

# SKY'S THE LIMIT

Welcome to  
your Children's  
Air Ambulance  
Newsletter. We are  
thrilled to have you  
on board!



ISSUE 5

# WELCOME

Dear Supporter

When I joined The Air Ambulance Service in 2014, it was more than just a career move—it was a continuation of a lifelong commitment to delivering the highest standards of care. After over two decades serving the NHS as a senior clinician and leader, and seven years volunteering as a Trustee for this remarkable organisation, I felt deeply called to play a more active role in its mission.

Now, as Chief Operating Officer, I am privileged to be entrusted with the responsibility for the safe and effective delivery of our ground-breaking service, the Children’s Air Ambulance—a pioneering service that provides vital, lifesaving transfers for critically ill babies and children across the UK.

Each mission we undertake is only made possible through the dedication of our exceptional team, whose passion, professionalism, and compassion inspire me every single day. Together, we strive to deliver not just care, but hope, comfort, and reassurance to our patients and their families in their most difficult moments.



Upholding the highest standards of quality and governance across our charity is a responsibility I carry with immense pride—and with deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

In this newsletter, we’ll share stories from the frontline, showcase the innovation driving our work, and bring you closer to the mission that keeps us flying to support our incredible NHS.

Warm regards

**RICHARD CLAYTON**

Chief Operating Officer

## OUR VALUES



CREATIVITY



COMPASSION



COURAGE

# MISSION STATS

Our aircraft provides a flying intensive care unit for transferring babies and children that need urgent care.

**£5,500**  
Average Mission Cost

**1,162\***  
Total Missions



**2**  
Aircraft



**11** NHS Clinical  
Partner Teams



**4 x Faster**  
Than Road



**2** Airbases  
Covering the UK

\*These figures reflect our missions from inception in 2013 to June 2025. Visit our website for updates.

# 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, researched and evolved. Our new brand reflects who we truly are - bold, compassionate, and committed to saving lives across the UK.

**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. The Children's Air Ambulance covers the whole of the UK, therefore our new name will proudly reflect this - National Children's Air Ambulance.

**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**

# BEHIND THE ROTORS



## CLINICAL PARTNER TEAMS

The Children's Air Ambulance work with 11 NHS Clinical Partner teams (CPTs), each playing a vital role in saving young lives. This edition of Behind the Rotors features Embrace, a specialist, round-the-clock transport service. They are dedicated to supporting critically ill infants and children who need urgent care at another hospital—whether within Yorkshire and the Humber or further afield, including Autumn-Rose, our patient story.

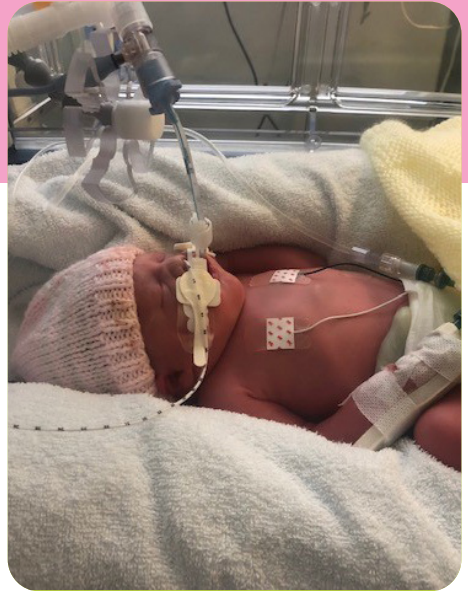
For over a decade, the Children's Air Ambulance and Embrace have worked hand in hand to deliver life-saving care to the sickest babies and children across the UK. This powerful partnership combines the speed and reach of helicopter transfers with Embrace's specialist clinical teams—ensuring critically ill children can access expert care, wherever they are. Together, we've completed more than 300 urgent transfers, whilst Embrace undertake more than 2,000 road and fixed-wing missions each year. Behind every transfer is a dedicated team of nurses, doctors, and advanced practitioners, backed by a state-of-the-art coordination system that enables real-time decision-making and rapid access to intensive care beds nationwide.

Thanks to supporters like you, this partnership continues to bring advanced care closer to home—when minutes matter most.

# SAVING A LITTLE LIFE

## A JOURNEY OF HOPE FOR BABY AUTUMN-ROSE

First-time mum Kerri said: “I’ve never been so scared, upset and confused”, as she watched her tiny newborn, Autumn-Rose, being gently loaded onto the Children’s Air Ambulance aircraft. Just two days earlier, she had undergone an emergency C-section at James Paget Hospital in Great Yarmouth.



Kerri and her fiancé Shane had been on holiday in Beccles when Kerri noticed she hadn’t felt the baby move. It was the August Bank Holiday, and after calling NHS 111, they were advised to go straight to the nearest hospital. Monitoring revealed a problem with their baby’s heartbeat, and an emergency delivery was quickly arranged.

Autumn-Rose was born safely but needed specialist neonatal care at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford—174 miles away. With Kerri unable to travel so soon after surgery, it was down to the Children’s Air Ambulance and the Embrace neonatal team to get Autumn-Rose closer to home and within a matter of hours Autumn-Rose was secured onboard and ready to make the 48-minute flight south.

***“Although I couldn’t go with her, the team were so calm and reassuring.” says Kerri. “They explained every step and treated her with such care. I knew she was in the safest of hands.”***

Before Kerri was even discharged, she received a call to say that Autumn-Rose had arrived in Ashford, and by the time Kerri was able to begin the 4.5 hour journey to be reunited with her daughter, Autumn-Rose was settled in the intensive care unit.

Autumn-Rose spent a week in intensive care and another three weeks in the neonatal unit. At 26 days old and weighing just 4.8lbs, she was finally discharged home. Kerri and Shane say “they’ll never forget what the Children’s Air Ambulance made possible.



We didn't even know the service was a charity until afterwards. Once we found out there's no government funding, we decided to start fundraising. What they did for us was nothing short of amazing."

## **A WARM UPDATE FROM MUM, KERRI**

*"Autumn has grown into the kindest, most loving child," Kerri shares. "Her empathy for the world is truly remarkable."*

*Lively and artistic, Autumn is always on the move—climbing anything she can, kicking a football, zipping around on her bike or scooter, or immersing herself in drawing. With boundless energy, creativity, and heart, her vibrant spirit lights up everyone around her. She dreams of becoming both a doctor and a vet—just one more way she hopes to share her kindness with the world"*

To our incredible supporters, thank you for standing beside us. Together, we will save many more little lives.

# 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 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: [tcaa.raffleentry.org.uk](https://tcaa.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, 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/LotteryTCAA](http://airamb.co/LotteryTCAA)

**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](http://gamblingcommission.gov.uk). Fundraising responsibly [begambleaware.org](http://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/LotteryTCAA](http://airamb.co/LotteryTCAA)

Registered with  
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**

# SKY HIGH & STANDING BY



**NAME:** Lonnie Brown

**JOB TITLE:** TCAA Crew Member

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED FOR THE AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE?**

I have worked for TAAS since May 2024 and I have enjoyed every moment so far.

## **WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?**

My day begins with preparing the aircraft and the equipment in it, making sure it's all ready for 8am, should we receive a mission call. I attend a morning briefing with the pilots to discuss the upcoming weather, flight planning and aircraft safety throughout the day. If we are tasked, I support the clinical partner teams with safety briefings, any requested care of the patient and I support any parents that travel with us. I am also the communication link between our busy Airdesk and the clinical teams that travel with us. Between missions, I undertake training. I ensure that the airbase and all the equipment is clean and safe to use. I also really enjoy community outreach by visiting schools and our many wonderful charity stores that we have. At the end of the day, along with the pilots, I make sure the aircraft is put to bed, clean, tidy and ready to go again the following day before handing over to the Airdesk.

## **WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR HIGHLIGHT SO FAR?**

The highlight for me has been the grateful parents who travel with us when we transport their child. Seeing their relief and appreciation reminds me how much of a difference we make, not just for the child, but the whole family.

## **WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO OUR SUPPORTERS?**

I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you. Even the smallest donation makes a big difference, and ultimately has a powerful impact on a sick child and their family.

## **TELL US A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF**

Although I have worked in the medical field most of my life, my first time at University was to study performing arts. Amazing where life takes you (jazz hands).

# THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERING



## VOLUNTEERS AT THE HEART OF A FANTASTIC WEEKEND AT NEWARK AIR MUSEUM!

The spirit of volunteering shone brightly as Team TCAA supported an incredible event at Newark Air Museum. We were joined by two outstanding volunteers, Chris and Debbie from the Newark Shop, whose passion, dedication, and teamwork brought the event to life. Armed with cold water, ice creams, and limitless enthusiasm, our small but mighty team created a welcoming, engaging space that truly embodied the power of community. It was a brilliant reminder of what we can achieve together – and a shining example of the impact our volunteers make every day.

## INSPIRED TO GET INVOLVED?

We're always looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our volunteer team. Whether it's helping at events, supporting our shops, or lending a hand behind the scenes - your time will make a life-saving difference.

Whether you're looking to give back, build new skills, or simply meet new people, volunteering with us comes with incredible benefits:

- Be part of something meaningful
- Build lifelong friendships
- Access Blue Light discounts
- Support a critical, lifesaving service

If you are aged 16 or over and would love to volunteer, join us on our mission today and become a local hero with national impact

[theairambulanceervice.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering](https://theairambulanceervice.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering)

# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE

**£5,500**

**COULD FLY ONE COMPLETE MISSION FOR CHILDREN'S AIR AMBULANCE.**



PLEASE SCAN TO DONATE



OR DONATE ONLINE AT

[airamb.co/childrens](http://airamb.co/childrens)



**COULD BUY A SET OF PAEDIATRIC DEFIBRILLATOR PADS**

**£42**

**COULD PAY FOR ONE CYLINDER A MONTH OF MED AIR**

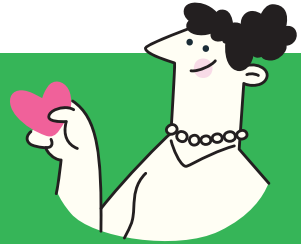
**£21**

**COULD PAY FOR 2,400L OF OXYGEN TO BE CARRIED ON BOARD OUR HELICOPTER**

**£10**

## 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 the Children's Air Ambulance, our team is here to help. For more information, please visit our website, [airamb.co/fundraise](http://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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This newsletter cost 10p to print.