

SHOUT OUT

April 2022

THE EXMOUTH LIFEBOAT SUPPORTERS NETWORK

Exmouth Lifeboat Shouts:

See pages 2-3 for details of the active start to the year.

Lifeboat Operations

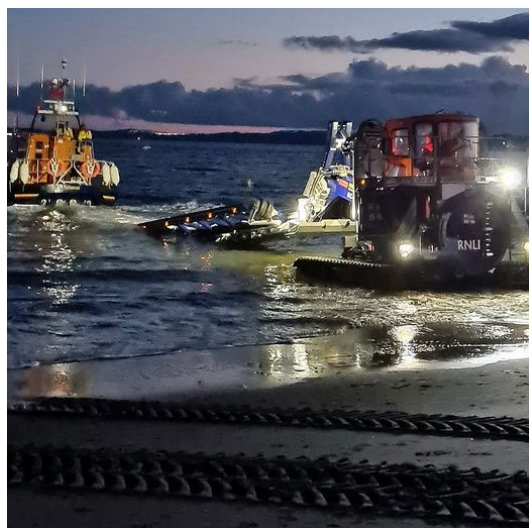
The Ramp rebuild and some of the new additions and developments with our crew and management. See page 4-5

RNLI Fundraising, Exmouth Lifeboat Shop, Visits Team

All the latest from these teams. See pages 5-6 for details.

Welcome to the Spring 2022 edition of the newsletter for all our current and former supporters / helpers / crew / etc. of Exmouth Lifeboat Station

Do check out the Station Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ExmouthRNLI/> where there are many more reports on activity round the station and videos of exercises. There is a particularly good video showing launches at <https://bit.ly/3LlmOWz> and an exciting one of a recovery of our own Shannon at <https://bit.ly/3xYgbFF> complete with tornado!! Also, see <https://bit.ly/3raSKoH> for a map of the latest launches around UK and Ireland.



Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter for all of you who have been supporters, helpers or crew of Exmouth Lifeboat Station. It is 2 years now since our first edition and I hope we are still giving a good insight into the workings of the lifeboat station. If there are any items you would like to see covered in a future issue do please get in touch.

Over the last 2 years there has certainly been plenty to concentrate our minds, but we do seem to have arrived at a situation whereby all the major problems we had faced, particularly with the launch ramp, appear to be resolved as far as they can be. More of these later, but first there follow the narratives of all the shouts we have attended since the last newsletter. From a quiet start to the year, we are starting to see more calls through April.

Ian Taylor
Exmouth Lifeboat Operations Manager

EXMOUTH LIFEBOAT SHOUTS

04/03/2022 – 14:10

Tasking request from Solent CG. Paddleboarder seen to be in difficulties at Orcombe point, reported as being unable to regain land and drifting to the East. DLA authorised immediate launch ILB, 1430 ILB at scene. Paddleboarder had regained the shore. No assistance required.

15/03/2022 – 03:20

Elderly Male been missing since 14/3/22 at approximately 11:30 (am). ILB search request from Starcross to Turf lock made 03:12 15/3/22. No result.

15/03/2022 – 07:48

Yacht reported to be drifting in vicinity of River Exe safe water mark on falling tide. Yacht towed to safety.

18/03/2022 – 18:35

Tasking Request from Solent CG. Report of as fallen walker between Sandy Bay and Budleigh Salterton. 1824 Immediate Launch ILB and Crew Assembly ALB. 1835 ILB launched, 1850 ALB launched in support of ILB.

1845 ILB on Scene, 1900 ALB on scene. Casualty located and position illuminated by ALB search light. Coastguard mobile team on scene but experiencing difficulties reaching casualty who was located halfway down the cliff face. Decision made to deploy Coastguard rescue helicopter. Helicopter on scene approx. 1935 casualty winched to cliff top and left in care of CG mobile unit.

04/04/2021 – 12:13

DLA was paged by UKCG and requested ILB to attend a RIB reported adrift by multiple members of the public. Boat reported to be west of marked channel into River Exe and drifting seaward on falling tide. ILB launched 12:13 with crew of three. RIB located and taken under tow to Exmouth Marina. ILB recovered to boathouse 12:55 and reported ready for service.

14/04/2022 – 20:51

Potential Suicide, 17 year old male. ILB launched with ALB in support to provide assistance to shore crews. Exmouth, Beer and Dawlish Coastguard teams allocated and supported the Police on Shore. All assets approached silently. Weather conditions were poor with very little to no visibility at the scene due to fog.



All assets released after casualty was moved away from shore and taken safely to police vehicle..

14/04/2022 – 23:20

Mother of 18 year old female contacted police stating her daughter was threatening to enter the water at Exmouth beach. No specific location other than "beach" provided. ILB Shore search undertaken from Lifeboat station to Exmouth Marina and then Lifeboat to Orcombe Point. Search extended at request of Coastguard to Straight Point at 00:45. ARB requested by ILB to assist and support due to poor weather (fog) and being out of sight of Boathouse. ALB

launch request approved by DLA 00:57. ALB launched at 01:15 on scene (Orcombe Point) at 01:25. Search to Straight Point. No persons found.

16/04/2021 – 13:00

ILB diverted from planned exercise circa to the aid of a lone helmsman unable to make way with the painter from his tender tightly caught on prop and shaft; tender had become wedged under the swim platform. Crew offer to assist was gratefully received. Craft taken under tow to mooring and secured. ILB crew cut painter, secured the tender and cleared the fouled prop but were unable to clear the shaft. Crew provided advice. Incident took approx 30 minutes to resolve. ILB continued with planned exercise circa 1400BST and recovered to boat house 15:10.

17/04/2022 – 15:00

Coastguard requested launch at 14:58 local time. DLA spoke with CG, who advised that a 2.5T motor cruiser from Brixham had engine failure at the entrance to Exmouth harbour (Exe Estuary) adjacent to #4 Port buoy. Harbour master had been contacted and was unable to provide any towing asset. Vessel dragging anchor on flood tide and in danger of grounding.

DLA spoke with duty coxswain and consensus was to launch ILB to provide assistance as the vessel was in the surf line in shallow water. ALB could be launched if ILB unable to assist. ILB launched 15:15 and vessel Thalia 2 contacted. Vessel with 2 on board towed to Exmouth marina. ILB returned and back on station 16:00.



26/04/2022 – 01:34

DLA received page requesting launch of ILB to assist local CG team in search for vulnerable individual last seen at Thunder Park, Dawlish Warren. Police and ambulance service also requested to attend. Distressed individual was believed to be entering the sea but details were sketchy. At 01:34, DLA authorised launch of ILB with likely task to assist with shoreline search on north facing shore of the Warren. Shoreline search initiated but no casualty located by RNLI asset. At 02:05, UKCG stood the ILB down with casualty now known to be in the care of ambulance crew at Dawlish Warren.

LIFEBOAT OPERATIONS

RAMP EXTENSION OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

It is with much relief that I can confirm we are back to normal operations at the station. The ramp extension was finally completed in mid-March. The c. 10 metre extension goes down at a slightly steeper angle and sits on the bedrock c. 2.5 metres below the present sand level. It is a great credit to all the crews in how they have adapted to this challenge and ensured that the lifeboats remained operational throughout the period of not being able to use the ramp. We have already completed an intensive training session for all our crews, specifically our shore crew, so as to ensure they could brush the cobwebs off their old skills and ensure we can launch and recover both lifeboats as safely and efficiently as possible from the ramp, whatever the conditions. The changing beach level will have no further effect on the Exmouth Lifeboat Operations.



NEW TEAM MEMBERS



Many of you may well remember Tris Logan who was part of the boat crews from 1999 to 2009. He soon became 2nd Cox, 3rd Mechanic and ILB Helm during this period. He has now returned to our station as a full time technician to support our full time mechanic Andy Stott. Tris is responsible for maintaining all 3 boats (ALB, ILB and Boarding Boat) all the launching equipment (SLARS, Tooltrak and Landrover) and the maintenance of the station. This job has developed into far more than a single mechanic role, and in line with all similarly equipped stations around the coast we required a 2nd full time technician / mechanic. Tris will not be part of the boat crew, but as he knows them all, he has fitted in as though he had never left.

Now that we are back to launching and recovering using the extended ramp we had realised we had a shortfall in our dedicated shore crew team. So in advance of the ramp coming back into operation we recruited 3 new shore crew. Over the last

few months they have been joining in with our training schedules, and are fitting in well. These additions are Steve Woodbridge, Duncan Richards and Paul (Dixie) Dean.

We are always considering how our crews are developing, and eventually are having to leave us. This can be either as they have become too old or their personal circumstances have changed and committing so much time to life-boating is becoming difficult. With this forward planning in mind we are about to take on 2 new boat crew. These are Jake Richards and Jason Luff. They will serve a probationary period as shore crew initially before starting their training on the lifeboats. Hopefully you will hear more of these new additions to the team in the future.

RNLI FUNDRAISING



There was a slow start to Fundraising at Exmouth in the 1st quarter of 2022 due mainly to the continued restrictions on activities because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the on-going building works on the extension to the ramp.

Many thanks to Exmouth locals Andy Beake & Darren Strode who raised £2,650 for Exmouth RNLI when they ascended Mount Kilimanjaro between 17th & 25th January.

We were also very fortunate to have the first of three fundraising events planned for 2022 by Dave Turner at Tiverton Golf Club in January where over £400 was raised for Exmouth RNLI. The Vets Captain's Day will be on 31st May, which we will support with volunteers on site and the model inflatable Shannon lifeboat. Dave will donate all the funds raised for the year of his captaincy at the end of 2022.

We are once again very grateful to the Exmouth Events Team led by Louise Hockings-Thompson for organising our two major 2022 events, the Exmouth RNLI Ball at The Ocean on Saturday 21st May - An Evening with James Bond - plus the Fireworks at the Rugby Club on 5th November.

We are delighted also to be supporting the Budleigh Salterton Lions Gala Week events with the Shop team; the Village fete on the 28th May and the Open coffee morning on 3rd June. There will also be a shop stall as part of the Organ Donor Day in Exmouth on 23rd July.

We were delighted to welcome Paul and Lorraine Hoskins (Coventry Fundraising Branch Chairman & Branch Secretary) to Exmouth on 12th April and take them on a guided tour of the Boathouse.

We are still working on the plans for the Exmouth RNLI Open Day on 7th August, and other events such as an Exmouth RNLI Fun Run in conjunction with LM Events and the East Devon Carnival in October. Carol Service is planned for 10 December.

Des White

Chairman, Exmouth Fundraising Group

EXMOUTH LIFEBOAT SHOP

Last year was a very successful one for the shop. Nearly every month had record takings, we had the best ever day and, despite only being open for nine months of the year, we surpassed the best year's business by quite a considerable margin.

Due to the essential and unavoidable work to extend the slip, access to the shop was restricted for the first three months of this year and business was very slow. However now the work has been completed, business has increased significantly and, thanks to a busy Easter, we are back to normal.

Throughout the very difficult time when the work was being carried out, the team of volunteers manned the shop every day, sometimes not seeing a customer which must have been very soul destroying and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their patience and dedication.

I am looking forward to another very successful year for the Exmouth RNLI shop.

Dave Britten

Shop Manager

EXMOUTH VISITS TEAM

The Visits Team are now back to normal, with a resumption of bookings for group visits, and schools.

COMMUNITY PRESENTERS

For those who didn't know, Exmouth Station now has a dedicated Speaker (Volunteer Community Presenter), George Hislop, who is available to give talks about the RNLI to groups who would like to hear more about us than is shown on Saving Lives at Sea. Talks are free and usually last for 30-45 minutes at a venue of your choice.

To book, go to talks@exmouthlifeboat.org.uk . Tell your friends too!

OBITUARIES

In March, our thoughts were very much with the RNLI Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, and the Royal Family as they give thanks for the life of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in Westminster Abbey.

Wells-next-the-Sea's new RNLI Shannon lifeboat will be named Duke of Edinburgh, in honour of his maritime service and support for the RNLI throughout his life.

