



The newsletter of NCI Skegness

On Watch 46



Issue 46 - November 2008

Wear your poppy with pride!

Hi Watch! – 46 issues and still going strong!

Thanks Seamus !

Following a complete update and re-write of the station-training manual by Mike Newbold, our grateful thanks go to **Seamus O'Dowd** for all the hard work in completely reformatting the Station Training Manual, re-indexing and printing off copies, enough to turn your hair grey!. This arduous task was very necessary as many items had become dated, and all headings and references had to be changed from that other place to 'Skegness'. All new trainees welcomed the new look manual, and Seamus's printer has worked overtime for the past two weeks. Many thanks Seamus, a job well done.



WELCOME New colleagues...

We are delighted to welcome two new applicants. **Steven Atkins**, ex RAF 'Snowdrop' and a Skegness resident, and **Frank Piling** from Sutton On Sea who have just started training with us.

Both have already done some watches, found it challenging, and shown great enthusiasm. Please give them every help and assistance. On the subject of new members - an applicant is allowed one

introductory watch, and then a completed application for membership form must be given to Mike so that the Trainee is covered by insurance, and we all know who he or she is. Would all involved with new applicants ask that they attend any watch in a clean and reasonably smart and discreet apparel. Tatty unwashed cloths and worn out trainers are not acceptable.

COASTWATCH QUIZ NIGHT

The long-awaited NCI quiz night took place on Friday 17th October at the Crown Hotel, Drummond Road, Skegness. There was a reasonable turn out with over 30 visitors making 8 teams. A most enjoyable and lighthearted evening raised over £100 for Coastwatch funds. Grateful thanks go to **Roger and Ellen** for writing the quiz and producing all the paperwork, and to **Seamus** for arranging the venue. The dingbats were great fun! What a shame there was not more support. We hope to hold another in the spring - please do your best to support our social efforts and raise much needed funds.



COASTWATCH TOMBOLA *(five tickets for a pound)*

Jill, **"Coastwatch Tombola five tickets for a pound"** (Mrs Seamus) has kindly and thankfully reconsidered her earlier decision to give up the tombolas and will now be assisted by **Pauline Arthey**

Jill is an avid Coastwatch Supporter and spends a lot of her own time visiting local shops and businesses blagging presents for the tombolas, so it's 100% profit!

However, like the rest of us who do collect, we wish some members would give just a little time at the store collections, perhaps just an hour, to raise funds to run our team, and not expect everyone else to labour on their behalf.

COLLECTION

The collection at the Hildreds Centre on Saturday 11th October raised £ 180 in charity boxes, Jill's Tombola a super £160 and Pauls £45 on promotional items - well done all those who turned out to rattle the boxes. We could have done with some help! The next store collection is on 29th November at Morrison's Skegness - go on force yourself!

TEAM SECRETARY

Pauline Arthey has asked to be relieved of the post of Honorary Secretary due to family commitments at present; this is with immediate effect. We thank Pauline for all her efforts in this post. Pauline has hardly ever missed a store collection, and her cheery outlook keeps us all smiling when the hours get long on collection days.

She will still be working for Skegness Coastwatch in a fund raising capacity, although she is unable to do regular watches at the present time.

We shall be looking for a new Secretary, any offer will be considered, even wives or partners., but ability to type and an Internet connection is essential (as is a good sense of humour)



RADIO

The new domestic radio equipment recently donated by CENTRICA has now been installed and initial transmit and receive results even working on handsets are most encouraging. Channel 1 is 169.0875mhz and Channel 2 173.0875mhz both with 118.8 khz tone lock to alleviate interference from other station. Six other Channels are available. Thanks to **BILL ISHERWOOD** for installing the antenna on a wet and cold day.

National News

Anxious to play a part in supporting National Coastwatch Institution nationally, **Mike Roger and Bill Isherwood** travelled to London in October for the National Managers conference where all subjects are discussed from new stations to new sites, training, finance and fund raising. The meeting went very well with an excellent participation of the representatives of 16 teams present.

The following week, **Mike and Roger** travelled on an 800 mile round trip to Ashburton in Devon to attend the Devon, Cornwall and Welsh Managers conference, and took the opportunity to visit a few NCI stations in the West Country Counties. Exmouth, Teignmouth and Rame Head National Coastwatch Stations were visited and we were welcomed in the traditional NCI manner - tea first! Please ensure any visitors to our station are given the warmest welcome.

VHF SRC RADIO COURSE

The next ***RYA Short Range Certificate VHF Marine Radio course*** will take place on Thursday 20th November 2008 at the Crown Hotel, Drummond Road, Skegness starting at 09.00hrs. It is an all day course and daytime refreshments will be provided. A list is in the watch Room - all trainees and those Watchkeepers without this important qualification are asked to register for this certificate.

There are only 12 places available, so please attend as we still have to pay for non-arrivals, and you will be depriving someone else if you register and do not attend.

Those attending please ensure you bring a passport photo with you name written in pencil on the back



Meetings

A very busy month for **Roger and Mike** attending some very important meetings on behalf of NCI; Apart from visiting London and the West Country, a further meeting was held with East Lindsey District Council to finalise our new station in **Mablethorpe**. We have been offered a beach chalet near to the RNLI Lifeguards, not ideal but it gets us up and running. A new team will be formed in Mablethorpe, and as Mother Team we will pilot and support them to operational status.

Further discussions followed on Friday 24th October when R & M met the Company Secretary of Laver Leisure Mark Bowers and agreed a plot on land owned by decent people for a new NCI Station in the **Ingoldmells** Area. Finance for this vital project will have to be sought when the letter of acceptance is received from Laver. More updated information next month. Bill Isherwood has volunteered to be project manager.

PUBLICITY



East Lindsey District Council resident's forums recently invited **Roger Gilburd, Paul Fretwell** and **Mike Newbold** to represent NCI at a series of close-packed presentations to Community Residents Groups in Mablethorpe, Trusthorpe and Sutton On Sea. Apart from providing our NCI publicity display, a presentation of National Coastwatch and it's work was given to the meetings, and attracted much interest both in the meeting and afterwards and we gained a new member!

Reminder -

Teas and Coffee's in the watchroom still need paying for - you all seem to have forgotten where your pockets are or the combination to your wallets! Carl cannot purchase new supplies if there is no cash to buy them, and I have now insisted he no longer finances this out of his own pocket - EVERYONE can afford to put something in the cash tin

WEB SITE

Thanks to **John Parker** for informing us of a useful and interesting website for learning: <http://www.boatsafe.com/> also try the <http://www.boatsafe.com/kids> section - some clever and useful information (remember its American!). Thanks John.

Keith Arthey

Doing well after his awaited eye operation, now recovering for six weeks in Bedfordshire. If he is taking it easy doing what he is told, and keeping off the laptop it will be a miracle!

OUR DIARY 2008/9 –put it in yours!

- Nov 12th - Team meeting at Crown Hotel 19.00
- Nov 20th - VHF Radio Course at Crown Hotel, Drummond Road, Skegness 09.00
- Nov 29th - **COLLECTION and Tombola** : Morrison's Skegness
- Dec 13th - **COLLECTION and tombola** at Co-Op Skegness
- Dec 17th - CHRISTMAS DINNER at the Crown Hotel, Drummond Road**
- Dec 20th - CHRISTMAS DRAW takes place at the Crown Hotel, Drummond Road
- Feb - ALL DAY team training at Crown Hotel. *Paul to advise date.*

NEXT TEAM MEETING: WEDNESDAY 12th November

At the CROWN HOTEL, Drummond Road, Skegness at 19.00 hrs

POSTITON	HOLDER	POSITION	HOLDER
Station Manager	Mike Newbold	Press and Publicity	Keith Arthey
Deputy Station Manager	Roger Gilburd	Beach Safety coordinator	Carl Short
And Hon Treasurer		Charity Collecting boxes	
Recruitment Coordinator	Jack Wise	Station Management Team Rep	Bill Isherwood
Quartermaster, Project	Bill Isherwood	Flag master	Chris Lines
Manager & chart master		Training Officer	Paul Fretwell
Watch Rota Coordinator	Seamus O'Dowd	Statistics & records	Ann Wells
& IT			
Hon Team Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>	Almoner & tea room prop	Eileen Gilburd

