

LIFEBOAT

ISSUE 624 | SUMMER 2018



THE RNLI IS THE
CHARITY THAT
SAVES LIVES AT SEA

'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
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Photos: RNLI/Angel Millard, Nathan Williams



SUMMER 2018 ISSUE 624

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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



Lifeboats

NORTH OF ENGLAND AND ISLE OF MAN COMMUNITY NEWS

Words: Anna Burn. Photos: Hopwood Hall College, RNLI/(New Brighton, Andy Brompton, Margaret Gambie, Dave Kneale, Phil Williams)

Lake District



LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH CELEBRATES 125 YEARS

The Lake District Fundraising Branch celebrated its 125th anniversary earlier this year, with a special luncheon held on the shore of Lake Windermere.

Eighty guests attended the event at the Royal Windermere Yacht Club, including members from Workington and Arnside branches, who came along to share in the celebrations.

Rear Admiral Tim Chittenden gave a speech, and a commemorative plaque and framed certificate of thanks from RNLI Chief Executive Paul Boissier was presented to Chair Alan Telford. The luncheon proved a fundraising success for the branch too – raising a tremendous £700.

Welcome to your community news for the north of England and the Isle of Man. For all the latest from where you are, head to RNLI.org/news

New Brighton

Fundraising bikers

Six New Brighton crew members took to the tarmac this March, joining thousands of bikers riding through Wirral towns and villages to raise funds for local charities Claire House Children's Hospice, North West Air Ambulance, and Merseyside and Cheshire Blood Bikes.

Hundreds of people lined the 20-mile route from New Brighton to Clatterbridge to cheer them on. New Brighton volunteer Jay Hennessy says: 'I'm so proud of how our station gets involved with other local charities. It's tremendous that the volunteers not only give a lot of time to the station with shouts and training but that they also do so much for community causes throughout the year.'



Merseyside



MERSEYSIDE TO MOELFRE

This Easter, Karl Grice demonstrated his thanks to the volunteers who saved him during a jet skiing accident last summer, by cycling from his home in Merseyside to the lifeboat station in Moelfre, on Anglesey.

Karl made the 84-mile trip accompanied by 15 other cyclists. This fantastic journey follows additional events in aid of the RNLI – with a fundraising total now approaching £7,000. He says: 'I would not be here today if it was not for the brave men and women of the RNLI.'

Karl and his team with the RNLI volunteers

Bridlington



Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu conducts the service

Brand new Shannon named

This April, crowds gathered on Bridlington's Spa Promenade to see a new Shannon class all-weather lifeboat officially named, in a ceremony conducted by Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu and Reverend Matthew Pollard.

The *Antony Patrick Jones* is named after a local man who left

a generous gift to the RNLI in his Will, which was the main source of funding for the new lifeboat.

Lifeboat Operations Manager Keith Turnbull says: 'The naming ceremony was a very special day in our station's history and will mark a new chapter in the station's lifesaving.'

Blackpool

BLACKPOOL STUDENTS DISCOVER LIFEBOATING

Students from Hopwood Hall College had their first taste of RNLI lifesaving when they visited Blackpool Lifeboat Station.

The visitors – who are on a 2-year Uniformed Public Services (UPS) diploma course – learned about the equipment and skills used to save lives at sea, had a tour of the station, and even watched the lifeboat launch on exercise.

Level 3 UPS student Annalise Steward says: 'They definitely made me realise that – although we have statutory services like the military, HM Coastguard and fire services – we still rely heavily on the goodwill and hard work of volunteers to help keep us all safe.'



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.

RNLI GARDEN EVENT

22 July, 1–5pm

Heywood House, Brookhouse, Lancaster

Enjoy an afternoon in a beautiful garden. Take a ride on a steam garden railway, browse the stalls, pick up some souvenirs and play the raffle. £4 at the gate, entry includes a cream tea.

SALFORD SMILE

5 August, 8.30am–3.30pm

Helly Hansen Watersports Centre, Salford Quays

An unmissable 1-mile fun swim in the heart of Salford Quays in aid of the RNLI, with a 50m Kids Dash for under-14s. There will be RNLI stands, food, drink, a bouncy castle and lots more.

Entry £25 for adults, £3 for juniors, from eventbrite.com/e/salford-smile-tickets-45553081493.

KITE FESTIVAL AND OPEN DAY

2 September

Lytham St Annes all-weather lifeboathouse, St Annes promenade

In conjunction with St Annes International Kite Festival, Lytham St Annes's annual open day will be a day of fun for the whole family.

Send details of your events for the autumn issue (mid-October onwards) to 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 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 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

