



# Channel Islands Air Search



A Voluntary Organisation Assisting in Saving Lives at Sea

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Please reply to:

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10<sup>th</sup> September 2008

## Jersey Friends of Channel Islands Air search

### Chairman's Report for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008

The Autumn and Spring Lunches, both held at the Jersey Pottery were well supported and raffles held at each event raised funds to boost the bank balance. Our Patrons His Excellency Lieutenant General Ridgway CB CBE and Mrs Valerie Ridgway were among our honoured guests at the Autumn Lunch and their presence was greatly appreciated by our members and guests. Sadly, there will be no more Air search lunches at the Jersey Pottery but I am delighted to be able to confirm that through the efforts of Don and Veronica Filleul the Jersey Friends have gained the support of the Hotel L'Horizon in St Brelade which will be the venue for the 2008 autumn luncheon.

A first for us was the very successful Air Search Golf day held at Wheatlands in April. The lead sponsor was HSBC and along with many superb prizes they set the course up with the full HSBC branding which added to a most enjoyable day for the 40 participating golfers. The event was organised by Brian Nibbs who along with Mary Jane Lambert and the marketing team from HSBC not only staged a wonderful event but ensured that we had glorious sunshine all day, quite a feat for this year! The icing on the cake was the fly past in the afternoon by the Lion's Pride which looked so good against the background of the golf course and blue skies.

Air Search were involved in numerous other sponsored events throughout the year which all contributed towards our much needed funds.

We were most fortunate in having Al Thomas design a very appropriate Xmas Card which included an illustration of the Lion's Pride for production and sale as a charity card and some 5000 were sold which generated significant additional funds. We hope to do even better this year with another great card designed again by Al Thomas.

As always we have received support from many business and private donors and we are grateful to them and to The States of Jersey who make a regular contribution through Harbours and Airports.

Patrons: His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Fabian Malbon, KBE, Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey  
His Excellency Lieutenant General Andrew Ridgway, CB, CBE, Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey

Air Search is often named for receipt of “donations in lieu of flowers” by families who have lost loved ones and this does generate another valuable source of income. Exceptionally this year we benefitted from a bequest. This was from the late Nigel Simms who left his property to be shared equally by Air Search and RNLI. It seems that, at some time in his life, Nigel had been involved in a rescue at sea which involved both services.

This has been another excellent year from a fundraising perspective. The Jersey Friends has many volunteers, a very supportive Committee, the team of dedicated box collectors, and others who so generously support by attending the Lunches, and of course the membership, which continues to grow.

My personal thanks to all for their support and assistance in this further year of fund raising where the central tasks are ever more challenging due to the much increased competition for charitable donations and funding.

John Wetherall  
Chairman  
Jersey Friends of Air Search