



Air Search new recruit Barry Pitfield, left, receives his fluorescent suit from Augentius managing director Glyn Thomas. Also pictured, left to right, are Jane Goddard, Rhea Gordon, Kirsten Empson, Simon Sharrott and CIAS chief officer Colin Ferbrache. (Picture by Anna Brehaut, 0922056)

# Air Search is suitable

## Finance firm kits out new crew member

THE latest Channel Islands Air Search crew member has had his own fluorescent suit paid for by a local finance company.

Guernsey resident Barry Pitfield has recently completed his training to join the crew of Lion's Pride.

by Anna Brehaut

annabrehaut@guernsey-press.com

All crew members have their own fluorescent suits.

Augentius Fund Administration donated the suit,

which is worth more than £500, after raising funds for the charity throughout 2009.

'We had a charitable committee set up a couple of years ago and we hold various fund-raisers throughout the year as well as a muffin day every Friday,' said Augentius office manager Jane Goddard.

'Every year we ask our staff to come up with ideas as to which charity to support and

this year someone mentioned Air Search, which we all agreed was a very worthwhile cause.

'We decided to buy the suit after getting in touch with the charity and finding out what they needed as we prefer to donate items, rather than just money because we can see what the money is getting used for.'

Air Search chief officer Colin Ferbrache was very grateful for the donation.

'The suits are a very important piece of equipment for our volunteers,' he said.

'They are handy for

when we are flying at a low level above the sea and if they need to get out into the water they can be spotted easily.

'They also protect us and keep us warm as we can put warm clothes on underneath if that is necessary - they have a double function.'

'It's great that we have had this donation because we rely completely on public donations across the Bailiwick and our annual running costs are around £75,000 to £80,000 a year.'

The service receives around 25 to 30 calls per year on average.



## Drove away from the