



Harvey recovers in hospital after his emergency flight

You may not know, but your support helps Life Flight operate two Air Ambulance Planes that offer full intensive care to patients during a flight.

This was the case for nine year old Harvey from Marlborough who was attending a friend's birthday picnic when the horse he was riding got spooked, threw him off and kicked him in the head. He was wearing a helmet, but his mum Caf arrived quickly to find him with a severe

You have helped save kids like Harvey by giving them emergency flights

Photo credit: Sean Singleton

head injury. They were rushed to Wairau Hospital where it was determined he needed to get to Wellington Hospital for emergency specialist care.

"The Life Flight team was awesome, they told us everything that was going on. When you're a Mum in this situation your head is just not completely straight and they helped ease some of our fears."

The horse kick luckily missed Harvey's eye, but it crushed his frontal sinus. Your support meant we could fly Harvey urgently to hospital for essential treatment.

"He had to have bits of his skull removed and others glued and screwed and had lots of appointments with specialists."

But he's pretty much the same kid he was before. The outcome could have been much worse."

Harvey is now back riding and planning to host a Life Flight fundraiser to support our work.



Back in the saddle – thanks to your donations

35 years of dedicated service...

It was just over 35 years ago that the team of people below met to strike a deal, the first of its kind in the nation, and one that would end up helping thousands of Kiwis in their time of need. On 7 December 2016 we celebrated 35 years of Westpac sponsorship of our Rescue Helicopter.

This sponsorship was a significant stepping stone for our founders, Peter Button and Russell Worth, toward their dream of having a dedicated

rescue helicopter service for Wellington. Current Life Flight Trustee Bill Day helped this dream become a reality by initiating the partnership back in 1981 when in his role as Public Relations Manager with the Commercial Bank of Australia, now Westpac.

Thanks, Westpac! Your long-standing, generous support has helped to ensure our Chopper is there for our communities, helping save lives and making a difference every day.



▲ Peter Button swoops in to rescue a family in Marlborough floods, 1983

◀ Pictured in 1981, left to right on launch day:

Dr Russell Worth

Co-founder of Life Flight Trust

John Perrett

Assistant Manager CBA Bank

Eric Andrews

Business associate Capital Helicopters

Bill Gough

Manager CBA Bank

Jack Tweedie

Branch Manager CBA Bank

Peter Button

Co-founder of Life Flight Trust

Bill Day

Manager Public Affairs CBA Bank

Don Weatherhead

Manager Marketing CBA Bank

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



Major Sponsor



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Fagan Motors
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Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



Newstalk ZB



Crofton Downs / Martinborough



FUJI XEROX



Marlborough / Masterton

Thank you for being a life-line for us

The winch on the Westpac Rescue Helicopter is literally a life-line for those involved in maritime disasters or accidents in dense bush. The cable is only eight millimetres thick, yet it can lift immense weight.

The team here at Life Flight undertook some strength testing on the winch cable at the end of last year. Julian Burn, Crewperson, tells us why this was so important:

"We wanted to better understand how the cable would react to different types of stressors placed on it during challenging winch rescues.

1: The Static pull test:

The cable was connected to a test system and essentially pulled slowly until it snapped. The cable manufacturer stated a cable break strain point and we were glad to see that it exceeded this by some way.



Crew inspect the winch testing work.

shock loading happens when a weight is applied rapidly to the winch cable. An example of this could be someone slipping while connected to the winch cable, falling a very small distance, say 1 metre, before the cable pulls tight. Or the cable getting snagged on an external object and pulling tight. The resulting shock load on the cable will be many times the weight of the person attached to it.

The resulting shock load on the cable was calculated to be many more times the weight of a person that might be attached to it. We allow for zero shock loading on our winch cable, but this challenging test gave us vital insights into its capabilities. Thanks to the team at Bridon Cookes who donated their

training time and equipment to help us with this work.

We have an ongoing commitment to training and innovation here at Life Flight to ensure our patients, team members and the community are safe.

Your donations help us to do this – Thank you!"



Photo credit: Sophie Webber

TRAINING TIME:
The team use a life-size dummy on a water winch training exercise.



Winch testing day at the base. Ensuring the team is safe is a priority!

2: The Shock load drop test:

Shock loading is a very real danger for any helicopter winch rescue. Our crew spend many hours training on how to avoid this event occurring. Essentially,

Upcoming events



Life Flight

Open Day



Open Day, 19 March, 10am-2pm

Join us at our air rescue base in Rongotai, near Lyall Bay Warehouse, for an action-packed day. Enjoy rescue demos, emergency service displays, delicious food, spot prizes and plenty of kids' entertainment. www.lifeflight.org.nz/openday

Wings Over Wairarapa Air Festival, 17-19 February

Life Flight will be taking part in this event, which includes one of the largest air shows in New Zealand. Held in Masterton every two years, it features spectacular aerial displays and vintage aircraft. www.wings.org.nz/

PwC Foundation Charity Relay, 24 February

The PwC Foundation is hosting a 100km relay with a goal to raise funds for four charities, including Life Flight. Starting on the Wellington waterfront and finishing at the outstanding Te Kairanga Vineyard in Martinborough, it's sure to be a spectacular event.

Castlepoint Races, 11 March

A family picnic race day with over eight races plus other activities including children's games and a fun fashion parade. A portion of proceeds come back to Life Flight.

Tauherenikau Races, 26 March

Enjoy a day out at picturesque Tauherenikau for the Masterton Racing Club's annual meeting. All of the gate takings are donated to Life Flight.

ANZAC Day Road Race, 25 April

An Open Run, Fun Run or Walking event held in Carterton. Organised and sponsored by Ray Wallis with all entry fees coming back to Life Flight.

Tour of New Zealand, 1-8 April

Be part of Life Flight's amazing team in the next cycling Tour of New Zealand. You choose how to ride – individually or as a team, racing for the podium or riding for the adventure. No matter how you ride, you're helping raise funds to keep us in the air.

Omaka Classic Fighters Air Show, 14-16 April

Life Flight will take part in this fabulous event that showcases a thrilling collection of stunning aircraft. Held over Easter weekend in Marlborough. <http://www.classicfighters.co.nz/>

Te Kairanga Vineyard Sunday Markets

The markets are held in Martinborough the first Sunday of each month November through April. Enjoy live music, local produce and delicious food, knowing that a portion of the proceeds from this year's events will come back to Life Flight. www.facebook.com/TKFarmersMarket/

Annual Westpac Chopper Street Appeal, 5 May

Life Flight's Street Collection will be held on Friday 5 May, in partnership with our sponsor Westpac. If you're interested in volunteering, please email events@lifeflight.org.nz.

**We send a sincere thank you to the wonderful supporters who organise events and raise life-saving funds!
Are you interested in organising or have you organised a fundraising event in support of Life Flight?**

Please contact 04 920 2242 or events@lifeflight.org.nz.

TEAM UPDATE

Meet Jodie

Job with Life Flight:

Helicopter and Plane Crewperson

How long have you worked for Life Flight?

5 months

What attracted you to this job?

Working for Life Flight is, in my opinion, as good as it gets if you're interested in an aeromedical career with a great professional organisation.

What's the best part of the job?

The feeling of being part of a successful team contributing to saving lives is extremely rewarding.

What's the hardest part?

Like any emergency service's work, you're often with people during their worst and most difficult moments, which can be hard.

What was the main thing that stood out for you when you started working here?

Two things: how consistently well the team does in the *Dom Post* quiz each morning, and also how passionate everyone is about their role with Life Flight.

What work did you do before coming here?

I took a 'gap year' after school which turned into a decade of guiding and instructing in the outdoor industry both in NZ

and overseas. I then spent a few years studying to get degrees in Nursing and Paramedicine and have worked as a nurse and paramedic over the last few years.

What do you do when you're not at work?

I'm loving exploring new mountain biking trails around the area, and now that the ocean is on the doorstep, the plan is to become a world class surfer.

What is something our supporters might be surprised to find out about you?

I was the first person to ski backwards from top to bottom of the southernmost ski area in the world (Scott Base, Antarctica). Nobody has claimed they have done this before me (yet!).

What would you like to say to our wonderful supporters?

Thank you so much for the ongoing support. It's because of you that we are able to continue saving lives and help those in need. Thank you!



Operations update

JULY - DECEMBER 2016

You helped achieve the below in the last half of 2016. We think you're fantastic.

Thank you!

Statistics

People helped 655

Average age 49

Oldest 96

Gender

Male 60%

Female 40%

Types of missions

Emergency accidents (e.g. road accidents) 72

Medical emergencies 88

Vital baby incubator transfers 126

Search & rescue 3

Intensive care transfers 362

Training 28

Others 17

Busiest day Tuesday

Busiest month December

In the last six months we have rescued, saved and helped over 600 people thanks to you. These often challenging missions, once again underline the amazing pilots, crew and paramedics we have working here and that you very kindly support.

Thankful for the helicopter and for your help

Life Flight

Saves time. Saves lives

Whenever Samara sees the Westpac Rescue Helicopter in the skies, her emotions are torn. Part of her worries as she realises something terrible may have happened.

"But I also know the patient will be in safe hands", she says.

Samara knows this because she was a patient that needed crucial help and an urgent helicopter flight from Kapiti to Wellington.

During a bout with a cold/flu Samara was given some antibiotics. About ten minutes after taking the first pill she began to sneeze and then got really itchy.

Thankfully her family were visiting and were able to take her to the medical centre. On the way there the symptoms got worse. Her eyes started to go blurry, her heart was racing and she had difficulty breathing. Walking into the clinic her skin was so red it looked like she was sunburnt.

"I told them what had happened and they quickly realised I was in anaphylactic shock. As they were treating me I asked if I was going to die."

Life Flight's Westpac Rescue Helicopter was dispatched. The helicopter landed in the car park and they loaded her in. The paramedic had to hold her because she couldn't

stop shaking. They got her to Wellington Hospital quickly and after vital treatment she was able to be discharged later that night.

"I'm just so thankful the helicopter is around. Imagine if it wasn't. Thank you so much!"

Your donations help keep the chopper going 24/7 all year round and we can't do it without your help, so thank you again.



Samara visits us at base to say thank you

YES! I'D LIKE TO DONATE TO HELP SAVE LIVES.

Name Supporter No. (If known)

Address

Email (to receive updates)

I'd like to donate: (please tick) \$25 \$50 \$100 My choice: \$

Donation method: (please tick preferred option)

Credit card: Please debit my credit card VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DINERS

Number: Expiry: /

Name on card: Signature:

Cheque: Payable to The Life Flight Trust

Online: www.lifeflight.org.nz

Electronic transfer: Bank account 03 0578 0048481 08. Enter your Supporter Number in the reference field

I would like to speak to someone about information on leaving a gift to The Life Flight Trust in my Will

Would you like to receive your receipts by email?

YES

Individuals can claim a tax refund of up to 33% of their donation.

Our privacy policy is available at www.lifeflight.org.nz/privacypolicy

Registered Charity #CC24283. Please return in the envelope provided or post to: Life Flight Trust, PO Box 14448, Kilbirnie, Wellington, 6241.