



Dolphin News Sheet

First Edition

Welcome to our half yearly news sheet in which want to give you an update on how everything is going. Thus far, the first two months of our five month season is going well and bookings are coming in, although we could really do with some genuine summer weather!

We are fund raising for a new Dolphin, and £150,000 has to be raised during the next two years. A start has been made but we are looking for any help to raise these funds at a time when everyone is having to be careful. However, Dolphin is now over 15 years old and starting to show her age which is why the Trustees have decided that a new Dolphin would better serve our disabled passengers, looking towards 2026/27. To date we have donations and pledges amounting to just over £30,000. I am pleased to report that Dolphin will be taking part in this year's Beating of the Bounds on Sunday 7th July.



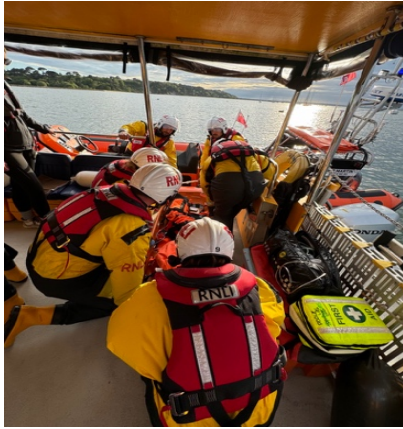
Items of interest which have happened so far:

Fundraising.

Tesco have secondhand book stalls, Charities have a month each, collecting the proceeds of their month. So far this year, we have received almost £500 from Tesco Branksome and £515 from Tesco Fleetsbridge

There was also our Evening Fund raising boat cruise. There were 106 passengers on board. The weather cleared up for the evening and with the Fish and Chips delivered to the Solent Scene, we pulled away from the quayside. We went out of the Harbour, but once we started to go round Old Harry towards Swanage, there was a considerable swell, so the skipper stayed in Studland Bay and back into Poole Harbour. Nevertheless, a great evening was had by all, with entertainment once again provided by the Ukulele group. Our thanks to City Cruises for once again both sponsoring our evening and providing the Solent Scene. Our congratulations to Barbara and Margaret for organizing such an enjoyable evening. The money from event will also go into the New Boat fund, and I am pleased to tell you that we made £1435.00, an excellent result for the evening.





An Exercise with the RNLI.

In May this year, we had an exercise with the two RNLI lifeboats. This took place late in the day; there were six passengers with three Carers, all played by members of the Dolphin crew. There were two scenarios, one being a Carer with chest pains and a history of heart attacks. The other a disabled person in a wheelchair who had become unresponsive with right side muscle spasm (? Stroke or seizure). Both were attended to by RNLI personnel, the Carer treated, and the wheelchair user evacuated off Dolphin on a stretcher. There was also discussion about how to evacuate the whole boat in the event of fire or the boat starting to sink.

This was the third exercise with the RNLI, the other two in 2010 and 2013 when Poole had an All-weather lifeboat.

All were judged a great success, and this will, I am sure, not be the last such exercise.



Bookings.

This year we received funding for a new and improved booking system which has been produced and tailored to our needs. This is approached through our website and is easy to use. The software has been produced by Uprated with the cost of it being covered by MSP Capital. The photo shows one of our Dolphin crews together with Carol Cox our Booking Secretary, Peter Norris, Head of Design and Development at Uprated, and Lee Merrifield MSP Capital's Associate Director of Credit. We cannot thank them enough for both their time and generosity.



The Friends of Dolphin

Registered Charity Number: 254692