



Newsletter

May 2009

Members' March Event

Visit to the Marine Safety Training Centre

Members and their guests visited the Marine Safety Centre at South Shields, courtesy of the Principal, Tushar Bijar.



They were given a dramatic demonstration of sea survival techniques which have to be learned by all seagoing personnel who go to sea in whatever capacity.



Afterwards, an excellent buffet was provided by The Centre giving members the opportunity to discuss the evening, and to share their own marine experiences with each other.



We would like to thank the MSTC for their wonderful hospitality.

South Shields Sea Cadets

TS Collingwood

Immediately following the visit to the Marine Safety Centre, members went on to South Shields Sea Cadets, where CPO (SCC) Jim Simpson, took everyone around their riverside headquarters.



The building is very well equipped with teaching areas, equipment and boats, with good launch access.

The high standard of facility on offer is clearly the result of many years of vision, good management, and leadership.



The visit underlined the constant battle that Unit Management Committees have to raise funds in order to maintain and develop Unit HQ buildings and equipment.



The latest requirement is for up to £50,000 to re-roof the building



Tyne Tees Launch of Peoples Millions

As last year's winner of the regional 'People's Millions' grant of the Big Lottery Fund, the Derwenthaugh Boat Station hosted Tyne Tees Television for the launch of this year's programme. The event was well supported with 50 staff and cadets from local units demonstrating the value of the pontoons.



Cadet Lauren Driver from Newburn Sea Cadets is pictured being interviewed by Helen Ford, the Tyne Tees Television presenter.



The day was also supported with attendance from Emma Snowden from the Big Lottery, Samantha Shaw from MSSC Headquarters.

This year the Big Lottery is offering grants of up to £50,000 through the "People's Millions" in each ITV area.

Anyone wishing to apply for a grant should obtain an application form via the Big Lottery website, www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

TS John Jerwood visits the Tyne

The offshore power vessel TS John Jerwood visited the Tyne for a crew change at the end of April, berthing alongside HMS Calliope.



'Jerwood' is making a progression around Britain during the season.

The MSSC Branch organised a tour of the ship, followed by a reception in HMS Calliope.



Guests and sponsors were able to see at first hand the quality of training that is on offer to Cadets.

Local Cadets were also given a tour of the ship.

Guests were very impressed by the ship, and even more so by the cadets of the crew who acted as guides.



In welcoming the Branch to 'Calliope', the CO, Cdr Ed McNaught, gave a brief on the current role of Calliope.

Cdr Colin Watkins, Jerwood's Captain, outlined the development of the ship and the progress of her sister ship, 'TS Jack Petchey', which is due to come into service later this year.

Branch Chairman, Vic Spong, drew attention to the constant need for funds and people skills in order to keep The Sea Cadets going, at national and local level.



Branch Website

The new website is now live. The purpose of the website is to keep Branch members and sponsors up to date with activities and aims of the Branch, with photos and commentary where appropriate.

We will also have a page for sponsors of the Branch, which will link to sponsor's own websites.

The Branch membership form will also be there to be downloaded, so please use this, either to enrol as a member, or to persuade others to support us.

The website address is www.mssc-tynetees.org.

Please add it to your favourites and encourage others to visit us often.

Branch Membership

The new Branch Membership scheme has been launched and is proving popular. By paying any sum, from £3.00 monthly, one can become a member of the Tyne Tees Branch, which includes national membership of the MSSC.

If you would like to support us on a regular basis please contact our Membership Secretary, Mr Chris Matthews. Chris can be emailed at cdm65@talktalk.net.

A Membership Form can also be downloaded from our new website.

We would also welcome Corporate Sponsors, supporting the MSSC is tax free and will help to meet CSR obligations.

As a Branch Member you will be given the chance to join in with many of the events organised by The Branch Committee throughout the year. You will also be given the chance to have your say at the Annual General Meeting.

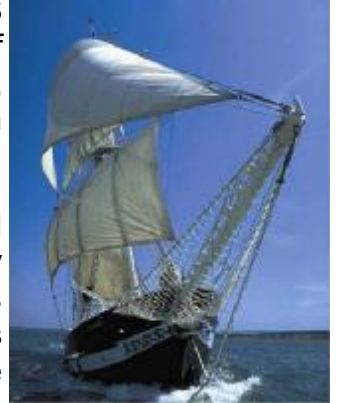
Comments are always welcome and if anyone has any suggestions on how they see the Branch progressing, please let one of the Committee Members know.

Your comments will be considered at the next quarterly committee meeting.

Forthcoming Events

Visit of Royalist to Hartlepool

The sailing brig, TS Royalist, flagship of the Sea Cadet Corps, will visit Hartlepool in June.



There will be a visit and reception organised by the MSSC for members and supporters. Places are limited so if you have not replied already to the flyer, you are probably too late!

However, she is still worth a look at from shore for anyone visiting the area that weekend.

Local Cadets are also being given the chance to go aboard.

Summer Ball

The Sea Cadet Summer Ball is to be held on 11th July at Gateshead Civic Centre. Tickets are only £27.50 per person and a fantastic night is in store.

Anyone interested in attending this should contact the Branch Secretary, at gwynne.burn@gmail.com, or Lt Cdr Alfie Simpson, at alfie@ncc-online.co.uk.

Members Summer Event

Our summer event for members will be held at the Derwenthaugh Boat Station on Saturday, 25th July. Members and their guests will be able to visit the boat station, and try their hand at handling some of the boats used by cadets for training.

Soft shoes and windproof clothing are advised.

There will be a charge of £5 per person to cover the cost of food and fuel.

A notice will be issued nearer the time.

Sponsors

We would like to thank all those organisations who have sponsored us in the last year. We are trying to raise funds to re-equip the Derwenthaugh Boat Station and all support to The Branch is much appreciated.



Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors the first Laser 2000 (pictured) is on order, and we shall receive at least one Pico this season.

We would particularly like to thank:

29 May 1961 Charitable Trust
Akzo Nobel International Paints
Big Lottery Fund
Garfield Weston Foundation
Hadrian Trust
Inchcape Trust
Mills & Co.
Nautical Institute
Noble Marine Services
Northumberland Freemasons
Port of Tyne Fund
Sir James Knott Trust
Warburtons The Bakers
William Webster Trust
Yorkshire & Clydesdale Bank Foundation

If you would like to be a sponsor of the Branch please contact the Chairman Vic Spong at victorspong@btinternet.com

If you would like your website to be shown on these pages, and on our website, please let us know. We are also happy to use your logos on the website.

Grass Roots

The Government has introduced a grant programme for small charities. Grants are available for voluntary organisations with an income of less than £20,000 per year to a total of up to £5,000 (in one go or in tranches).

For Units in Tyne & Wear and Northumberland the grants are administered by the Community Foundation and they ask you to use their website to download.

For Units in Durham the grants are administered by the County Durham Foundation and for Tees Units, the Tees Valley Community Foundation have contact details in case you do not.

Out and about with our local Sea Cadets

Aslington Sea Cadets, together with the RNLI, took part in a 'nationwide picnic' on 8th May. Warburtons, 'the region's favourite family bakers', encouraged picnic lovers across the country to flock to ten picnic points from Scotland down to Devon in the South.



Leading Cadet, Karina Pringle and Able Cadet, Hollie Blaney, joined Warburtons' Jackie Warren for a hearty picnic on the RNLi's flagship lifeboat 'Spirit of Northumberland'.

As well as a hearty picnic, the Cadets were given a guided tour of the lifeboat. Kevin Mole, RNLI mechanic said "It's not every day we have a picnic onboard the Lifeboat, but it's been great having Jackie and the Sea Cadets here today. Karina and Hollie were really enthusiastic which is lovely to see, the Sea Cadets is a fantastic Charity in its own right."

NB: To all Units:

If you have an article that you would like included in our Newsletter, please send to newsletter@mssc-tynetees.org



The Marine Society & Sea Cadets
Patron: HM The Queen
Registered Charity No. 313013 VAT Reg. No 237285254

