

## The RNLI – the charity that saves lives at sea – needs your support to provide proper protective kit for our courageous volunteer lifeboat crews.

RNLI volunteer crew are ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Over 4,500 men and women all over the UK and Republic of Ireland give their time, skill and commitment so that the RNLI can achieve its purpose of saving lives at sea. It is because of the willingness and courage of RNLI volunteer lifeboat crews that RNLI lifeboats continue to rescue thousands of people every year. It goes without saying that these volunteers *deserve* the most protective kit when putting their lives at risk to save others.

### Inshore lifeboat kit

The inshore lifeboat crew kit consists of a thermal ‘woolly bear’ suit that sits under an all-in-one dry suit, complete with steel-plated wellies, a helmet, thermal gloves and inflatable knee pads, in addition to a foam-filled life jacket with 150 Newtons of buoyancy that can support up to four people in the water.

This kit not only keeps our crew warm while out at sea – it can save their lives when rescues get dangerous. It is essential that we keep each volunteer’s crew kit fully functional and provide replacements if necessary. After all, without their protective kit, many of our crew members would never have made it home safely.

Inshore lifeboat  
gloves  
**£16/€18**

Inshore lifeboat  
thermal suit (woolly  
bear)  
**£145/€163**



Inshore lifeboat safety  
helmet  
**£166/€187**

Inshore lifeboat lifejacket  
**£434/€488**

Inshore lifeboat drysuit  
(boots included)  
**£319/€359**

Two inshore lifeboat crew members braving the cold  
Credit: RNLI

## All weather lifeboat kit

As with the inshore lifeboat kit, the all-weather lifeboat kit must be kept in optimum condition if it is to keep our crew safe and warm in gale force winds, rain and even snow. The kit consists of gloves, steel plated boots, waterproof trousers, all weather jackets and a lifejacket with 275 Newtons of buoyancy.

All weather  
lifeboat lifejacket  
**£494/€556**

All weather  
lifeboat safety  
helmet  
**£166/€187**

All weather  
lifeboat gloves  
**£16/€18**



All weather lifeboat  
safety line  
**£53/€60**

All weather lifeboat  
jacket  
**£170/€191**

All weather lifeboat  
trousers  
**£230/€259**

Hamish Corrigan, Portree second coxswain  
Credit: Nathan Williams

## Extra facts about RNLI lifejackets

Each lifejacket has a safety line attached to it which allows the crew to strap themselves to the lifeboat and pull in survivors.

There is a torch attached to each lifejacket, which will last for up to 8 hours and can be seen over a quarter of a mile. It is small, round and can be attached by Velcro to the crew member's helmet for maximum visibility.

Reflective tape on the lifejacket helps each crew member be seen at night.

Each lifejacket has a buddy line to attach to other crew or survivors in rough conditions and a whistle for attracting assistance.

Each lifejacket has two pockets that both hold a flare pack. These are day and night flares. The daytime setting gives off bright orange smoke, and the night time setting sends up a bright burning light, lasting 16 seconds.

## How you can help

Our crew members take great pride in their kit and maintain it well because they know that their lives, and the lives of others, depend on it. For instance, it is not uncommon to visit a station and find a volunteer crew member painstakingly resealing the waterproof seals of their dry suit by hand. But, inevitably, each piece of kit reaches the end of its operational lifespan eventually.

Maintaining and supplying crew kit is a substantial investment, but a vital one; our crew members put themselves at risk in order to save lives at sea, and we owe it to them to provide them with the very best possible kit in return. With your support, we can keep our crew properly kitted out for years to come.



Credit:RNLI/Nigel Millard

**On behalf of all our dedicated volunteer crews,  
thank you for your consideration**