s: Lazer motorcycle helmets with visors

The early 1970s saw another new lifeboat – the B class Atlantic 21 – usher in another change. A visor was press-studded into a motorcycle helmet from manufacturer Lazer. With it, volunteers could race to the rescue, knowing their eyes were protected from spray that would otherwise have felt like horizontal hail.

### 5. 1990s–present: Gecko helmets

Faster lifeboats and improved communication technology saw us move towards more purpose-built headgear in the 1990s, with the Mark 1 Gecko. Now in its 10th iteration, the modern Gecko helmet is a sleek, lightweight, robust visored headpiece with the facility to add torches, cameras, and comms equipment. Compulsory for all inshore lifeboat crews, the Gecko is the current standard in marine safety helmets.

## Lifejackets

### 1. 1850s: Cork lifejackets

Early lifesavers typically wore lifebelts filled with ballast. But in 1854, RNLI Inspector Captain Ward invented our first lifejacket by sewing strips of cork onto a canvas vest. It caught on fully in 1861 after the Whitby lifeboat disaster, when the lifeboat capsized and Henry Freeman emerged as the sole survivor. He was the only crew member wearing Ward's invention.

### 2. 1900s: Kapok lifejackets

A fibre of the silk-cotton tree, kapok is three times more buoyant than cork and doesn't absorb water. Kapok lifejackets were initially bulky and uncomfortable, but we refined the design until crews were happy leaving the cork lifejacket behind. One of our most enduring innovations, RNLI crews used this lifejacket for almost 70 years.



### 3. 1970s: Beaufort lifejackets

The foam-based Beaufort lifejacket upped the buoyancy level, allowing a crew member to also support the person being rescued. Its design ensured volunteers would float face-up in the water, even if unconscious. And being bright orange, it was far more visible in the water.

### 4. 1990s: Crewsaver inshore and all-weather lifejackets

The early 1990s saw the introduction of separate lifejackets for different lifesaving disciplines. The bulkier gear of all-weather lifeboat crews meant they needed a more compact lifejacket, which inflated automatically on hitting the water using a built-in gas canister. Inshore crews, who enter the water much more frequently, got a bigger lifejacket with built-in buoyancy.

### 5. 2014: Modern lifejackets

Our current lifejackets also come in all-weather and inshore flavours. Both have lights, flare pockets, spray hoods, whistles, and safety lines, while offering our volunteers easy movement onboard and in the water. Once inflated, they keep the wearer's head clear of the water.

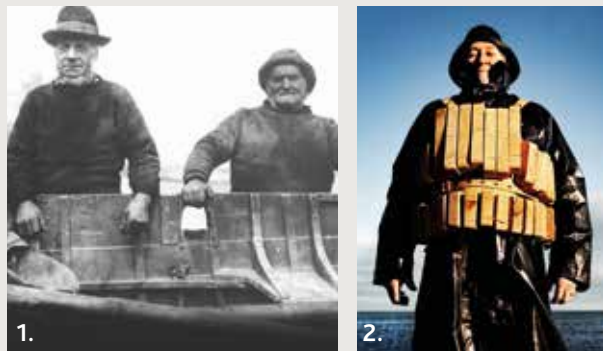




## Outer layers

### 1. 1824: Blue woollen ganseys and dark trousers

Our first lifeboat crews wore traditional fishermen's ganseys and woollen trousers. Later jumpers had 'RNLI' or the crew position (for example, 'Coxswain') knitted into the chest.



### 2. 1850s–1900s: Black, then yellow, oilskins

In 1854 our crews moved to waterproof oilskins, which would be a mainstay in many forms for over a century. Initially black, these changed in 1904 to our signature bright yellow for higher visibility. The long yellow coat also had 'RNLI' printed on the sleeve, allowing people to identify their rescuers at a glance.

early breathable materials, the Musto jacket and salopettes made movement freer, and tricky actions like crossing to casualty vessels easier than ever for all-weather lifeboat crews.

### 3. 1970s: Orange foul-weather clothing and one-piece rubber drysuits

While oilskins kept water out, they also kept condensation in, while giving the bodies inside little room to breathe. With overlapping trousers and jacket, our orange gear was roomier, allowing air to circulate as our volunteers went about their business onboard the lifeboat.

Meanwhile, 1977 saw the introduction of the first RNLI one-piece drysuit. Made from rubber, it was designed for inshore lifeboat crews to slip on swiftly, before setting off, and allowed them to move about much more freely.

### 6. 2000s: Typhoon breathable drysuits

Designed to be used with a thermal undersuit known as a woolly bear, these drysuits from marine specialist Typhoon formed part of our first fully breathable clothing system. They were issued to our new lifeboat crews on the Thames. A refined version is now used by coastal inshore lifeboat crews.

### 4. 1980s: Back to yellow

The 1980s saw the lessons learned with our orange all-weather gear transfer over to a new, brighter, and easier-to-spot yellow kit tested at the RAF Institute of Aviation Medicine.

### 7. 2018: Helly Hansen rescue storm gear

Like Typhoon's gear, the words 'breathable layers' underpin the design of our latest all-weather lifeboat gear from Helly Hansen. The outer layers of this new kit system are designed to be lighter, trimmer, and more versatile – keeping water out while allowing sweat to breathe through the material.

Large smartphone-friendly pockets allow coxswains to take calls directly from the coastguard. Reinforced hems and replaceable straps ensure the salopettes are more robust and last longer. And the introduction of female-specific gear with a drop seat zip ensures the growing number of female crew can save lives in comfort – without the inconvenience of having to remove everything when nature calls on a long shout.

## Under layers

### 1. 1800s: Fishermen's ganseys

After 1854 RNLI volunteers continued to wear woolly fishermen's jumpers underneath their long waterproof coats to stay as warm as possible at sea.

### 2. 1940s: Woollen comforts

During the war years, an army of knitters banded together to produce woollen gloves, hats, helmets, scarves, mittens, jerseys, socks and stockings for our volunteer crews, helping them carry out on saving lives.

### 3. 2000s: Woolly bear thermal undersuit

Issued alongside the Typhoon drysuit, the woolly bear keeps inshore lifeboat crews at the optimum temperature by passing sweat through the fabric, while the drysuit worn outside it keeps external moisture at bay. The woolly bear has a zip-up neck, and elasticated wrist and ankle bands for a snug fit.

### 4. 2018: Helly Hansen merino tops and pants

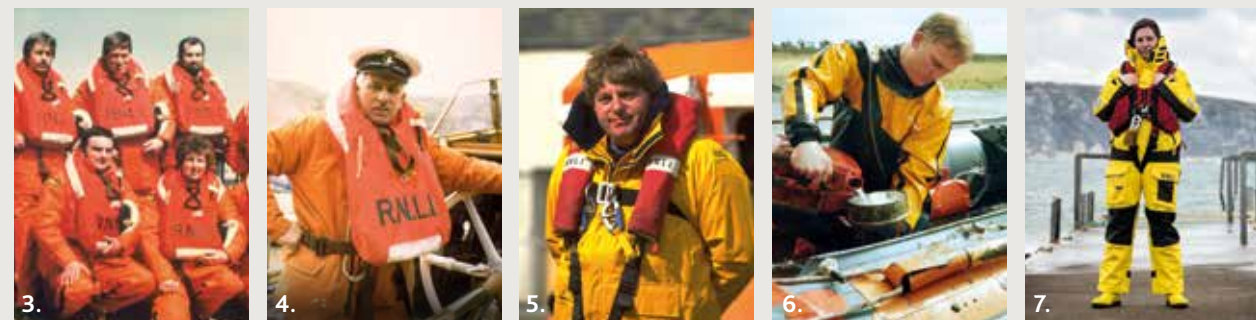
The magic of our new Helly Hansen breathable kit system really is in the under layers – including, for the first time ever at the RNLI, garments designed especially for female crew members.

The base and mid layers hug the skin, keeping the wearer warm and allowing moisture to breathe through the fabric – ensuring our volunteers will never again get clammy in changing conditions on longer shouts.

Across locations that range from nearer the Arctic in Shetland, to nearer the Mediterranean in the Channel Islands, our crews can now pick the right layers to keep themselves comfortable and focus on what matters: saving lives at sea, and then heading home to their loved ones.



Words: Mark Scott  
Photos: Fox Photos Ltd, RNLI/(Nigel Millard, Nathan Williams)



## OWN A PIECE OF LIFESAVING HISTORY

So what becomes of older kit when a new iteration is introduced? We recycle materials where we can – and one exciting example is our Since 1824 accessories range, now available through RNLI Shop.

These overnight bags, wallets and washbags are made from decommissioned RNLI lifejackets. They're hard-wearing and waterproof, each one a unique piece of lifesaving history, and every purchase saves lives at sea.

Browse the range at [shop.RNLI.org](http://shop.RNLI.org).





# Global lifesaving: A brave legacy

Drowning prevention across borders has been part of the RNLI's vision since our charity's foundation



It doesn't respect borders. It holds no prejudice for one skin colour over another. It will not favour a shout for help in Tenby over one in Tanzania. And it cannot be cajoled by wealth – nor will it pity poverty.

Water – whether an ocean, a pond, a river or a reservoir – treats us all the same and, in so doing, connects us.

That binding force is something RNLI founder Sir William Hillary took to heart, and breathed into the RNLI from its very inception.

## A bold vision

Hillary's mission, while local in practice, was always global in its philosophy. He knew that if organisations worked together around the world 'without judgement', then these partnerships would ensure a 'reciprocal service' for everyone. 'It is consistent with a wise and enlightened policy,' he said, 'which should extend our views from our own immediate coasts to the most remote quarters of the globe.'

His was a bold vision, and one the RNLI has pursued from the day of its foundation in 1824. No matter where a vessel was from or how it got into trouble, the RNLI was there – as it is today – without exception, for anyone who needed saving.

## Where and how

So when, in 1970, the institution was called upon by the British Red Cross for its first international deployment, it didn't ask 'who' or 'why', it asked 'where' and 'how'.

A devastating tropical cyclone had struck Bangladesh. Already, 500,000 lives had been lost. And those who'd survived were left without food, drinking water or medicine. The RNLI's expertise was to prove invaluable: a team of just eight crew members, deployed in six D class inshore

Left: Lifeguard training in Bangladesh

lifeboats, brought humanitarian aid to over 10,000 people.

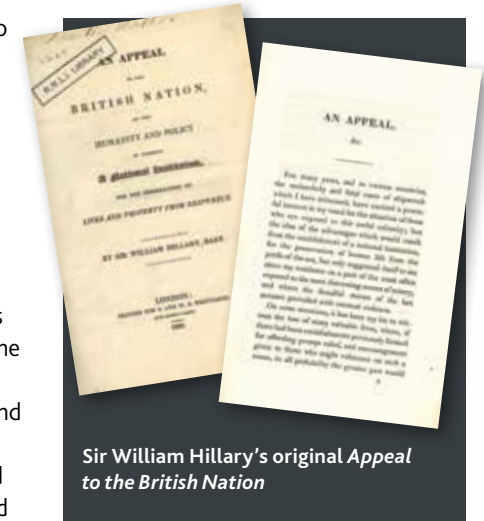
This incredible beginning to a broader international journey was just the start of a rich and rewarding global lifesaving legacy.

## A duty to share

It wasn't until 30 years later, after another urgent call for assistance – this time to flood-hit Mozambique – that the RNLI realised the enormous impact its specialist insight could have at home and abroad. Inspired by another successful deployment and the knowledge gained on the ground, the organisation formed its Flood Rescue Team. Dedicated to sharing knowledge as well as practical assistance, these expert lifesavers now provide vital training and ever-ready search and rescue across the UK, Ireland and beyond.

Today in Bangladesh, where flooding continues its routine devastation, the RNLI's work with the country's Fire Service and Civil Defence has resulted in more lives saved, more rapidly and more efficiently than ever before.

The RNLI's international work not only gives us the opportunity to share our 190 years of expertise and save even more lives, but it also helps us



Sir William Hillary's original Appeal to the British Nation

learn new lifesaving skills and develop our own capabilities at home.

## Education

Every 85 seconds, someone drowns. For a world-class organisation dedicated to drowning prevention, this number hurts. But what is even more galling is the key reason why: a lack of access to water safety education.

Below: Bangladesh (then East Pakistan), 1970 – it took the RNLI just 36 hours to provide 20 boats with engines and spares for an airlift from Stansted to Dhaka to help those caught up in the flood disaster





While swimming lessons are part of life for children in the UK and Ireland, globally, many children are not so fortunate.

In 2012, recognising the urgent need for education, the RNLI's international team began bringing its extensive experience to those who need it most. Partnering with local organisations to provide lifeguard, first aid, and survival skills training has – in 6 short but productive years – had a profound impact on communities from Accra in Ghana to Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.

### A lifesaving network

Tanjid, 12, from Cox's Bazar sums it up perfectly. 'When the wave came and washed us away, I thought I was not about to live anymore,' he recalls. 'If the lifeguard was not there on that day, three friends might have been washed away.'

The RNLI's international work is already saving lives, but it's also bringing together an incredible network of likeminded people from the global drowning community. To date, our



Future Leaders in Lifesaving programme has trained over 100 delegates from 30 countries to set up, develop, and run their own lifesaving organisations.

At the RNLI, we're proud of our courageous and selfless history, at home and abroad. But we neither rest on past victories nor take for granted future successes.

At the turn of the next century, today's achievements will become part of our brave legacy. And that legacy,

as it was always intended, will be one without judgement, without prejudice, without borders – without exception.

Words: Anna Burn, Nikki McMullen  
Photos: British Red Cross, RNLI/(Mike Lavis, Mick Kingston)

**Above: Mozambique 2000, our volunteer crew members returning home onboard a transport plane**

**Below: International Aquatic Survival programme, Zanzibar**

# Friends of the RNLI: The Lifeboat Fund



Civil servants around the UK are celebrating 150 years of fundraising for the RNLI. And they're doing so in style, having funded their 53rd lifeboat: a brand new Shannon class due to be built for Wells, Norfolk, in 2021.

The Lifeboat Fund is an official civil service charity, separate from the RNLI, but whose purpose is to support our lifesaving work.

They hit their target thanks to a legacy gift from Louene Smith, which will also fund £100,000 worth of shoreworks needed at Wells to accommodate the new lifeboat.

Lifeboat Fund Chair Sir Mark Sedwill says: 'This is a fantastic achievement for our valiant fundraisers and supporters. In particular, I would like to thank Miss Smith, whose legacy was used to complete the Shannon funding and also give us some base funding for our next appeal.'

As well as the 53 boats, the Lifeboat Fund has also made possible crew training all around the coast, and the refurbishment of Tower Pier on the Thames – home of the RNLI's busiest station.



Photos: RNLI/(Katie Beney, Steve Lowe)



## Puzzle time

### Quick wordsearch:

It's Wales's Year of the Sea. We've celebrated by hiding 12 Welsh lifeboat stations in this wordsearch:

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

ABERDOVEY  
ABERSOCH  
ABERYSTWYTH  
ANGLE  
BEAUMARIS  
CONWY  
CRICCIETH  
FISHGUARD  
FLINT  
HOLYHEAD  
PORTHCAWL  
TENBY

## NAUTICAL PUZZLES

### Word knot

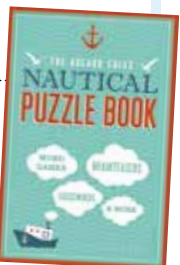
Can you solve this anagram?

SLIMANIA



Answer on page 39

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





**WHO IS SIR STEVE REDGRAVE?**

Rower Sir Steve Redgrave is the only person to win gold medals at five different Olympic Games. He now works in the media, with charities, and as a motivational speaker.



# The RNLI and me: Sir Steve Redgrave

The five-time Olympic gold medal-winning rower on the bond between crew, overcoming self-doubt, and why support matters

**Can you tell us about the importance of crew?**

The bond between a crew is huge. As Olympic rowers we were volunteers; we didn't get paid. So we survived by our bond. It's not about superstars; it's about the blend of different people with different skills. I imagine it's similar for your volunteers.

**In the 19th century, our crews rescued people using rowing boats. How would you have fared doing that?**

Very poorly! In my type of rowing we like flat water, not rough conditions. I have great admiration for the lifeboat crews rowing out to rescue people. It's crazy that anybody rows on the sea!

**Our purpose is to save lives at sea.****What gives you a purpose?**

Targets. In my sport, goals tend to relate to the Olympics. You say to yourself: 'Do I want to carry on for the next Games?' And it's easy saying: 'Yes. Away we go.'

**When times got tough, what got you from 'I can't do it' to 'I can do it'?**

At the Olympics, you're in the warm-up area thinking: 'Why am I putting myself through hell for this?' But also: 'It would be silly not to make the most of it.' You question yourself but you work through it. Then afterwards you think: 'That was fun!' And if you win, great. But if not, you're more determined for next time.

'The bond between a crew is huge. It's about a blend of different people with different skills.'

**We rely on our supporters to help save lives at sea. Can you speak about the importance of great support?**

When you're competing, the people watching are part of the reason you're doing it. When that national anthem plays, you're part of something bigger than you. I was always very thankful for the people who helped me achieve that.

**You are now using your sporting experience to help with projects and charities around the world. How can sport help tackle issues such as disadvantage?**

It's about creating a community. Sport has a huge role to play in building bridges in society. Just as the RNLI is at the forefront of helping people enjoy the water safely – and thus forming a community. That's what I try to do as well. My water's a lot flatter than yours! But the principle's the same.

**MY FAVOURITE ...****Current athlete?**

Probably Sir Ben Ainslie. What he's doing in the America's Cup is amazing. He's a very special individual. And he's got water in his DNA.

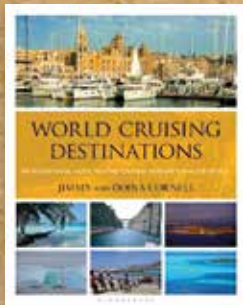
**Piece of advice?**

Enjoy what you're doing. You're going to have a lot more passion and desire for something that makes you happy. And you'll put more time into it, so you're more likely to achieve great things.



# Summer reads

Will you choose an adventure story to enjoy by the pool, or a handy guide to prepare for a sailing trip?



## **World Cruising Destinations: An Inspirational Guide to All Sailing Destinations**

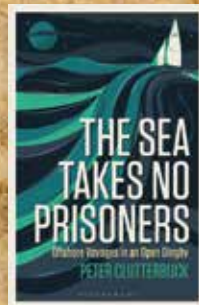
by Jimmy and Doina Cornell

The spirit of adventure runs in the family for father-daughter duo Jimmy and Doina Cornell. Jimmy has sailed 200,000 miles on all the oceans of the world, many of these with his family by his side.

This definitive guide is easy to skim, divided into handy colour-coded sections. For each destination, there is a useful country profile, as well as notes on the climate, ports of entry, local laws and formalities, facilities and local emergency contact details.

Whether you're a seasoned voyager or just learning the ropes, this inspiring and informative guide will be a worthy investment for your cruising library.

Published by Bloomsbury  
ISBN 9781472947475  
Price: £45



## **The Sea Takes No Prisoners**

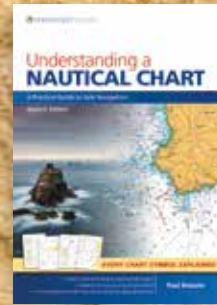
by Peter Clutterbuck

*The Sea Takes No Prisoners* is an inspirational read from page one. Setting sail aboard his 16-foot Wayfarer dinghy, Clutterbuck takes you on a real-life adventure, showing what one person can do when they set their mind to achieving the impossible.

The tale begins with Pete's early days spent in the Norfolk Broads and around the Dorset coast, and ends with his dramatic account of open ocean sailing with no land in sight, at the mercy of the sea. You'll experience the highs and lows of his adventures – including some very near-misses – and join him in celebrating being one of the only people to take an open dinghy through high seas.

You don't need to be a seasoned sailor to enjoy this one; it takes you back to a golden age of freedom and adventure.

Published by Bloomsbury  
ISBN 9781472945716  
Price (hardback): £14.99



## **Understanding a Nautical Chart: A Practical Guide to Safe Navigation**

by Paul Boissier

Whether you're an amateur sailor or a regular seagoer, navigational charts can be daunting – especially with the many abbreviations and symbols they use. If you'd like to demystify the world of nautical navigation, this handy guide will teach you how to read a chart and navigate safely.

Written by RNLI Chief Executive Paul Boissier, *Understanding a Nautical Chart* is simple to understand and filled with helpful illustrations, and the clear chapters are great for quick referencing.

With this book on your chart table, you can feel confident and ready for adventure next time you set sail.

Published by Fernhurst Books  
ISBN 9781912177073  
Price: £19.99



## **Sail Away**

by Celia Imrie

RNLI supporter Celia Imrie's latest offering is the story of two very different women with a shared thirst for adventure, who find themselves aboard an Atlantic cruise ship for 3 weeks.

There are plenty of twists and turns, interesting characters and onboard adventures, as well as humour from start to finish.

If you're sadly without cruise plans this summer, this is the next best thing. Celia beautifully details each scene, making you feel as if you are right there in the action (without having to suffer the rough seas).

Published by Bloomsbury  
ISBN 9781408883228  
Price (hardback): £12.99

Buy these books online via [RNLI.org/amazon](https://www.rnli.org/amazon) and Amazon will donate a minimum of 1% of the value to the RNLI.



## **Sail and Rig: The Tuning Guide**

by Magne Klann and Øyvind Bordal

A detailed exploration of sail and rig tuning, this guide is split into sections that make it easy to find what you're looking for – whether that's choosing the right ropes or rigging in rough weather.

The book is packed with colour photographs and illustrations, making complicated theoretical and technical information much easier to understand.

As seasoned seafarers know, a well-trimmed sailing boat is faster, heels less and balances better – and it's safer and more comfortable too. If you're looking to get more enjoyment out of sailing by upping your trim game, this is the book for you.

Published by Fernhurst Books  
ISBN 9781912177103  
Price: £18

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



## **Over the Top: The First Lone Yachtsman to Sail Vertically Around the World**

by Adrian Flanagan

In 2005, Adrian Flanagan set off on his yacht *Barrabas* to pursue a lifelong dream: circumnavigating the world solo and unaided.

Although sailing horizontally around the world is an exceptional challenge, Adrian decided to make his journey even more difficult by taking a different route: via Cape Horn and the Russian Arctic.

During his voyage, he has a close encounter with pirates, capsizes alone in the middle of the ocean, and has a near-death experience when he is washed overboard. Adrian's enthralling tale is perfect for anyone dreaming of adventure.

Published by Bloomsbury  
ISBN 9781472944313  
Price: £10.99



# 1,744 RNLI RESCUE CRAFT LAUNCHES 1 OCTOBER 2017–31 MARCH 2018

We're sorry we were unable to publish launches in the Spring issue. Here, as promised, are 6 months' worth. The launches listed here are those for which returns had been received at RNLI Headquarters and processed by 19 April 2018.

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**  
D-694: Oct 14, Feb 11,20  
ON1248 (17-24): Nov 1,21, Feb 11,20  
**ABERYSTWYTH**  
B-822: Oct 19, Dec 9  
**ACHILL ISLAND**  
ON1240 (14-28): Oct 3,8,15, Nov 10, Dec 5,11, Jan 30, Feb 19, Mar 7  
ON1253 (14-32): Feb 7,8  
**AITH**  
ON1232 (17-14): Feb 11, Mar 29

**ALDEBURGH**  
D-808: Nov 3  
ON1193 (12-34): Oct 9,22  
**ALDERNEY**  
ON1199 (14-04): Oct 29, Feb 12  
**AMBLE**  
D-736: Oct 2, Dec 19, Feb 3  
ON1323 (13-16): Oct 3,16, Dec 19, Feb 3  
**ANGLE**  
ON1291 (16-11): Oct 3, 18(x2),26,27,28,30, Nov 3, Dec 1,20, Jan 8, Feb 4, Mar 24

**ANSTRUTHER**  
D-802: Nov 25  
**APPLEDORE**  
B-861: Nov 8,14, Dec 14, Feb 2  
B-889: Oct 16(x2)  
D-650: Nov 8  
ON1296 (16-16): Nov 8, Dec 12  
**ARAN ISLANDS**  
ON1217 (17-06): Oct 1(x2),5,7,27, Nov 20, Dec 21,27,29, Jan 14,16, Feb 5,16, Mar 21,23,25,26  
ON1278 (17-45): Feb 28

**ARBROATH**  
D-759: Oct 8,21, Nov 17, Dec 17, Feb 6,22  
ON1194 (12-35): Oct 8, 21, 30  
**ARKLOW**  
ON1223 (14-19): Oct 17,18, Nov 14, Dec 13  
**ARRANMORE**  
ON1244 (17-22): Oct 29, Nov 3,4,6,17, Dec 7,8(x2)  
Jan 7,24, Mar 18,31(x2)  
**BALLYGLASS**  
ON1235 (17-15): Oct 27

**BALTIMORE**  
B-780: Oct 1  
ON1302 (16-22): Dec 29(x2), Jan 7, Feb 3  
**BANGOR**  
B-805: Oct 6,16, Jan 16  
**BARMOUTH**  
D-814: Feb 10  
**BARRA ISLAND**  
ON1279 (17-46): Jan 29, Feb 23, Mar 6  
**BARROW**  
D-733: Nov 17,19

**BARRY DOCK**  
D-638: Jan 14,19  
ON1245 (14-29): Oct 1,9, Nov 9, Jan 14,15,19, Feb 1, Mar 8  
**BEAUMARIS**  
B-838: Oct 7,10,12,20,27, Nov 4(x2),5,10, Dec 2,4,12, Jan 11,25, Mar 14,18  
**BEMBRIDGE**  
D-778: Oct 8,14, Feb 19  
ON1297 (16-17): Oct 3,4, 10,23, Nov 5,22, Dec 24, Jan 29, Feb 12,13  
**BERWICK-UPON-TWEED**  
D-777: Nov 21  
**BLACKPOOL**  
B-830: Dec 21  
B-867: Mar 26  
D-729: Oct 18, Nov 4, Dec 17,27, Jan 21,22  
D-732: Nov 4, Dec 16,17, 21,27, Jan 21,22  
**BLYTH**  
B-776: Nov 11,19, Dec 16  
D-746: Dec 16  
**BRIDLINGTON**  
ON1169 (12-12): Nov 15  
**BRIGHTON**  
B-852: Oct 2,3,5,7,11,22,25, 30, Nov 12,28, Dec 2(x2),3, Jan 14,23, Feb 1,6, Mar 3,6,11,15  
**BROUGHY FERRY**  
D-698: Oct 14,20, Nov 5,18, Dec 28, Jan 1,4, Feb 18, Mar 3,10,11,14,20,21  
ON1225 (14-21): Oct 25, Nov 18  
ON1252 (14-31): Nov 5, Dec 28, Jan 1, Mar 3,14,20  
**BUCKIE**  
ON1268 (17-37): Oct 14, Nov 1,18,21, Dec 14,22  
**BUDE**  
D-756: Oct 15  
**BUNDORAN**  
B-834: Jan 20  
**BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH**  
B-849: Dec 1, Mar 1,10,24  
D-807: Oct 10  
**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**  
B-795: Nov 3,9  
D-768: Nov 3  
**BURRY PORT**  
B-777: Oct 2, Dec 1,24, Jan 4,14  
D-749: Nov 2,6, Dec 24, Jan 4,7,12  
**CALSHOT**  
B-860: Oct 2,11(x2),15,21, 22, Nov 10, Dec 31, Jan 7, Feb 18, Mar 28  
D-748: Oct 1,2,11, Jan 18, Feb 16

**CAMPBELTOWN**  
D-737: Nov 26  
ON1241 (17-19): Dec 24,25, Feb 8  
**CARDIGAN**  
B-803: Mar 6  
B-871: Oct 24,26  
D-709: Oct 24,31  
**CARRYBRIDGE**  
RWC: Dec 27, Mar 9  
**CHISWICK**  
E-006: Oct 16  
E-08: Oct 3,6,9,15,16(x2), 18,19,22,23,25(x2),27, 28(x3), Nov 2,5,10,11,12,13, 17,18,19,25,26, Dec 3,7, 15,18,19,26,27,28,29, Jan 5,7,9(x3),18,22,25, 26,29, Feb 3,5,7,12(x2),14, 16,25, Mar 2(x2),8,9,10(x2), 30,31  
E-09: Mar 1,4,7,8,17,19,21, 22,24  
**CLACTON-ON-SEA**  
B-825: Oct 17,18, Nov 5,6, 16  
D-723: Oct 18, Nov 20  
**CLEETHORPES**  
D-757: Oct 16,22, Nov 4, Jan 7,11,26  
**CLIFDEN**  
B-869: Oct 8  
D-679: Oct 8  
D-815: Nov 3  
ON1192 (12-33): Oct 1,8, Nov 27, Jan 9  
**CLOGHER HEAD**  
ON1190 (12-31): Oct 14,16, 22  
**CONWY**  
D-765: Oct 5, Nov 6,9,12, Jan 7, Feb 18, Mar 28  
**COURTMACSHERRY HARBOUR**  
ON1205 (14-07): Nov 11,24, Feb 18  
**COWES**  
B-859: Oct 5, Nov 4, Dec 4, Jan 17  
**CRICCIETH**  
A-76: Oct 18  
**CROMER**  
D-734: Oct 28  
D-750: Mar 8  
**CROSSHAVEN**  
B-892: Oct 20, Dec 17, Feb 4  
**CULLERCOATS**  
B-811: Oct 5,8,9,10,29, Nov 3,9,18  
**DART**  
D-702: Oct 18,25,28,30, Nov 1,3  
D-812: Oct 6,17  
**DONAGHADEE**  
ON1267 (14-36): Nov 9, Jan 1

**DOUGLAS**  
ON1147 (47-032): Oct 17, Nov 7,17, Dec 1, Feb 8  
**DOVER**  
ON1220 (17-09): Oct 31, Nov 11,16,21, Jan 30, Mar 21  
**DUN LAOGHAIRE**  
D-731: Oct 21,29(x2), Nov 9,26  
ON1200 (14-05): Oct 13,14, 18,28, Nov 4, Dec 15  
**DUNBAR**  
D-708: Oct 17  
ON1266 (14-35): Oct 17, Dec 27  
**DUNGENESS**  
ON1309 (13-02): Oct 11,15  
**DUNMORE EAST**  
ON1215 (14-17): Oct 25, Nov 1,2,6,11,28(x2),30  
**EASTBOURNE**  
D-744: Oct 9(x2),13,15,18, 19, 23, Nov 6,9, Dec 1,2, 3(x2), Jan 14,22  
ON1303 (16-23): Oct 4,7,19, 21, Dec 3,10, Jan 10,11,12, Feb 17, Mar 4,20  
**ENNISKILLEN**  
B-792: Oct 21  
**EXMOUTH**  
D-720: Oct 8,11,16,19,23, Nov 6,11,18  
D-805: Dec 5,9,27,31, Feb 18  
ON1310 (13-03): Nov 6  
**EYEMOUTH**  
D-745: Nov 8, Feb 18  
D-809: Oct 16, Nov 6  
ON1209 (14-11): Oct 16, Nov 4,8  
**FALMOUTH**  
B-756: Oct 19,21, Nov 19, 20, 21, Dec 3,24, Jan 9, Mar 1,4,13,31  
ON1256 (17-29): Oct 1,12, Nov 29, Dec 27, Jan 9  
**FENIT**  
D-726: Nov 11  
**FETHARD**  
D-683: Jan 1  
**FILEY**  
D-728: Oct 14  
ON1170 (12-13): Nov 9, Jan 25, Mar 21  
**FISHGUARD**  
D-789: Nov 9  
ON1198 (14-03): Dec 7, Mar 20  
**FLAMBOROUGH**  
B-820: Oct 18, Nov 6



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



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



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



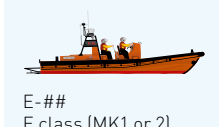
ON-####(14-##)  
Trent class  
last built: 2003



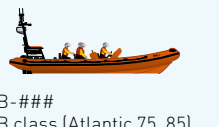
ON-####(13-##)  
Shannon class  
introduced 2014  
new cost: £2.2M



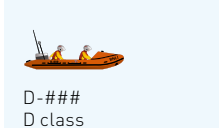
ON-####(12-##)  
Mersey class  
last built: 1993



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



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



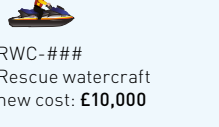
D-###  
D class  
new cost: £52,000



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



**FLEETWOOD**

**D-719:** Oct 7,30, Feb 17, Mar 10  
**ON1321 (13-14):** Oct 2,30, Nov 4, Dec 27, Jan 7, Feb 17  
**FLINT**  
**D-795:** Oct 15,27, Nov 12, 23, Dec 17,21  
**FOWEY**  
**D-681:** Oct 27, Nov 12  
**ON1222 (14-18):** Oct 4, Nov 12, Jan 11  
**FRASERBURGH:**  
**ON1225 (14-21):** Nov 24, Jan 13,19,28  
**ON1259 (14-34):** Oct 27, Nov 18, Mar 5  
**GALWAY**  
**B-853:** Oct 6,15,19, Nov 14, Dec 9, Feb 22(x2)  
**GIRVAN**  
**ON1196 (12-37):** Feb 18  
**GRAVESEND**  
**B-827:** Jan 11,21,22,28, 31, Feb 4,11,24, Mar 1,2,4, 23,28  
**B-870:** Oct 2,8,9,14,21,22, 25,28,30,31, Nov 2,7,8,11, 15,20,22,24, Dec 8(x2), 26,27  
**GREAT YARMOUTH AND GORLESTON**  
**A-77:** Oct 22  
**B-786:** Oct 11,17, Nov 18, Jan 3  
**B-788:** Feb 21, Mar 9  
**ON1208 (14-10):** Oct 19, Dec 26,31, Jan 4  
**HAPPISBURGH**  
**D-813:** Dec 23  
**HARTLEPOOL**  
**B-881:** Oct 5(x2),8, Nov 26, Dec 8  
**ON1274 (14-37):** Oct 8, Nov 16, Dec 7, Jan 14, Mar 8  
**HARWICH**  
**B-789:** Oct 3,5,9(x2),18,20, 23,27,28, Nov 5(x2),12, Dec 25, Jan 23,27(x2), Feb 6,11,18,25,27  
**ON1202 (17-03):** Oct 18(x2), Mar 24  
**HASTINGS**  
**D-699:** Oct 7,8,25, Nov 29, Jan 14,19, Feb 16,20, Mar 20  
**ON1125 (12-002):** Oct 7, Nov 12  
**HAYLING ISLAND**  
**B-829:** Oct 3,5,6,8,18,31 Feb 23, Mar 25  
**D-779:** Oct 5,8,22(x3),31, Mar 25

**HELENSBURGH**

**B-791:** Oct 21,25, Dec 6  
**B-903:** Dec 10,27,29(x2)  
**HELVICK HEAD**  
**B-874:** Jan 20  
**HOLYHEAD**  
**D-791:** Oct 20  
**ON1272 (17-41):** Nov 8, Mar 7  
**HOWTH**  
**D-796:** Oct 7  
**ON1258 (14-33):** Feb 4  
**HOYLAKE**  
**H-005:** Oct 8  
**ON1313 (13-06):** Oct 25  
**HUMBER**  
**ON1216 (17-05):** Nov 14,17, Dec 22  
**HUNSTANTON**  
**B-848:** Oct 16, Mar 10  
**B-895:** Dec 28  
**H-003:** Dec 30  
**ILFRACOMBE**  
**D-717:** Dec 22,26  
**ON1311 (13-04):** Oct 16  
**INVERGORDON**  
**ON1206 (14-08):** Nov 14, Dec 12  
**ISLAY**  
**ON1219 (17-08):** Dec 21,26  
**ON1279 (17-46):** Oct 18  
**KES SOCK**  
**B-873:** Dec 23, Jan 3, Mar 19  
**KILKEEL**  
**B-812:** Oct 8,22, Nov 14, Feb 8  
**KILMORE QUAY**  
**ON1298 (16-18):** Oct 8,29, Nov 13  
**KILRUSH**  
**B-844:** Nov 22  
**KINGHORN**  
**B-836:** Oct 22,28, Nov 2, Dec 3,19,26,28(x2), Jan 26, 27,29, Mar 24,27  
**KIRKCUDBRIGHT**  
**B-814:** Oct 20,25, Dec 30, Jan 18  
**KIRKWALL**  
**ON1231 (17-13):** Dec 6(x2), 15  
**KEYE OF LOCHALSH**  
**B-856:** Oct 14,16,28, Dec 1,16  
**LARGS**  
**B-854:** Jan 11,22  
**LARNE**  
**D-783:** Dec 18, Mar 25  
**ON1246 (14-30):** Oct 6, Dec 18  
**LERWICK**  
**ON1221 (17-10):** Oct 5, Nov 2,13  
**LEVERBURGH**  
**ON1195 (12-36):** Oct 27, Nov 5, Jan 20

**LITTLE AND BROAD HAVEN**

**D-766:** Dec 12  
**LITTLEHAMPTON**  
**B-891:** Oct 7,29  
**D-769:** Oct 8(x2), Nov 1, Dec 24  
**LITTLESTONE-ON-SEA**  
**B-785:** Nov 25, Jan 2  
**LLANDUDNO**  
**D-793:** Oct 14  
**ON1325 (13-18):** Nov 9  
**LOCH NESS**  
**B-763:** Oct 9,10,14,20, Nov 9  
**LONGHOPE**  
**ON1284 (16-05):** Oct 6, Jan 12, Mar 17  
**LOOE**  
**B-894:** Oct 23, Dec 16, Mar 3  
**D-741:** Oct 1,23, Dec 16  
**LOUGH DERG**  
**B-781:** Mar 18  
**LOUGH REE**  
**B-772:** Oct 14(x2),29, Jan 18,20  
**LOUGH SWILLY**  
**ON1315 (13-08):** Oct 2, Nov 5, Jan 15,18  
**LOWESTOFT**  
**ON1312 (13-05):** Oct 26, Jan 1,4,5,14  
**ON1314 (13-07):** Oct 29  
**LYME REGIS**  
**B-857:** Oct 7,14,26, Jan 1, 13,17, Feb 23,24,27  
**LYMINGTON**  
**B-882:** Oct 22,27, Mar 12  
**LYTHAM ST ANNES**  
**D-725:** Oct 8, Nov 5  
**D-800:** Feb 5  
**ON1189 (12-30):** Oct 8, Nov 5  
**MABLETHORPE**  
**B-898:** Jan 1  
**D-790:** Jan 22  
**MACDUFF**  
**B-804:** Oct 20, Nov 18,24  
**MALLAIG**  
**ON1250 (17-26):** Oct 6,16, 19, Nov 7,14,17, Jan 8, Feb 23, Mar 12  
**MARGATE**  
**D-706:** Oct 2,8, Jan 8,20  
**ON1177 (12-20):** Oct 8,30  
**MINEHEAD**  
**B-824:** Oct 2,8,16, Nov 3,10  
**D-673:** Nov 3,Dec 1, Jan 18, Mar 21  
**D-780:** Oct 8  
**MONTROSE**  
**D-764:** Oct 1,9,17  
**ON1317 (13-10):** Oct 1,9,17, Dec 11(x2),17,24

**MORECAMBE**

**D-722:** Nov 21, Jan 22, Mar 23  
**D-774:** Nov 18  
**H-002:** Oct 15, Nov 5 Jan 22, Feb 17(x2)  
**MUDEFORD**  
**B-806:** Oct 1(x2),7,12, 29,31, Nov 1,26, Dec 27, Jan 28  
**NEW BRIGHTON**  
**B-837:** Mar 21  
**B-883:** Oct 10(x2), Nov 27, Feb 8  
**NEWBIGGIN**  
**B-864:** Jan 9  
**NEWHAVEN**  
**ON1243 (17-21):** Oct 8,12, 18(x2),19,31, Nov 5, Feb 25  
**NEWQUAY**  
**B-821:** Oct 30  
**D-773:** Oct 30(x2), Nov 15  
**D-780:** Jan 13  
**NORTH BERWICK**  
**D-758:** Oct 17,18, Mar 26  
**OBAN**  
**ON1227 (14-23):** Oct 1,3,9, 15,22,23,27, Nov 8, Jan 8, 29,31, Mar 24  
**PADSTOW**  
**ON1283 (16-04):** Oct 9,29, Dec 27, Jan 8, Feb 18  
**PENARTH**  
**B-839:** Oct 9, Nov 9, Dec 7, Jan 15, Feb 20  
**D-692:** Nov 13, Dec 7  
**PENLEE**  
**B-893:** Oct 7, Nov 9,19, Dec 26, Feb 17, Mar 20  
**ON1265 (17-36):** Oct 3,7,11, Nov 26, Dec 18,26(x2), Jan 17,24, Feb 16  
**PETERHEAD**  
**ON1282 (16-03):** Oct 8,29, Nov 15,23, Dec 9,11  
**ON1290 (16-10):** Feb 11,16  
**PLYMOUTH**  
**A-31:** Dec 8  
**B-775:** Oct 3,8,11,12,14,27, 29, Nov 4,5, Dec 3,4,7,8,13, 17,19, Jan 26, Feb 3,6,12,15, 16(x2),18,20, Mar 5,14,17  
**ON1263 (17-34):** Oct 3,7,29, Nov 18,24(x2)  
**ON1264 (17-35):** Dec 4(x2), 5,9,12,17, Feb 6,17,18  
**POOLE**  
**B-826:** Oct 3,7,22,27,29, 31, Nov 16,23,24, Dec 11, Jan 1,2,7  
**D-804:** Oct 3,31, Jan 1, Feb 4  
**PORT ERIN**  
**B-813:** Mar 15

**PORT ISAAC**

**D-707:** Nov 1,2, Jan 14  
**PORT ST MARY**  
**ON1234 (14-26):** Dec 28  
**PORT TALBOT**  
**D-713:** Oct 15, Nov 7,19,28, Dec 16, Jan 2,8,14  
**D-762:** Jan 22, Feb 20,27, Mar 15,19,25  
**PORTAFERRY**  
**B-833:** Oct 14, Jan 23, Mar 6,9,12,31  
**PORTHCAWL**  
**B-832:** Oct 8,13,29, Nov 1, Dec 16, Jan 10,11(x3), Feb 4(x2)  
**D-714:** Nov 1,2,4, Dec 16, 28, Jan 10,11(x2), Feb 4  
**PORTH DINLLAEN**  
**ON1290 (16-10):** Oct 27  
**ON1304 (16-24):** Nov 21  
**PORTISHEAD**  
**B-884:** Mar 31  
**PORTPATRICK**  
**ON1301 (16-21):** Oct 14, Jan 3,15, Mar 21,29  
**PORTREE**  
**ON1214 (14-16):** Nov 20,22, 23, Dec 18, Jan 13,28  
**PORTRUSH**  
**D-738:** Oct 21  
**ON1257 (17-30):** Dec 3,23  
**ON1278 (17-45):** Oct 1,6,10, 13, Nov 9  
**PORTSMOUTH**  
**B-846:** Oct 19,27, Nov 11, Jan 4,20  
**D-716:** Oct 19,22, Feb 20  
**D-720:** Feb 4  
**PWLLHELI**  
**D-811:** Oct 8, Feb 4  
**QUEENSFERRY**  
**B-851:** Oct 7,8(x2),23, Nov 5,25, Jan 3,7,14,20  
**RAMSEY**  
**ON1171 (12-14):** Mar 26  
**RAMSGATE**  
**B-878:** Oct 7,30, Nov 28, Dec 14,22,24, Jan 29  
**ON1197 (14-02):** Nov 13, Dec 21  
**RED BAY**  
**B-843:** Dec 28  
**ON1213 (14-15):** Dec 28  
**REDCAR**  
**B-858:** Oct 1,2,26,28, Nov 6,9,26, Dec 3, Jan 27, Feb 6,12  
**D-780:** Jan 27, Mar 30  
**D-786:** Oct 1,2,26, Nov 3,6, Dec 4  
**RHYL**  
**D-770:** Oct 10,26, Nov 14, Mar 30  
**ON1183 (12-24):** Oct 11, Dec 4

**ROSSLARE HARBOUR**

**ON1276 (17-43):** Oct 16  
**RYE HARBOUR**  
**B-900:** Oct 4,17  
**SALCOMBE**  
**B-794:** Oct 15, Dec 13  
**ON1289 (16-09):** Oct 16,20, 28, Nov 23, Dec 2, Feb 6, Mar 16  
**SCARBOROUGH**  
**D-724:** Oct 6,20, Nov 6,14, Dec 2, Jan 23,27, Feb 2,7, Mar 21  
**ON1322 (13-15):** Oct 24, Nov 1,6,14, Jan 17,26  
**SEAHOUSES**  
**ON1173 (12-16):** Oct 23  
**SELSEY**  
**D-691:** Oct 7,17, Nov 4, Feb 18, Mar 31  
**ON1327 (13-20):** Oct 7,17, 21(x2),26,27  
**SENNEN COVE**  
**ON1294 (16-14):** Jan 30  
**SHEERNESS**  
**D-799:** Oct 8,9,13,14,16(x3), 26, Nov 13,21,28, Dec 4,6, 27, Jan 11,16,29, Feb 11, Mar 7,30  
**ON1211 (14-13):** Oct 6, Jan 3,27  
**SHERINGHAM**  
**B-818:** Oct 22(x2)  
**SHOREHAM HARBOUR**  
**D-750:** Oct 20  
**D-784:** Oct 6, Dec 11,21,24, Jan 12,16, Feb 25, Mar 27  
**ON1295 (16-15):** Oct 5, 6, 8,20,21,24, Nov 19, Dec 9, 11,21,24, Jan 12,16,17,22, Feb 25, Mar 28  
**SILLOTH**  
**B-828:** Feb 3  
**B-865:** Mar 8  
**SKEGNESS**  
**D-792:** Oct 4,7,14,24,27  
**ON1324 (13-17):** Nov 10  
**SKERRIES**  
**B-866:** Oct 11,22, Nov 2,17, Jan 21, Feb 1, Mar 20  
**SLIGO BAY**  
**B-888:** Oct 10,19,22(x2), 31, Nov 15, Dec 3,30, Jan 1, 2,3,4,5,6,7,10,14,20,21, 29,30  
**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**  
**B-885:** Oct 11,12,20, Nov 12,18, Feb 10,11  
**D-682:** Oct 10,22  
**D-818:** Feb 11,17  
**H-007:** Oct 12, Feb 19  
**SOUTHWOLD**  
**B-868:** Oct 2,9  
**ST BEES**  
**B-831:** Oct 19,Nov 14, Dec 22

**ST CATHERINE**

**B-816:** Jan 14  
**ST DAVIDS**  
**ON1306 (16-26):** Oct 7,27, Nov 19  
**ST HELIER**  
**ON1292 (16-12):** Oct 2,7, Feb 16  
**ST IVES**  
**D-803:** Oct 3, Nov 2,13,29, Mar 15  
**ON1318 (13-11):** Oct 3, Jan 5, Mar 14,18  
**STAITHES AND RUNSWICK**  
**B-897:** Oct 10,28, Dec 30  
**STONEHAVEN**  
**B-762:** Nov 8  
**B-782:** Nov 18, Jan 1  
**STORNOWAY**  
**ON1238 (17-18):** Oct 7  
**STRANRAER**  
**D-697:** Nov 1, Jan 7  
**STROMNESS**  
**ON1236 (17-16):** Dec 27  
**SUNDERLAND**  
**B-817:** Oct 5,8(x2),14, Nov 2, Jan 14  
**D-682:** Jan 22  
**D-747:** Oct 8,25, Nov 2,24, Dec 3, Feb 17,18  
**SWANAGE**  
**D-752:** Oct 14,24, Nov 5,6, Dec 10,27, Jan 2,14  
**ON1320 (13-13):** Oct 14,24, Nov 6, Dec 31  
**TEDDINGTON**  
**D-743:** Nov 21,24  
**D-785:** Oct 18, Nov 6,17, Dec 20  
**TEIGNMOUTH**  
**A-67:** Oct 27  
**B-809:** Oct 8,16,17,19,26, 27, Dec 8,21,24,31, Jan 1, 14, Mar 4

**TENBY**

**D-727:** Feb 2, 19  
**ON1281 (16-02):** Oct 2,21  
**ON1286 (16-06):** Oct 30, Nov 12, Dec 24,30, Jan 21, Feb 15  
**THE LIZARD**  
**ON1300 (16-20):** Oct 9, Nov 15  
**THE MUMBLES**  
**D-761:** Oct 7,18,Nov 1,4,5, Dec 10,23, Jan 6,15, Feb 17  
**ON1307 (16-27):** Oct 18, Nov 1,12, Dec 23, Jan 11, 15,16  
**THURSO**  
**ON1260 (17-31):** Nov 9, Dec 12,21,23, Jan 1  
**ON1273 (17-42):** Feb 28  
**TIGHNABRUACH**  
**B-830:** Nov 21  
**B-862:** Dec 25,31, Jan 18, Mar 12,20  
**TOBERMORY**  
**ON1270 (17-39):** Oct 12,23, Feb 5  
**TORBAY**  
**D-788:** Oct 3,6,7,14, Nov 2,3(x2),Dec 18,19,26, 27, Jan 10  
**ON1254 (17-27):** Nov 11, Dec 19, Jan 28, Feb 6  
**ON1255 (17-28):** Oct 14  
**TOWER**  
**E-07:** Oct 3,4,17,20(x2), 22(x4),23,24,25(x2), 26(x2),27(x2),28, Nov 3, 4(x3),6(x2),7(x4),8,9(x2), 10,11,12,13,15,16(x3),17,18 (x2),19(x2),21,23,24,26,27, 28(x4),29,Dec 2,4(x2),5,6, 7,8(x4),9(x3),10,11,14(x43), 18,21(x2),22,24,25,28, 30,31, Jan 1(x3),2,3(x3), 6(x2),7,Feb 3(x2),4(x3),7, 12(x2),13(x3),14,16(x2), 17(x2),18,19,21(x2),22,

24(x3),26,Mar 1(x3),2,4 (x3),6(x2),7(x3),8(2),9, 10(x2),12,14(x2),15,16(x2), 17,20(x4),21(x3),22,23, 25,26(x2),28(x2),29,30(x4)  
**E-09:** Oct 1,3(x2),5(x2), 6,7(x2),8(x2),10,13(x3), 14(x2),15(x2),16,19,26, 27,29,31(x2),Nov 1(x2),7, Dec 12, Jan 7,10(x3),11(x2), 12,14(x3),15(x2),17,18(x2), 19(x2),22,26(x2),27, 28(x3),30(x2), Feb 1,2  
**TREARD DUR BAY**  
**B-847:** Feb 17  
**TROON**  
**D-684:** Nov 5,13,14,23, Jan 9,23, Feb 11, Mar 21  
**ON1275 (14-38):** Nov 5,13, 14,23, Jan 5,9,23  
**TYNEMOUTH**  
**D-693:** Nov 1,3,11,13, Dec 9,15,25, Jan 25  
**ON1237 (17-17):** Nov 11,13, 19, Dec 9,15, Feb 23  
**ON1242 (17-20):** Oct 15,28, Jan 9,25,26, Feb 6,8,11, Mar 11  
**UNION HALL**  
**B-790:** Nov 2, Feb 18  
**VALENTIA**  
**ON1218 (17-07):** Dec 30, Jan 5  
**WALMER**  
**B-808:** Nov 14, Mar 8  
**D-794:** Feb 5  
**WALTON AND FRINTON**  
**ON1293 (16-13):** Feb 12  
**ON1299 (16-19):** Nov 17, Dec 3  
**WELLS**  
**D-797:** Jan 14  
**ON1161 (12-003):** Jan 3  
**WEST KIRBY**  
**D-751:** Oct 26, Nov 24, Feb 9

**WEST MERSEA**

**B-879:** Oct 4,6,7,8,10,12, 14,15,20,23, Dec 13, Jan 7, Feb 7  
**WESTON-SUPER-MARE**  
**B-769:** Nov 22, 30  
**D-696:** Oct 15,16,Nov 1,13, 22,30, Mar 16,23  
**WEXFORD**  
**D-782:** Mar 25  
**WEYMOUTH**  
**B-774:** Oct 4,12,28,Nov 7, 21,Dec 18, Jan 9, Feb 11  
**ON1261 (17-32):** Oct 8(x2), 15,26, Nov 2, Dec 19,31  
**ON1263 (17-34):** Jan 8  
**WHITBY**  
**D-810:** Oct 14, Nov 6, Feb 15,17  
**ON1212 (14-14):** Nov 6, Dec 11  
**WHITSTABLE**  
**B-877:** Oct 4,6,8,12,14, 15,16, Nov 21, Jan 3,23, Mar 28  
**WICK**  
**ON1224 (14-20):** Oct 8,10, 16,30, Nov 22, Feb 22  
**ON1226 (14-22):** Dec 22  
**WICKLOW**  
**D-806:** Oct 1  
**ON1153 (47-035):** Oct 1, Dec 7, Feb 22  
**WITHERNSEA**  
**D-701:** Nov 26  
**WORKINGTON**  
**D-767:** Dec 5  
**D-774:** Dec 20  
**ON1326 (13-19):** Oct 17, Dec 3  
**YARMOUTH**  
**ON1249 (17-25):** Oct 26, Dec 1,28, Feb 11  
**YOUGHAL**  
**B-890:** Dec 6

**ON STATION**  
 ON1325 (13-18), *William F Yates*, Llandudno, 10 October 2017  
 ON1329 (13-22), *Antony Patrick Jones*, Bridlington,26 November 2017  
 D-817, *Olive Three*, Fowey, 28 November 2017  
 B-903, *Angus and Muriel Mackay*, Helensburgh, 8 December 2017  
 B-902, *Sheila & Dennis Tongue IV*, Loch Ness, 19 February 2018

**NAMING CEREMONIES**  
 D-814, *Craig Steadman*, Barmouth, 1 October 2017  
 B-899, *Howard Bell*, Happisburgh, 7 October 2017  
 D-813, *Russell Pickering*, Happisburgh, 7 October 2017  
 D-815, *Celia Mary*, Clifden, 21 October 2017  
 D-793, *Dr Barbara Saunderson*, Llandudno, 21 October 2017  
 ON1325 (13-18), *William F Yates*, Llandudno, 21 October 2017  
 D-816, *Eileen Murphy*, relief fleet, 9 November 2017  
 B-906, *Charles Lucock*, relief fleet, 8 March 2018

**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](http://RNLI.org/sms)



# SPECIAL DELIVERY

## PRINCESS VICTORIA

Our feature on the *Princess Victoria* disaster in the spring issue evoked some memories for readers:

### Pamela Miley writes:

Your article on the *Princess Victoria* brought back memories of that terrible day. I was trying to cycle to school along the sea front in Bangor, Co Down, but it was impossible to even walk.

Everyone was aware of the tragedy unfolding a few miles off our coast.

One of the passengers who lost his life was Sir Walter Smiles, a prominent politician whose portrait is in the National Portrait Gallery. He was drowned almost within sight of his home in Donaghadee, where the wonderful lifeboat crew who were so heroic in the rescue effort came from.

Bear Grylls the adventurer, chief scout and TV personality is his great grandson.

Thank you for the article about an event I shall never forget, and for reminding me why I am a member of the RNLI.

### Ken Armstrong writes:

I was very interested in the article that dealt with the tragic sinking of the *Princess Victoria* in 1953. I remember the incident clearly. I lived in Donaghadee at the time in a bungalow in a bay we knew as Coalpit Bay. On the evening of 31 January there was a huge storm brewing. It coincided with a high tide that came to within 20 feet of our front door.

My father took me down the next day to the harbour where I witnessed some of the survivors being brought ashore, and sadly some of the bodies. I was 9 at the time so it was a very traumatic event for me.



Over the next few weeks all sorts of items were washed up on our beach: toys, clothing etc. It was very sad.

I became something of a beachcomber after that, even though at the same time I suffered a few nightmares.

### Roger Goring writes:

Reading the story of the loss of the *Princess Victoria* reminded me of an incident that happened to my father about 10 years earlier in 1943. He was the officer in charge of a troop movement of the Green Howards to Northern Ireland with armoured cars.

The crossing was extremely rough and one of the vehicles broke free. Despite trying to secure it, the armoured car crashed through the stern doors. After reaching Northern Ireland, the captain said that he had never been in such a storm, with force 12 winds.

When my father read of the loss of the *Princess Victoria*, it reminded him of his crossing 10 years earlier, which could have ended in disaster, but for the skill of the captain and crew. It was then he told me of his experience.

## FROM THE FISHING BOAT INN

One reader shares his photos from Boulmer – at the time an RNLI lifeboat station, but operating independently since 1967:

Further to the article in the spring 2017 issue of *Lifeboat* entitled 'The Langdon legacy', I served at RAF Boulmer, about half a mile from Boulmer Lifeboat Station. I regularly frequented the village pub, the Fishing Boat Inn, and became acquainted with several local fishermen who were also lifeboat crew.

The lifeboat on station was a Watson class named *Robert & Dorothy Hardcastle* and the coxswain was a fisherman named Jimmy Carse.

Many years later, I came across a photograph of *Robert & Dorothy Hardcastle* in *Lifeboat* magazine. She had been taken out of service by then and was being used at fundraising events in the York area. Recently, I unearthed several photos from my time in Boulmer. I hope they might be of some interest.

### Don Kerrison



Above: The lifeboat launching tractor, with Boulmer village and pub in the background



Top: The lifeboat is recovered; Coxswain Jim Carse is wearing the long oilskin

Above: The crew onboard, with Bamburgh Castle in the background

## CORRECTION

In the news section of the spring issue, we listed the recipients of HM The Queen's New Year Honours. We said that Thomas Burgess and Tony Delahunty had received the 'Order of the British Empire (OBE)'. OBE actually stands for 'Officer of the Order of the British Empire' – an even more prestigious honour than implied. Many thanks to JW Allan for pointing out this error, and apologies to Mr Burgess and Mr Delahunty.

## Write to us

Were you moved by a rescue story? Do you want to know more about something you've read? We love hearing your thoughts and ideas. Get in touch using the contact details at the bottom of page 2.

Anagram solution (page 29): MAINSAIL

Share your stories at [twitter.com/RNLI](https://twitter.com/RNLI)



Connect with us on [facebook.com/RNLI](https://facebook.com/RNLI)





# RNLI FAMILY: THE LIFE OF THE CHARITY

Celebrating the RNLI family, past and present



## Happy birthday, Frammy!

A former Whitby crew member recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He served on the lifeboat from 1951 to 1975.

Ronnie Frampton, known locally as Frammy, joined the crew when he was 23 years old. Back then, Whitby used a traditional rowing lifeboat, *Mary Ellen Robson*. During his 24 years on the crew, Frammy held several different positions – including bowman, assistant mechanic and second coxswain.

Richard Dowson, Station Mechanic at Whitby, says: 'Frammy is a real character – the stories he tells us about being on the lifeboat all those years ago are fascinating. They really make us appreciate the equipment we have today to keep us safe!'

Happy birthday, Frammy – and many happy returns.

## 'She was gobsmacked'

Huge congratulations to Crew Member Mark Jones and his new fiancée Donna Collier. After 13 years together, Mark decided to plan a surprise proposal at The Mumbles Lifeboat Station.

'I asked her to come down and watch us launch the boat,' says Mark. 'The crew all knew what was happening. I took her onto the lifeboat and when she went up on deck, I got down on one knee and asked: "Will you marry me?"'

'She didn't say anything for ages – she was gobsmacked. But, thank goodness, she was overjoyed and said yes! The crew all cheered. I'm really proud of the RNLI, so I was chuffed to be able to propose on the boat.'



Happy family: Mark, Donna, and their son Leo

## From lifeboat to fire engine



In the summer 2017 issue of *Lifeboat*, we met Winni and Daisy Jarvis – the identical twins on different lifeboat crews. Winni volunteers at Tower Lifeboat Station, whereas Daisy is based in St Ives, Cornwall.

Not only does Winni volunteer for the RNLI, she is now part of the London Fire Brigade and based at Stratford Fire Station. Winni, who passed out as a firefighter in December, says: 'It's hard work being both a firefighter and an RNLI volunteer. I have to juggle my time a lot more, but I still love doing both!'

## Champion pup



There are lots of brilliant dogs in the RNLI but we'd like to say a special well done to Goose, who won the prestigious Best of Breed award at Crufts.

Goose is a 5-year-old curly coated retriever and belongs to Belinda Millichamp, who works at our Inshore Lifeboat Centre on the Isle of Wight. Congratulations to you both!

Words: Nikki McMullen

Photos: RNLI/(Daisy Jarvis, Andy Miles, Belinda Millichamp, Ceri Oakes)

## Celebrating life

Join us in remembering our RNLI Family members who have recently passed away.

**Erica and Tony Avern**  
– May and  
November 2016  
Fundraising Volunteers  
at Leamington Spa  
Branch

**David Bennington**  
– March 2018  
Former Second  
Coxswain at Great  
Yarmouth and Gorleston  
Lifeboat Station

**Florence Candlish**  
– March 2018  
Former Vice President of  
Salisbury Branch

**Joan Catt**  
– March 2018  
President of  
Twickenham, Teddington  
and District Branch

**Richard Clemens**  
– August 2017  
Former Station Admin  
Officer and Past  
President of Newquay  
Branch

**Michael Eustice**  
– February 2018  
Former Mechanic at  
Coverack Lifeboat  
Station

**Geoff Garrick**  
– March 2018  
Former Fundraising  
Administration Manager

**Admiral Wid Graham**  
– February 2018  
Former Chief of  
Operations

**David Grief**  
– March 2018  
Former Crew Member  
at Great Yarmouth  
and Gorleston Lifeboat  
Station

**Bryn Kendall**  
– March 2018  
Treasurer of Helston  
and District Branch

**Ann Lyon**  
– February 2018  
Committee Member at  
Chesterfield Branch

**Iain Rankin**  
– January 2018

Lifeboat Chairman at  
Fraserburgh Lifeboat  
Station

**John Shanahan**  
– October 2017

Former Second  
Coxswain at Valentia  
Lifeboat Station

**Bob Thomson**  
– January 2018

Former Crew Member  
at Holyhead Lifeboat  
Station

**Linda White**  
– March 2018  
Secretary of Wroxham  
Branch

**Andy Wilkinson**  
– September 2017  
Volunteer at Blyth  
Lifeboat Station

**Phil Williams**  
– April 2018  
Former Acting Head  
of Finance



# Unsung heroes Elsie Macrae

Elsie has been an education volunteer in the north east of Scotland for 2 years

### What's your day job?

I used to work offshore as an engineer on oil rigs, but I've been called to the ministry so am currently studying for that – a totally different thing!

### How did you become an RNLI volunteer?

I was at an emergency services event to support my father-in-law, who volunteers for St John Ambulance and Mountain Rescue, when I stopped to find out more about the RNLI. Two years later, here I am!

### What kind of skills do you need?

It's mainly about being flexible and able to think on your feet. Children always come up with strange questions and stories you're not prepared for.

### Why is it important that we do education visits?

The teachers say: 'Elsie, if we tell them the dos and don'ts, they never listen. But if someone like you comes and tells them, they tend to listen because it's an external person.'

### What piece of safety advice stands out to you?

Stop and think, and look out for dangers. I want kids to learn to take a second and stay alert when they're near water.

### What's the funniest thing to happen on a visit?

One girl asked how old I was, then said she thought I looked 13! I said: 'Oh gosh, do I really look 13?' And she said: 'Yes, because that's very old!' She made my day, knocking 20 years off me!

### What does being a part of the RNLI mean to you?

I just love it. The other volunteers I've met are so passionate about their work. If I lived at the coast, I would love to join a crew too.

### And finally: what lifeboat would you be?

The Severn class – it's powerful, stable, dependable.

Photo: Iain Bain



There are education volunteers in coastal and inland communities throughout the UK and Ireland. Find your place in our family at [RNLI.org/volunteer](http://RNLI.org/volunteer).

# LIFEBOAT LOTTERY

## SPRING 2018 RESULTS

Congratulations to Mr WD Wilson from Dorset who won our first prize of £5,000 cash.

### OUR OTHER WINNERS WERE:

<b>2ND PRIZE: £2,000</b>	<b>AND 5 PRIZES of £100 EACH</b>
Mrs B Flippence, Essex	Mr HM Ottey, Shropshire
<b>3RD PRIZE: £500</b>	Mrs D Garritt, Lancashire
Mr B Hepburn, West Lothian	Mrs EM Moss, Worcestershire
<b>4TH PRIZE: £250</b>	Mr NR Bennett, Worcestershire
Mrs Duell, Tyne and Wear	Mr PF Fuchter, Buckinghamshire

We'll report the winners of the summer Lifeboat Lottery in our autumn 2018 issue. The autumn Lifeboat Lottery will mail on 20 July and close on 14 September. The draw will take place on 28 September.

To take part, please call 0300 300 9990 or email your details to [lottery@rnli.org.uk](mailto:lottery@rnli.org.uk) and request a lottery mailing.

Phone lines are open Monday–Friday, 8am–6pm.

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](http://RNLI.org/lottery) or see your lottery letter.

Photo: RNLI/Nathan Williams





# PARTNERS IN INNOVATION: RNLI AND HELLY HANSEN



Helly Hansen is working with the RNLI to defeat drowning

The sailing gear icon will deliver safety messages to its customers, raise money, and supply the very best kit to the RNLI's lifesavers.

The new kit, due to go on service from September, will meet the demanding needs of our volunteer crews. It's waterproof, easier to move in, and uses a technical layering system to keep crews warm and dry when they're out saving lives in all conditions.



'The new gear is much lighter than the old kit and uses breathable fabric, which is ideal for the more demanding tasks we often need to carry out'

Weymouth Crew Member Alice Higgins

