



Life Line

The Newsletter for Friends of The Portishead Lifeboat Trust.

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Life Line

APRIL 2006

The Portishead Lifeboat Trust is always on the lookout for volunteers and help at fundraising events.

Should you be able to help, even for an hour, please contact Brett Higgins :- tel 07886 644594

Inside this issue.

Coxswain's update	1
Thank you's All change	2
Fundraising	3
Join the trust	4

COXWAIN'S UPDATE

Up date on winter developments:-

The start to this year has been quiet on the callout front, but as usual there has been a great deal happening to keep all the equipment in good working order, the main task this winter was to install two new outboard engines on the Lifeboat. We were unable to fit like for like engines as the ones which had served us well no longer complied with emissions regulations, these engines were two and a half years old, so were sold on while they still had some value.

There has been a great deal of time spent trying to decide which type of engine and what size to fit, after a trip to E.P.Barrus near Oxford and a trip to Sidmouth Lifeboat to see their boat the Trustees ordered two Mariner Optimax outboard engines from E.P. Barrus.

The new engines are more powerful giving an increased speed for the Lifeboat, but there are also many more advantages, primarily more power available when we are towing other boats, better fuel economy, better starting and quieter running, allowing the crew to hear each other and radio messages better.

Our thanks to Barrus, Advance Marine of Portishead who installed the engines and Portishead Marina who allowed the use of crane facilities to get the new engines fitted.

Some of you may have seen the Lifeboat on sea trials around the Christmas period, it may have appeared that we were out 'playing' during this time, but in fact we were testing various propellers to get the right ones for the boat fitted, once this had been done all the crew had to familiarise them selves with the new more powerful engines as this changed the handling characteristics of

the boat, as you can imagine the time not to get used to new equipment is on a callout, so the Coxswains and crew all had time to become comfortable with the new set up.

Whilst the Lifeboat was off station we had a reserve boat on stand by from Portishead Marina and several maintenance jobs on the boathouse were carried out.

The trainee crew who started with us in September are now well into their training schedule and are now training on the water with the existing crew, we have had a mixed bag of weather this Winter which has given us some good training sessions, notably fog, several trips to Newport were completed successfully in fog, giving the crew good experience in navigation and the use of our electronic systems on the boat.

We are all wondering what this year has in store for us, as usual The Portishead Lifeboat will be kept in a state of readiness to respond to what ever situation arises.

Dave Herbert (Coxswain)

THANK YOU

It never ceases to amaze us the generous help and support that we receive from major business, organisations and companies in the Portishead area.

- A special thank you goes to the Portishead Co-op who have kindly donated £900 for a vital piece of equipment that will be a tremendous benefit to the crew in the recovery of bodies from the water.
- It was reported in the local press, but if you didn't see it, a special vote of thanks goes to the Clevedon Men's & Ladies Lion's Club who after reading about the rescue of the two young girls at Clevedon Pier last year have kindly donated through their Christmas appeal the grand sum of £1.200.

All change!

As mention briefly in the last Lifeline, Colin Burgin has now retired from the Lifeboat trust and the position of Friends Co-coordinator has now been taken up by Rachel Harper who is available on 07921 494265.



The Portishead Lifeboat Trust

Registered Office:
108 High Street
Portishead
Somerset
BS20 6AJ

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
<http://www.portishead-lifeboat.org.uk/>

KEY CONTACTS

Chairman:

Colin Wilson Tel: 01275 848967

Vice Chairman:

David Herbert Tel: 01275 849578

Training Officer:

Justin Olver Tel: 01275 818365

Friends co-ordinator:

Rachel Harper Tel: 07921 494265

Fundraising co-ordinator:

Brett Higgins Tel: 07886 644594

The Portishead Lifeboat Trust Aims...

To save and protect the lives of the general public in particular by the provision of a Lifeboat in the Severn Estuary centred at Portishead



I want to become a "Friend" of The Portishead Lifeboat Trust

Name:

Address:
.....
.....

Postcode:..... Telephone:.....

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to **The Portishead Lifeboat Trust**.

I agree to my name being held on the TPLT database for the sole purpose of receiving information about TPLT. I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer and would like the donation to be treated as a gift aid donation.

Signature:..... Date:.....

- Friend of TPLT Annual Membership £10 min.
- Friend of TPLT Annual Family Membership £17 min.
- Friend of TPLT Life Membership £250

Please return to:-
Friends of TPLT, 108 High Street, Portishead, Bristol BS20 6AJ
Registered Charity 1049104



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FUND RAISING

These past two months the fundraising committee under the direction of our new fundraising chairman Brett Higgins have been working hard in producing a calendar of events for the forthcoming year. These include attending major local events, the annual raft race, forthcoming can rattles, plant sales and many more, including

- Weston-super-Mare Operatic Society who are allowing a collection during their production of the "Titanic" at the W.S.M. Playhouse on 18-22 April.
- A charity golf day organised by Capita Symonds on 28th September, details about the day contact charitygolf@capita.co.uk.
- Our own major event the annual Raft Race to be held at the Lake Grounds Portishead on Sunday 16th July 2006.
- Meet the Crew/ Trustees Coffee morning will be held at the Folk Hall on 14th October 2007, all welcome.

We would like to welcome your help. If you feel that you would like to join us in our fundraising efforts, even if its only for a hour or two, over the next few months, Brett would love to hear from you, so please give him a ring on 07886 644594 and join this friendly crew in their fundraising activities on behalf on The Portishead Lifeboat Trust.

For the latest news on the boat, crew or the callouts please see our new web site:

<http://www.portishead-lifeboat.org.uk>

The new web site has been developed and maintained thanks to Adam Forest, one of the lifeboat crew members.



Portishead Lifeboat Trust Newsletter published in association with Svitzer Marine Ltd.