

9 September 2014

Falmouth 013 2014

History is repeated as the people of Gloucester support Falmouth RNLI lifeboats

Gloucester RNLI Fund Raising Branch has helped to maintain a historical link to Falmouth lifeboat by raising money to help with the station running costs.

This link was first established in 1866, although no one was aware of it at that time, when the Gloucester RNLI Branch was formed with the purpose of raising money for a new lifeboat for the charity. Money was raised and a new lifeboat built and in February 1867 the decision was made by the RNLI that it would become Falmouth's first lifeboat and named *City of Gloucester*. The lifeboat was launched and named in Gloucester Docks before being brought to Falmouth.

This link has continued and Gloucester Branch decided to help Falmouth lifeboat again. Adam Pentney, Chairman of Gloucester Branch said: 'A collection was made by our committee members and helpers at our local Tesco stores and we decided to dedicate the £1,000.07 raised towards Falmouth's running costs in recognition of the historic links between Gloucester and Falmouth.'

Alan Barnes, Falmouth Lifeboat Station Chairman said: 'It is wonderful that this link still exists and that after 147 years it is probably stronger than ever. Adam Pentney and his wife Ann come down to Falmouth each year to help raise money for the RNLI during the International Sea Shanty Festival. We are very grateful to both of them and the Gloucester Branch for their fantastic support.'

Notes to editors

- Photo DSC0202 shows Adam and Ann Pentney at this year's Falmouth International Sea Shanty Festival (please credit RNLI/Simon Culliford)
- Photo A154-35 shows the *City of Gloucester* lifeboat at Gloucester in 1867. (please credit Gloucestershire Archives)
- Link to an article by John Putley about Falmouth's first lifeboat *City of Gloucester*: <http://www.falmouthlifeboat.co.uk/files/TheGloucesterLifeboat.pdf>

RNLI media contacts

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