

“As an RNLI & Dunkirk hero I saved thousands of lives... .. please help save mine!”

“As the Royal Patron of the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships, I know how important it is for us to preserve these historical craft and ensure their survival for future generations. Any help with funds you can give to complete the restoration of Charles Cooper Henderson will ensure that she is saved for posterity and a piece of important history is preserved.”

HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO
Association of Dunkirk Little Ships
Honorary Admiral & President RNLI

Play your part in saving Charles Cooper Henderson and be part of a historic trip of a lifetime...

As one of a limited number of Patrons you will be invited to join us on a Dunkirk Little Ship to sail across the channel on the official 80th Anniversary Dunkirk Return in May 2020 with the Dunkirk Little Ships Flotilla escorted by the Royal Navy.

Why should you support us?

Having put our life savings into having this boat professionally restored we now find remedial works are necessary and we are appealing for funds to save this wonderful boat into the future.

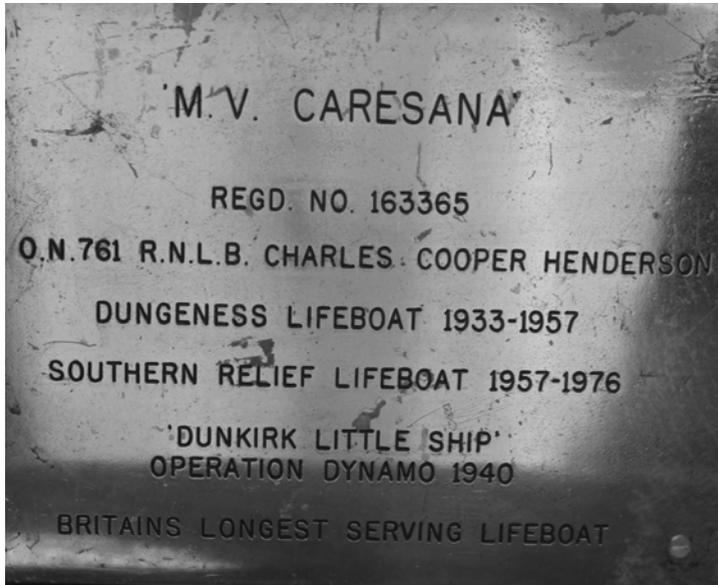
Why we must save her!

Built in 1933 on the Isle of Wight from mahogany and oak Charles Cooper Henderson was the lifeboat at Dungeness in Kent. One of 19 Lifeboats to serve in the evacuation of Dunkirk, today she is one of only a handful still surviving. She was Britain's longest serving lifeboat with 43 years of service, taking part in 171 rescues and saving 63 lives during this time.

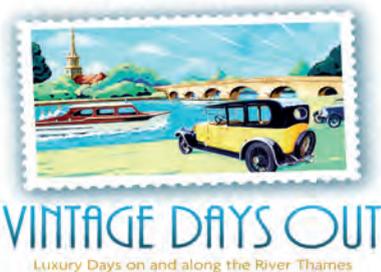
It is documented that during the evacuation Charles Cooper Henderson was skippered by Robert (Bob) Hector and 2 others, a stoker from the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert and an 18 year old who had previously never been to sea! It is documented that having saved 2,000 plus servicemen, running short of fuel with the skipper injured in the jaw by shrapnel, they returned to England after 3 days and 2 nights in Dunkirk. On arriving back in the middle of the night and unsure of where they were, they had in fact tied up to the end of Margate Pier and were woken and told to move on!

In July 1956 she set out 3 times in a Force 12 storm (the only lifeboat recorded to do this) to rescue 9 men, for which the Coxswain George Tart won the bronze medal for gallantry.

We have the full transcript of the role played by this wonderful boat and her crew at Dunkirk which is a fascinating read.



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The Charles Cooper Henderson Patrons' Fund

We offer each Patron the exclusive chance to be part of the 80th Anniversary Dunkirk Return in 2020 with the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships (ADLS) with an overnight stay. We believe this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of a major historical event.

Being a Patron also includes:

- A private full day aboard Charles Cooper Henderson on the Thames for 12 guests by Vintage Days Out with full hospitality
- Your name, or company name, on a pennant flown on Charles Cooper Henderson.
- Invites to wherever Charles Cooper Henderson is displayed throughout the year ie. Thames Traditional Boat Show.
- Discounts on Vintage Days Out Cruises and vintage Rolls Royce Chauffeur Driven Experiences.
- Invites to Charles Cooper Henderson table at Association of Dunkirk Little Ships functions
- Invitations to Annual Patrons' Day

This is a very exclusive invitation to secure a limited number of Patrons at £4,950.00 per person.

Richard & Elaine Prunier, owners of Charles Cooper Henderson, will be delighted to discuss your Patron's agreement with you.



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