

News release

RNLI reveal plans for new Tamar class lifeboat at Sennen Cove

The RNLI has confirmed that Sennen Cove in Cornwall is to receive a new Tamar class lifeboat in the autumn of 2009. It'll replace the existing Tyne class lifeboat, *Norman Salvesen*, which first came on station in 1999. The two slipways at Sennen Cove will have to be replaced and modifications made to the interior of the boathouse before the new lifeboat goes on station.

The plans for a new Tamar class lifeboat at Sennen Cove are being supported by a huge fundraising effort on the part of the City of London RNLI Branch. This will be the third lifeboat they have sponsored and, consequently, she will be named *City of London III*. There's also substantial fundraising going on at Sennen Cove.

The Tamar is of the very latest in lifeboat design. She has a top speed of 25 knots giving a vastly improved response time, and boasts new safety features including an advanced seat design to reduce stress on the backs of the volunteer crew members when they are at sea. New onboard computer controls mean remote management of many of the lifeboats functions and better task sharing amongst the crew.

John Chappell, RNLI Lifeboat Operations Manager at Sennen Cove, says this new £2.6 million lifeboat represents a huge investment in the life saving work of the RNLI around Land's End:

'It is particularly rewarding as we have been saving for the new lifeboat with wonderful local support since 2004. Our close relationship with the primary fundraising group for this appeal, the City of London Branch, has also been of great importance to us and we thank them for their continuing support and hard work. Our volunteer crew are also delighted at the news.'

The Sennen Cove Tamar will be the third one to go on station in the South West. There are two already in operation at Padstow and at Salcombe.

Notes to editors

- Attached with this news release are two photographs; one features the current Sennen Cove all weather Tyne class lifeboat and the other is of a new Tamar (similar to that which will be stationed at Sennen Cove in the future) as it passed Longships Lighthouse. For both photographs please credit Tim Stevens.

- The RNLI is a registered charity that saves lives at sea.
- It provides, on call, the 24-hour service necessary to cover search and rescue requirements to 100 nautical miles out from the coasts of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.
- There are over 230 lifeboat stations.
- RNLI Lifeguards operate in the south and south west of England.
- The RNLI further saves lives through sea and beach education.
- The RNLI depends on voluntary contributions and legacies for its income.

Vision

To be recognised universally as the most effective, innovative and dependable lifeboat service.

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**Charity registered in
England: 209603
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- other is of a new Tamar (similar to that which will be stationed at Sennen Cove in the future) as it passed Longships Lighthouse. For both photographs please credit Tim Stevens.
- Sennen Cove is a key station in the RNLI's network of 233 stations around the coastline of the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The station provides life-saving cover for the busy and often hostile area of sea around Land's End. The flanking stations at Penlee, St Mary's and St Ives complete the comprehensive lifeboat cover around West Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Last year the Tyne class all weather lifeboat at Sennen Cove was launched 13 times, and rescued 14 people.
- The life-saving work of the RNLI at Sennen Cove is complemented by the station's D class inshore lifeboat *Spirit of the RLC*. It launched 9 times last year, and rescued 6 people.
- A technical description of the Tamar class lifeboat is attached as is a brief history of the Sennen Cove lifeboat station.
- As a registered charity, the RNLI relies on voluntary contributions and legacies to ensure its volunteer crews have the very best lifeboats, equipment and training to help them save lives at sea.

RNLI Media Contact

For further information please contact Brian Simpson, RNLI Lifeboat Press Officer at Sennen Cove on 01736 871631 or 07762 057127, or Tamsin Thomas, RNLI Media Relations Manager for the south, on 07786 668847.

RNLI online

For further information about the RNLI please visit www.rnli.org.uk or for the latest news go to www.rnli.org.uk/press

For information about Sennen Cove lifeboat station visit www.sennen-cove.com