

RNLI Field of Light 2024

200th Anniversary Themes (RNLI200)

In the past 200 years the RNLI has saved 144,000 lives at sea.

Introduction by Bruce Munro, Artist.

Inspiration for 'Field of Light'

My childhood and teenage summers were shaped by the shimmering inlets and verdant hills of the Salcombe estuary, a landscape that always lifts my spirits.

Simply said, to create this installation is a small thank you.

In the past 15 years the Field of Light has been exhibited around the world.

Objective

The project is one of many fundraising activities and celebrations along the estuary during 2024 to raise funds, celebrate the RNLI and our local community that support the Crew and their families. The Field of Light is an art installation that will be the highlight of our 200th year.

Location - East Portlemouth facing Salcombe

Overview of project

1. The installation and equipment will be donated free of charge by Bruce Munro.
2. All revenue from the art installation will go to RNLI Salcombe.
3. Target "switch on" will be October 2024 (we need the dark evenings)
4. Installation time is 3 weeks.
5. The installation does not have an end date yet but could be up to 4 months.
6. The art will be visible from dusk to around 22:00 hrs each evening.
7. There will be approx. 20,000 stems, each stem has a fibre optic light.
8. The arrangement and colours of the Field of Light will be designed by Bruce, there will be no corporate or RNLI theme. "The Field of Light is a personal symbol for the wonders of nature and the magic of life."
9. The de-installation time will be 2 weeks and the land will be completely cleared and checked for any materials. The land will be returned to the owner/tenant in the same condition as before the exhibition.

Fundraising

This element of the project needs careful thought and meetings will be held over the next few weeks to formulate the exact process. The fundraising will be digital, with each stem costing £20 to sponsor.

1. Each stem could be sponsored by public supporters.
 - In celebration of a rescued life
 - In memory of a loved one
 - In support of a life yet to be saved by RNLI Salcombe
 - In recognition of the bravery of our crew
 - In celebration of the natural beauty of the environment of the South Hams
2. Donors could receive a piece of digital art

Opportunity

This is a huge opportunity for our community to raise money for the RNLI and celebrate the beauty of our area. For the project to work we need the support of the community all around the estuary.

Next Steps

1. We are asking for the support of STC to deliver this art exhibition.

2. We would like to have a single point of liaison with STC to work with us.
3. After a slow start we have made contact with the landowners and the response has been generally supportive. The next stage is to ensure that any tenant farmers are also in agreement. The RNLI now needs to form written agreements with the land owners and possible tenants.
4. For the RNLI to hit September 2024 we would need to have all agreements on both sides of the estuary fully approved and signed off before December 2023.
5. Following the landowner permissions we will need help with planning permission.
6. If we have permissions in place a joint project team will need to be in place to plan all the logistics of the installation, launch, visitors and local business liaison.

Contact

Philip Ward
Fundraising Chair
RNLI Salcombe & Kingsbridge Fundraising Crew
Philip_Ward@RNLI.org.uk
07850 990 312

