

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



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, 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

SOUTH/MIDLANDS/EAST COMMUNITY NEWS

Words: Anna Burn. Photos: RNLI/(George Chastney, Karen Cox, Lyme Regis, Nathan Williams)

Cowes

COWES CUTS ITS PLASTIC

As well as saving lives at sea, Cowes lifeboat crew are playing their part in saving the planet – by cutting down on plastic.

Small changes can make a big difference and, in switching from pre-bottled water to tap water in reusable bottles, the station will prevent hundreds more pieces of plastic waste going to landfill each year.

Conscious of the growing issue of plastic pollution in our oceans, Lifeboat Operations Manager Mark Southwell says: 'Our crew members generally take water with them when on exercise or a shout, especially during the warm weather. Although they never throw anything overboard, they still have to end up in landfill.'

The change was suggested by Boathouse Manager Dave Davies and readily adopted by both seagoing and shore crew. Dave says: 'It's

Welcome to your community news for the South, Midlands and East. For the latest from where you are, head to RNLI.org/news



only a small step but we think it's important to do all we can not to use these bottles anymore.'

In future the only plastic bottles carried aboard the Atlantic 85 inshore lifeboat *Sheena Louise* will be reserved for rescued casualties.

Dave Davies shows off the new bottles while Mark Southwell gives bottled water a thumbs down

Dart



Lyme Regis's B class lifeboat

B CLASS ON TRIAL

Dart Lifeboat Station in Devon will be receiving a B class inshore lifeboat later this year, on a 2-year trial following a coastal review in 2017.

The station currently has a smaller D class lifeboat that is sometimes operating at the limit of her capabilities in strong wind and tide conditions.

Area Lifesaving Manager Simon Crayford says: 'This is an important change for the RNLI in Dart as we continue to improve the lifeboat service around the coast. The capability and standards of our lifeboats are constantly developing and improving, resulting in safer, more advanced lifeboats for our volunteer crews.'



London



HILLINGDON JUNIOR CITIZEN SCHEME

In March, 3,790 children from 56 schools across the London borough of Hillingdon visited Brunel University to learn invaluable life skills in its specially designed learning centre. This was part of the Junior Citizen Scheme.

RNLI education volunteers led by David Banger were thrilled to join educators from the London Fire Brigade and other groups, providing children with a 10–15-minute scenario on water safety.

RNLI Youth Education

Manager Sam Johnson says: 'These community-led events are a great way for us to engage with young people across the capital, highlighting the dangers of inland and coastal waters.'

This was the fourth year the RNLI has been a part of the programme, so far reaching more than 10,000 children. In the months between the annual events, education volunteers will make follow-up visits to schools that have requested longer sessions.

Ramsgate

CAKES FOR THE CREW

First year students from East Kent Catering College in Broadstairs made a special delivery of homemade goodies to the volunteers at Ramsgate Lifeboat Station in April – and enjoyed a tour of the all-weather lifeboat *Esme Anderson*.

As part of their Community Week, they also visited Ramsgate Fire Station, Bradstowe Court and Margate Hospital's Accident and



Emergency Department with their Easter-themed cakes and savoury food. A second team of students hit the streets of Broadstairs, delivering food to homeless people and charity shop volunteers.

Needless to say, the crew at Ramsgate were very happy to receive their gifts – and they didn't last long!

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.

COFFEE AND CAKE

14 July, 11am–2pm
West Bridgford Young People Centre (next to the library)

West Bridgford Branch is teaming up with South Youth Link, a group for young people with disabilities, to welcome visitors for a break from their shopping with coffee, cakes and souvenirs. For more information contact Wendy Jean Hurst on 01159 748801.

BEER AND SHANTY FESTIVAL

4 August, 2pm
The Safe Harbour, Fowey

Beers, ciders and barbecue ahead of Fowey's annual lifeboat week. For more information, visit Fowey Lifeboat Committee's Facebook and Twitter pages.

VINTAGE AND CLASSIC VEHICLE MEETING

9 August, 4pm
Pirton Recreation Ground, near Hitchin, Hertfordshire

All classic and vintage cars welcome. Refreshments, bar and entertainment – bring along a picnic. Free entry with bucket collection. Contact Mike Frisby on 01462 433716.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

28 July–7 October
The Shipwreck Centre, Arreton Barns Craft Village

A remarkable collection of images shot on glass plate negatives by Beken of Cowes, who've created a significant visual record of local industry and RNLI lifeboats. Admission: adults £5, children £2.50, concessions £3.50.

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

