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DART D'TALES

Lifeboats

NEWS FROM THE RNLI LIFEBOAT TEAM IN DARTMOUTH

IT'S OFFICIAL. WE SHALL BE GETTING A NEW LIFEBOAT IN DARTMOUTH.

The RNLI Dart inshore lifeboat D 702, 'Spirit of the Dart', will be replaced in May 2019 by D 838. Our present boat came on station in July 2008 and was funded by Caterfood (South West) Ltd. Currently (2016 figures) she has responded to around 300 requests for help, rescued 230 people and saved 10 lives.

The new lifeboat will be built at the RNLI Inshore Lifeboat Centre in East Cowes. The ILC builds, services and repairs all the D and B class lifeboats in the RNLI. It now takes five weeks to produce a new D class and fourteen are built a year. Forty are refitted and modified and around twenty a year are brought in for repair. D class lifeboats are refitted every two or three years and replaced every ten years, depending on usage and the environment that a particular boat has been working on. For a longer article on the work of the ILC please use the link to the August 2015 issue of Dart D'Tales on our website.



to the more recently opened RNLI Dartmouth Visitor Centre on the South Embankment. The diners are asked if they would like to add £1 to their bill for the charity and he then supplements this; the proceeds go straight to RNLI Dart. Copies of the local station magazine, Dart D'Tales, are available for customers to read and learn more about the volunteers they have chosen to support.

RNLI DART RECEIVES AMAZING SUPPORT FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Mitch Tonks and the diners in his Dartmouth Rockfish seafood restaurant have just donated an amazing £14,181 to the RNLI Dart lifeboat. This sum alone will cover 40% of the current year's overall operational running costs of the station. Rockfish has been open in Dartmouth for six years and the building is next door



Mitch has specified that £2,000 of the donation will be specifically set aside to help develop a new local RNLI Dart station web site, www.dartlifeboat.org.uk. By this November the station will have been operational for ten years and the website is the place to find the history of the station, both past and current. Details of every one of the launches, currently around 300, can be found there, along with photos and sometimes video taken during the rescue. If you have any comments to make about the present site or features that you would like to see on the new one, please use the *contact us* facility to let us know.

The other Rockfish restaurants are in Brixham, Torquay, Plymouth and most recently Exmouth. All of them support charities which benefit the local communities. The Plymouth restaurant currently supports the local sustainability studies at the Plymouth Aquarium. Other charities supported by the chain include: the Torbay Holiday Helpers Network, the Pride in Brixham volunteers and the Exmouth Beach Rescue Club, a voluntary community lifeguard and lifesaving club.

SOUTH HAMS RNLI LIFEGUARD COVER

RNLI lifeguards have been patrolling the beaches across the South Hams since Easter. Initially there was a quiet start to the season and they were kept busy carrying out preventative actions. As the weather warmed the beaches became busier with a corresponding increase in incidents requiring their intervention. Ambulances have been called to their beaches for a number of first aid incidents, including a person with chest pain at Challaborough. This incident required the lifeguards to use their high level of casualty care and to administer aspirin, GTN spray (for angina) and oxygen until the ambulance crew arrived on scene. More recently lifeguards at Bantham have put their skills to the test both afloat in the surf and on land when they needed to call the Devon Air Ambulance to land and treat a patient with a high resting heart rate after taking a fall whilst surfing.

Since July 8 the lifeguards are now patrolling the additional Peak Season beaches, along with the beaches that were already manned. Every lifeguard has a preparatory two weeks of intensive training, covering topics such as the casualty care course which is the RNLI's highest level of first aid training. They are also trained in lifeguard and beach management, how to operate the vehicles and watercraft and receive talks from our media department, the police and local lifeboat stations. They also visit the Devon Air Ambulance to develop their knowledge of how to work around the aircraft.

If you decide to visit a beach this summer, please visit a lifeguarded beach and swim or body board between the red and yellow flags. If unsure of the safest place to be, ask a lifeguard for further advice.

Season dates:

ALL BEACHES COVERED BY THE RNLI ARE LIFE-GUARDED 10.00 -18.00 THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.

BANTHAM 29 April – 1 October 7 days a week, weekends in October and all of half term October 21-29

SEDGEWELL 29 April – 1 October, seven days a week

CHALLABOROUGH 29 April – 1 October, seven days a week

BLACKPOOL SANDS 8 July – 3 September, seven days a week

SLAPTON SANDS (memorial) 8 July – 3 September, seven days a week

THURLESTONE 8 July – 3 September, seven days a week

HOPE COVE 8 July – 3 September, seven days a week

BIGBURY ON SEA North 8 July – 3 September, seven days a week



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