



Credit: RNLI/Mark Mitchell

NAMING CEREMONY AND DEDICATION

of the new D-Class Lifeboat

RNLB David Roulston
(Civil Service No 52)

at

Portrush Lifeboat Station

on

Saturday 16 April 2011

at 2.00pm

rnli.org.uk



Lifeboats

ORDER OF CEREMONY

1. National Anthem.
2. Mr James Heaney, Chairman of Portrush Lifeboat Management Group welcomes guests and opens proceedings.
3. Mr John McAuley, RNLI Ireland Council member, addresses the guests.
4. Sir Peter Housden KCB, Chairman of the Lifeboat Fund delivers the lifeboat into the care of the RNLI.
5. Mr Robin Cardwell, Lifeboat Operations Manager, accepts the lifeboat into the care of Portrush lifeboat station.
6. Mr Alan Clarke, Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Tourist Board, addresses the guests. Ceremonial Plaque unveiled.
7. Service of Dedication and Blessing:
Conducted by Reverend Kirkpatrick
Reverend McDowell
Father Sheehan
Pastor Todd
8. Ms Shelley Pinkerton, Portrush Fundraising Branch Chairman, proposes the vote of thanks.
9. The lifeboat is named.
10. The lifeboat is put to sea.

*Music kindly provide by Ballywillan Flute Band
accompanied by Natalia Morelli and Sarah Irwin*

RNLI Ireland Council Members:

Mr John D Coyle MEconSc (Chairman RNLI Ireland Council), Mr Terence C Johnson (Vice Chairman RNLI), Mr Clayton Love Jnr, Mr Wilson Ervin CBE, Dr Ronnie Delany LLB, Mr H W S Clark, MBE DL, Mr John M McAuley, Mr Peter Crowley, Mr Peter Killen, Captain Liam Kirwan MN. AFRIN.Mar. Surv, Hon Christopher Arthur Brooke.

PORTRUSH LIFEBOAT STATION

Lifeboat Management Group

LMG Chairman:	James Heaney	Fundraising:	Shelley Pinkerton
Lifeboat Operations	Robin Cardwell	Chairman:	
Manager:		Lifeboat Press	Judy Nelson
Lifeboat Treasurer:	Peter Glover	Officer/SAO:	
Sea Safety	Carl Kennedy	Souvenir Secretary:	Dorothy Weeks
Officer:			

LIFEBOAT CREW

Robin Cardwell	LOM	Nick Christie
William McAuley	Coxswain	Aidy Tohill
Des Austin	Deputy 2nd Cox/LTC	Chris Speers
Mark Mitchell	Deputy 2nd Cox	Robert Kane
Perry Walton	Deputy 2nd Cox	Johnny Weston
Anthony Chambers	Station Mechanic	Richard Martin
Peter Glover	Treasurer	Jason Chambers
Judy Nelson	LPO/SAO	Craig Elliot
Dr. Paul Carlin	Lifeboat Medical Advisor	Nathan Allen
Paul Canning		Gerard Bradley
Ivan Bell		Kelly Allen
David Conley		Gary McLaughlin
Karl O'Neill		Steven Ritchie
Keith Gilmore	Deputy Launching Authority	Ben Wilson
Fred Williams	Deputy Launching Authority	
Mike Matthews	Deputy Launching Authority	

FUNDRAISING TEAM

Chairman:	Shelley Pinkerton	Press Officer:	Tracy McAllister
Vice Chairman:	Maryna Wylie	Flag Day Secretary:	Fiona Gilmore
Secretary:	Pat Storey	Souvenir Secretary:	Dorothy Weeks
Box Secretaries:	Ernie Shields	Lifeboat Shop:	Jean Burgess
	Rodney Byrne		

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shirley Austin	Catherine Byrne	Doreen Grey
Sara Campbell	Patricia Eakin	Jo May
Rachel Stewart		

Portrush Lifeboat Station would also like to thank all the 'Friendly Helpers' who assist with fundraising activities

THE DEDICATION SERVICE

FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA

(Please Stand)

Eternal Father, strong to save
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave.
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep.

Chorus:

Oh hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word
Who walked'st on the foaming deep
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep.

Chorus:

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease
And give, for wild confusion, peace.

Chorus:

O Trinity of love and power
Our brethren shield in danger's hour
From rock and tempest, fire and foe
Protect them wheresoe'er they go.
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

THE LIFEBOAT PRAYER

(Please Stand)

Merciful Father, all things in heaven and earth are held within Your loving care, look with favour upon the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Protect and bless the crews of all our lifeboats, our lifeguards and all who risk their own safety to bring help to others.

Guide all who work for the Institution as volunteers, supporters and staff that they may be faithful to the vision of our founders, so that it may always be seen as a beacon of hope and light to those who find themselves in peril on the seas.

Through the same Jesus Christ, to whom with You and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and forever.

AMEN

WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD

(Please Stand)

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

Chorus:

We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
Fastened to the rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.

Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear,
When the breakers roar and the reef is near?
While the surges rage, and the wild winds blow,
Shall the angry waves then your bark o'erflow?

Chorus:

Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,
When the waters cold chill your latest breath?
On the rising tide you can never fail,
While your anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus:

Will your eyes behold through the morning light,
The city of gold and the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe by the heav'nly shore,
When life's storms are past for evermore?

Chorus:

(Please Stand)

HOME FROM THE SEA

Written and composed by Phil Coulter

On a cold winter's night,
With the storm at its height,
The lifeboat answered the call.
They pitched and they tossed,
Till we thought they were lost,
As we watched from the harbour wall.
Tho' the night was pitch black,
There was no turning back,
For someone was waiting out there.
But each volunteer
Had to live with his fear,
As they joined in a silent prayer ...

chorus Home, home, home from the sea.
Angels of mercy, answer our plea and carry us
Home, home, home from the sea,
Carry us safely home from the sea.

As they battled their way
Past the mouth of the bay,
It was blowing like never before.
As they gallantly fought,
Everyone of them thought
Of loved ones back on the shore.
Then a flicker of light
And they knew they were right,
There she was on the crest of a wave,
"She's an old fishing boat,
And she's barely afloat,
Please God there are souls
We can save".

chorus and carry them home, home, home from the sea, etc.

And back in the town,
in a street that runs down
To the sea and the harbour wall,
They had gathered in pairs,
At the foot of the stairs,
To wait for the radio call.
And just before dawn,
When all hope was gone,
Came a hush, and a faraway sound.
Twas the coxswain, he roared:
"All survivors on board,
Thank God and we're homeward bound".

chorus Carry them home, home, home from the sea, etc.

History of

PORTRUSH LIFEBOAT STATION

- 1842** A Silver Medal was awarded to William Richardson for rescuing one man from a fishing boat.
- 1860** An RNLI lifeboat station was established and a boathouse was built in Kerr Street.
- 1862** A new slipway was built after the old one had been washed away.
- 1876** The boathouse was rebuilt at a new site.
- 1889** Three lifeboat crew members, G Grills, James McAllister and William McNeill, tragically lost their lives when the lifeboat was capsized by an exceptionally heavy wave.
- 1891** Silver Medals were awarded to Captain F Watt, Coxswain John Hopkins and William McAllister for a service to the schooner *Ellen Myvanwy*. Silver Medals were awarded to Mr John Boyd and Mr David Patton for rescuing a boy from a capsized boat.
- 1900** A new boathouse and slipway were built at Lansdowne on the east side of Portrush.
- 1916** A Silver Medal was awarded to Robert Lemon for a service to the steamship *Corsewell*.
- 1924** The first motor lifeboat arrived at the station.
- 1928** A new boathouse and slipway were built on the west side of the town for launching into the harbour.
- 1935** Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum were awarded to Coxswain James Martin and Mechanic K. D. Chambers for rescuing Crew Member John Fleming after he was washed out of the lifeboat.
- 1960** A Centenary Vellum was awarded to the station.
- 1961** A Silver Medal was awarded to Coxswain Samuel Cunningham, Bronze Medal to Second Coxswain Robert McMullan and five Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum were awarded for the rescue of 14 crew from the *Argo Delos*.
- 1965** Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum were awarded to the Coxswain and to seven crew members when five men were lost overboard from the Norwegian frigate *Bergen*.
- 1981** A new 'fast afloat' lifeboat Richard Evans arrived at the station and was kept at moorings in the harbour. A special Doctor's Vellum was awarded to Dr William Hill and a Framed Letter of Thanks was awarded to Crew Member Albert McQuilken for carrying out first aid on two patients on board the trawlers *Junella* and *St Jasper*.
- 1990** Improved crew facilities were built.
- 1991** Framed Letters of Thanks were presented to Crew Members Trevor Creelman and Trevor McMullan for taking 22 people to safety during the floods at Ballycastle in October 1990.
- 1993** An inshore lifeboat (ILB) was evaluated for one season. The slipway was extended and a launching trolley provided for the D class lifeboat.
- 1994** The ILB station was officially established on 26 February.
- 2000** The Severn class lifeboat *Katie Hannan* arrived at the station.
- 2001** Honorary Secretary John Scott was honoured by Her Majesty The Queen, becoming a Member, Order of the British Empire.
- 2002** The D class *Ken and Mary* arrived at the station.
- 2003** The Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum was awarded to Helmsman Damian Rohdich for saving a boy's life.
- 2006** Boathouse repairs were completed.
- 2007** The Thanks of the Institution inscribed on Vellum was awarded to Crew Member Conchur Dickinson for his part in saving the lives of three surfers. Crew Member Liam Smith got a Framed Letter of Thanks from the Chairman for his part in the same service.
- 2010** September: New IB1 D-Class D-738 placed on service.

Station Honours

- 2008** During a service on 29 January 2008, to rescue three men in a RIB, ON1247 *Katie Hannan* was grounded on rocks near the entrance to Rathlin Harbour. There was a heavy swell running at the time and the lifeboat was operating close to the breakwater. The men on the RIB were assisted ashore by the local coastguard team and all the lifeboat crew were recovered safely. Because of the adverse weather conditions the lifeboat was not removed from the rocks until 15 February and was taken, on a barge, to Devonport dockyard for a final assessment.
- 2009** The Trustees voted the award of a 150 year Vellum to be awarded in 2010 to the station.
- 2010** Bronze Medal awarded to Mechanic Anthony Chambers for saving two boys cut off by the tide in a cave on 5 August 2009. The inshore lifeboat made several unsuccessful attempts to enter the cave before Mechanic Chambers entered the water and rescued both boys.

At Portrush Lifeboat Station the following awards have been made:

Bronze Medal	2
Silver Medal	8



Credit: RNLI/Mark Mitchell

D class

The D class has been the workhorse of the RNLI for 40 years. This fast, light weight inflatable is small & highly manoeuvrable, making it ideal for rescues close to shore in fair to moderate conditions. It has a single outboard engine and can be righted manually by the crew following a capsize. The design of the D class has continued to evolve since its introduction.

Date Introduced	1963	Crew	2 – 3
Number in Fleet	155	Max Speed	25 knots
Length	5m	Range/Endurance	3 hours at maximum speed
Beam/Width	2m	Construction	Hypalon-coated polyester
Displacement/Load	400g	Engines	1 x 50hp
Launch Type	Trolley or davit	Survivor Capacity	5
Fuel Capacity	68 litres		

The entire team at Portrush RNLI wish to extend their sincere gratitude and thanks to the Lifeboat Fund and their supporters for their tremendous efforts in raising funds to purchase this D class lifeboat.

Portrush RNLI would also like to thank all the staff at the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and their supporters for their outstanding fundraising efforts to fund the upkeep and maintenance of the "David Roulston", named in memory of a much missed colleague.

With Grateful Thanks to Mentendorff –



**To find out how you can help the lifeboat service, please contact
RNLI, Lifeboat House, Unit 1 Lesley Office Park,
393 Holywood Road, Belfast BT4 2LS. Tel: 028 90 473665.
Fax: 028 90 473668. E-mail: northernireland@rnli.org.uk**