



CHANNEL ISLANDS
AIRSEARCH

The Lifeboats' eyes in the sky

Media Release

**Jersey Trustees and Friends of Airsearch Committee say
'Farewell' to their Joint Patron His Excellency Lieutenant
General Andrew Ridgway, CB CBE 19th May 2011**

A Reception at St Helier Yacht Club on Thursday 19th May, attended by Trustees, Committee members and their partners provided the opportunity to thank His Excellency for his support and involvement during his term of office as it draws to a close.

General Ridgway and Mrs Ridgway were met on arrival by Chairman of the Trustees of Airsearch, Derek Short, Chairman of Jersey Friends of Airsearch Peter Walsh and Commodore of St Helier Yacht Club Colin Taylor.

Derek Short, following his words of thanks, presented His Excellency with an engraved glass tankard and Mrs Nancy Short presented a bouquet to Mrs Valerie Ridgway.

In his response, His Excellency praised the excellent work of Airsearch and referred to his recent flight to Alderney from Guernsey in Lions Pride with his Joint Patron, the Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey – remarking that the return journey by sea was both longer and far more turbulent!

Lions' Pride is the primary air asset available to the Search & Rescue SAR centres of Jersey & Guernsey. The BN-2B Islander aircraft, suitably equipped for the SAR role, is crewed entirely by volunteers who ensure that Lions' Pride is available on a 24/7 basis.

Each year, the supporters of CI Airsearch in the Channel Islands need to raise around £80,000 to keep Lions' Pride airborne. In addition to the annual running costs, funds have to be raised for capital items.

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ENDS

24th May 2011

Further information:

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