



ON WATCH 25

The Newsletter of the Ingoldmells Point National Coastwatch Team



1st January 2007

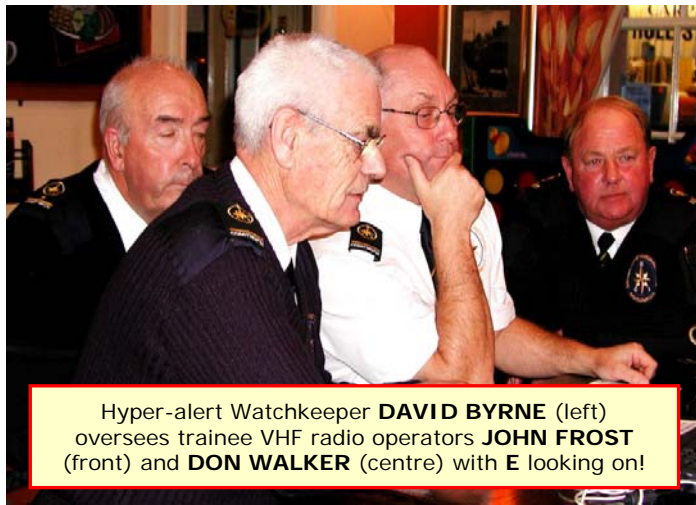
Editor: Mike Newbold

Hi watch! - Another Newsletter – 25 issues and still going strong!

A happy new year to you all, we all hope that you had a very happy Christmas and not too much festive medicine.

VHF SRC RADIO COURSE 100% PASS – CONGRATULATIONS!

On 1st December eight of our team took the all day RYA VHF SRC Radio Course run by Coastwise. After coffee on arrival all buckled down to some hard theoretical study followed by some practical work with VHF DSC Radio simulators.



Hyper-alert Watchkeeper **DAVID BYRNE** (left) oversees trainee VHF radio operators **JOHN FROST** (front) and **DON WALKER** (centre) with **E** looking on!

After a good lunch the candidates were joined by most of last years VHF SRC badge holders to refresh their GMDSS training and give moral support to the new intake. All took to the computers for the GMDSS simulator digital training, which taxed some of the little grey cells. However, after a much welcome afternoon tea break they took the RYA written examination mainly to see who had managed to stay awake. Happily, all passed with flying colours. Seriously, very well done **John Frost, Don Walker, Simon Walker, Eric Pemberton, Pat**

Naughton, Cadet Louise Tedder, Bill Watson and Roy Ireland we are very proud of you all ! Thanks to Paul Martin from COASTWISE TRAINING for travelling down from Hartlepool to 'do' us at a very concessionary fee! We now have 21 VHF qualified Watchkeepers – that's 80% of NCI Ingoldmells VHF qualified – well done.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT

Another very welcome visit of our National Coastwatch **Chairman Jon Gifford** took place on Friday 15th December when many members at the Tower turning out to specially welcome him. After an informal inspection of the refurbished watchtower and equipment, Jon stated that he was amazed at the transformation and modernisation of the watchroom, and praised the whole team for all the hard work and dedication involved in this achievement. The teams admiration and sincere thanks go to Jon for travelling so far to see us, and the genuine interest shown in our work.

SEAL RESCUE

Upon opening the watchtower on cold morning in December Barry and Mike observed a seal pup about 2 weeks old on the beach (pictured right) at about 500 yards distant towards Vickers Point. Upon closer inspection by Mike, the pup had weeping eyes and blood issuing from the mouth confirming the probability of Lung Worm. The pup was very lethargic and made no effort to move or defend itself when slowly approached. Mike guarded the animal against unwelcome public attention, whilst a telephone call to our friends at Natureland Seal Sanctuary in Skegness invoked the usual immediate response from their Seal rescue section. Their expert assisted by Mike invited the sickly pup to enter the rescue box and be transported to the Natureland Seal Hospital where, following a course of anti-biotics and much care the little fellow is doing very well and should be released back into the wild in March. Ah!



BAY – looking sorry for himself!

Late news: Pup has been named BAY (Natureland are naming rescues after trees this year) following earlier NCI assisted rescues of PINE (7/11/2006) and CHERRY (3/11/2006) all are doing well! Ah! Again.

New windows officially presented 12.12.06



National Coastwatch Ingoldmells Point were please to welcome representatives from the three companies contributing towards the donation of our new windows.

Left to right in the photograph is Duty Watchkeeper **Don Walker**, Station Manager **Mike Newbold**, **John Kadzionis** Sales Manager for Uniglaze 2, Duty Watchkeeper **Roy Ireland**, Deputy Station Manager **Roger Gilburd** and **Simon Hedison** owner of Ambassador Window Systems of Skegness. Also there was **Tony Smith** from Pilkington Glass who took photographs for their trade magazines. After being shown the equipment in the station, Mike thanked the visitors for their kind donation of quality windows which

will make our life a lot more comfortable this winter. Special thanks to **Roger Gilburd** for overseeing the whole job from begging letters to final installation.

Declared Facility Status

On the 12th February we undertake what is without doubt the most important assessment of NCI Ingoldmells Point. As reported in November newsletter, DFS Chairman Colin Neason will be in attendance, and the assessment will take place from 09.00 hrs to about 16.00 hrs covering all aspects of our professional status. Watchkeepers can be picked from the Rota to attend and demonstrate their Watchkeeper abilities, and you are asked to inform Barry if you are not available to be called on that date.

NCI Ingoldmells Christmas Party

The National Coastwatch Ingoldmells Point team Christmas party took place on Wednesday 13th December 2006 at the Ship Inn, Sea Lane, Ingoldmells.

The party was well attended with over 30 persons present enjoying excellent food and splendid company

Many thanks go to **Pauline** for all the arranging, booking and table decoration and shopping for the individual presents and to **Eric** and **Vera** for an excellent Christmas raffle, and a super auction that raised over £160 towards our funds. Thanks also to all those who donated the magnificent prizes. Well done all and many thanks to you all for supporting your team. Shame about Barry's shirt!



Say Hello to:



We are very pleased to welcome two new trainees who have joined us this month, namely **Ann Wells** (left) from Ingoldmells and **John Richards** (right) from Chapel St Leonards

Please extend the usual Ingoldmells Point welcome to them and help them settle in with some chart work and local knowledge, and what we are all about



Co-Op collection Mablethorpe Saturday 9th December

A biting wind and heavy ice greeted those stalwarts who arrived on for an in-store collection at Mablethorpe Co-Op. **Eric and Vera, Pauline, Roger and Eileen, Carl the Cakes, Santa Claus (or was it Chris White?) Mike**, all braved the wind tunnel entrance and collected over £700 towards our funds, another magnificent effort. Regretably, many were conspicuous by their absence.

WATCH ROTA

Simon Walker continues to administer the ever-changing watch rota with a cool calm and expertise, and the patience of a saint! Despite essential resignations, sickness and holidays we have completed every single watch in 2006 without any close-down. A tribute to all of you, and to **Simon** for co-ordinating it all.

When you change the rota you must let Simon know, unfortunately his clairvoyant skills are somewhat lacking recently! Also you are again reminded that if you are unable to attend your allocated watch **YOU** must find a replacement, not leave it to others or totally neglect it, that is not the way we work or support each other.

THE GREAT MUMBY QUIZ

We are fortunate in having **Roger Gilburd** donate the magnificent Great Mumby Quiz for our fund raising this year. Just the thing to revitalise those grey cells after all those festivities. There are still a few copies left price £1 obtainable from Roger, Barry or Mike. First prize is a stonking £50. Grab one now !

NCI INGOLDMELLS WEB SITE - <http://www.nci.ingoldmells.org.uk/>

Visit our site as there is regularly updated articles and reports: A lot of work goes into keeping our site up to date and running SUE BRIDE continues building our web site – address as above, Please support it just by visiting it regularly- news and information are added daily – and please, invite all your internet contacts to make a visit - there has been a massive **20,600** hits so far!

NCI SOLENT

We are in regular touch with **ex Ingoldmells Watchkeeper Dennis & Bette Whyte**. National Coastwatch Solent have now been formally recognised as an embryo team under development, and much work is going on by Dennis and the team trying to get up and running. Dennis has now issued their first newsletter, a major step forward in teamwork. We continue to support Solent with updated forms and anything we can help with – we have recently sent them a kit of parts to make their own pelorus, and some new business cards for Dennis.

SMALL ADS

Message for Eric Pemberton: We all love you - honest!

Watchkeeper who let ensign lanyard end go wishes to meet person with exceptionally long arms or agile climbing ability

Apologies to **John Frost** for omitting his name from the collectors at the Co-Op Hildreds Centre. In mitigation, the names were supplied from a normally reliable sober source. Trouble is, John not being mentioned in the credits, his wife is wondering where he was all day? – Search me! Seriously THANK YOU JOHN.

OUR DIARY 2007 –put it in yours!

Jan 6th - National COASTWATCH TEAM MANAGERS meet H M Coastguard at Yarmouth

Jan 9th – **Team Meeting** – pre DFS discussion and preparation at the Ship Inn, Sea Lane, Ingoldmells -

WHOLE TEAM PLEASE

Feb 11th - DFS evening pre brief – Station officers

Feb 12th - **DFS assessment ALL DAY**

Feb 14th - **Team Meeting** - Post DFS wake or celebration ?

Mar 13th - **Team Meeting** – prep for new season

Mar 14th & 15th **TESCO Skegness Collection** – don't say you haven't enough time to book this one !

Mar 22nd – 2nd Anniversary celebrations

NCI Ingoldmells Team Posts

Station Manager	<i>Mike Newbold</i>	Recruitment Officer	<i>Jeff Packman</i>
Deputy Station Manager	<i>Roger Gilburd</i>	Training Officer/Quartermaster	<i>Barry Ainsworth</i>
Press & Publicity :	<i>Keith Arthey</i>	Almoner:	<i>Eileen Gilburd</i>
Team Secretary:	<i>Pauline Arthey</i>	Watch Rota Officer :	<i>Simon Walker</i>
IT Team: <i>Simon Walker, Keith Arthey & Mike Newbold</i>		Station Management Team Representatives: <i>Geoff Packman & Vera Garner</i>	
Co-opted members: <i>Barry Ainsworth and Simon Walker</i>		Honorary Treasurer:	<i>Roger Gilburd</i>