

SCOTLAND'S CHARITY AIR AMBULANCE



INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE

SECOND HELICOPTER UPDATE

2019 MISSION STATS

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

WELCOME

Following the announcement that our second charity air ambulance, Helimed 79, will be based at Aberdeen International Airport, we have been greatly encouraged by the levels of engagement from communities, businesses and individuals around the country who have fully embraced our campaign to raise a further £6m to fund the first three years' running costs.

While we are on track to achieving our objective, we recognise a significant amount of work – and support – is needed to ensure Helimed 79 is operational by the end of March 2020. Working with our key partners, the Scottish Ambulance Service and Babcock Mission Critical Services Onshore, we are committed to ensuring that SCAA is ready to be deployed when called upon – continuing to save and improve lives in Scotland.



None of this would be possible without the hard work, dedication and support of you – our donors, volunteers and supporters. It's your support that keeps us flying and saving lives, 365 days a year, in every corner of Scotland.

Thank you.

David Craig
Chief Executive



2019 SO FAR...

WE HAVE RESPONDED TO **250** CALL OUTS THIS YEAR

77% OF OUR EMERGENCY RESPONSES WERE BY AIR

WE FLEW PATIENTS TO **15** HOSPITALS ACROSS SCOTLAND

WE'VE FLOWN OVER **30,000** NAUTICAL MILES

WE'VE FLOWN FOR OVER **260** HOURS, ALL ACROSS SCOTLAND

39% OF OUR RAPID RESPONSE VEHICLE CALL OUTS WERE FOR CARDIAC ARREST



21%
CARDIAC



38%
TRAUMA



18%
MEDICAL

3%
STROKE



For more stats and info, go to www.scaa.org.uk/saving-time-saving-lives

OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

Since the beginning of 2019, SCAA has responded to over 250 emergency call outs, taking us to every corner of Scotland and onwards to a vast number of the country's hospitals.

Speed and comfort are an air ambulance's two main strengths and SCAA has employed them to great use – undoubtedly saving numerous lives and impacting positively on hundreds of others.

SCAA flies a paramedic delivered team, but has the capability of airlifting multi-disciplinary consultant led teams to the scene of a serious accident or injury, allowing advanced treatment on arrival, but also airlifting patients quickly and comfortably to specialist hospital care in the fastest time possible – a life-saver when every second counts.



Operations have been assisted by the procurement of additional advanced critical care equipment in the past year, including a mechanical CPR machine, an incubator loading guide and an extreme weather package – all of which have proved themselves in enhancing patients' lives.

This year has also seen advances in drugs utilised by our paramedics. We now have the ability to give sedatives to patients agitated by head injuries or following successful resuscitation following cardiac arrest.

Throughout the past year, 38% of SCAA's responses have been to serious trauma cases. A further 24% were to cardiac and stroke emergencies.

Twenty per cent of our workload in the past year has helped safeguard the lives of people in remote and island communities by providing urgent and emergency transfer to advanced mainland hospital treatment.

The establishment of SCAA's second air ambulance based in the north-east will greatly impact our ability to reduce the time it takes to get expert paramedic care to patients in need.

Our crew is also proud to see our life-saving work featured in the BBC Scotland documentary series 'Paramedics on Scene', highlighting the important work of Scottish paramedics all over the country.

HELIMED 79 SECOND HELICOPTER UPDATE



We're delighted to report that we are on track to deliver our second air ambulance commitment in early 2020.

To realise this vision, a challenge was launched to raise £6 million for our second aircraft. An ambitious challenge, but nonetheless one we were confident we would achieve with the support of the people of Scotland. And thanks to the Scottish public, businesses and individuals, an amazing £3 million has already been pledged.

The decision to centre a new helicopter operation in Aberdeen followed unanimous approval by the SCAA board in support of a recommendation by our service provider partners, the Scottish Ambulance Service. With Aberdeen housing one of the country's four major trauma centres in the Scottish Trauma Network, as well as the specialised Neonatal and Adult Retrieval team at ScotSTAR North, Helimed 79 will add its considerable capability to that growing hub of emergency medical resources.

SCAA has agreed a contract with Babcock to launch Helimed 79 from Aberdeen International Airport in Dyce. The four-year contract will see aerial emergency services specialist Babcock operate and maintain the air ambulance helicopter from SCAA's new base at the airport.

Helimed 79 will operate from a dedicated facility on the east side of Aberdeen International Airport, beside the existing Babcock passenger terminals. Custom-designed for air ambulance operations, the helicopter will be equipped with vital medical technologies and every emergency flight will be crewed with two highly-trained paramedics.

An air ambulance based there will optimise the coverage and resilience of the country's entire emergency air response – helping to fulfil one of the Scottish Trauma Network's key objectives of transporting patients to a key trauma centre such as Aberdeen within 45 minutes of serious illness or injury.

With a second helicopter air ambulance service, SCAA will further impact positively on the outcome for patients – ultimately saving and improving many more lives every year.



PAUL AND ALISON'S STORY

Many families have cause to be grateful for Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance's life-saving service – but few have seen two members of their family benefit from the charity-funded air ambulance within three weeks of each other.

PAUL:

It was mid-summer when the eight-wheel all-terrain vehicle Paul and a friend were in somersaulted several times down a steep slope near Dalnaspidal before coming to rest against a large rock.

“We both thought that was it,” said Paul. **“We were going to die – and then the rock arrested our fall, stopping us dropping hundreds of feet more.”**

Both were trapped in the vehicle with serious leg wounds.

“I managed to crawl clear and then levered the vehicle off my mate with a wooden post,” recalled Paul. “We dragged ourselves clear and phoned the emergency services.”

With a land ambulance unable to get near the injured men, SCAA was scrambled and soon on the scene, landing within a couple of hundred metres of the accident.

“I remember feeling huge relief when SCAA arrived,” said Paul. “I was in a great deal of pain and the crew was just amazing – so efficient and reassuring – and I immediately relaxed knowing I was in expert hands.

“I know now that if ever you're in trouble and pain far from anywhere, it's SCAA you would want to help you.”

“SCAA brought relief, reassurance, speed and comfort when I was in a very dark place,” said Paul, “and I'll forever be grateful for their help.”

ALISON:

A couple of weeks later, Alison's horse sank into soft sand on the banks of Loch Garry, throwing her over the animal's head.

“My horse panicked because she was up to her belly in this gloopy silty sand and then she scrambled towards me,” recalled Alison.



To protect herself, Alison rolled into a ball as the horse's hooves thundered off her back.

"The pain was horrendous," she said. "The whole weight of the horse was crashing into me and I really thought I was going to break."

The horse got free and left Alison in the remote spot.

"I was dizzy and vomiting. I lay down on the grass at one point and passed out. I couldn't go any further."

Following a call from Alison's father, SCAA was soon on the scene.

"I'm so glad SCAA was there – reassuring, administering pain relief and putting me at ease. They were wonderful and I remember feeling real relief when I heard them coming and then landing nearby. Their arrival makes you feel everything will be OK."

Alison was treated in hospital for several broken ribs and bruising to her lungs.

"Our family owes a great deal to SCAA," she said.



"Our accidents have made us very aware of the vital role of an air ambulance when dealing with remote and rural emergencies and the need for fundraising to secure SCAA's future."

Paul and Alison are now both involved in fundraising efforts for SCAA and actively spread the word about the charity.

"We never thought our family would need SCAA's service – ever – far less twice within three weeks," they agreed. "People should never take this amazing charity for granted – you never know when you will need them."



YOU CAN SUPPORT SCAA WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

One of the most impactful ways you can support Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance is through a gift in your will. Last year approximately 50 of our life-saving missions were made possible through gifts in Wills. After you've provided for your loved ones, we'd be very grateful if you'd consider including a gift in your Will to SCAA.

At SCAA we want a future where families aren't needlessly torn apart by trauma. A future where the communities of Scotland can rely on receiving the fastest and best medical care. And a future where every critically ill or injured person whose life can be saved by an air ambulance transfer, can get one.

SCAA makes a difference – a patient's chances of survival and full recovery are greatly increased if they receive the right medical care within the first hour of injury or illness. The fast response of SCAA and its ability to reach Scotland's most remote and rural areas saves vital minutes when every second really does count.

We are grateful for all gifts, large or small and we guarantee that they will be used to fund our frontline time-critical service so that we are here for the people of Scotland today and tomorrow.

For more information, go to scaa.org.uk/support-us or call 0300 123 1111.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!



SCAA
Teddy £15



SCAA
Calendar £9



SCAA
Tartan Scarf £20



SCAA
16Gb USB Stick £7



SCAA
Jute Bag £6



SCAA
Beanie Hat £9



SCAA
Sew on Badge £3



SCAA
Cycling Top £35

To see our full range of SCAA merchandise, go to www.scaa.org.uk/browse

VOLUNTEER PROFILE



Sandra Millar from Midlothian signed up as the charity's 100th volunteer this year.

"My mum became seriously ill at home having contracted Sepsis", explained Sandra. "That was the first time I had experienced waiting for an ambulance, while mum got progressively worse by the minute. It was such a relief when the doctor and paramedics arrived and I could see them doing all they could to help her. They literally kept her alive until they got her to hospital.

"When the company I work for adopted SCAA as its corporate charity partner, I met the crew and heard first-hand of the amazing work they do", continued Sandra. "I want to help SCAA, in any way, to get to as many patients as possible. They are saving lives and anyone of us could need them at any time – you just don't know."

Sandra has already been busy gathering in SCAA collecting cans from businesses in her area and she's helped at summer fundraising events as well as organising a bucket collection at Edinburgh Airport.

"I'm so honoured to be SCAA's 100th volunteer and it was a real privilege to be asked to cut the ribbon and officially open SCAA's new hangar at the volunteers' event."

Do you have any spare time that you could donate to Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance? Then why not consider becoming part of our invaluable volunteer team?

To find out more about joining the SCAA Team, go to www.scaa.org.uk/support-us or email getinvolved@scaa.org.uk.



TOTAL
NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS

115



NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERING
HOURS IN 2019

2005



EVENTS
ATTENDED BY
VOLUNTEERS
IN 2019

71



TALKS
DELIVERED BY
VOLUNTEERS
IN 2019

87

AMOUNT RAISED THROUGH COLLECTING CANS
PLACED BY VOLUNTEERS IN 2019

£59,344.71

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

There are plenty of ways you could fundraise for SCAA, either by taking part in one of our events, doing an event in aid of SCAA, or organising your own thing!

TAKE PART IN A SCAA EVENT

SCAA coordinates our own events throughout the year offering unforgettable ways to support our life-saving work. You could abseil the Forth Rail Bridge, skydive from 10,000 feet, or get on your bike and cycle the Etape Caledonia!

Have a look at our online events calendar (scaa.org.uk) to be inspired!



DO AN EVENT IN AID OF SCAA

There are hundreds of charitable events taking place every year that give you the chance to get sponsored and raise vital funds for SCAA.

Take on a Tough Mudder, run a marathon or scale a mountain – you can support SCAA whatever your ability!



ORGANISE YOUR OWN EVENT!

Fundraising events are limited only by your imagination! There are many ways you can get people together to spread the word about SCAA and raise support.

Whether it's as simple as a bake sale or a pub quiz, or something more ambitious like a charity ball or auction, your support can make all the difference.



For more information, email fundraising@scaa.org.uk or call **0300 123 1111**.

Thanks to
Clydesdale Bank
for producing
this newsletter
for us.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for continuing to support Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance. Whether you donate, volunteer or play our lottery – we couldn't keep flying without you.

If you would like to help support SCAA, you could:

- Enter a fundraising event or organise your own
- Become a SCAA Volunteer
- Make a one-off or regular donation
- Play our weekly lottery
- Leave a gift to SCAA in your will

DONATE



Online scaa.org.uk

by direct debit and debit or credit card



Phone 0300 123 1111

by direct debit and debit or credit card



Post

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, The Control Tower,
Perth Airport, Scone, Perthshire PH2 6PL

Please make cheques payable to Scotland's Charity
Air Ambulance.
Charity Number SC041845



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