



# Ribble Cruising Club

**Allan Williams RIP**

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

It is great sadness that I have to inform you that Allan Williams passed away this morning 13<sup>th</sup> February. Allan will be really missed by everyone at Ribble Cruising Club. He has been a member for over 50 years and has been actively involved in the management of the Club continually for over 35 years. He was an Officer and our Hon Secretary from 1987 to 2000, a Trustee from 2004 and our President between 2000 and 2008.

He made a true Lifetime's commitment to sailing, RCC and everything nautical, RCC was very happy to sponsor the award by The RYA to Allan of a Volunteer Award for this Lifetimes Commitment. Allan was very proud when he received this award personally from The Princess Royal, a fitting tribute to his 'nautical life'.

Allan has also been actively involved with the RNLI, Lytham St Annes Branch for over 35 years and Branch Chairman for nearly 30 years. He tirelessly managed the Lifeboat Station, chairing the branch committee. This group manages the Station financial affairs, pulls together the operational side of the Lifeboat, the Fund-raising side, and coordinates with Fylde Borough Council, Press and any other 'Official' body. For about 10 years in the 80's he was also Vice Chairman then Chairman of the Management Committee of the local Sea Cadet Unit as well, managing and organizing their move to their new HQ, where it is today. Allan's life was truly a Lifetimes voluntary commitment to anything Nautical in our region.

Throughout his time at RCC Allan was extremely active managing club affairs, he has maintained an oversight on club finances, ensured RCC has been run effectively and when key issues have threatened club life Allan has always been there, first into the fray with RCC burgee on hand. He has maintained a high level focus for RCC with our local MP, our local Council and all the Government Agencies e.g. Coastguard, Environment and the many Quangos set up to manage maritime affairs on our coast.

Way back in the 70's Allan had key roles in developing our current clubhouse and purchasing the land at the dock, then establishing our dock facilities. When our Jetty was carried away by storms Allan was able to negotiate its replacement, when a local house developer approached RCC regarding some of our land Allan was able to negotiate a mutually acceptable conclusion, when our rules required major review Allan was able to develop a new set of rules in line with RYA guidelines. These are just a few of the many, many issues which Allan has resolved through these 35 years.

Allan is renowned for just getting on with what is needed, quietly and efficiently, a lot behind the scenes, with no shouting about his own role, we have lost a true friend.

We do not yet know when Allan's funeral is but I will let you know when it is arranged.

*Mike Briers (Hon Sec RCC)*