

Branch Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 17th April 2010
Godolphin School, Salisbury

It is planned to run workshops and/or discussion groups during the morning, looking at the new Rookie Bolt-on awards, Youth Leader Award and Trainer-led Bronze Medallion Assessments. Final details will be circulated shortly.

The AGM will take place, as usual, in the afternoon starting at 2.30pm.

Life Support 3 Seminar

*For all Trainer Assessors from the following disciplines
Lifesaving, Pool and Beach Lifeguarding, and Rescue Boat*

As you need either a current Lifeguard award or Life Support 3 award to remain current, Wessex Branch is hosting a free Life Support 3 assessment session. This is a repeat of the exercise two years ago.

When? Sunday, 24th October 2010
Where? Twyford School, Winchester
Time? 10:00 -15:00

Numbers limited
To book email lifesavingcoord@rlss-wessex.org.uk

BBC Radio Solent Community Chest

BBC Radio Solent is supporting a campaign to give cash to grass-roots activities in Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, helping to hand out £1,000 a week!

Applications are accepted from voluntary and community groups, organisations and societies. Registered charities may apply, but it's not essential to be a formally constituted group.

Download full details and application form from
http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/hampshire/hi/tv_and_radio/

New NRATSC Trainer Assessors

The following Trainer Assessors are now able to train and assess the NRATSC award:

Gavin Allen	Ian Keen
Nigel Ashton	Matt Jolly
Jonathan Hargrave	James Marsh
Trevor Hill	Eloise Quinton

TA Cards of Authority

Lifesaving Cards of Authority have recently been sent to all current Assistant Teachers, Lifesaving Teachers, Trainer Assessors, Advisors, Mentors and National Trainer Assessors that meet the pre-requisites to train our awards (i.e. current RLSS UK membership, hold a current training qualification and a Life Support 3 or equivalent). Trainers who do not meet the pre-requisites will not receive a 2010 Card of Authority until they can achieve the pre-requisites.

If trainers have any difficulties in meeting the pre-requisites please call Ian Prosser, Technical Officers at River House for further options.

Competition Secretaries Contact Details

Clubs ask asked to send their competition dates for 2010 to Eloise Greenwood, National Sports Development Officer.

In addition, please send contact details for your Competition Secretary to Eloise at
elouisegreenwood@rlss.org.uk

RLSS Mentor Status for all RLSS Disciplines

The Mentor course is currently under review and will be unavailable for at least the next six months. Apologies to anyone who has asked me to put them on a Mentor course. If you are still interested then please email Andy Ackroyd at
lifesavingcoord@rlss-wessex.org.uk

Branch Lifesaving Competition

Saturday 26th June 2010
6pm to 9.30pm

Stokewood Leisure Centre
Bournemouth

*Interested in entering the Branch Competition,
but not sure what's involved ?*

You will need to need to compete in your age group: Ages as at 31st December 2010

- Junior Boys/Girls pairs - between 12-14 years of age
- Senior Boys/Girls pairs - between 14-17 years of age
- Men/Ladies - 16 years or over **
- Master Men's/Ladies shall compete in one age band **
 - 30 – 39 years
 - 40 – 49 years
 - 50 – 59 years
 - 60+ years

*** Competitors in these categories compete on an individual basis*

You must have

- Individual membership of RLSS (UK)
- Hold a current RLSS UK qualification (e.g.- Bronze Medallion, Rookie, Award of Merit, Beach or Pool Lifeguard Qualification)

The competition comprises four events:

- Aquatic Initiative Test
This is a 90-second initiative test (similar to the one in the Bronze Medallion, but with a few more casualties, as working in pairs for juniors/senior girls and boys)
- Life Support Initiative Test
Another 90-second dry side initiative test which can involve CPR or any skills contained within the Life Support syllabus
- Rope Throw (10 or 12 metres depending on age group)
- Swim and Tow (25/25 metres or 50/50 metres depending on age group)

Entry fees:

- £12.50 for Junior / Senior Pairs
- £7.50 for Mens, Ladies and Masters

Closing date: 6th June 2010

Rules and entry forms will be available from Pamela Oddy or online soon
Further information about the rules and events can be found at

<http://www.lifesavers.org.uk/comp/competitions.htm>

If you're interested in competing or would like more information, please contact:

Pamela Oddy – Branch Competitions Officer
26 Albacore Close, Lee-on-Solent PO13 8GG
Tel: 02392 553672
Email: competitions@rlss-wessex.org.uk





RLSS UK - Wessex Branch **1960 – 2010**

PUBLICITY CHALLENGE

Formed in 1960, RLSS UK Wessex Branch celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2010. How many people knew that the Branch is 50 years old in an organisation that is nearing its 125th birthday?

A challenge is set to all organisations, clubs and members within the Branch to promote their activity and RLSS UK.

Can you find the most challenging or unusual place to display the Branch's Publicity Banners?

1st Prize: Baby Anne, Little Anne or Junior manikin (of your choice)
2nd Prize: Bag of Rookie equipment

Rules

- ✚ Entry must be on behalf of any club, organisation or individual member in current membership of RLSS UK
- ✚ Location to be a popular site with the potential for many visitors and/or audience to clearly see the banners. The potential exposure will be an important factor.
- ✚ Banners must be on display for a minimum of three consecutive days
- ✚ Closing Date: **30th September 2010**

Entries should be in .jpg format or hard copy and submitted together with details of the location and the dates the banners were displayed, name of entrant including membership number and contact details. Email to publicrelations@rlss-wessex.org.uk or send by post to Jill Bailey, Branch Public Relations Officer, RLSS UK Wessex Branch, 57 Nuthatch Close, Creekmoor, Poole, Dorset BH17 7XR.

Entries will be judged by Jill Bailey (who will call in Jane Cooper – RLSS UK Director of Technical Services and Communications in the event of a tie). The judge's decision is final.

What next?

Identify your location(s) – book the banners NOW for the dates you need with Jill Bailey – email publicrelations@rlss-wessex.org.uk or telephone 01202 698604.

Great Swim Volunteers 2010

Once again RLSS UK has been asked to co-ordinate safety cover for the Great Swim series of open water swimming events.

This memo is early notification for the events asking members/supporters for initial expressions of interest. We wish to identify volunteers wishing to swim (raising funds for the charity) or Lifeguard each event. The dates are listed below:

British Gas Great East Swim, Alton Water, Suffolk
Saturday, 19th June

British Gas Great London Swim, Royal Victoria Dock
Saturday, 3rd July

British Gas Great Scottish Swim, Strathclyde Park
Saturday, 21st August

British Gas Great North Swim, Lake Windermere, Cumbria
Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September

Anyone interested in these events, please email to tiffanycheyne@rlss.org.uk stating your interest and qualifications/experience.

Reminder to all Trainer Assessors

Don't forget - to maintain your TA status, you need

- to be in current membership of RLSS UK
- a current Lifeguard award or a Life Support 3.

River House will not process any awards where the trainer or assessor does not conform to these criteria.

Branch Newsletter

Please send your news, course information, competition dates, advertisements and photographs to Jill Bailey – Branch PRO by:

25 March 2010 April 2010 issue
1 June 2010 July 2010 issue
1 September 2010 October 2010 issue
1 December 2009 January 2010 issue

57 Nuthatch Close, Creekmoor, Poole
Dorset BH17 7XR
Email publicrelations@rlss-wessex.org.uk

Nominations for Branch Honours

A tremendous amount of work is done out there at "grass roots" and we need to recognise the commitment that volunteers put into the community. Please consider the people you work with in delivering RLSS lifesaving and lifeguarding and the potential to reward them with a "thank you" for the valuable work and service they give to RLSS UK.

There are two series of Honours – **Service Honours** and **Merit Honours**. Each series is independent of the other and each has different criteria of eligibility. Individuals may, and often will, hold both Service and Merit Honours and could receive one of each in a single year. Both the Service Honours and Merit Honours have equal value and are awarded in recognition of valuable work done to support the aims of the Society.

In addition, nominations can be made for the following:

- **Young Lifesaver of the Year** – awarded to a young lifesaver between the age of 14 and 24 to recognise their contribution to promote lifesaving for your Club or the Society.
- **Stanley Peck Local Manager of the Year Trophy** – awarded to the person who does most to carry out the objectives of the Society in their local area.
- **Brian Morrissey Outreach Cup** – awarded to an individual, club or group for the work undertaken on a Community Outreach programme, such as Save a Baby's Life, Community Life Support programme
- **Ken White Fundraiser of the Year Trophy** – awarded for to a club or individual for any fundraising work on behalf of the Society at National, Regional Branch or Club level.

All recipients of Honours will be invited to attend the annual Presentation of Honours Ceremony, which will take place on **Saturday, 30th October 2010** at the Guildhall, London.

Please send your nominations to Roger Harris, Hon Branch Secretary **by 25th March 2010**.

Nominee information must include title, first name, surname, RLSS membership number (or, if not in individual membership, the name of affiliated Club, organisation or Approved Training Centre to which they belong), current postal address including post code, and date of birth if under 18 years of age.

Branch Honours - Criteria

Service Honours can be awarded to individual members, members of affiliated clubs/organisations and ATCs in membership, for years of continuous service to the Society. **The definition of service** may include teaching, examining, and assisting with the organisation or promotion of a group or club, or other significant contribution to the work of the Society. The nominee should show a consistently high level of commitment to the Society. Service should not comprise simply of membership of the Society or a club, or obtaining lifesaving awards, or for taking part in competitions. Service may be taken from the age of 14 years (if appropriate) providing the relevant criteria are met.

Certificate of Thanks	4 and 8 years service (More than one may be awarded)
Service Medal	12 years service
Bar to Service Medal	16 years service
Service Cross	20 years service
1st Bar to Service Cross	25 years service
2nd Bar to Service Cross	30 years service
Honorary UK Life Member	35 years service
Recognition of Service	40 years service
UK Long Service Medal	50 years or more service

Merit Honours are awarded, as the name implies, to individual members, including members of affiliated clubs/organisations and ATCs in membership, for meritorious contribution to the Society. There is no length of service requirement for Merit Honours although it would be difficult for a nominee to fulfil the criteria for one of the higher Merit Honours without having contributed to the work of the Society for a significant number of years.

Certificate of Merit	Awarded for 'Meritorious Service' at Club or Branch level and endorsed by the Branch. May be awarded more than once but with an interval of at least two years between awards.
Certificate of Recognition	Awarded for continuing contribution at Club or Branch level. May be awarded more than once and nominee would have normally received at least one Certificate of Merit with an interval of at least two years between awards.
Medal of Distinction	Awarded for outstanding work at Club, Branch or Regional level or notable contribution at National level. The nominee would normally have received one or more Certificates of Merit and Certificates of Recognition.
Bar(s) to Medal of Distinction	Awarded for continuing outstanding work at Club, Branch or Regional level and/or notable contribution at National level. To be awarded at intervals of four and eight years following receipt of the Medal of Distinction
Medal of Honour	Awarded for exceptional contribution at Branch or Regional level, normally with outstanding work at National level as well.
UK Honorary Life Governor	Awarded for an outstanding contribution to the Society as a whole. It would be exceptional for this contribution to have been at Branch level alone, and it would normally be expected that 'outstanding contribution' would also have been given at National level.
UK Honorary Vice President	Awarded for a supreme level of contribution to the Society. This Honour would be suitable for someone who has chaired several National committees over a period of time and done so with outstanding ability, or made a similar supreme level of contribution to the Society at Branch or Regional level.

