



# MUDEFORD

## LIFEBOAT FUNDAY

Official Guide 2019



**Sunday 11th August 2019**

MUDEFORD QUAY | FUN STARTS AT 11AM

Air Display by 'The Red Sparrows' & Lightning Bolts Army  
Parachute Team\* | Display from Mudeford Lifeboat & HM  
Coastguard Helicopter | Raft Race | Duck Race | Fairground  
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## Message from the Funday Committee

Dear volunteers, sponsors, participants and RNLI supporters,

It is that time of year again and I hope you all have Sunday 11th August firmly in your diary for the 2019 Mudeford RNLI Funday! Having been involved with the Funday for the past 13 years and being the co-founder of the RNLI Funday late summer ball, I felt it was time to take over the chair position for the next 3 years.

Keeping the momentum going and looking for fresh ideas is never easy, so I am fortunate and very grateful to have an extremely motivated team on board who make my life easier in this process.

2019 we have introduced the partners program, headed up by David Newman. This allows us to integrate local and national business into the scheme, by way of sponsorship. These businesses are handpicked and all have a vested interest in the local station.

Last year with your support and that of the sponsors, advertisers and auction prize donations, we raised over £30,000 - a record - a massive thanks to all.

We are deeply grateful for their sponsorship support throughout the year, not just on the day. Please support these businesses, their names and branding will be all around and part of the event.

Watch out for the Parachute team, the air display and the multitude of stalls and fun things to do! The event is free of charge to enter however we only survive and support the Mudeford RNLI on the basis of the kind sponsorship of local businesses, stallholders and of course the generous donations, on the day, of the general public - so thanks to all and raid your piggy banks for the day!!

I look forward to welcoming you all on the day.

Andy Denison  
Chairman RNLI Mudeford Lifeboat Funday.



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## Action Packed Events Programme

**Park 'N' Ride from the car park at Stanpit Recreation Ground**

**DRAGON BOAT** - starts at 12pm. Pink Champagne Breast Cancer Survivors

**RAFT RACE** - starts at 1pm. Entry forms available from Denisons Estate Agents, 12 Castle Street, Christchurch. Tel: 01202 484748, email: secretary@mudfordlifeboatfunday.org or from www.mudfordlifeboatfunday.co.uk **Sponsored by Peeks Party Store**

**LIFEBOAT AND HELICOPTER DISPLAY** - by the Mudford Lifeboat and HM Coastguard. **Sponsored by Ellis Jones**

**STEP ABOARD** - have a look around Poole Lifeboat.

**DUCK RACE** - we will be launching the ducks into the Run after the Lifeboat & Helicopter Display. You can purchase your duck on the day from the kiddies corner on the quay ... look out for the flag. £1 per duck. Time to be confirmed on the day. **Sponsored by Stewart's Garden Centre**

**AIR DISPLAY** - "The Lightning Bolts" Army Parachute Display Team\* - **Sponsored by The Noisy Lobster & "The Red Sparrow" Formation Team\***  
\*The air display has no guarantee on the day itself as circumstances beyond our control could cause cancellations. Risk assessment & weather permitting.

**FUNFAIR RIDES** - plenty of fun and games for all the family with lots of prizes to win all on the head of Mudford Quay. **Sponsored by A-One Insurance/Enhanced/Silver Boats UK/Williams Thompson**

**GRASS AREA** - Kids Entertainment • Ice Cream Vans • Childrens Fun Train Ride • Hog Roast • Pizza • Paella • Vegan Food • Conker Gin Bar • Bouncy Castle • Sweets & Fudge • Arts & Crafts Marquee • Circus Skills Tent • Live Music & more...

**GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE** - Many many fantastic raffle prizes available, simply buy a programme or book of tickets for £5 - the draw will be done late afternoon. **Sponsored by Conker Gin**

**CREW BBQ** - no need to go hungry with hot dogs, burgers and drinks. **Sponsored by Cookes Furniture**

**STALLS & SIDESHOWS** - lots of fun and games.

**WATERSPORTS DEMOS / HAVE A GO** - ShoreSports will be demonstrating Feel Free Sit on Kayaks, Red Inflatable SUP's and Starboard Hard Shell SUP's. Get motivated and have some fun on the water! Just £2 for a go and all proceeds go to the Mudford Lifeboat. Located on the Quay by the grass area on the edge of the harbour www.shoresports.co.uk



Fun for all  
the family  
from 11am  
until 6pm





# History of the RNLI Trawler Race & Mudeford Lifeboat Funday

By Stephen Bath



**This mid summer event at Mudeford Quay has now been running 52 years. The trawlers have been replaced by colourful rafts, and continues to be a big local fundraiser for the RNLI. This is its history since 1967**

An early Trawler Race from the seventies. A great spectacle, drinks all round on the racing boats, and not a lifejacket in sight. But never a recorded casualty either.

Although the Mudeford lifeboat was established in 1963, it was another four years before the the Mudeford Fishermen's Association decided to start a new fundraising event.

The first Trawler Race took place in 1967. The idea was to put on a good fundraising show, with all the fishing boats racing each other, and attract crowds to spend money at the various attractions on the quay. In the early days only half the money went to the RNLI, the rest going to other good local causes.

In those far off days there were a lot more fishing boats, and a lot less health and safety. Up to thirty boats got off to a staggered start, with the slower boats leaving first, driving at full power down The Run. The course was over a mile and a half on a buoyed course out to sea. By the time the last boats were allowed to leave, the smaller ones were already heading home. But the

spectacle was great for the crowds, with the most powerful boats belching black smoke and running neck and neck at high speed. The event was coordinated by local fisherman John Batchelor of Fish Stall and former lifeboatman fame, taking the microphone for the day atop a scaffolding tower and directing the entire show from there, a job he was well cut out for, being rarely at a loss for words. He continued being the anchorman for 35 years, before handing over to Johnny Lovell. Richard Thomas and more recently Jason Dean in recent years. Over the years the event grew larger, with more fundraising stalls, salmon raffles, tug o' war events, salmon punt races and eventually a full fairground with big wheel and dodgems moving in to attract larger crowds still. The RNLI supported the event by organising the Coastguard helicopter to do a spectacular demonstration of lifting boat crews out of the sea, aided by the local lifeboat crews jumping in to be 'rescued'.



Photos by Stephen Bath,  
Harry O'Connell & The Daily Echo

Lead lifeboat helm Ian Parker has personally skippered the lifeboat demonstration on this day for 25 years, aided by a loyal lifeboat crew of highly trained local volunteer lifeboatmen.

An increasing amount of money was raised for what had become the biggest event in the Borough of Christchurch, and by 1995 was getting attendance of up to 5000 people to the quay, and raising very large funds, now exclusively for the RNLI.

However, 1996 saw the demise of the trawler race. There were several reasons. Health and safety raised its head, and it was pointed out that there was no insurance cover for the fishing boats whilst racing, especially bearing in mind that drink driving was quite legal for the skippers. So the annual event looked doomed. The £10,000 per year raised for the RNLI was likely to finish, and possibly the end of a wonderful local spectacle. The job of reinventing the event fell to the Trawler Race committee, including former lifeboat man Martin Churchill and local Councillor Sally Derham Wilkes, herself a relative of the great Ken Derham who was the founder of the Mudeford Lifeboat. It was decided to rename the event the Lifeboat Fun Day, and centre it on a raft race in the The Run. The fairground and stalls would all be there, and with dozens of crews sponsored by local businesses competing in the raft race, many more hundreds of supporters came to see the race and the slapstick spectacle. Local businessman Stephen Bath felt that more was needed to keep the crowds increasing, so his family's business Bath Travel offered to sponsor an air display to finish off the show

each year, which they continued for the next 13 years. One year the Red Arrows team did a low fly past over the quay as a salute to the event, and for four years a De Havilland Sea Vixen built at Christchurch Airfield was a regular display feature. The most memorable display was the arrival of an RAF Harrier GR7 jump jet in the year 2000, which was an unforgettable sight as it hovered over the sandbank and nodded to the crowd.

The event has continued to grow over the years, with an even bigger fair, more stalls than ever and a packed viewing area on the Mudeford beach side of The Run, so popular with local boating people that over 60 boats park up on the beach, adding to the spectacle. The air display continues, although it has been harder to get jet fighters due to military defence cuts, but each year it continues to finish the show. This year a new initiative by local businessmen Andy Denison and David Newman has produced a large increase in revenue for the RNLI charity, with over 20 local businesses sponsoring a whole season of fundraising events, rather than just one big day in mid summer. This year's event, on Sunday 11th August 2019, will hopefully raise more funds than ever before thanks to an even greater organisation.

With the generosity of our wonderful general public, and dynamic local businesses, the Mudeford Fun Day should raise well over £30,000 in this, the 52nd year of the event.







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## YOU COULD HELP

- Be a Fun Day Volunteer
- Join the Organising Committee
- Become an Advertiser
- Enter the fantastic Raft Race
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- Be a stallholder
- ...or make a donation

Your local Mudeford Lifeboat Station Crew saves lives and helps the community. All are volunteers and your support at the annual Mudeford Lifeboat Funday is greatly appreciated

All proceeds go towards the running costs of the Mudeford Lifeboat Station

  
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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP



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# 2019 Funday Air Display "The Red Sparrows" Formation Team & The Lightning Bolts Army Parachute Display Team\*

The 'Four Chip Formation Team' is based at Duxford. The Chipmunk is held in great affection by many, from RAF, Royal Navy and Army Air Corps pilots who trained on them. The Chipmunk is still a valuable training aeroplane in the 21st Century with teams such as the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, Aircraft Restoration Company and Historic Aircraft Collection using it for pilot training for a range of World War II fighters including the Spitfire and Hurricane.

Unlike many aircraft in air displays the Chipmunk is one that many in the display audience will have flown in; such as the many of Air Cadets who had their first flying experience in one, silver helmet on and Irvin seat parachute banging against their legs on the way out to the aeroplane for their first flight. The 'Chipmunk Formation Team' was set up to demonstrate formation flying in the spirit of the 1930s and 40s and rapidly became nicknamed 'The Red Sparrows'.

The team flies four Chipmunks in various training colour schemes and just like the jet formation teams - only much slower! Given the Chipmunk has so little power it takes a great deal of skill to fly a formation display and transitions at low level. Three of the team are based at Duxford and team members regularly train at the airfield. The plan is to keep their displays current all year.

## The Lightning Bolts Army Parachute Display Team

The Lightning Bolts Army Parachute Display Team are a highly skilled group of Soldiers and Officers from within the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. In their day jobs they are professional engineers. But for events like this, they put on a thrilling visual spectacle, that inspires audiences and shows off their talent as skilled skydivers. Jaw dropping, exciting and adrenaline fuelled; The Lightning Bolts put on a show that is not to be missed!

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## Partner Programme

This year marks the start of an exciting new chapter in the events development with the launch of an official Partner Programme recognising the amazing support, generosity and input from the local business community, whilst creating a unique networking club of 30 like minded businesses.

Through the years many local businesses have supported year on year, some as far back as the early Trawler Race years. Some are second, even 3rd generation supporters of the Mudeford RNLI fundraising events. Many of those companies have also been involved in the evolution and organisation of the event and helped make it what it is today donating their time not just their money. We thank them for that amazing support over the years and the legacy we build on.

Now we launch an official Partner Programme, reaching out to even more local businesses to get involved not just for the big day but throughout the year. Through our calendar of social events, like minded, local businesses are benefiting from their support of the RNLI and the Funday whilst getting to know each other and their respective businesses. That new group has already raised over £20k for this year's event... a staggering achievement. 3 different levels, 3 levels of sponsorship, but one great community and we very much welcome more local businesses getting involved over the coming years. If you would like to find out more about joining the illustrious list below, please do get in touch.

David Newman  
Partner Programme Coordinator / DMC Canotec Director

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## Profile of a Crew Member

### Ian Parker

#### How old were you when you joined the Mudeford RNLI Lifeboat Station crew?

I joined the Mudeford Lifeboat crew in 1982 when I was 17.

#### Why did you decide to join?

My uncle was a local fisherman and lifeboat crew and I grew up down the quay and wanted to follow in his footsteps and join as a lifeboat man.

#### How long does it take you to get to the station from where you live?

I can get to the station in about 3 minutes from where I live.

#### What has been your scariest moment on the team?

To ask what has been the scariest moment over the years is very difficult as there have been many. Sometimes you have to go into an area where the sea gives you a bit of a hiding and you might have to stay or return back in to that place to help someone. But what helps is that you are focused on achieving your goal and keeping your boat and crew safe in what are sometimes extreme conditions.

#### What has been the most amusing call out?

We were called to a capsized boat in Christchurch bay and on arrival we found 2 people in the water neither wearing life jackets or wetsuits. We pulled the 2 wet and cold casualties from the sea and treated them for the effects of cold. We then turned our attention to the boat where sat on top was a red setter dog wearing a life jacket and dry. We went along side and the dog came aboard the lifeboat without getting his paws wet.

#### How important is the Mudeford Funday event to you & the rest of the crew?

The Mudeford Lifeboat Funday is an amazing event where we get incredible support from local businesses and our local community, raising money and awareness for the RNLI. Helping us to continue to give a local rescue service and maintain the boat, and equipment, including the facilities at Mudeford and give us the ability to train regularly.

#### Do you have a message for the children when they are out in the water?

For the younger group when going to the beach it is always best to swim on a beach that has lifeguards, use the safe area between the flags as they will be watching to keep you safe. They are always happy to give advice on local conditions, tides and weather. If you are going out on the water in a boat or kayak or any other vessel always wear a life jacket it might save your life. Inform someone ashore where you are going and when you will return and have some form of communication with you.





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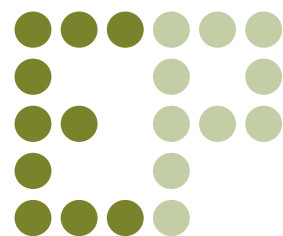
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Many thanks to all our Raft Race Marshalls on the water who help keep the water safe. Thank you to the Air Cadets who Marshall the Park'N'Ride in Stanpit. If you would like to become a volunteer or sponsor please visit our website at: [www.mudfordlifeboatfunday.co.uk](http://www.mudfordlifeboatfunday.co.uk)

**SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST 2020**

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE RUNNING COSTS  
OF THE MUDEFORD LIFEBOAT STATION.  
THE RNLI SAVES LIVES AT SEA

  
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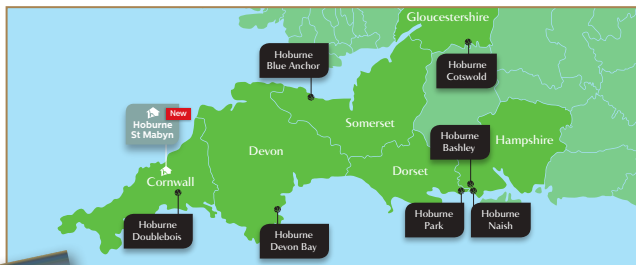
Model featured: ABI Harrogate at Hoburne Park, Christchurch, close to Dorset's finest beaches.

With eight superb holiday park locations, from sheltered forest and lakeside to stunning coastline, your Hoburne holiday home will always be your somewhere special. A place to relax. A place to escape.

A place to be and do exactly as you like, whenever you like.

**New luxury caravans and lodges available  
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# Hoburne

HOLIDAY HOME OWNERSHIP