

FF

Autumn
2025

LIFE

**WELCOME TO OUR
LATEST NEWS & UPDATES**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

HALF YEAR STATS HAVE LANDED
Our crew going above and beyond

OUR AFTERCARE SUPPORT
Our Charity will always be here for you

TOGETHER FOR THE SEASON
Join us at our festive events



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AMBULANCE**
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Registered Charity 1144097

Welcome from Barbara Gray, our deputy CEO

**As we step into Autumn 2025,
we continue to reflect on an
incredible milestone, our 35th
anniversary. It's thanks to your
ongoing support, we're still
able to be there when we are
needed most.**

We held a special ball at Hartham Park in Corsham to celebrate our anniversary and had a record-breaking fundraising weekend at the Middlewick House Open Garden event in June, which saw us raise over £200,000 for our Charity and the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.

Throughout this issue, you will find a range of exciting events to continue to mark the occasion.

Find us online
wiltshirebathairambulance.org.uk
Follow us     

In the first six months of this year alone, over 65 per cent of missions saw us attend with a doctor on board – up from 51 per cent in 2024. It is part of our long-term strategy to have a doctor on every mission by the end of 2027.

We are extremely grateful to the people and local businesses across Wiltshire and Bath who continue to dig deep and support our work.

I hope you enjoy reading through this edition of Lift Off and are inspired to support us. We hope you'll never need us, but if you do, we'll be there.

Semington • Wiltshire • BA14 6JX
hello@wiltshirebathairambulance.org.uk
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Mission Report

1 JAN — 30 JUNE 2025

607
TOTAL
MISSIONS

291
HELICOPTER

316
CRITICAL
CARE CARS



Top hospitals we airlifted
or assisted patients to...

- 51** Southmead • Bristol
- 46** Royal United • Bath
- 28** Great Western • Swindon



8 incidents were attended by multiple resources (e.g. both the helicopter and critical care car or both critical care cars attended). For illustrative purposes this counts as one mission in that location.



144 Cardiac Emergencies



156 Medical Conditions



97 Road Traffic Collisions



89 Falls

View our online
interactive map

SCAN ME



89

Advanced airway management
performed to create an open airway

47

Uses of LUCAS Machine
to deliver CPR to patients

46

Procedural Sedations
to reduce pain and suffering
following trauma

The lifesaving role of our doctors

Doctors who are able to attend emergency scenes can provide further critical and often lifesaving care before a patient reaches the hospital. This rapid response improves outcomes and helps stabilise patients in the critical moments following an incident.

Doctors are able to administer a Pre-hospital Emergency Anaesthetic (PHEA) an intervention given to protect the patient's airway and ensure they are sufficiently ventilated, as well as to permit interventions to manage the patient's illness or injury.

They are also able to carry out a range of surgical procedures where required, including: a form of open-heart surgery, an emergency caesarean, as well as

administering a wider range of medications.

Up until 2019 any doctors working with the Charity were doing so on a voluntary basis.

However, the Board of Trustees recognised there was a need to increase the number of pre-hospital doctors on the rota and began paying for shifts, in addition to voluntary cover.

A lot of air ambulances operate with doctors on every shift, but that does come with its challenges, the main one being cost.

We are continuing to work towards our strategic goal of having a doctor on 100% of our missions, as it will enhance our overall care and bolster our experience.



**In the first six months of the year
we have been called to**

398 missions

**with a doctor on board,
representing over 65% of all
missions in this period.**



"It's your generosity that enables us to help those who are potentially at the worst moment of their lives."

**Craig Wilkins,
critical care
paramedic**



In November 2024, we rebranded to Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity. This change coincided with the start of our 35th anniversary year, a fitting moment to introduce our new name that more accurately represents the vital, lifesaving work we deliver across Wiltshire and Bath.

In 2024, we were called to a record-breaking 117 missions in Bath and transported 108 patients to the Royal United Hospital.

This accounted for around 9% of our total missions, underscoring the vital role we play in the city.

DID YOU KNOW?

From our airbase in Semington we can fly to the centre of Bath in just four minutes.

FAQs

What is your call sign?

Our helicopter registration is G-WLTS, with the call sign Helimed 22.

Who sits next to the pilot?

On board, our pilot will sit in the front right seat, with a critical care paramedic in the front left. The paramedic is responsible for assisting navigation and radio communications with the HEMS tasking desk.



Shopping that makes a difference starts here

Our Charity shop in Devizes is more than just a place to pick up a bargain. Every item you donate, buy or browse helps us be there when we are needed most. From good quality clothing and accessories to toys, books and homeware, there's something for everyone.

Donations are always welcome, and volunteers play a key role in keeping the shop running smoothly.

Whether you're having a clear-out or looking for a new opportunity, the shop is a great way to support your local air ambulance.

You'll find us at 2 Maryport Street right in the heart of Devizes. Pop in and say hello, you never know what you might find.

To learn more about how you can donate or volunteer, visit wiltshirebathairambulance.org.uk/shop or scan the QR code.

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Teaching lifesaving skills to children

So far in 2025, we have rebranded our emergency awareness training to our Aware + programme and welcomed a second trainer to our team. Our Aware+ training has been delivered to 6,250 young people this year.

We have seen a 20% growth from 2023 in how many schools we visit, whereby we have visited 55 schools so far this year.



Since the scheme launched in 2019, a total of 51,354 pupils have now learnt vital emergency response skills. We visit some schools yearly teaching pupils multiple times, establishing a strong relationship with the schools and reinforcing young pupils' understanding of lifesaving skills.

Andrew Robinson, the Charity's emergency awareness instructor said: "Our aim is to educate the community and provide them with the knowledge to confidently manage a medical emergency prior to the arrival of an ambulance or air ambulance critical care crew."

"We already know of pupils who have been taught lifesaving skills by Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity putting them into practice and saving lives. It really can make all the difference."

What you said about our training

Broad Town Primary School, RWB

"Instructions were pitched perfectly and he was well equipped to answer all questions. A visit, we would definitely recommend every school should experience."

Crockerton CE Primary, Warminster

"Another great day! Having Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance in annually is really demonstrating progress in learning of lifesaving skills."

SCAN ME



WIN £1,000 EVERY WEEK

Join our Lottery for just £1 a week and you could win a weekly cash prize of £1,000. Plus, there are four more chances to win £25 each week.

Feeling lucky? For an extra £1, enter our Superdraw for a chance to win the rollover jackpot of up to **£25,000!** Imagine what you could do with that!

With around 40,000 entries each week, our Lottery and Superdraw help fund one in every four missions, making a real difference.

Since 2009, our Lottery has raised over **£14 million to support our lifesaving work.**

To sign up to our Lottery, scan the QR code below or visit our website

wiltshirebathairambulance.org.uk/lottery



DID YOU KNOW?

Earlier this year, one of our amazing Superdraw winners decided to donate their entire winnings back to the Charity.

We want to take this opportunity to thank them – they are a lifesaver!

Klaire's Story



In July 2023, 43-year-old Klaire Alexander was cycling to work in Corsham when tragedy struck. As she signalled to turn, a car overtook and clipped her elbow at speed, knocking her from her bike. She hit her head so forcefully that she has no memory of the incident itself.

By the time our critical care doctor, Jono Holme, and critical care paramedic, Craig Wilkins, arrived via critical care car, Klaire's condition had worsened.

They immediately intubated her to take over her breathing which allowed her to be taken by land to Southmead Hospital, a major trauma centre.

Klaire spent two weeks in hospital. Her right elbow was shattered and required three operations including plate and screws, leaving her unable to fully straighten it. Even more difficult were the effects on her brain — she developed epilepsy, lost her sense of taste and smell, suffered insomnia and memory loss.

"I'm just so lucky Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity were there for me," Klaire reflects. "They got to the scene so quickly and were able to carry out a procedure that a regular land ambulance wouldn't."

Craig's presence at the scene became invaluable in helping Klaire piece together what happened. "I've been so lucky to have the chance to speak with Craig about the accident, which allowed me to fill in the gaps and bring some closure for me," she says.

Since the crash, Klaire has made some big life changes. She left her previous job and is preparing to set up her own business. And determined to give back, she has taken part in fundraising events — a charity cycle ride and a skydive!

"I wasn't aware of the full extent of Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity's incredible work until my accident," she says.

Living in Corsham, she had seen helicopters flying over and landing

close by, but didn't realise how vital they could be. After discovering the "Mission Map" on our website and recognising the crew that helped her, her gratitude turned into action.



"What they do is incredible and that's all down to voluntary donations, so it's important as many people as possible give their support."

Aftercare Support

Our Charity will always be there for you.

Recovering after a serious injury or medical event is a difficult process.

If you have been treated by Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity and would like to know more about the treatment you received or have unanswered questions, please contact our Aftercare service.

We're here for you, ready to listen with compassion and understanding.

We can offer guidance to bereaved loved ones and would be honoured to welcome you to our airbase, where you can find comfort, connection, and care.

wiltshirebathairambulance.org.uk/aftercare

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Out and about in the community



Whether it's attending events, giving talks, or bringing our mascots to life, there are plenty of fun and rewarding volunteer opportunities.



You can make a difference by:

- **Collecting and distributing tins**
- **Attending presentations**
- **Volunteering at local events**
- **Bringing our mascots to life**
- **Helping in our Charity Shop**
- **Giving informative talks**
- **Gardening at our airbase**
- **Offering office support**

Our amazing volunteers, known as the GroundCrew, dedicate their time to help spread awareness of our lifesaving work. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, try new things, and connect with your community — all while supporting a fantastic cause!

Interested? Find out more online.

Get in touch with our community team

The community team is here to support you every step of the way in your fundraising journey.

From providing resources and advice to helping you maximise your fundraising.

Together, we can make a real difference to the people of Wiltshire and Bath.

If you are holding an event, looking to volunteer or thinking about fundraising for us, get in touch with the team by scanning the QR code below.

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Will you make a difference?



Pete Burch was airlifted by us after a road traffic collision on his motorbike in 2015.

"Completing the will online, in the comfort of my home, meant I could take my time and decide the intricacies of where we wanted various parts of my will to go.

"I knew from the very beginning that Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity was the first thing I was going to include in my will."

A gift in your will costs nothing during your lifetime but ensures we can keep saving lives in the future. On average, around one in three of our lifesaving missions is funded by gifts left in wills. These gifts help our aircrew reach patients quickly, treat them on the spot, and transport them to the hospital that's best for their needs.

We offer free will-writing options through our trusted partners:

Secure a solicitor-drafted will: We've partnered with Parker Bullen LLP, a long-established law firm based in Salisbury, to help you through the entire will-writing process.

Write a will online: Through Farewill, you can create a solicitor-checked will at your own pace from the comfort of your home.

You don't need to include a gift to us to use our free will services, but if you are able to leave a gift after caring for your loved ones, we'd be incredibly grateful.

Interested in learning more?



What's coming up...



17 SEPT

Q's with the crew

Join us for this opportunity to ask all your burning Q's to our crew



25 SEPT

Behind-the-scenes Tour

We will be opening the doors to our airbase to give our guests a unique experience. The tour will cover our flight room, helicopter hangar and simulation room.

Valuation Day

We're back with another Valuation Day, this time at our airbase!

Let our ambassador and host of BBC's Flog It Paul Martin cast his expert eye over your prize possessions.

27 SEPT



1 OCTOBER

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting, will look back over the last year and look ahead to what the future holds for our charity.

5 OCTOBER

CycleFest @ Castle Combe

CycleFest returns for 2025! Gear up for a family friendly day of cycling fun.





20 NOVEMBER

Christmas Market Day

Join us at our airbase for a festive Christmas Market Day filled with seasonal cheer! Enjoy a variety of local stalls, delicious treats, and family-friendly activities – all in support of our life-saving work. It's the perfect way to kick off the holiday season and pick up some unique Christmas gifts.

Malmesbury Carol Service

Come and celebrate the joy of Christmas at our Malmesbury Carol Service. With traditional carols, uplifting music, and festive readings, it's a wonderful way to get into the spirit of the season.

3 DECEMBER



11 DECEMBER

Bath Abbey Carol Service

Celebrate the festive season with us at Bath Abbey's beautiful Carol Service. Enjoy traditional carols, choral music, and seasonal readings in the stunning candlelit setting of the Abbey.



15 MARCH 2026

Bath Half Marathon

Race through the heart of the World Heritage City of Bath in support of your local air ambulance.

**Get in touch with our fundraising team,
we'd love to hear from you!**





SCAN ME



Festive support

Our beautifully designed Christmas cards and eco-friendly wrapping paper sets are the perfect way to share the magic of the season.

Whether you're spreading joy through heartfelt messages or wrapping up presents with love, our collection brings warmth, meaning and impact to every gesture. Stock is limited – shop now online and make a real difference this Christmas.

Plan. Grow. Protect.

Law. As it should be.

Navigating life's complexities requires more than legal expertise. We listen, understand, and communicate effectively. Whether it's the present or future planning, we provide clear, reliable advice without the nonsense.

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