

# 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/Angel Millard, Nathan Williams



## SUMMER 2018 ISSUE 624

© RNLI 2018. All rights reserved. Reproduction is permitted with the prior consent of the RNLI. Opinions expressed by authors are not necessarily those of the publishers. Care is taken to ensure that editorial information is correct at the time of going to press but is subject to change.

Chair: Stuart Popham

Chief Executive: Paul Boissier

Lifeboat Editor: Mairéad Dwane

Lifeboat Design: David Constant

Front cover photograph: RNLI/Nathan Williams

## CONTACT US

Email [supportercare@rnli.org.uk](mailto:supportercare@rnli.org.uk), write to RNLI, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1HZ, or call 0300 300 9990 (from the UK) or +44 1202 663234 (from outside the UK). Lines are open weekdays 8am–6pm.

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



**Lifeboats**

IRELAND

COMMUNITY NEWS

Words: Anna Burn. Photos: Ivan Donoghue, Hazel Nolan, RNLI/(Ballyglass, Mike Cosgrove, Nora Flanagan), Kevin Rowe Events



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

Clogher Head

HOLLYWOOD COMES TO CLOGHER HEAD

Volunteers at Clogher Head Lifeboat Station were overwhelmed by local support for a fundraising event in aid of the station's Shannon class lifeboat appeal.

Nine hundred people poured into the TLT Concert Hall and Theatre in Drogheda for a Night at the Oscars – an innovative event where local people starred in seven short film remakes of cinema classics.

Members of the audience joined a panel of judges in voting for their favourites, with Best Actress going to Ailbhe Kennedy, Best Actor to Shane Conlon and Best Movie to the remake of *The Shawshank Redemption*.

Money was raised through the sale of tickets, votes, and advertising space in the event programme – with the final total coming in at a blockbusting €98,262.98!

'Míle buíochas daoibh go léir!' from the crew.



Kilmore Quay



SUB AQUA SUPPORT

In February, Wexford Sub Aqua Club presented Kilmore Quay Lifeboat Station with a cheque for €1,000, raised at their Christmas Swim.

The club faces a bracing dip for charity annually, and this year's was described as the coldest water temperatures swimmers have faced so far.

Swim organiser Ivan Donoghue says: 'We braved the water for a few minutes, but RNLI volunteers face such conditions when they go on call. We thank everyone who took part, those who sponsored the swimmers and the Kilmore Quay RNLI for being there to protect the people who use the waters around the Saltee Islands.'

Arranmore

NEW RECRUITS AT ARRANMORE

The Arranmore RNLI team has been growing this year, with new recruits to both lifeboat and shore crew.

Majella O'Donnell is welcomed onboard as honorary station president, keen to support fundraising, water safety and crew. Joining her are three new crew members: Sebastian Sebo from Krakow, Poland, who recently

moved to the island, Sharon O'Donnell, an experienced sailor and round-the-world Clipper racer, and Erin McCafferty – a student and now the youngest member of the crew.

Arranmore's Coxswain Jimmy Early says: 'We are delighted to welcome our new president, Majella, and our three new lifeboat crew members.'



Ballyglass BIG BUCKET CHALLENGE

In March, RNLI Ballyglass fundraiser Frank McHugh took on a unique challenge for the RNLI: pushing a wheelbarrow from Bangor Erris to Belmullet with an excavator bucket in it, raising money along the way!

There was much excitement – and a little bemusement from motorists – as friends and family joined Frank on his unusual 14-mile journey. A fantastic €5,800 was raised.



Frank takes on the final roundabout (inset) and at the finish line

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.

CORK WEEK LADIES' LUNCH AND FASHION SHOW

18 July, 12.30pm  
Royal Cork Yacht Club, Crosshaven, Co Cork  
Enjoy a day out during the prestigious Cork Week regatta.  
Contact [mary\\_creedon@rnli.org.uk](mailto:mary_creedon@rnli.org.uk).

24TH ANNUAL HELVICK SWIM

29 July, 1-5pm  
Helvick Pier, Co Waterford  
Cheer on the sponsored swimmers as they make their way across Dungarvan Bay. Then enjoy a barbecue in aid of Helvick Head RNLI, with burgers, drinks, cakes and ice cream. There's also a dog show and brass band. Call 086 813 4597.

BALLYSHANNON FOLK FESTIVAL

2-5 August  
Ballyshannon, Co Donegal  
Ballyshannon's streets, pubs and marquees will fill with music for the festival's 41st year. More information and tickets for special events available at [ballyshannonfolkfestival.com](http://ballyshannonfolkfestival.com).

WILD ATLANTIC MARATHON WALK

11 August, 9.30am  
Courtmacsherry Community Centre  
Sponsored walk to Inchydoney. Half-marathon, 5K and 10K options. Call 087 097 1758 for more information.

RNLI LADIES' LUNCH

19 October, 12.30pm  
Howth Yacht Club, Co Dublin  
Prosecco reception, lunch, fashion show, auction and raffle. Ladies luncheon and supporting Howth lifeboat.  
Call Rose Michael on 087 255 2726.

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

# 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:

**2ND PRIZE: £2,000**

Mrs B Flippence, Essex

**3RD PRIZE: £500**

Mr B Hepburn, West Lothian

**4TH PRIZE: £250**

Mrs Duell, Tyne and Wear

**AND 5 PRIZES of £100 EACH**

Mr HM Ottey, Shropshire

Mrs D Garritt, Lancashire

Mrs EM Moss, Worcestershire

Mr NR Bennett, Worcestershire

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

