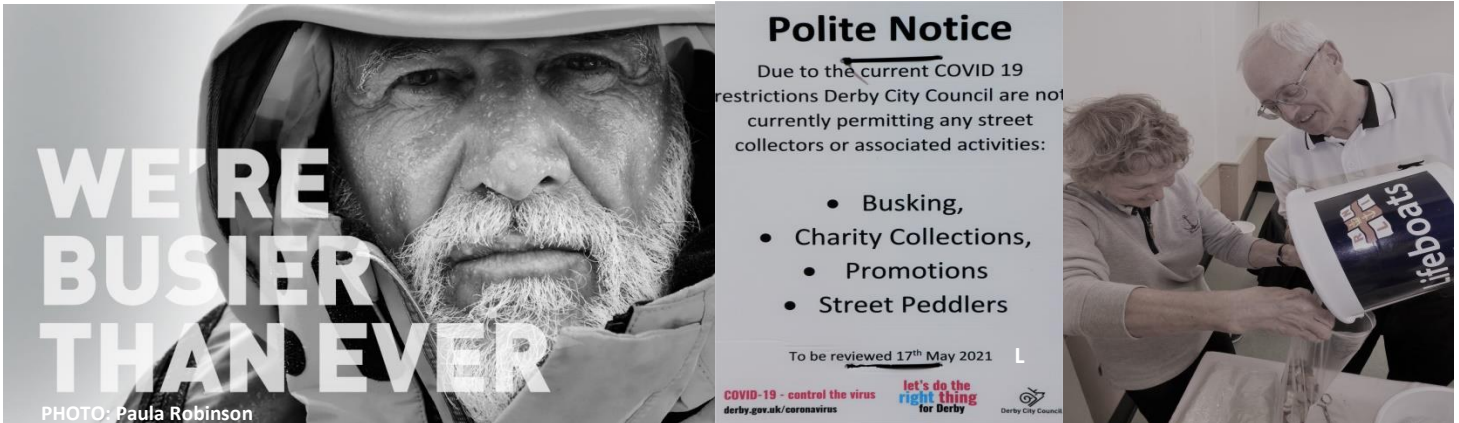




Lifeboats

**City of Derby
Branch
Annual Review
2022**

Chairman's Review for the Year Ended 31st December, 2022



Successfully navigating our way through the most challenging of times

Nobody could have anticipated the impact the Covid Pandemic would have on individuals, local communities and on the nation as a whole. So, I start this review, my first as Chairman of the City of Derby Branch since the pandemic began, by saying that the RNLI can be very proud as to how, at the 'sharp end' of its operations, ie, being on call, 24/7, every day of the year, to respond to the needs of those in difficulties around our coast, it was able to continue to provide, at all times, its rescue and lifesaving services. Whilst we are all still living through the consequences of it all, in one way or another, I am delighted to report that, in 2022, whilst still challenging, the RNLI's City of Derby Branch successfully re-launched itself in the wake of going through the two previous years of not being in a position to fundraise, in our area, in anything like our normal manner. I am sure everyone will understand that the need to raise funds for the RNLI is more acute than ever.

So, what's been going on during our fundraising year?

In February it was a case of 'All in the pool for Poole' at Bupa's Richmond Village in Aston on Trent! Tracey Stinchcombe, the Activities Manager at the Village, came up with the idea of inviting residents, their families, friends and staff to undertake a sponsored swim, in aid of the RNLI, covering, over the month, an equivalent distance of a cross-Channel swim! With an associated French theme, all those who took the plunge, raised a magnificent sum of £1,746.00, of which £1,238 went direct to Poole via a specially created 'Just Giving' Page and £508 was banked as cash through the Branch.



Specially prepared Certificates were handed to all who took part and we thank everyone for their fantastic efforts.



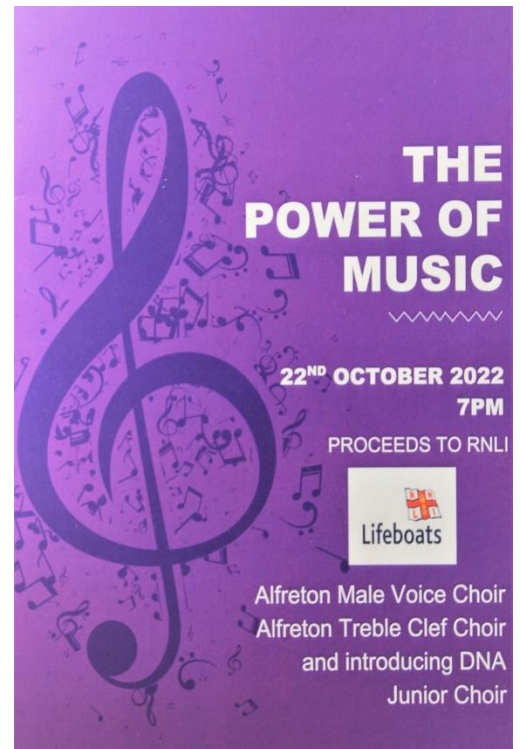
Just prior to the outbreak of Covid, Michael Skinner (right in photo) took it upon himself to raise funds for the RNLI by giving entertaining performances and informative presentations to a number of groups and societies, and not just in our local area, about the fascinating history of Sea Shanties – those unique songs used to help sailors get through the hard, repetitive tasks aboard the old sailing ships of yore.

During the year, by way of these presentations, Michael raised a superb £662.95 in greatly appreciated donations.

To date, Michael has so far raised over £1,300 for the RNLI since starting this initiative and our Chairman was delighted to present a Certificate of Thanks in recognition of this fact.

The RNLI is particularly appreciative of organisations, of varying sizes, with often differing motivations, who take the decision to raise funds for the RNLI as their nominated **'Charity of the Year'**. The City of Derby Branch is always happy, wherever possible, to be actively involved in providing any assistance required with such initiatives. I am pleased to say that, in 2022, a couple of such approaches were made to the Branch.

The first of these came from an approach made by Mick Mullarkey, Chairman of the Alfreton Male Voice Choir. Each year, the choir selects a charity to be the beneficiary of proceeds raised from a special, annually held concert. This was held in October, at the David Nieper Academy, when the Male Voice Choir was supported by the Alfreton Treble Clef Ladies Choir and the DNA Junior Choir. The concert was performed to a sell-out, very appreciative and supportive audience. The Branch were invited to man an information stand to promote the RNLI and Will was invited to address the audience to both inform them of the work of the RNLI and to thank all those attending for their magnificent support of the performing choirs and generosity towards the RNLI.



In due course, Will was invited to a cheque presentation ceremony, held at the David Nieper Academy, where Mick handed over the proceeds from the evening - a fantastic £1,065!

The presentation party was of left to right:

Mick Mullarkey, Chairman of the Alfreton Male Voice Choir, Hannah Ball of the Treble Clef Ladies Choir, Dave Smith, Treasurer of the AMVC, Will Stanier (RNLI), Trinity, Ellie and Rachel, all members of the DNA Junior Choir and Charlotte Harrison of both the Treble Clef Ladies Choir and the David Nieper Academy.



Will again gave thanks to all the choirs for their collective support and asked that these thanks should be passed on to all members of the audience. The presentation then finished with everyone giving a stirring rendition of 'We wish a Merry Christmas to the RNLI'!



Another 'Charity of the Year' activity was through an approach received from Mr Keith Challice from the Barncroft Retirement Home in Littleover. He, too, sought the Branch's assistance with their main annual fundraising activity, a Christmas Tombola, run for the home's residents, their families and friends.

Through Keith's hard work and great organisational powers (not least as a santa look-alike as per the photo!) the event he put together raised a superb £382 – and all in a very hectic couple of hours! In addition, and as a direct result of the Tombola being held when and where it was, a further, separate and very generous donation of £300 was received from a Mrs Prime, a life-long admirer of the work and people of the RNLI.

We were also approached, in the middle of the year, by Mr Graham Elliott, the then newly appointed Civic Chairman of Derbyshire Dales District. Those taking on this role are invited to nominate a charity to benefit from fundraising activities held throughout the Derbyshire and District Dales area of authority. With a background in the county's Fire and Rescue Service, Graham chose the RNLI as his charity of the year. As this is a project that runs for Graham's year in office the results of this initiative will have to be reported upon in the review of 2023. However, I thought it right to notify everyone of this initiative, now, as it exemplifies, again, the support that people in our local communities wish to give the RNLI.

In addition to the above specific activities that result in monies being raised for the RNLI, the Branch is also very grateful for the **Donations** it receives (some of which are quite significant) during any given year including this last one, from numerous individuals on a more 'ad hoc' basis. Without detailing all of these donations, I'd like to just acknowledge, by name, some of the individuals who have kindly supported the RNLI in this way: Pauline and Ivan, Margaret and Martin Darn, Chris Blades, Ron Payne, Judy Jones, Alan Whitaker, Mev, Trevor, Ian and Mandy Beacock, Bill and Glenda Howcroft, Sue Wesson, Jean Dobson, Jill, Joy and Sheila Allcock. On behalf of the RNLI, thank you (and others) for your generosity.

I must also make mention of the tremendous fundraising efforts undertaken, as an individual, by Graham Coulson. He first made himself known to the Branch during 'Covid' but, as soon as he could, and with great enthusiasm, he has been regularly attending car boot sales, most usually at Ripley, and similar type events. Whilst Graham's activities are independent of the Branch, we've been pleased to work closely together and the RNLI has benefited greatly from Graham's on-going efforts. The Branch is equally grateful for the direct help Graham has additionally given. Thank you. Graham is always looking for items to be donated to boost his stock for future car boot sales and other fundraising opportunities. So, please get in touch with the Chairman for his contact details.



Photo: G.Coulson

In 2022, the City of Derby Branch again received, on behalf of the RNLI, monies given as donations by families and friends **IN MEMORY** of loved ones. I, therefore, take this opportunity to publicly offer the RNLI's sincere and humble thanks to everyone who made such donations in the memory of: Margaret Driffield, Jean Outhwaite, Stuart Lewis, Doreen Rigley and Raymond Neal. I also want to make specific mention here of the passing of Mike Kaye, who, with his wife Penny, supported the RNLI over many years but, specifically through the Branch, with various fundraising initiatives in our area.

Mike was one of those who never saw an obstacle that couldn't be overcome. We pass on our condolences and sympathy to Penny and the family and thank everyone for their kind donations made in Mike's memory.

At this point it is only right that I thank our Treasurer, Judy Jones, who both handles all monies received in this way and is our contact with the funeral directors in our area. Judy manages the Branch's involvement in this aspect of support given to the RNLI in the most professional and sensitive manner.

I must now also mention the passing, actually in 2021, of Miss Di Silverwood of Chellaston. With sadness, I wish to record the RNLI's sincere thanks and appreciation of Miss Silverwood. Di was a pillar of the Chellaston community and had, over many years - virtually from the inception of the Branch - held a number of regular events, usually fetes (legendary in the area!) and coffee mornings held at her home, to raise funds for the RNLI and other charities. The Branch's Jean and Richard Dobson have, particularly, throughout those same years, helped and supported Di with her efforts. In 2022, the RNLI received a legacy from Di and, because of this, an acknowledgement of this is included within the Branch's accounts.



The Branch must, again, thank all those who have 'hosted' one of our **COLLECTION BOXES** which have, more than anything, kept a regular source of income flowing to the Branch throughout the pandemic and, in 2022, they have continued to make a valuable contribution to the Branch's total income for the year. There is no doubt that over the last couple of years the 'management' of our Boxes has been a great challenge. We are I feel, therefore, as indebted to our Box Secretary, Judy Jones, just as much as to our kind 'hosts', for the time and effort she continues to put into securing this vitally important source of income. As has become custom, I only have the space to list just some of our 'star performers'; The Argosy pub on Manor Road (£480.63), Chellaston Post Office (£118.97), Half Moon pub in Littleover (£111.17), the One Hundred and Two Club in Derby (£85.74), the Ragley Boat Stop (£85.62) and the Green Man pub in Willington (£82.15). Our thanks, again, to all our 'hosts' and the marvellous generosity of support, through difficult times, received from all their customers.

In connection with our Collection Boxes, I've news on one of our long-standing supporters. As most of you will know, for many years Edie Green (right) looked after the collection boxes placed in the Duffield and Belper area, sourcing 'hosts' and dealing with all the monies received – this was in addition to the fundraising activities, eg. black tie events, quizzes and the like, that she and Ken Reed used to also organise in and around Duffield. For the last few years, Edie has passed over most of the box responsibilities she carried on with to Judy as our Box Secretary. Edie has now decided the time is right for her to step aside, totally, from any involvement in the management of our boxes. This brings to an end Edie's many years of volunteering in this manner and whilst she will continue to support the RNLI in the future, she'll now look to achieve this in different ways. In my years as Chairman of the Branch - and before that - I have greatly appreciated Edie's personal support and the effort she put into raising funds for the RNLI. Thank you Edie, for all that you've done and the Branch wishes you all the best for the future.



COLLECTIONS have been the mainstay of Branch fundraising over the years. Our first foray back into this area of activity came in October when we held a two-day combined collection and **SALE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS** at the Park Farm Shopping Centre in Allestree. We certainly came back with a bang! The good people of Allestree had missed us - and we'd missed them! Through the generosity of a great many of those who shop at Park Farm we raised a magnificent £944 as donations and sold a superb £500+ of cards and souvenirs. We even met a former crew member of one of the RNLI's Lifeboats stationed on the River Thames, Billy Reid, who we discovered lives in the area! We are very grateful to the management team at Park Farm for their co-operation, warmth of welcome and in the many ways they continue to support the Branch's activity. Equally, thanks go to Jean Dobson who, once again, undertook the not inconsiderable task of organising this whole event and I also say thank you to our own crew of Branch supporters who gave so generously of their time to ensure we optimised this first chance for a long time to raise money and the profile of the RNLI.



Park Farm Collection: left to right; Jean Dobson, Will Stanier & Judy Jones. Chris Tucker (in full Halloween spirit!) and Billy Reid

So, that was 2022 for the City of Derby Branch. However, I have saved the most important information until last – the total value of funds raised and allocated to the Branch in 2022 amounted to a superb **£10,758.10**. I've given you a quick run through some of the highlights of our year but our Treasurer provides a full break down of our accounts in her report.

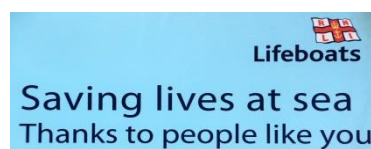
This is my first report since the end of the 2018 financial year and shows how much we have 'bounced back' as we come out of Covid. As a Branch, we have benefitted from the assistance given to us by our very loyal **Branch Supporters**. We are extremely grateful to all of those who have been willing to help in our fundraising efforts, in whatever way, be it at collections, the selling of cards and souvenirs or giving their support to other initiatives. Just as importantly, I extend my thanks to each and every-one of my Branch Committee colleagues for all that you have done in supporting the work of the Branch during 2022 and in the intervening and not at all easy years since my last report. To all those associated with the City of Derby Branch, I hope you will find it possible to continue with the support you give to the Branch and the RNLI. I know we are all motivated by the shared desire to support the RNLI's **Lifeboat crews and Lifeguards** in their work. In addition, I and the Committee, must thank the RNLI's Nikki Wrench who has been so supportive of all our efforts in 2022.



Finally, I can't let my record of 2022 be completed without making mention of the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, long-time Patron of The Royal National Lifeboat Institution. As a charity that is nearing celebrating its 200th Anniversary in 2024, the RNLI is extremely proud of the association it had with the late Queen and who were, equally, so appreciative of the active interest, time and support that she, in turn, gave to the charity through her many years of patronage.

Whilst that might normally be the conclusion of my annual review, in this instance, I wish to extend the review and reflect on what we achieved both before Covid and during the 'closed years' of the pandemic which, for good reason, we were not able to report upon and present at any AGM. So, I'm pleased to inform you that the following information was posted to the RNLI as our annual results of funds raised between 2019 and 2021. **2019: £11,317.99, 2020: £6,247.38 and in 2021 £6,828.38**. I am sure you will agree with me that for a Branch, as land-locked as we are, we can be very proud of the fact that we were still able, in a very much changed way, to continue, to a significant degree, with our fundraising. This was achieved, in 2019 from our usual combination of fundraising activities, but, in 2020 and 2021 funds came largely from a combination of a number of significant donations from individuals, including some from within the Branch (our thanks to all) plus some allocation of monies to our account which also included not unimportant amounts from Gift Aid associated with donations (additional monies that is of great benefit by way of individuals who are either able or prepared to Gift Aid their donations) and, despite all the difficulties that we can appreciate, from our collection boxes.

A final reminder that you can visit our **BRANCH WEBSITE** www.rnli-derby.org.uk and/or contact the Branch Chairman, Will Stanier on 01332 767002 or E: will.stanier@rnli-derby.org.uk



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