

Devon Air Ambulance Trust

HeliPad

December 2009

What a busy year!

2009 definitely was yet another busy year. In this edition we have focused on just a few of the highlights. It was a hard choice...

Happy 1st Birthday Hems Desk!

On 12th July we celebrated the first birthday of the HEMS (helicopter emergency medical services) desk. Based at the South Western Ambulance Service's 999 control room, the HEMS operator, specially trained for the role, has sole responsibility for deploying our 2 Air Ambulances plus the ones in Cornwall, Dorset & Somerset. This team of 3 dispatchers, headed by supervisor Nikki Bolt, is funded by the 3 Air Ambulance charities.



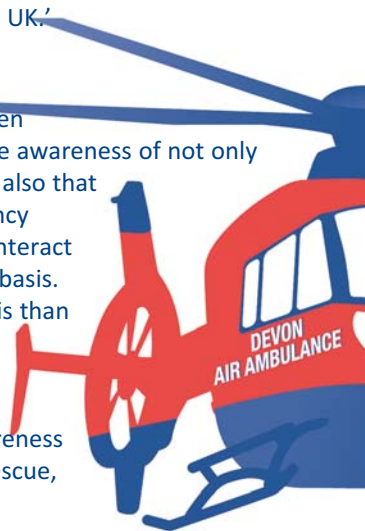
We are extremely proud to have been at the forefront of this innovation, having initiated the original trial, which in turn brought us fantastic recognition by way of a shortlist at the 2009 Charity Awards. David Phelan, Organiser of the Charity Awards 2009 commented 'Over the last ten years many wonderful charities, large and small, have been recognised by the Charity Awards. By being shortlisted, Devon Air Ambulance Trust has already demonstrated that it is among the best-managed charities in the UK.'



999 DAY

We are proud to have been instrumental in raising the awareness of not only the work that we do, but also that of the other 999 emergency services, with which we interact and work with on a daily basis. What better day to do this than on the 9th September 2009, in short 9.9.9!

We organised a photoshoot, with the Police, Fire Service and Ambulance Service. However of course this day also raised awareness of our other emergency services colleagues such as Dartmoor Rescue, RNLI, Search & Rescue, to name just a few!



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Patients' Stories, update on North Devon Airbase
plus much more!

North Devon Airbase

You may remember that, when the last issue of HeliPad came out, the first turf was being cut at the commencement of the building works.



It's a completely different picture now. In fact the new airbase is almost finished!



None of this would be possible without your support so a BIG thank you, especially from the crew, who will shortly be moving from their extremely small, cold, damp and cramped portacabin into this fantastic purpose built complex, which will make their day to day working life much easier, together with providing the charity with an office base in the North of the county!

Braydon's Story

There's nothing more frightening for a parent than to have a sick child, and in Natasha and Scott's case it was their two day old son Braydon.

Braydon, suffering from a medical condition, and in need of urgent medical treatment was flown from Honiton to the RD&E Wonford Hospital in Exeter in March 2009.

He was later transferred to Derriford Hospital in Plymouth, then by the Royal Navy helicopter from Derriford to Glenfield Hospital in Leicester, in order to receive specialist treatment.

Braydon was diagnosed with Streptococcus Pneumococcal and Septicaemia and was also treated for Meningitis.

After spending 5 long weeks in hospital, he was eventually able to go home.

Braydon, together with parents Natasha and Scott visited the airbase recently, to catch up with the crew. They are pictured below with paramedics Paul Robinson and Nigel Lang.



Steuart Wimms' Story



Time was of the essence for Steuart Wimms, pictured above with paramedic Helen Mackie.

“Devon Air Ambulance airlifted me and I’ve got an Ambrose to prove it!” said Steuart, Deputy Headteacher of West Exe Technical College in Exeter.

“You don’t normally get an Ambrose unless you are under 11 years of age, but I have one and he formed part of a display at school, as DAAT were chosen as our nominated charity.”

Steuart had a terrible road traffic accident in May 2008 when he was in a head-on collision with another vehicle on his side of the road and coming over the brow of a hill!

His seat belt and driver’s airbag

prevented him from going through the windscreen and probably saved his life, although he was trapped in the crushed car and unconscious for about 40 to 45 minutes.

Steuart continued: “The fire brigade cut the roof off the car and removed the driver’s door in order to get me out while the air paramedic administered first aid and gave me pain killing injections because they thought I had probably broken my spine.

“In the event, I had multiple fractures and bleeding from my head, arms and feet that required me being taken to the Accident and Emergency Department. Time was of the essence and I was then strapped to a board and airlifted to the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.

“Needless-to-say I am delighted that the students of West Exe are supporting the Devon Air Ambulance this year. I owe them an enormous debt of gratitude as well as the doctors and nurses at the RD&E.

“I hope that you reach your target and I will do everything I can to help you because they helped me big time!”

We have just heard that Westexe’s fundraising total was a whopping £7.706 - a BIG thank you to them all!

**Have you, a family member or friend been airlifted?
Why not tell us about it?**

Email: s.burden@daat.org Tel: 01392 466666 or write to us
at 5 Sandpiper Court, Harrington Lane, Exeter, EX4 8NS

A Few Farewells

We had a few farewells to say in the latter part of 2009.

Firstly our Chairman, Doug Shopland, stood down after completing the maximum term that a Trustee can serve. Doug has worked tirelessly with the charity for 6 years and helped us to achieve so much. We wanted to take this opportunity to say 'THANK YOU'. He is succeeded by Vice Chair Jackie Dawkins. Jack Lomas takes up the position of Vice Chairman.



Doug's larger than life character was caught to a tee by artist Sally Williams in this caricature.

We also had to say goodbye to crew members Helen Mackie, Haydn Glanville, Steve Wright and Jules Bennett, who now return to the land based ambulances. Between them they have over 40 years of Air Ambulance experience!

We welcome to the team paramedics Chris Saunders and Dave Huyton (North Devon) and Nigel Lang and Adrian Parker (Exeter).



South Western Ambulance Service **NHS**
NHS Trust

helpingustohelpyou

Support your Ambulance Service with its life-saving work – help them to help you! Do you have views or comments about your local air or land ambulance services? If you do why not join the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SWAST) and make your voice heard.

Membership is free and will support SWAST's application to become an NHS Foundation Trust, during which time they are aiming to recruit over 17,000 members from the local communities served.

When you become a member you can be part of their life saving work by sharing your views on both the Air Ambulance and land ambulance services in your area.

You can be involved as much or as little as you like! You will receive bulletins with the latest ambulance news and be kept up-to-date with opportunities including first aid courses, free health screenings for members and hundreds of NHS discounts available on-line from major retailers!

Or, if you have more time, you can stand for election to the Council of Governors.

To become a member and for more information, visit www.swast.nhs.uk/ft, call 01392 261509 or email: ft@swast.nhs.uk

Your Fundraising

Gladiators ready.....

Taunton teacher, Anna Miller had always dreamed of being one of TV's Gladiators and, having applied, passed three auditions and a week's intensive training, she eventually got the chance to take on the might of the professionals (see right).

She was by far the smallest contender but made up for it with her speed and tenacity.

Petrified but undaunted Anna, in front of 170 of her pupils and 40 friends and family, started the renowned 'Eliminator' well behind her opponent, but she won!



She also competed in the subsequent 'Champions of Champions' show and was able to donate £2,500 to DAAT as a result.

Anna explained this was because her sister had been airlifted from Dartmoor after a very nasty fall from a horse which resulted in a ruptured liver and an unthinkable outcome had she not got to hospital quickly.

Val's Reiki Fundraising



Val Date is a Reiki healer, working from a treatment room at home (see above) and has been raising funds for us since the Autumn of 2006. To date she has raised over £3,500.

She works on a donation only basis,

which means that the therapy is available to everyone.

REIKI (pronounced Ray-key) is a system of natural healing and works, not only on a physical level, but also on the emotional and mental levels, bringing the body back into balance as nature intends, and thus allowing healing to take place.

If you would like to know more or feel you would like a consultation, Val can be reached on 01647 231567. If the answerphone is on please leave your details and Val will get back to you.

If you would like to raise funds for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch!

Our Shops

As you probably know, we have 9 charity shops, based in Exeter, Topsham, Honiton, Barnstaple, Newton Abbot and Plymouth, all of which are a great way to help the environment, by donating your unwanted good quality items. This could be clothes, bric a brac, cds, furniture, in fact we can take almost anything apart from TVs, whitegoods (ie fridges and cookers) and soft furnishings without fire retardant labels (ie sofas).

If you would like to donate items to our shops, but they're either too bulky or too much to carry, why not give our van driver a ring on 07944 392 664 as we may be able to collect from you.

If you haven't popped into one of our shops, or not recently, why not drop by and see what bargains you can pick up? Or if you find yourself with unwanted gifts after Christmas you can make a difference and donate them to us to resell!

Gift Aid on Shop Donations

We've recently introduced a scheme in our shops, in partnership with EProductive, whereby we can claim Gift Aid back on donations of goods made. Our Retail Manager Chrissie Peel explained how it works:-

'When a customer donates goods, they are asked if they are a UK tax payer, and if yes, they are asked to fill in a form with their personal details. They are then given a unique number and card for future use. Once the items donated are sorted, they are priced with a sticker also containing that donor's unique number.'

'When the item is sold, the unique sticker is put onto the shop's daily sales sheet, and at the end of the day the information is entered onto a database which collates, meaning we can tell what is raised by any particular donor.'

- * Gift Aid is currently 28p in the £1
- * The scheme started in June 2009
- * First quarter raised £9,559.14

Our shops are at:-

4 Queens House, Queen St, Barnstaple, EX32 8HJ
41 Cowick St, St Thomas, Exeter, EX4 1AW
90 Fore St, Heavitree, Exeter, EX1 2RR
40 Mutley Plain, Mutley, Plymouth, PL4 6LE
89 Queen St, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2BG
124 High St, Honiton, EX14 1JP
1 Rolle Street, Exmouth, EX8 1HL
47 Fore St, Topsham, Exeter, EX3 0HD
40 Fore Street, Topsham, Exeter, EX3 0HU



Gidleigh Park

We were honoured to be joined by a few famous faces at a recent fundraising event, at the prestigious Gidleigh Park, near Chagford.

Guests had a choice of attending either lunch or an evening house party, with the food prepared and explained to guests by celebrity Chef Michael Caines MBE.



This event wouldn't have been possible without the following:-

Ann Widdecombe MP
Cathedral Financial Management
Coutts & Co
David Clarke
David Fitzgerald/Langage Farm
Gidleigh Park
John Casson
Juliet Mills
Michael Caines MBE
Tim Grevatt
Paxton & Whitfield
Private Cellars
Rebecca Pope and
St James's Place Wealth Managers



The formidable Ann Widdecombe MP proved to be an extremely entertaining and popular pre lunch speaker, with actress Juliet Mills speaking prior to dinner.

Photos courtesy of Tim Grevatt

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Have you visited our new website at www.daat.org yet? We're delighted to be working in partnership with Devon based company Optix Solutions.

In order to celebrate the launch of phase one of the site Alastair Banks, James Dawkins and Alistair Gleaves popped in with a yummy helicopter shaped cake! Sadly it had to be eaten but at least we have the photos to prove how amazing a cake it was. Well done to Crafty Cakes in Exeter for their amazing creation!



Dates for your diary - 2010

Friday 12th March we will be holding our rescheduled and eagerly anticipated Recession Ball. A simple but hearty buffet meal, Thick as Thieves providing the music, a silent auction, and all the fun of a traditional village fair, should make for an enjoyable evening. Tickets available from us at £20 each. There will be prizes for the best dressed guests, who have bought their outfit from one of our charity shops.

Saturday 17th April the award winning Wessex Male Choir, supported by the Choir of St Margaret's School, Exeter will be performing a concert at St Peter's School, Exeter. Tickets will shortly be available from us.

25th April the second 10k Tactical Challenge across Woodbury Common takes place. All sponsorship money collected is for DAAT. For further details on the event and how to enter log onto www.commandochallenge.co.uk

Welcome Gardens Scheme
Don't forget our Welcome Gardens scheme. If you, or anyone you know would be interested in opening their garden to the admiring public for the benefit of the charity, please contact Fran at f.carnell@daat.org, or telephone 01392 466666 Ext: 227 as soon as possible so that we can support you fully.

EVENTS DIARY

We don't run many events ourselves - most are organised by supporters or volunteers. We can however help with advertising, posters, press coverage etc.

DATE	TIME	EVENT DETAILS
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DECEMBER

13th	9am-1.30pm	River City Ladies Barbershop Chorus singing at Tesco Store, Old Rydon Lane, Exeter
22nd	7.30pm	Quiz night - Wellington Arms, Ilfracombe
26th	10am-3pm	Dave Snow's Tractor Run - circular route from main car park South Molton

JANUARY

31st	9am to 1pm	Car boot sale/fete - Elizabeth Hall, Exmouth
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FEBRUARY

31st	9am to 1pm	Car boot sale/fete - Elizabeth Hall, Exmouth
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If you're fundraising for the charity why not take some photos and write in, telling us all about it.

You never know you may feature on our fundraising page in the next issue!

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To (your bank):

Address
including
Postcode:

Please pay:- HSBC, St Thomas, Exeter
Sort Code: 40-20-29 Account No: 51363492
For the credit: Devon Air Ambulance Trust

(Amount in figures) The sum of £

(Amount in words)

commencing (between 1st and 20th)

and thereafter every (due date/frequency)

Until you receive further notice from me/us in writing.

Quoting ref: (office use only)

Please cancel all previous standing order/direct debit mandates in favour of the beneficiary named above.

Name of account
to be debited

Sort Code:

Account Number:

Signature(s)

Name of account holder:

Date:

Address
including
Postcode:

NOTE The bank will not undertake to make any reference to VAT or other indeterminate element. Advise remitter's address to beneficiary. Advise beneficiary of inability to pay. Request beneficiary's banker to advise beneficiary of receipt. Accept instructions to pay as soon after the specified date as there are funds to meet the payments, if funds are not available on the specified date.

IMPORTANT: Please return to us at DAAT, 5, Sandpiper Court, Harrington Lane, Exeter, EX4 8NS not your bank

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want to Gift Aid all donations I make to Devon Air Ambulance Trust from 6th April 2008 until further notice.
Please tick.

I confirm that I am currently a UK taxpayer. Should my status as a taxpayer change, I will notify the Devon Air Ambulance Trust

Signed: Date:

To make Gift Aid donations, you must pay or have paid an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to that reclaimed by us on your donation.

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to read our HeliPad newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it.

If you would like to get in touch with us, here's how:-

By Post: Devon Air Ambulance Trust
5 Sandpiper Court, Harrington Lane,
Exeter, EX4 8NS

Phone: 01392 466666 Fax: 01392 464329
Email: info@daat.org Website: www.daat.org

If you feel you would like to make an even bigger difference, why not request some further information from us? If you would prefer to request it by post please fill in the form below, ticking all items of interest and return it to us at the above address:-

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donating | <input type="checkbox"/> Lottery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Scheme | <input type="checkbox"/> Merchandise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Crew Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legacies | |

Please complete this form to request information above by post or email your request to info@daat.org PLEASE PRINT:-

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Address including Postcode:	<input type="text"/>
Tel No:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>
Signed:	<input type="text"/>
Dated:	<input type="text"/>

If you would like to make a regular donation by standing order please see the form overleaf.