



Photos: RNLI/Simon Culliford

The RNLI is asking for your support to help meet the cost of providing a much needed upgrade for Falmouth Lifeboat Station.



Photo: RNLI/Tom Bird

SAVING LIVES AROUND CORNWALL

Our courageous lifeboat volunteers are part of a long history of launching to people in trouble on the water. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824, our crews have saved over 141,500 lives at sea. Generations of families have passed through lifeboat crews, extraordinary acts of bravery have been shown and milestones continue to be made in our equipment and lifeboats – yet the same gallant spirit remains.

There are 14 RNLI lifeboat stations in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Our volunteers operating in this region launch off some of the busiest stretches of coastline – in 2015 alone, our crews here launched more than 460 times and rescued over 440 people.



Photo: RNLI/Simon Culliford

Above: Falmouth's Severn class lifeboat *Richard Cox Scott*

Below: The current changing facilities at Falmouth Lifeboat Station

FALMOUTH LIFEBOAT STATION

The picturesque town of Falmouth in Cornwall has been shaped and influenced by its strong maritime history. Based around a thriving harbour, Falmouth is home to four golden beaches and has quickly become a popular holiday destination for surfers, windsurfers, sailors and divers alike. This makes for a busy coastal town – and a very busy lifeboat station.

The station was established in 1867, just 43 years after the RNLI itself was founded. Throughout our history, 11 medals for gallantry have been awarded – including two Gold, five Silver and four Bronze. And the need for our lifeboat crews is still as evident now as it was in 1867.

In 2015 alone, the Falmouth volunteers launched 84 times to answer the call for help and almost half of these were in complete darkness. Our lifeboat crews rescued over 100 people and spent over 6,000 hours out at sea.

The volunteers currently operate an all-weather Severn class lifeboat *Richard Cox Scott* and an Atlantic 75 class inshore lifeboat *Eve Pank*. But in the near future, as *Eve Pank* reaches the end of her operational life, RNLI Falmouth will receive a new Atlantic 85 inshore lifeboat to operate alongside *Richard Cox Scott*.

We are committed to providing our crews with the best lifeboats available – and the new Atlantic 85 class will ensure our Falmouth lifeboat volunteers can continue to run their rescue service safely and effectively for years to come.

2017 will be a very special year as the station, its volunteers and the community celebrate 150 years of lifesaving by its volunteer lifeboat crew. As part of these celebrations, an appeal is being launched to upgrade the current facilities.



Above: Falmouth all-weather lifeboat crew

THE CURRENT STATION LAYOUT

The existing boathouse at Falmouth is currently not fit for the arrival of the new lifeboat – or for our volunteers. The last updates were carried out a number of years ago. Our lifeboat crew give so much – they deserve the best lifeboat station we can give them when risking their lives to save others. By upgrading the existing station, we can ensure RNLI Falmouth is fit for its lifesaving purpose both now and for future generations.

WHAT YOUR SUPPORT WILL MEAN TO THE CREW

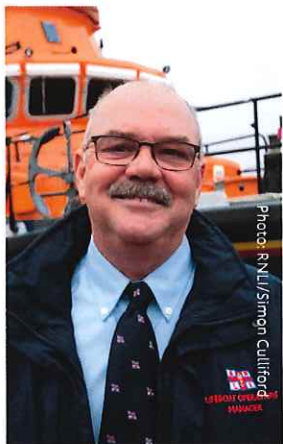
'I served as a crew member and assistant mechanic on Falmouth lifeboat from 1992 – and retiring from active duty in 2012, I took on my current volunteer role of Lifeboat Operations Manager.

'The alterations to the lifeboat station will allow us to upgrade the station in readiness for the new Atlantic 85, ensuring we make best use of the space available.

'Currently, there is no designated crew changing area or separate facilities for male and female crew, so up to 15 lifeboat crew members at a time can be changing in the small passageways. Training the new and existing crew with our new facility will ensure the Falmouth lifeboats will serve the community in the years to come.

'The works to the station will bring an enormous improvement to how we all operate at Falmouth. From everyone here, I'd like to say a big thank you for your consideration in helping to fund this project.'

Alan Rowe, Lifeboat Operations Manager, Falmouth Lifeboat Station.



THANK YOU

Our volunteers rely on the generosity of the public to keep our lifesaving service running – we are separate from the Coastguard and independent from the government.

We would be very grateful if you would consider a donation towards the project or running your own fundraising event. This will help us to upgrade Falmouth Lifeboat Station for the brave volunteers. They are here to help make the coast a safer place for everyone. And with your support, they always will be.

ON BEHALF OF THE CREW AT FALMOUTH LIFEBOAT STATION, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.