

It was just like any other Friday for Pip and Wayne. Wayne was making some breakfast downstairs, whilst Pip was in the shower. She suddenly felt a massive pain in her head, placed a towel down and lay on the floor. Wayne raced upstairs and helped her into bed. Thinking it was a migraine, Pip took some Panadeine however, after awhile they called the doctor who was worried about the lack of change in her condition.

"Without even seeing her, our doctor said, "get her to a hospital, now."

Once at Palmerston North Hospital Pip was triaged straightaway, the medical team started doing scans and tried to ease the pain.

"Pip was super sensitive to light, so pretty much had a towel around her eyes the whole time."

Wayne soon discovered that Pip would need to be transferred to Wellington Hospital; she was suffering an aneurysm. An aneurysm is a bleed in the brain, and with a survival rate of just 60%, time is crucial to recovery.

Continued over >

Thanks to you Pip now has a second chance at life



Pip is now back home with her family, thanks to you



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THE LIFE FLIGHT TRUST
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"My initial reaction was that we were going to the best place possible and before we knew it, we were being taken to the airport."

The flight team met Pip and Wayne and took them to the plane.

Once admitted to the Neurology Ward at Wellington Hospital, the doctors were able to avoid full cranial surgery and stop the aneurysm with a stent. Their daughter and son-in-law were able to come down and visit Pip.

"From the minute Life Flight arrived, their whole demeanour was calm; they reassured us and talked us through the process. I know they have done this a million times, but it felt like we were the first ones; the only ones that mattered right then."

After spending nine days in hospital Pip was able to return home, by ambulance this time.

"I have actually come through this amazingly well. I didn't need any other rehabilitation with balance and speech."

With Pip home and slowly getting back to work, they received the

exciting news, that they will become grandparents early next year.

"We've been given a second opportunity at life, and this news just tops it off."



Pip up and about one week after her aneurysm

Throughout the whole process, we can't speak highly enough of the team for getting our Pip home again."



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:



Dylan

What is your job with Life Flight?

I am one of the pilots on the Westpac Rescue Helicopter.

How long have you worked for Life Flight?

I have been flying the Wellington Rescue Helicopter since November 2019.

What work did you do before coming to Life Flight?

Before moving to New Zealand, I was flying an Air Ambulance helicopter in Johannesburg, South Africa. Prior to that I had worked in anti-poaching, mining support, survey and instruction.

What attracted you to this job?

Wellington is a great place to raise our 3-year-old twin boys, so we jumped at the opportunity to move the family here.

What is the best part of the job?

The diversity. One day we could fly a person from one hospital to another,

and the next job could be a marine rescue.

What is the hardest part of your job?

Making the tough decision not to fly. When someone needs our help, we want to get out there and do everything we can to help, but the Wellington weather doesn't always play along, so I have to make some tough calls and keep my crew safe.

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

The community support. It's great to see how many people come to the open days, and how we are treated when we respond to ambulance calls. That, and the wind.

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

My kids keep me fairly occupied over weekends, but during the week, when I'm not working, I play the odd game of golf, and I do some amateur blacksmithing, making kitchen knives mostly.

What would you like to say to our wonderful supporters?

Thank you so much for your support. Without the communities' ongoing support, the service would not be able to operate at the level it does.



Dylan and his crew are ready to help those who need us



Lives
you
have
touched

Because of you,
hundreds of people have
been helped in the first
half of 2021.

Thank You!

Statistics: Jan' - Jun' 2021

People helped
725

For each person helped there is a ripple effect that goes on to touch their family, friends and neighbours. Thank you for saving lives and keeping whānau together.

You're amazing!



UpLift Wairarapa

4 December 2021, 5.00-7.30 pm
Martinborough Town Hall
Tickets \$95

Join host Mark Sainsbury at UpLift Wairarapa on Dec 4th, 2021, a new Wairarapa cocktail style event held in the Martinborough Town Hall raising funds for Life Flight. For more information, to secure your tickets or support this event email info@lifeflight.org.nz



The Wellington Truck and Transport Show

20 February 2022
Trentham Memorial Park, Upper Hutt
Entry is via a gold coin

In support of Life Flight, the Silverstream Lions are once again hosting this exciting event.

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

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

Always saving lives

We are enormously grateful to a wonderful group of you who have indicated that you are going to remember Life Flight in your Will. Your amazing support helps us to keep saving lives – in fact almost one in five of our missions is funded because someone generously left a gift in their Will.

If you haven't yet, perhaps this may have been something you have considered but never found the time to get done? Our new Bequests Manager, Gavin McLellan, is looking at ways to encourage more supporters to deepen their journey with us in this way.

Later this year we will be launching a new programme for gifts in Will. To help us best achieve that Gavin would like to hear from you. He's interested in your motivation and what's inspired and sustained your support.

To help out drop a line to gavin@lifeflight.org.nz



Meet Zachariah, thanks to you he got the urgent help he needed

Being assisted to breathe by a manual oxygen pump, premature baby Zachariah needed to get to Wellington Hospital fast.

After a month's bed rest due to complications while pregnant, Elisha started to get severe back pains. Elisha was quickly admitted to Palmerston North Hospital, it was decided it would be too risky to fly her to Wellington, she was in full labour.

Zachariah was born 16 weeks earlier than expected, weighing just 800 grams. Dad Aaron recalls: "he was like a silicon mould; he could fit in my hand."

Tiny Zachariah was rushed to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in Palmerston North Hospital, where they stabilised him. Zachariah needed specialist attention, fast.

"My wife was still in surgery and watching them work on Zachariah, I didn't know what was going to happen.

It took another two hours to make sure Zachariah was safe to fly."



Zachariah at home with his proud big sister Riley-Jane



Zachariah - born at 24 weeks

A few hours later the Life Flight team, along with Wellington NICU nurses arrived to help Zachariah.

Aaron was able to walk with the crew to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter to say goodbye to his son.

"I remember watching with my brother the helicopter taking off with our son."

Baby Zachariah spent eight weeks in Wellington Hospital, he was flown back on one of our Air Ambulance Planes with Mum Elisha, spending a further eight weeks in Palmerston North Hospital's NICU. Thanks



Your support enabled Baby Zachariah to return to Palmerston North Hospital after eight weeks in Wellington NICU

to your ongoing support, he then returned home, where his eight-year-old sister eagerly awaited his return. "She's been wanting a younger sibling her whole life."

Zachariah is a fighter. "The list he had... he had brain damage, he even had bilateral brain bleeds and he recovered from that." Now a happy and bubbly eight-month-old baby, Zachariah has just been able to come off oxygen.

"A cliché is that we say we never would expect we would need Life Flight, but then you realise we are all those people, and when you need this service... it is just so important that they are there. Keep supporting as much as possible."



Happy Healthy Zachariah thanks to your kind support

Jarrood's lucky escape

It was a wet day at work for Jarrod, who was driving along the beautiful Mount Bruce landscape in his ute, when suddenly he found himself rolling down a steep, grassy hill. The ute rolled five times before he was able to free himself from the vehicle, then rolled a further 100 metres down the bank, stripping away almost all panels from the vehicle.

Thankfully, his workmate who wasn't in the ute was quick to call emergency services and a farmer nearby (an ex-paramedic) was able to perform first aid.

"They didn't move me because they wanted to keep my neck and back still."

Because of the rugged landscape the Westpac Rescue Helicopter had to land 100m away from where Jarrod was. Life Flight's team had to

carry him along the wet and slippery tussock so that he could be flown immediately to hospital.

"There was a lot going on – it was quite chaotic... I didn't even hear the helicopter come over!"

During this ordeal, Jarrod was thankful to have the crew there to keep him calm.

"There was one guy who was sitting next to me, he was really nice and making sure I was happy and okay."

When he got to hospital with a punctured lung, cuts to the head and hip, serious bruising and coughing up blood, Jarrod was surprised that he got off with little more.

"It was pretty horrific... but I didn't have any broken bones."

One of Jarrod's colleagues stated that *"he's an extremely lucky man"*, especially when

thinking back on all the people who were able to be there so quickly.

A few months down the track, Jarrod was slowly getting back to work. He was still receiving physio for his neck, however *"everything is looking pretty good."*

Crewman Logan explains that *"you never know what you're going to get with a rural callout, and because it's so far away from most services, we are usually the first on the scene."*

Jarrood says *"Keep up donations, because every minute counts. I didn't expect to be rolling a ute down a hill that day, and my injuries were bad, but could have been worse."*

Jarrood got the help he urgently needed thanks to your support



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

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