

■ **SOUTHSEA:** Volunteer lifeguards are given £8,500 for new boat

Rescuers stay afloat thanks to donation

PORTSMOUTH and Southsea Voluntary Lifeguards are to get a new boat thanks to an £8,500 donation.

The group was given the money by recruitment specialist Jobsite to replace its rescue boat, which was no longer seaworthy.

Julie Rogers, of the lifeguards, said: 'We are delighted because at the moment we are trying to save funds for a new headquarters and there is no way we could have afforded to raise the money for a new boat at the same time.'

'We are thrilled to bits that someone has stepped in and saved us that worry.'

The new boat will be nimble enough to get under Southsea pier, often the scene of rescues, and will be able to access sandbanks.

The one previously used was found to be damaged beyond repair during winter servicing.

Portsmouth and Southsea

by Tom Moseley
The News

Voluntary Lifeguards are one of the oldest voluntary lifeguard groups in the UK.

They are based on the Southsea promenade between the Pyramids Centre and South Parade Pier and provide training programmes and accredited courses for lifesaving, lifeguarding and first aid.

The organisation also gives lifeguard cover for a wide area, with a range of rescue equipment ranging from surf skis to the new boat.

From May to September members provide lifeguard cover from 10am to 6pm at weekends, and every day over the school summer holidays.

The group is having an open day on August 11, starting at 1.30pm, where the new boat will be officially unveiled.

For more information about the organisation, call (023) 9282 0985.



Joe McTiernan, human resources manager of Jobsite, presents the £8,500 cheque to Anne White, chairwoman of the Portsmouth and Southsea Voluntary Lifeguards