

P47 Articles on Caithness Lifeboats by Andrew Anderson

RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number: GB1741/P47

Alternative reference number:

Title: Articles on Caithness Lifeboats by Andrew Anderson

Dates of creation: c.2010

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 bundle

Format: Paper, photograph, CD

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators: Andrew D. Anderson

Administrative history:

Before a lifeboat station was established at Wick in 1848 many rescues took place off the coast. Silver Medals for gallantry were awarded to:

1828 Andrew Lake, Coastguard

1839 Robert MacAlister

1847 James Wishart

1848 Mr W Williamson

1848 The lifeboat station was established by the British Fishery Society, which provided three lifeboats between 1848 and 1895.

1857 A Silver Medal was awarded to Commander John Tudor RN for the attempted rescue of the crew of the galliot Vronia Santina in a storm on 9 September. Due to the conditions, three of the lifeboat crew were swept overboard; two were rescued but Alexander Bain drowned. The lifeboat lost most of her oars and the boat was swept ashore at the harbour entrance.

1860 A second Silver Medal was awarded to Captain Tudor RN for the rescue of two people from the sloop Maria, which was wrecked during a heavy gale on 20 November.

1895 The RNLI took over the station from

the Harbour Trustees.

1905 While attempting to assist a coble on 11 April the lifeboat was thrown on to the rocks. The crew were all rescued without injury.

1913 The station was temporarily closed while a new lifeboat station was built.

1916 A new lifeboat house and slipway were completed. Due to delays caused by the First World War the motor lifeboat did not arrive until 1921.

1921 The lifeboat station was re-opened.

1942 A Bronze Medal was awarded to Coxswain Neil Stewart for the rescue of 31 people from the tug St Olaves and a motor barge Gold Crown that went aground on 21 September.

1984 A Bronze Medal was awarded to Coxswain/Mechanic Donald McKay for the rescue of three crew and saving a 28ft salmon coble on 25 June.

1988 The boathouse was adapted for the Tyne class lifeboat.

1989 A crew room and toilet facilities were built in the boathouse.

1991 The Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum was awarded to Coxswain Walter McLeod McPhee for assisting and escorting the P&O ferry St Rognvald on 5 March for over nine hours in storm force conditions.

1992 The Thanks of the Institution Inscribed on Vellum was awarded to Coxswain Walter McLeod McPhee and Acting Second Coxswain Ian Alexander Cormack for the rescue of two crew from the fishing vessel Wave Dancer, which ran aground and sank in rough seas on 11 May.

1994 The lifeboat was placed on moorings in the inner harbour.

1997 A new shore facility was completed in August.

1998 A commemorative Vellum was awarded to the station to mark the 150th anniversary of the station.

Custodial history:

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description: photograph and articles of the lifeboats of Caithness and Sutherland

Appraisal:

Accruals:

RECORDS' CONDITION OF ACCESS AND USE

Access: open

Closed until:

Access conditions: Available within the Archive searchroom

Copying: Copying permitted within standard Copyright Act parameters

Finding aids: Available in Archive searchroom

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material:

Publication:

Notes:

Date of catalogue: September 2011

Ref.	Description	Dates
P47	Caithness Lifeboats	c.2010
P47/1	Copy of black and white photograph of the <i>St. Clair</i> steamer ship [1 photograph]	n.d.
P47/2	Notes compiled by Andrew D. Anderson on the background of the <i>St. Clair</i> [1 sheet]	c.2010
P47/3	Article by Andrew D. Anderson entitled "Ackergill Lifeboat (1877-1932)" [7 sheets]	c.2010
P47/4	Article by Andrew D. Anderson entitled "Huna Lifeboat (1877-1930)" [7 sheets]	c.2010
P47/5	Article by Andrew D. Anderson entitled "Lifeboat Services at Helmsdale" [5 sheets]	c.2010

P47/6	CD-ROM containing electronic copies of Mr Anderson's articles on Caithness lifeboats [1 CD]	c.2010
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