Beat: News

Prince William and Kate revisit stomping ground.

Prince William.

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USPA NEWS - Prince William and Kate revisit stomping ground.

London (AFP) - Prince William and his wife Kate revisted the Welsh island where they lived as newlyweds to mark the closing of Britain's rescue helicopter service on Thursday.

The Royal Air Force Search and Rescue (SAR) Force was disbanded after 75 years of service as Britain's helicopter search and rescue operations are to be taken over by a private transport company, Bristow Group.

The second in line to the British throne, William worked for the SAR for three years and rescued 149 people in 156 operations as a helicopter pilot based on the island of Anglesey off the north-west coast of Wales.

On Thursday the couple attended a disbandment parade and met William's former colleagues at a reception, where Kate reminisced about their time living on the island following their marriage in 2011.

"It was such a special time for us, it was the start of our life together really," Kate told the last commander of the SAR, Group Captain Steve Bentley.

William is understood to have told Prime Minister David Cameron in 2011 of his concerns about the privatisation of the rescue service. He now works as a helicopter pilot with the East Anglian Air Ambulance and lives with Kate with their two young children, George and Charlotte, at their residence Amner Hall in Norfolk in east England.

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