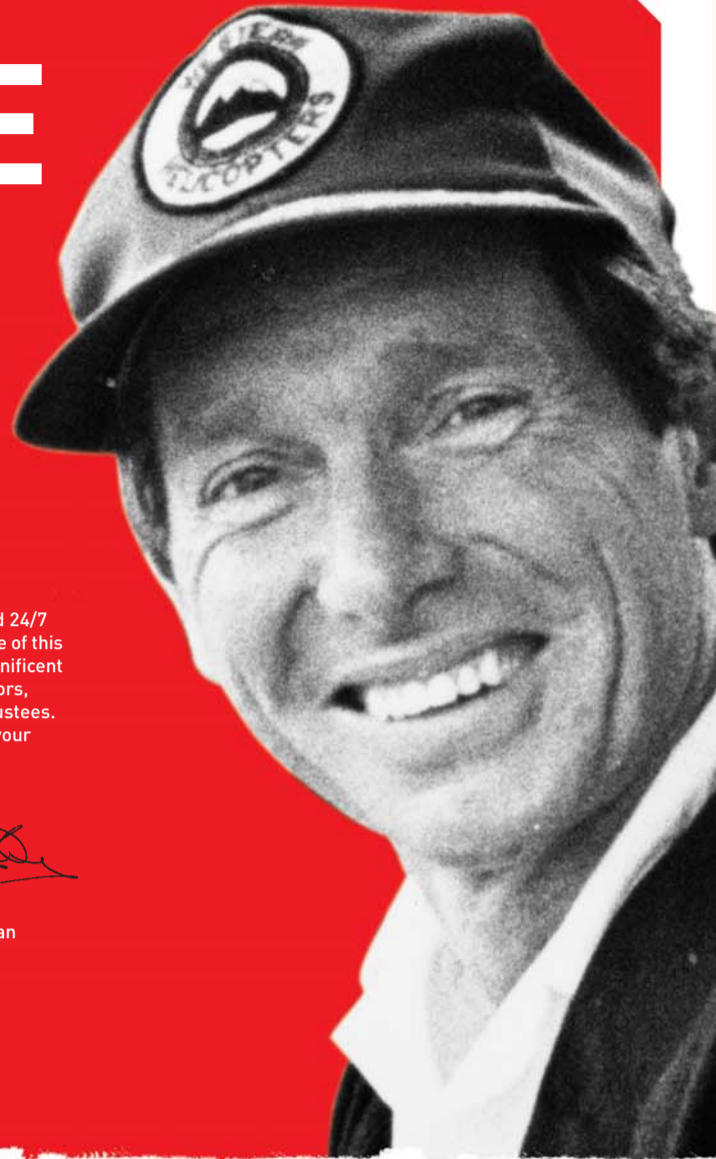


"THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY"



The Life Flight Trust is a registered charitable trust providing two vital community services: the Wellington-based Westpac Rescue Helicopter and the Life Flight NZ Air Ambulance Service, based in both Wellington and Auckland.

On 10 April 1968, the inter-island ferry Wahine could be seen foundering at the entrance to Wellington Harbour. It had been caught by one of New Zealand's worst-ever storms on record, leaving 734 passengers and crew in serious trouble a few hundred metres from the shore.

Among the crowd on Seatoun beach was a man called Peter Button. As he witnessed the struggle of those trying to rescue people in the water he turned to his companion and said, "There has to be a better way!" As a recreational pilot, Peter knew that a helicopter, with its speed and ability to get to out-of-the-way places, could be a better way to rescue people.

Peter never forgot how useful a helicopter could have been that day when 51 people lost their lives, and in 1976 he began a journey to fulfill a dream – a dream for Wellington to have a fully dedicated rescue helicopter service.

30 years on...

Peter Button's dream did not end when he was tragically killed in 1987. The Trustees of the Life Flight Trust continued Peter's vision and now, in 2006, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of Peter starting a Wellington-based rescue helicopter service. The last 30 years have seen many milestones, with over 12,000 people helped,

and the development into a fully dedicated 24/7 air ambulance and air rescue service. None of this could have been achieved without the magnificent support of our sponsors, supporters, donors, volunteers, service partners, staff and Trustees. Our grateful thanks and appreciation for your support of our mission: To save lives.

Kevin Allan
Kevin Allan
General Manager

Bill Day
Bill Day
Chairman



PETER BUTTON OBE CO-FOUNDER OF THE LIFE FLIGHT TRUST

THE STORY OF LIFE FLIGHT

1968 // The inter-island ferry **Wahine** sinks in Wellington Harbour only a few hundred metres from the shore. The need for a rescue helicopter service is conceived.

1975 // With financial help, **Peter Button** purchases a Hughes 300 helicopter and then learns to fly it! Peter obtains his helicopter licence and establishes Capital Helicopters. He also meets, and starts working closely with, Russell Worth, a Wellington neurosurgeon. Russell had developed a strong interest in aerial patient transport through treating patients flown from offshore oil rigs.



1976 // Peter is granted an air operating licence after **serious flooding** in the Hutt Valley, but faces heavy restrictions on where he can operate. These restrictions mean he can only operate within a 48km radius of Wellington Airport.

1978 // On 28 February, Capital Helicopters performs its first **inter-hospital transfer**. A truck driver involved in an accident is transferred from Wellington to Christchurch's Burwood Hospital Spinal Unit.

1981 // Through the initiative of Bill Day, then Public Relations Manager and subsequently Chairman of Life Flight, the Commercial Bank of Australia (CBA) - later becoming **Westpac** - commences sponsorship of the rescue helicopter service.



1982 // On 2 November, **The Life Flight Trust** is established. The co-founders are Peter Button, Russell Worth and John Rennie (then Chief Executive of Wellington Hospital). The objective is to provide an emergency air search, rescue and ambulance service to all people within a 162km radius of Wellington City.

Peter Button is awarded an **OBE** in recognition of his services to the community.

1983 // The Life Flight Trust leases a **fixed-wing aircraft** for long-range medical transfers of critical patients on an as-required basis. The Cessna Golden Eagle 421 is modified for air ambulance work and brought up to full life support standard.



1987 // Peter is awarded the **Queen's Medal** for Gallantry, and his son Clive is recognised with the Queen's Commendation for bravery for their roles in the dramatic rescue of two crewmen of the Lady Elizabeth II, the Police launch which capsized in Wellington Harbour during a storm in 1986.



On 20 November 1987, **tragedy strikes**. Whilst assisting Police in the pursuit of an escaped prisoner, Peter clips a high-tension power cable and loses his life, along with the lives of two other passengers aboard the helicopter – cruel fate that a man who had risked his life to save others so many times should lose his own on a routine search.

1988 // The Trust introduces New Zealand's first twin-engine rescue helicopter, a **Bolkow BO105**.



1989 // Life Flight develops its own helicopter stretcher bridges. Patients can now be transported without being disconnected from intensive care equipment and we begin full **intensive care inter-hospital transfers**; a bedside-to-bedside service.

1995 // A helicopter pad is opened on the roof of **Wellington Hospital**. Patients are now a mere 90 seconds from the Emergency Department or Intensive Care Unit upon landing.



1996 // The helicopter rescues an injured fisherman from a boat 300km east of the Chatham Islands – one of the **longest offshore rescues** in New Zealand.

1999 // Life Flight designs and builds a new **neonatal incubator** that is more compact, 40kg lighter, and uses much less power than existing bulky transport incubators.

2000 // The air ambulance workload doubles. In September, a new record is set as the helicopter and fixed-wing complete a combined total of **16 missions in 48 hours**.

2001 // The **Life Flight NZ Air Ambulance is launched**. This Metroliner fixed-wing aircraft carries two stretcher patients at intensive care level when required, up to four clinical staff, a crewperson and up to four other patients or family members anywhere in New Zealand, including the Chatham Islands.



A joint venture road ambulance is introduced in conjunction with **Wellington Free Ambulance**. The dedicated road ambulance is used solely to transport patients between Life Flight NZ and local hospitals, freeing up front-line Wellington Free Ambulances for emergency work. It also ensures that patients are being moved to or from Life Flight NZ without delay.

2003 // While responding to **Masterton Hospital** to retrieve an injured patient, the rescue helicopter hits trees in the Tararua Ranges.

The helicopter is severely damaged but lands safely and all four on board have only minor injuries. A temporary helicopter continues the service.

The region's new **Air Rescue Centre** is completed, blessed by Te Ati Awa in February and officially opened by Her Excellency, the Governor-General of New Zealand, The Honourable Dame Silvia Cartwright PCNZM, DBE, on 3 March.



2004 // On 29 January, the new **Westpac Rescue Helicopter** is officially dedicated by Ann Sherry, CEO of Westpac NZ.

Life Flight is named **"Trust of the Year"** by NZ Trustees Association.

2005 // In February, the Auckland-based fixed-wing Air Ambulance service starts operation, with the help of the New Zealand Community Trust. An important part of this service is transporting very ill babies and children to access **specialist resources** at Starship Children's Health and Auckland City Hospital.

2006 // On 14 February, **Auckland Air Ambulance Service turns 1**, and achieves a milestone of 1,000 people flown since its inception in February 2005.

21 September sees the **celebration of 25 years (1981-2006) of Westpac sponsorship** of the Life Flight Trust. Without the support of Westpac over the past 25 years, the service would have struggled. Life Flight and the public owe Westpac a special vote of thanks for their continued support.



On 13 October Life Flight is Awarded a Wellington City Council **Safety in the City Award**.

ANNUAL FINANCIALS

The Life Flight Trust is committed to providing a reliable, safe high-quality air rescue and air ambulance service. To do this, we aim to obtain the funds necessary to meet our costs and to purchase or replace equipment we need so we can continue to help those people who need us.

A summary of our financials is provided below, as at March 2006:

FUNDS RECEIVED	
Flying fees	\$4,060,415
Donations, sponsorship and grants	\$3,055,433
Other income	\$ 467,502
Interest received	\$ 54,902
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,638,252
LESS COST OF SERVICES	\$7,599,206
NET SURPLUS	\$ 39,046

We rely on our sponsors, donors and other supporters to provide our services. We could not do it without you. Thank you.

Thanks to our service partners

Life Flight works closely with various service partners to ensure seamless patient care and coordination:

ACC, Auckland District Health Board, Capital and Coast District Health Board, New Zealand Police, New Zealand Fire Service, Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand, Wellington Free Ambulance.

Thanks to our Trustees

Bill Day JP	Life Flight Chair
Catherine Taylor	Life Flight Deputy Chair
Peter Adamson	Deputy Director Maritime New Zealand
Deborah Battell	Retired Air Vice-Marshal, Royal New Zealand Air Force
Murray Gough	Director, Fair Trading Branch, Commerce Commission
Dr Peter Hicks	Company Director
Peter Mairs OBE	Clinical Director, Intensive Care Unit, Capital and Coast Health
Andrea Pettett	Former Director, Life Flight Chairperson, Wellington Free Ambulance Board
Trevor Taylor	CEO, Outward Bound Trust
Stephen Ward	Partner, Simpson Grierison
Dr Russell Worth	Retired Neurosurgeon, Wellington

ISO 9001 REGISTERED
AIA ACCREDITED

LIFE FLIGHT TRUST
FREEPOST 3622
PO BOX 14448, KILBIRNIE
WELLINGTON, 6241

LIFE FLIGHT TRUST
17 GEORGE BOLT STREET
RONGOTAI
WELLINGTON, 6022

P 04.387 9591
F 04.387 9619
E admin@lifeflight.org.nz
W www.lifeflight.org.nz

YES I want to help Life Flight save lives.

Please complete the required information, then detach this slip and send it to us with your donation, or visit our website to make a secure credit card donation.

Please send me information on:

Making a monthly donation through my bank

Including Life Flight in my will

Other ways I can help Life Flight

MR MRS MISS MS MR AND MRS (PLEASE TICK ONE) SUPPORTERS NUMBER

FIRST NAME LAST NAME

STREET SUBURB

TOWN/CITY POSTCODE

PHONE EMAIL

I would like to make a donation of: \$100 \$75 \$55 \$45 \$25 other: \$

VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DINERS (PLEASE TICK ONE)

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE NAME ON CARD

SIGNATURE

All donations above \$5 may be tax deductible within the limits imposed by the Income Tax Act

OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR Westpac	PRINCIPAL FUNDER NZCT NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY TRUST	MITSUBISHI MOTORS brilliant
TeamTalk	DOMINION POST	radionetw@rk
Mobil Aviation	Wild at Heart Wellington	
Absolutely POSITIVELY Wellington	3 NEWS	THE DOCUMENT COMPANY
FUJI XEROX	freestyle TOTAL PRINT PRODUCTION	OZGIN

Life Flight

SAVING LIVES ABOVE ALL ELSE

➤ AIR RESCUE AND AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

➤ WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER & LIFE FLIGHT NZ AIR AMBULANCE

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SAVE LIVES