

**The RNLI provides a 24-hour search and rescue service around the UK and Ireland up to 100 nautical miles offshore. It has 238 operational lifeboat stations, 458 lifeboats (including relief fleet) and employs 1500 lifeguards covering 240 beaches around the coastline.**

I am often asked where the money goes and how much do things cost.

Sadly, I cannot give you the cost of a call out as it is priceless and conducted by volunteers, however I can give you a few percentiles of where your pound goes.

So, what percentage of donations go to charity?

For every £1/€1 donated, 78% (78p/78c) is used to fund our lifesaving activities. The remaining 22% (22p/22c) is used to generate funds so that we can continue to save lives at sea for years to come.

It cost £190.3M/€224.3M to run our lifesaving service in 2024. These running costs were divided up into the following areas:

Lifesaving area	Percentage	Cost for every £1/€1 spent
Lifeboats, property and equipment	54%	54p/54c
Running the lifeboat service	28%	28p/28c
Lifeguard rescue	12%	12p/12c

Lifesaving area	Percentage	Cost for every £1/€1 spent
Safety, education and awareness	4%	4p/4c
International drowning prevention	2%	2p/2c

#### Contactless donation transaction fees

In line with the requirements pursuant to the UK Fundraising Regulator to publish the transaction fees incurred from donations made on our fundraising terminals, please see the [contactless donation transaction fees page](#).

#### Repair, renew, rebuild - our capital expenditure

Much of our income is used to keep our lifeboat crews ready for the next call for help. This includes [constructing new lifeboats](#) and [the buildings which will house, protect and launch them](#). This spending is a vital investment in the future.

In 2023, we switched to a 100% renewable electricity supply. Last year, our renewable energy installations saved us £24,000 and generated an income of £50,000.

#### What makes the RNLI one of the most efficient charities?

We make your generosity work harder

As a charity, we know only too well how much effort and thought goes in to raising every pound or euro which comes our way. And what a lifesaving difference every single pound and euro can make. That's why we're committed to being one of the most efficient charities by using funds in the most effective and efficient ways possible.

When you [make a donation](#) to the RNLI, 78% of your donation is spent wherever the need is greatest, unless you have donated to a specific [RNLI appeal](#).

Being efficient with your donations will help us save every one

Want to delve deeper into the numbers check out the [Annual Report and Accounts](#) and [learn more about the difference your support makes](#).

2025 for our branch started with a boom and a massive thank you to Pat Lancaster for kindly including us as her “Don’t send a Christmas card..... Donate!” initiative. This added an astonishing £175 to kick start our 2025 from Christmas 2024!

Our fundraising total was boosted January by £787.81 from the Bonfire committee who can no longer run their event due to the price of insurance and fireworks prices “Booming!” This was a pledge made to the founders of the Bonfire event if it was no longer viable to run.

We had a busy summer with other village events, so our fundraising events started later in the year with “The Walberswick RNLI Halloween Fun Bingo and Quiz!”

There were prizes for best costumes, a bottle raffle, the legendary Bingo caller was superb and gave us more than a few laughs. He then ran the evening quiz and auction as Dracula sucking the life blood out of the guests with his fangs and witty sense of humour. Despite the Quiz not being so well attended as the Bingo, it was a success thanks to some quick quizzers, fabulous lots (“Prime stock”), last minute auction lots, and more than a few brilliant buyers! (You know who you are!)

It was a great day which raised £1369.26!

Such fun events to organise, we plan to run the bingo on Halloween 2026 and have a quiz in February Half term 2027

A massive thank you to the donors of the mulled wine on Christmas morning, served by Pete, Liz, Nicky, Ollie with their fab team raising and astonishing £524.77! This wasn’t as good as previous years mainly due to the poor weather and us not being able to collect donations on the beach in conditions unsafe to swim.

However, the sense of community prevailed in the wind undercover of the Jubilee seat. As everyone eased the Christmas eve hangovers, creating a lovely way to wish each other “A Merry Christmas” in their Christmas jumpers and new woolly socks!

A massive thank you to you all. Heroic effort!

With some more generous donations, Ciaobay donations, and superb eBay selling from our Treasurer, our total for 2025 was a superb £4145.67!

A considerable increase on the previous year!

The support from our village is outstanding and hugely appreciated by the Walberswick RNLI Fundraising Team.

I will leave the details of how to donate directly to the Walberswick Branch at the bottom of my report which is posted online on the village website.

**As at March 2026 the committee comprises: Jon Winyard (Chairperson), Karen Lewis (Honorary Treasurer), Hannah & Lee Sutton.**

**We would welcome new members who feel they can give some time and energy to our future fundraising events and any of the committee would be happy to discuss what's involved in more detail if you are interested. We are specifically looking for a minute's secretary if you are interested in this or anything else – please do get in touch.**

Thank you!

**If you would like to donate directly to our branch, please do by sending the donation to:**

**20-68-95**

**93032671**

**Reference: 618554**

**This is a direct way to donate to our branch through the RNLI banking system.**

**(PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU USE THE REFERENCE NUMBER!)**

