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Dear Supporter

## **NEWSLETTER 2010**

Happy New Year and another huge “thank you” for all your support during the past year. You helped raise nearly £52,788 which includes donations made for the benefit of Appledore Lifeboat. This is an excellent result given the financial difficulties experienced this past year. Two events were cancelled but our revenue was hugely helped by increased collection box funds and donations.

Our year started at the end of January with the now annual **SOS day** of coffee and shortbread (Sample Our Shortbread) at the lifeboat house. This has become a national fundraising day when schools, companies and other groups do something involving the initials SOS (Save Our Souls).

Our regular winter **quiz** was held at St Mary’s church hall in February. This has become a very popular event with about 16 teams competing and an excellent hot supper and bar.

As mentioned two of our events had to be cancelled due to lack of support – a St George’s day celebration and a Jazz night in Appledore.

Plymco stores helped raise substantial funds over Easter when volunteers sold souvenirs and knitted Easter chicks sitting on cream eggs. It is such a shame that Plymco is no longer trading as they were very supportive. However ASDA has a special interest in the RNLi and are keen to help.

Many supporters joined us for the **AGM lunch** at the Yacht club. We are hoping this will become more of an event for anyone wanting a good lunch with excellent views.

A **luncheon garden party** at Cross House in June, courtesy of Mrs Rowena Cotton, was a huge success with rare warm sunny weather!

Volunteers helped to collect all over the area for Lifeboat day and during the previous week from house to house collections. This year Lifeboat day will be on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and extra help is always needed, even if you can only manage an hour.

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual **Art Exhibition** at the North Devon Yacht Club was another excellent event with the following **concert** being well supported.

In early December we held a Christmas carol concert inside the Lifeboat house with the Appledore Brass Band playing wonderfully while an audience of about 70 inhaled fumes of warm mulled wine and ate mince pies.

Alison Murray has designed several knitted creations in the past for other charities, notably a giant Christmas tree and a huge gingerbread house. She has recently returned from Bangkok where she was invited to teach, inspire and encourage knitting. This was arranged by the Bangkok National Hospital who sought sponsorship for her to ship out the incredible gingerbread house. Alison taught knitting to the locals who made squares into blankets for hill tribe schools in Northern Thailand. They hoped to make 111 – the number of years of the

hospital's existence – but managed nearly 400! The gingerbread house has toured England, was in Paris in February and made a brief appearance in Newcastle before going to Thailand.

This year Alison has agreed to make something special for the RNLI and its National “Train One Save Many” campaign and has created a new art form of “Above and Below the Waves”. She has organised knitters to make octopus, seaweeds, jellyfish, fish of all sorts, whale, lifeboat, lighthouse, lifeguards, and of course the waves ...and everything you can think of involved above and below the waves. This is at the stage of being put together and will be displayed during the Appledore Arts Festival from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June before going on tour. A definite “must see” with refreshments on offer in the RNLI Beach Café.

Our **spring lunch** at North Devon Yacht club will take place on **Wednesday 31st March** at 12.30 for 1 pm followed by a short resumé of our previous year's activities and an update by Alison Murray on her knitting project.

Subs are now due and remain at a suggested minimum of £2.50. Please send your cheque to our treasurer, Richard Stone.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter do let me know and I will delete you from our mailing list. There is absolutely no obligation to subscribe. We only wish to let you know of any activities you may like to support and that we are active as a committee to raise funds for our local RNLI.

Yours sincerely

Liz Wilson  
Honorary Secretary

.....  
Please use this slip to send your sub of a minimum of £2.50 per person made **payable to the RNLI** to Richard Stone, 6 Whitehouse Close, Instow, Bideford EX39 4NB

Name.....

Address.....

.....  
Tel.....e-mail.....

Amount.....

*Please indicate with a tick if you are willing to help with any of the following:*

*Holding a coffee morning/afternoon tea in your own home*

*Making cakes                      Emptying collection boxes                      Helping at events*

*Selling souvenirs- even occasionally                      Flag day collections- 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August*

*Please indicate which events might interest you or perhaps you would like to suggest a special even you would like us to put on:*

<i>Tea party</i>	<i>Lunches</i>	<i>Trafalgar night</i>	<i>Active walk/cycle</i>
<i>Special interest talk</i>	<i>Quiz</i>	<i>Cooking demonstration</i>	<i>Picnic</i>
<i>Open garden</i>	<i>Musical event</i>	<i>Trip on the Oldenburg</i>	<i>Theatre/garden trip</i>
<i>Jazz evening</i>	<i>Burns night</i>	<i>Tea dance/country dance</i>	<i>Ball/dinner dance</i>