



Lifeboats

June 2017 / Issue 16

FOREVER BY THE SEA

TRIBUTE FUNDS NEWSLETTER

What are your favourite summer memories with your loved ones? In this newsletter, supporters like you share their treasured stories with us – illustrating why those remembered with Forever by the Sea Tribute Funds are thought of with fondness all year round. Each story is unique, lovingly shared by friends and family who miss them dearly. We're so grateful that they – and you – continue to inspire our lifesaving charity through your personal relationships with us.

It is thanks to support like yours that we are able to keep our search and rescue service running. As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, many people flock to the coast – and our volunteer crews and lifeguards will be there to keep these areas a safe place for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to people like you – and the loved ones so warmly remembered – they always can be.

Every donation we receive helps to ensure these cherished memories live on. So thank you for continuing your generous support. On behalf of everyone at the RNLI, we hope you have a safe and happy summer.

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'THE LIFEBOAT STATION WAS IN TOTAL SHOCK'

Andy Cantle's journey with the RNLI first began in 2000, at 15 years old, when he chose Sunderland Lifeboat Station as his charity when completing his Duke of Edinburgh Award. After finishing the award in 2001, he decided to continue helping the station by volunteering his time as a lifeboat crew member.

He served with Sunderland Lifeboat Station for 7 years and was promoted to helm during this time. Reflecting on Andy's lifeboat career, Senior Helm Paul Nicholson says: 'He was always keen to learn new skills and did everything to a very high standard.' In total, Andy assisted on 65 shouts and helped to rescue 66 people.

In 2008, Andy stepped down from RNLI duties and moved to York with his partner, hoping to fulfil his childhood dream of becoming an airline pilot – and it wasn't long before he began his career as a first officer with an airline.

Sadly, after just a few months of working with the airline, Andy was involved in a fatal crash onboard a flight from Belfast on 10 February 2011. He was the co-pilot aboard the craft, which had difficulty landing in thick fog at Cork Airport. Paul reflects: 'Everyone involved with the lifeboat station was in total shock about the tragic loss of a very close and dear friend.'



To commemorate Andy's memory, his loved ones explained that he wasn't fond of flowers – but they knew he would appreciate contributions towards the organisation that was closest to his heart. And so the Andy Cantle Forever by the Sea Tribute Fund was created.

The fund has a financial target of £40,000 to help meet the cost of RNLI Sunderland's next inshore lifeboat, which will be named in Andy's memory.

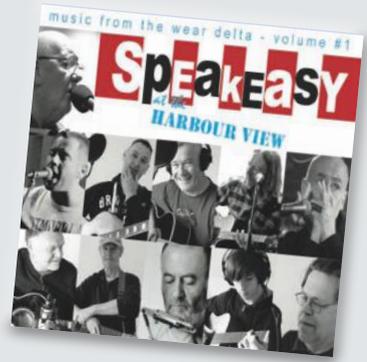
Recently, RNLI Durham Fundraising Branch has helped to raise some incredible donations for Andy's tribute fund through a multitude of efforts. These include a Christmas raffle organised by a local ladies' knitting club, who chose to support the RNLI as their Charity of the Year in 2016. The club raised £276 – their most successful raffle to date.

Additionally, the fundraising branch run an ongoing campaign called Betty's 5p Pots named after Betty Frith – the treasurer at RNLI Hertford Fundraising Branch. All the money raised in the immediate Sunderland area is donated to Andy's tribute fund.

Words from Ann Cantle and David Hastings



'WE ARE HOPING THE SALES FROM THE CD WILL HELP RAISE EVEN MORE FUNDS FOR THE RNLI IN ANDY'S MEMORY'



2017 marks the 6-year anniversary since Andy Cattle's tragic passing and, over the first weekend of February, Sunderland lifeboat volunteers commemorated his anniversary with a fundraising campaign.

The crew visited The Bridges Shopping Centre in Sunderland, selling copies of Speakeasy, a CD originally put together to showcase the Sunderland live music scene. During its creation, it was decided that all sales from the CD would be donated to the RNLI in Andy's memory.

Lifeboat crew member Andy McGill even features on one of the tracks. Andy is a Funeral Director from Roker and has been a volunteer crew member for 3 years at Sunderland. Speaking of the tribute, he says: 'We are hoping the sales from the CD will help raise even more funds for the RNLI in Andy's memory.'

'We are all very thankful to the 'Speakeasy' team for choosing the RNLI – and Andy's memorial fund in particular – as the charity to benefit from the sales. Another key thank you must go to the local sponsors who have ensured every penny raised from the sale of the CD will go directly towards paying for the next D class inshore lifeboat in Andy's name'.

'The second track is my personal favourite on the album – it's about the brass plaques on the wooden benches along the seafront. It describes the memory of people who have passed away and are forever looking out towards the sea. I think it is a very fitting and appropriate tribute to the album itself and also what we are trying to achieve by raising the money.'



'HE TAUGHT US RESPECT FOR THE SEA AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RNLI'



When we were little, our family holidays each year were to Bridlington. I remember the first time I heard a massive bang – the loud noise made me run indoors, but my dad, Peter Parnaby, brought me back outside again to watch the lifeboat launch. This happened a few times over the years whilst we were on holiday. Our dad had always loved the sea and anything to do with it – a lot of our holiday photos include boats and ships!

His love for the water was well known to all of us and he taught us respect for the sea and the importance of the RNLI. In 2013, we unfortunately lost our dad – and I wanted to carry on supporting the RNLI as he had done for many years.

I love baking, so I came up with the idea of hosting an open house for an afternoon, where I could serve tea and homemade bakes for a donation. When I host them, I spend the majority of a Saturday baking, then on Sunday – as other members of the family

bake some more – I open my doors to friends, neighbours and passers-by for tea and cake. It's proving to be quite popular! Some people just stop by and others stay all afternoon, which is great. I've also started organising a raffle alongside it.

I was really overwhelmed last year – we managed to donate £650 just from hosting an afternoon tea with the raffle. People are really generous in donating prizes, as well as the donations to support the RNLI. I have been given even more prizes for my next afternoon in August 2017.

The RNLI is such a worthwhile cause, and it's nice to be able to support volunteers who give up their time and risk their lives to save others. I like the thought that I am carrying on our dad's support of the RNLI – especially for Bridlington where it all started for me.

Words from Peter's daughter Sharon Mason



'IT WAS AN EXTREMELY LONG JOB, NOT MADE EASY BY THE CONDITIONS'

When an 88m trading vessel began to suffer with engine failure on 20 March 2017, it would take the determination and courage of two RNLI lifeboat crews to salvage her – in a mission that lasted over 11 arduous hours.

It was around 3am when *Lady Alida* got into difficulty near Gwennap Head, off the south-west coast of Cornwall. A strong south-westerly force 6 wind was rising and the waves were becoming rough – with the 3,600-tonne coaster beginning to drift towards the shore, *Lady Alida's* seven-strong crew realised they needed to raise the alarm.

Falmouth Coastguard requested the launch of both all-weather lifeboats from RNLI Penlee and RNLI Sennen Cove, in the hope that the volunteers could attach tow lines to stop *Lady Alida* from colliding with the shorefront.

Leaping from bed, the lifeboat crew members from Penlee were soon launching their Severn class *Ivan Ellen*, as the volunteers from Sennen Cove climbed aboard their Tamar class *City of London III*. In very challenging conditions, both lifeboats helped to pull *Lady Alida* into deeper waters – and by 6.20am, they had reached a position where the vessel could drop anchor and relieve the lifeboat crews from duty.

But just a short while later, as the volunteers were having a well-earned cup of tea at Penlee's boathouse, the pagers sounded once more. Both crews re-launched to *Lady Alida's*

aid – her anchor was beginning to drag, drifting the ship towards the shore for a second time.

By 8.30am, with *Lady Alida* just 2½ miles from shore and still drifting, the lifeboat crews attached tow ropes and began to pull her slowly towards safer waters. The weather conditions began to deteriorate, so a large tug boat – anchored nearby in Mount's Bay – was tasked to help the volunteers with the rescue mission.

As the tug boat arrived on scene, the RNLI lifeboat crews had towed *Lady Alida* for over 4 miles – and, after almost 11 hours from the initial shout, the crews were stood down to return to their stations, passing *Lady Alida* into the care of the larger vessel.

Coxswain Patrick Harvey from Penlee Lifeboat Station recalls: 'It was an extremely long job, not made easy by the conditions. This was a fantastic team effort from the volunteer lifeboat crews from Penlee and Sennen Cove.'



LOVED ONES REMEMBERED

We would like to take this opportunity to celebrate all the **Forever by the Sea Tribute Funds** opened since our last newsletter. We are proud to commemorate:

Mollie Brown • Peter McCarthy • Dee Smith • Margaret Wight • Winifred Merifield • Audrey Sharp • Susan Sharman • Peter Chapman • Gerald Wakefield • Doris Shorter • Anna Stadler-Ger • Mihaly Ger • Sheila White • Janet Ogden • John Bennett • Williamomer Laurie • Christopher Smith • Diane Peckston • John Allmont • Susan Clifford • John Hucknall • Peter L Allen • Arthur Sandison • Alan Paul • Derek James Fordham Leaver • John Alan Philpott • James Anderson • Richard Skilton • John Bradley • John Thurston • John Torrance • Thomas Sexton • Brian McCafferty • Keith Ainsworth Mackenzie • Brenda Spencer • Geoffrey Bennett • Joseph McCall • Juliet Mummery • James Alfred Smith • Brian Webb • Vera Wilkins • Mandy Cook • Tony Wilding • Laurie Rainger • Geoffrey Carter • Eileen Virginia Stapleton • Eileen Hodgson • Tom Hodgson • Willoughby Garton • John Churchward • John Holdaway • Margaret Chadwick • Marion Atkins • John Moston • Sian Campbell • Peter Roles • Dennis Frederick Jones • Christopher Plummer • David Thomson • Annie Bennett • John Sherwood • Peggy Goater • Christopher Madge • Roy Thompson • Paul Bowkett • Richard Leslie Webb • Winifred Calton • Edith Hall • Brian Westwood • Avis Seed • Richard Adamson • Dorothy Anderson • Derek Hammonds • Joan Waudby • Edward Moore • William Saunders • Vesey Davoren • George McMonagle • Pauline Rogers • Betty Griffiths • William Crisp • Audrey Earley • Dave Hunter • Jean Allsopp • Sheila Richmond • Joan Finnigan • Joan Parsons • Philomena Howe • Marlene Simpson • Val Gladman • James Macallister • Derrick Kingshott • Michael John Carty • Sue Wellfare • Catherine Tarrant • Hilary Hartley • Alan Gold • John Kenneth Roberts • Ruth Cooper • Alec Bliss • Peta Kirby • William Harvey • Michael Hopkins • Michael Probert • David Gladstone • Richard Winward • Georgina Knott • Richard Scandrett • Charles Rusha • David Harding • Sir Thomas Beevor • Sam Harrison • Edna Weller • Iain Brown • Bill Curtis • Malcolm Biggs • Ida Hastie • Charles Kenneth Oliver • Mark Wilson • Joyce Macfarlane • Freeman Smith • Peter Weare • John Tulloch • Eric Beetham • Madge Gill • Ted Young • Pamela Elvines • Richard Grey • Edward Jeffery • Rita Latilla • Reggie Solomon • Frederick Hockley • Frederick Higham • Margaret Daniel • Arthur White • Peter Jordan • Alistair Cooke • Deborah Ward • Neville Smith • Phyll Hannah • Peter Jones • Colin Spiers • John Barker • Ronald White • Jack Chapman • Ada Barber • Pamela Driscoll • Bob Bennett • Betty Priestley • Derek Coleman • Paul Dudley • Jim Mckay • Robin Matthews • Ivy Harrop • Larry Turner • Ted Herridge • Stuart Wilson • Veronica Kitson • Christopher Peddie • Ronald Gates • Roy Perry • Mark O'Brien • Jack Cox • Adrian Epps • Heather Hawkey • Cord Weston • Evelyn Wilcox • Patrick Clements • James Jewsbury • Pat Hussey • Joy Margaret Debney • Michael Flanagan • Peter Geoffrey Howell • Michael Anthony Pugsley • David Fitzpatrick • Elizabeth Lange • Emma Pangborn • Robert Endersby • Roger Brickwood • Tom Greenwood • William Bowerman • Kevin White • Stella Peterson • Nina Southgate • Martyn Simmonds • Timothy Shaw • Herbert Atkins • Nigel Beckley • Kathleen Joan Williams • Rak Angras • Patricia Stanton • Keith Beautelement • Drusilla Mortimore • John Hurst • Alan Beardsmore • Peter Holland • Ruby Sellers • Michael 'Ding' Bell • Michael 'Dumpa' Jackson • Muriel 'Merle' Carter • Margaret 'Eta' Boland

CONTACT US



If you would like to include your story in this newsletter, or if you have any comments or questions, we'd love to hear from you.

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[RNLI.org/ForeverByTheSea](https://www.rnli.org/ForeverByTheSea)