



He volunteers to face 10m waves, in the pitch dark and freezing cold

Please can you volunteer £20 to help him?

rnli.org.uk/donate

Explore, Discover or Observe the RNLI

The RNLI is a charity that provides a 24-hour lifesaving service around the UK and Republic of Ireland. Our lifeboat service in the UK receives no Government funding. As a charity, the RNLI relies on your support to carry on saving lives at sea.

The RNLI has over 230 stations around the coast of the UK and Republic of Ireland. These are split into three levels - **Explore**, **Discover** and **Observe**. Our Explore category stations offer you the best opportunities to enjoy the station and lifeboats close at hand, all free of charge. Subject to operational requirements, you can go inside and look around the station.

Our crews from Discover and Observe stations are equally welcoming to visitors as those at Explore stations. However these lifeboat stations were often built before visitors were considered. Discover stations normally open their boathouse doors during the summer months while Observe stations are often in more inaccessible places. Both are situated in stunning locations so you can enjoy exploring the local area.

KEY TO STATIONS

- EXPLORE
- DISCOVER
- OBSERVE
- MUSEUM



Come visit us

Explore Aldeburgh Lifeboat Station



Tony Pick



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A charity registered in England, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland
 SAP FCL008



The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea

rnli.org.uk/donate

Where to find us



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Aldeburgh Crag Path	EXPLORE STATION
<p>Open: 10am–4pm daily All groups by appointment only</p> <p>Directions: The boathouse is located on the sea front</p> <p>Contact for group visits: Lee Firman</p> <p>Tel: 01728 452552</p> <p>Shop open: Feb–Christmas</p> <p>Shop tel: 01728 454065</p>	<p>S Shop / Souvenirs</p> <p>20 Maximum Group Numbers</p>

Although our buildings are designed primarily for operational purposes, the RNLI is striving to provide disabled access at its stations wherever possible. However, at present, access levels vary considerably so please contact each station directly to ensure that access, appropriate to your needs, is available.

Our history

There has been a lifeboat station at Aldeburgh since 1851, when the RNLI took over from the Suffolk Shipwreck Association. It was the last station to operate the traditional 'double-ended' design of lifeboat. The arrival of Aldeburgh's new Mersey class lifeboat, in November 1993, marked the end of a remarkable era in lifeboat history and saw the completion of the RNLI's seven year plan to provide all its lifeboat stations with fast lifeboats (those with a minimum speed of 15 knots).

With the arrival of the Mersey class lifeboat a new boathouse was built, consisting of two adjacent houses linked by a single storey section providing crew facilities. This is one of eight boathouses, funded by a legacy left to the RNLI by Mrs Eugenie Boucher. All are known as 'Penza' lifeboat houses named after the town in the south east of Russia, which was the home of Mrs Boucher until the 1920's when she moved to England.

Fifteen Medals for Gallantry have been awarded, ten Silver and five Bronze, the last being in 2000.



Our lifeboats

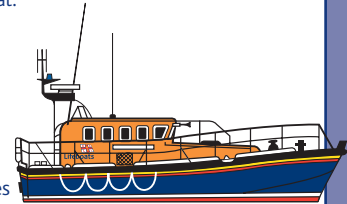
Freddie Cooper ON-1193 (12-34)

Mersey class lifeboat

The Mersey class all weather lifeboat has protected propellers and is relatively lightweight, which make it suitable for carriage launching, although it is capable of operating from slipways and may also lie afloat at berths. A small manually launched inflatable X boat is carried on board. This is used to assist in rescuing casualties and can be rowed into locations inaccessible to the all weather lifeboat.

Specification

Length: 12m
Speed: 16 knots
Range: 140 nautical miles
Launch method: Carriage, slipway or moored afloat
Crew: 6
Introduced: 1988
Cost to replace: £1.2M - £2M



Christine D-673

D class lifeboat (IB 1)

The D class is the most numerous of the inshore fleet and was introduced in 1963 as the first inflatable lifeboat. Fast, light and with very shallow draught, it can respond rapidly and work in very shallow and confined waters. It is an ideal lifeboat for rescues close to shore in fair-to-moderate conditions in both daylight and darkness. It has a single outboard engine and can be launched from special trolleys or even manually.

Specification

Length: 5m
Speed: 25 knots
Endurance: 3 hours at maximum speed
Launch method: Trolley
Crew: 2/3
Introduced: 1963
Cost to replace: £29,000

