

SKY'S THE LIMIT

Welcome to Your
Local Air Ambulance
Newsletter. We are
thrilled to have you
onboard!



your local
air ambulance

Derbyshire · Leicestershire · Rutland

Warwickshire · Northamptonshire

ISSUE 5

WELCOME

Dear Supporter

Welcome to this edition of Sky's the Limit, a window into the fast-moving, life-saving world we live and breathe every day. As a critical care doctor working onboard our aircraft, my day begins when the sun rises and ends as the sun sets.



Whether responding to a major trauma or time-critical emergencies, our mission remains the same: to provide advanced medical care to those who need it the most, no matter what. What makes this possible isn't just the medicine or the aircraft - it's the people. I'm proud to work with a brave and skilled team of paramedics, doctors, and pilots, all united by one goal: to deliver expert care, fast and with unwavering purpose.

We work closely with the emergency services - Fire & Rescue, Ambulance, Police, other air ambulances, and volunteering teams like mountain rescue. We have recently mourned the tragic loss of two Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue colleagues in Bicester. HM53 attended the scene, providing care to the most seriously injured firefighter. The TAAS crew showed bravery and resilience during this difficult mission. Our deepest condolences go to the families of the fallen firefighters and the civilian casualty. TAAS stands in solidarity with our emergency service partners.

As we move from spring to summer, TAAS has extended helicopter operating hours to cover the longer days. This requires two pilot shifts daily, significantly increasing the number of patients we can reach. Sadly, summer often brings a rise in trauma incidents, especially involving motorcycles, quadbikes and e-scooters. I'm very grateful to our supporters for making these extended flying hours and enhanced care possible.

In this newsletter, we'll share stories from the frontline, highlight the innovation behind our work, and bring you closer to the heart of the mission that keeps us flying. We don't just cross skies - we close the gap between crisis and care.

Warm regards

DR MATTHEW WYSE

Medical Director

OUR VALUES



CREATIVITY



COMPASSION



COURAGE

MISSION STATS 2025

Reaching a medical emergency in rapid time can be the difference between life and death. That's where Your Local Air Ambulance comes in.

£2,300
Average Mission Cost

1,414
Total Missions



234
Hours Flown



145
Road Traffic
Collision Missions



24,891
Critical Care
Car Miles



16
Counties Attended

*These figures reflect our missions from 1 Jan 2025 - 31 May 2025

OUR MISSION, REIMAGINED



A FRESH LOOK, THE SAME LIFE-SAVING MISSION! We've got exciting news to share - we are rebranding. But this isn't just about a new logo or a splash of colour. It's about making sure we stay relevant, recognisable, and ready to save more lives together

WHY THE CHANGE? Over the years, we've heard from many of you - our incredible supporters, volunteers, and donors - that our identity wasn't always clear. That confusion made it difficult for people to connect with our cause. So, we listened, we researched and we evolved. Our new brand reflects who we truly are - bold, compassionate, and committed to saving lives.

WHAT'S NEW? WHY NOW? You'll start to notice some exciting changes including a bold new logo and visual identity, to help raise awareness in a clearer and more consistent way.

WHAT'S NEXT? You'll see our new look roll out gradually over the next 12-18 months. From our website and social media to our shops and events, we're making sure the transition is smooth and cost-effective.

THANK YOU! Your support has brought us to this moment and with your continued help, we'll go even further. We're excited about what's ahead and we hope you are too.

TOGETHER, WE SAVE MORE LIVES

AW109 IN ACTION

NAME: AW109 Heli Pilot - John McCallion

BLINK AND YOU WILL MISS US

Our AW109 helicopters can hit speeds of up to 180mph - faster than most sports cars! That means we can reach even the most remote patients fast. To put it into perspective, we can cover 20 nautical miles in just 8 minutes.



WEIRDEST PLACES WE HAVE EVER LANDED When someone needs help, we go wherever we're needed - no matter how unusual the landing zone. We've touched down on cliff edges, football pitches (yes, mid-match!), beaches, farmyards, and even roundabouts at rush hour. If there's a space, we'll find a way.

PILOT HOURS - NOT YOUR AVERAGE COMMUTE In HEMS, (Helicopter Emergency Medical Service) Pilots follow strict protocols to ensure every flight is as safe as it is swift. We fly a maximum of 7 hours a day with mandatory rest periods between shifts. We often train in night flying, low - level navigation, and high - pressure confined space landings. Our pilots are highly experienced. It's not just flying, its flying with urgency, precision, and with people's lives at stake.

IF WE LAND NEAR YOU

- Stay clear of the aircraft-especially the rotor blades and tail rotor.
- Keep children and pets safe and under control.
- Never approach the heli unless invited by the pilot or crew.
- Feel free to give us a wave - if we're able, we'll wave back! Most times, though, we're focused on someone who really needs us.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER AIRCRAFT? We might not have blue lights and sirens, but in the sky, our Alpha callsign gives us priority - like an emergency lane up above. Air traffic control (ATC) usually clears a path so we can get there fast. But we still share the skies with drones, gliders, microlights, and even birds - so our pilots are always scanning and staying in touch with ATC and Ambulance Control.

EVERY CREW HAS A MISSION. EVERY MISSION HAS A STORY.

We'd love to hear yours: theairambulance.org.uk/patient-stories/share-your-story/

BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR 2025 SPRING RAFFLE A BLOOMING SUCCESS!

We are absolutely delighted to share with you the total amount raised in our Spring Raffle through ticket sales and donations. Your generosity and kindness has really made a difference, so THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts! Your kindness helps keep our helicopters in the sky and our critical care teams ready to respond when every second counts. We simply couldn't do what we do without you.

TOTAL RAISED £460,506

The £5,000 winner was delighted to hear the good news:

"I'm so shocked and pleased to hear that I've won £5,000. It's come at a really good time, as it will help with some home repairs. I will also treat my family and grandchildren and donate a little back. I'm going to call my daughter right away to tell her the good news." - Spring Raffle 2025 Winner, Mrs Anonymous, Hope Valley, Derbyshire (90)

Spring into our Summer Raffle, and this could be you!

OUR SUMMER RAFFLE IS NOW LIVE!

Look out for your raffle pack landing soon, follow our updates on social media or buy tickets online here: taas.raffleentry.org.uk
Every ticket you buy brings hope and help to those who need it most and you just might win £5K in the process.



**YOU COULD BE
OUR NEXT
WINNER!**



Closing Date: 29/08/2025
Draw date 05/09/2025



LOTTERY WINNERS

18+

JOIN our LIFESAVING LOTTERY

£1,000 weekly draw

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"Many years ago, my daughter had a car accident. She was with my grandson who was only around 4 years old at the time. My daughter died instantly but my grandson was airlifted by The Air Ambulance Service, and I will be forever grateful for that. My grandson is now 21 years old. I am supporting the charity with anything I can."

- Gwendoline Hone, Lottery Winner

"We support many charities, one being yours. We don't expect anything back, we just support. When we received the letter to say 'congratulations', I was jumping up and down with excitement" - **Angela Glover, Lottery Winner**

Did you know that you can support and win with us by playing our weekly lottery? Your £1 per week will help keep us flying and you might just win the £1,000 jackpot! Scan the QR code to enter or visit airamb.co/LotteryWNDLR

This could be you, join our Lifesaving Lottery today.

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Responsible person: Donna Young, Director of Fundraising. Promoter: The Air Ambulance Service Limited. Licensed by the Gambling Commission gamblingcommission.gov.uk. Fundraising responsibly begambleaware.org. To view our T&Cs, learn how the lottery supports our work, raise a concern or view the odds of winning, visit: airamb.co/LotteryWNDLR

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SEAN'S STORY



When Coalville GP Sean Ottey suffered a sudden cardiac arrest in the middle of a workout, he faced a life-or-death moment that no one expects. Thanks to the swift and expert response of the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance, Sean's story is one of survival, and the extraordinary difference quick medical help can make.

Sean, 53, was attending his regular high-intensity training class at Hood Park Leisure Centre in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, a routine he's followed faithfully for 15 years. That morning, he felt perfectly fine, even energised.

"I remember doing a backward lunge, and then I was waking up in intensive care. As a doctor himself, Sean understands the vital role time plays in cardiac emergencies. "It's all about how quickly you get the right treatment. Every second counts!"

Within minutes of collapsing, Sean was receiving CPR from the leisure centre staff, who had been trained in First Aid. "Their quick response saved my life". Sean reflects. "Had I collapsed alone somewhere remote, I'm sure the outcome would have been very different".

The helicopter team flew him to Derby Royal Infirmary in just 12 minutes. Onboard, the critical care doctor administered medication that stabilised Sean's condition and ensured he got the specialist care he needed without delay. Although Sean leads a healthy lifestyle—he doesn't smoke, stays fit, and watches his weight—there is a history of heart disease in his family. He believes his cardiac arrest was something he might face eventually.

Sean spent over two weeks in hospital, including 48 hours in an induced coma. During that time, he had a stent fitted and an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) to help protect him from future cardiac events.

In appreciation of the care he received, members of Sean's exercise class have raised funds for the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance. He's encouraging others to support the service too: "I wouldn't have recovered this well without the air ambulance. They receive no government funding, so they really do rely on the kindness of the public".

THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME

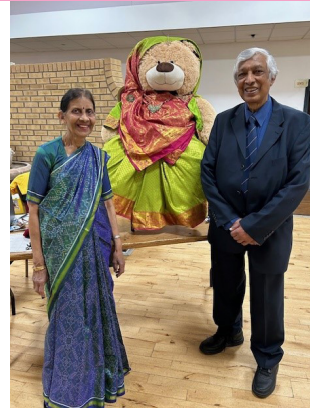


We're deeply grateful to share some wonderful news about the continued generosity of our valued Legacy, Trust and Foundation supporters. Their belief in our mission and commitment to helping save lives means the world to us and to every patient we reach.

HONOURING THOMAS KELLY On 10th May 2025, we had the honour of welcoming the family & friends of Thomas Kelly to our Nottingham Heliport, marking the anniversary of Thomas's passing. In a remarkable act of generosity, Thomas left a legacy gift of over £38,000 to our charity in his Will – a contribution that will make a lasting impact on the lives we are able to save. During their visit Thomas's loved ones met with our crew, including Dr James and paramedic Keith who shared how this incredible donation will support our lifesaving work. We were especially grateful to have the opportunity to personally thank Bernie Moran, Thomas's sister, for administering his estate and helping fulfil his final wishes.

THANK YOU FOR TRUSTING US The Thomas and Rosemary Greenhalgh Charitable Trust has stood by the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance since 2017. Over the years, they've donated an incredible £28,050, helping to keep our crews flying and ready to respond at a moment's notice. Their latest gift of £2,300 in May 2025 covered the full cost of a mission – a direct impact that could not be more meaningful. We're truly grateful for their loyal support. The Parker Hannifin Corporation, based in the United States with locations in the UK, has been generously supporting The Air Ambulance Service since 2023. In just a few years, they've donated a remarkable £54,251.12, with gifts of £4,576 in 2023, £18,726.59 in 2024, and an extraordinary £30,948.53 in May 2025 – their largest contribution yet. Their international support reminds us that the spirit of giving knows no boundaries. We're eternally thankful for the lifesaving support of our Trusts, Legacy's and Foundation donors. Thank you for being such an important part of our lifesaving journey.

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS



HUMBLE AND UNSTOPPABLE: DHIRU SHAH, THE MAN WHO MOVES A COMMUNITY.

Dhiru has dedicated himself tirelessly to serving his community in recent years. Through his efforts, he has raised thousands of pounds for a wide range of charities and causes, making a real and lasting difference in the lives of so many. Now, we are incredibly grateful that he has chosen to lend his support to The Air Ambulance Service. His goal is to raise £23,000 equivalent to 10 missions.

What sets Dhiru apart is the sheer effort he puts into ensuring every event is meaningful and successful, relying solely on public transport to get where he needs to be. Nothing is ever too much trouble for him, and his dedication is unwavering.

Dhiru is a humble, everyday man with an extraordinary heart. While many people hope to make a difference, Dhiru truly does — driven by compassion, determination, and a genuine care for others. And he does it all quietly, without seeking recognition or reward. It's people like Dhiru who remind us what true community spirit looks like, and we are so proud to have him as part of our journey.

"I meet countless individuals with good intentions in my role, but he stands out as a one-man powerhouse." Julie Gray-Community Fundraising Executive Leicestershire & Rutland.



OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEER, CAROLE BRADFORD

We're delighted to share that our amazing volunteer, Carole Bradford, has been honoured with a room to reward award, a complimentary hotel stay for a well-deserved break – nominated by our very own Community Fundraising Executive, Sally Newman.

Carole, based in Nuneaton, began volunteering during the 2020 lockdown and quickly became a much-loved part of our team. She led her talented knitting group to create beautifully presented event stands full of handcrafted goodies – including her famous chocolate orange toppers and a giant yellow knitted helicopter – Carole's creativity and passion never goes unnoticed.

Recently presented with her award and a hotel stay certificate, it's a small thank you for the huge difference she's made.

She's now working toward an incredible £40,000 fundraising goal by the end of the year! Carole, thank you for being such an inspiring part of our community.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE

£2,300

COULD FLY ONE COMPLETE MISSION FOR YOUR LOCAL AIR AMBULANCE.



PLEASE SCAN TO DONATE



OR DONATE ONLINE AT

airamb.co/donate



COULD PAY FOR A BOX OF 50 MEDICAL GRADE STERILE GLOVES TO HELP PREVENT THE THREAT OF CROSS-CONTAMINATION

£78

COULD PAY FOR AN EAR THERMOMETER, USED TO PROVIDE HIGHLY ACCURATE TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS OF PATIENTS EASILY AND QUICKLY.

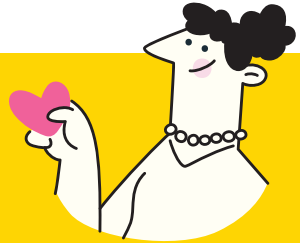
£39

COULD PAY FOR AN IV KIT TO ALLOW PATIENTS TO RECEIVE VITAL MEDICATIONS THEY NEED ON SCENE, INCLUDING ANTIBIOTICS OR PAIN RELIEF

£15

FUNDRAISE YOUR WAY

Whether you're a seasoned fundraiser, planning your first event, or want to join us at one of our events to help raise awareness and vital funds for Your Local Air Ambulance our team is here to help. For more information, please visit our website, airamb.co/fundraise, scan the QR code with your smart phone camera or call our friendly Supporter Experience Team on 0300 3045 999.



STAY IN TOUCH



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SAVING LIVES



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