


THIS ISSUE


Covid-19 Special








Covid-19 OUR STATS


 **28%**
the drop in road traffic collision callouts during the peak of Covid-19

Transfers increased
70%
with **75%** being Covid-19 related


We saw an increase of **8%** in assaults

1,388

items of PPE donated!
This included masks, suits and visors


 Callouts to self-harm patients increased
9%

100%
shift coverage was maintained throughout the peak of the pandemic


Our Covid-19 journey

My name's **Andy Smith**. I'm the Clinical Operations Manager and a Critical Care Paramedic at **Magpas Air Ambulance**.



service 24/7 to patients in life-threatening emergencies, in the safest way possible.

As well as providing lifesaving care in our day-to-day operations, we also helped hospitals with severely ill Covid-19 patients, by using our specialist equipment and skills to transfer them to Covid-19 wards at different hospitals. You can read more about what these inter-hospital transfers entail on page 4.

Despite the challenges, we've also seen incredible acts of community unity. As most of our fundraising had to stop and the financial impact of Covid-19 has grown, so many of you have continued to support our crucial service in any way you can.

Runs, walks, hair shaving, pizza making, cycle rides, eating challenges and golf competitions are just the start! Individuals, community groups and businesses have all helped to

keep our air ambulance flying. Local companies have generously donated products and hot meals to our teams on the frontline to help, say thank you and keep spirits high. We also set up a virtual donation bucket, which so far has raised over £7,000!

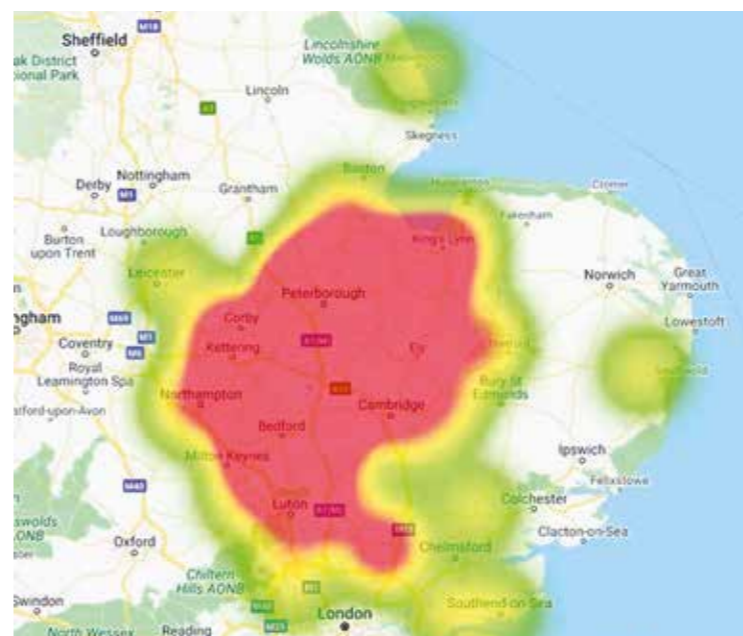
Thanks to your support, the Magpas advanced medical team have worked on the frontline 24 hours a day, every day, throughout the pandemic. It has been and will continue to be a gruelling challenge, but it's worth it if we can continue to be there for people in their ultimate time of need.

I hope you and your family are well and stay safe during this time. Thank you for your support.

ASm.1



Heat map of all activations during peak Covid-19 months. With you, we really do save lives. Thank you.



Critical Covid-19 Transfers

During the pandemic, **Magpas Air Ambulance** has been supporting the **NHS** in new ways. This includes the transfer of Covid-19 patients between hospitals so that they can receive the very best care. Magpas Critical Care Paramedic, Steve Chambers, explains what it's like:

Our patient had been in ITU (Intensive Treatment Unit) for over 2 weeks and was still seriously ill. As part of our normal service we regularly anaesthetise and ventilate patients and then care for them throughout their journey to hospital, so we are used to transferring very sick patients. As a result, the **Magpas Air Ambulance** medical team were dispatched to undertake the transfer of a Covid-19 positive patient from King's Lynn to Norwich.

Transfers are complex and can take around 6 hours to complete, so to reach the patient as quickly as possible we flew to the hospital in King's Lynn. On arrival we were

met by our military drivers who were crewing a standard land ambulance, whilst we monitored and cared for the patient in the back. We quickly donned full PPE including hoods, respirators and full bodysuits in order to prevent cross infection. This equipment is vital, but can be very hot to work in and makes communication harder, so we have learnt how to adapt our operations over the last three months.

Once ready, it took about an hour to safely and carefully move our Covid-19 patient from the hospital monitors and ventilator over to our equipment.

Everything has to be done gently and methodically to ensure nothing is snagged or pulled out in the process. Our new monitors allowed us to reduce the number of different infusions the patient had from around 6 to 3, which in turn made the transfer safer and simpler.

Towards the end of the journey there was a point where we needed to act quickly to stabilise the patient by disconnecting the ventilator in order to clear the breathing tube. This meant the virus became airborne, and made us acutely aware that we had a potentially lethal virus on our suits.



At the receiving hospital, we were escorted door to door through the building; as the patient was confirmed Covid-19 the corridors were cleared for us and people made sure they stayed well back. Once in ITU, we were met by the nursing staff and an ITU registrar who took over the care of our patient, allowing us to take our equipment to be thoroughly cleaned.

Having been in such close contact with a Covid-19 positive patient, we needed to be extra careful and meticulously remove our PPE to avoid any contamination. We then got changed back into our regular, Magpas orange flight suits and were all set for our next call to come in.

It is impossible to eat and drink in full PPE so that's the first thing we did when we got back on the aircraft whilst waiting to be called to the next patient who needed us.



David Walston:

“11 days after I spent 15 minutes dead on my bedroom floor, I was back at work.”

Last July, farmer, husband and father of two, David, went into cardiac arrest whilst he was in bed sleeping. David's wife Sabrina immediately called 999 and started performing vital CPR for the man she loves. She didn't stop until a paramedic crew arrived 15 minutes later, alongside the **Magpas Air Ambulance** advanced medical team. Magpas Doctor Rupert and Critical Care Paramedic Sally provided David with treatments and procedures usually only available in a hospital emergency department, right there on his bedroom floor, before accompanying him to hospital.

“Not many people can say that they've saved a life, but Sabrina and **Magpas Air Ambulance** can.” David continues, “I am more grateful than I can begin to express. And perhaps one day I might even forgive Sabrina for the broken ribs she gave me as a result of her compressions!”

Thanks to the care David received that night, he's still here to be with his family, and his daughters showed their support by colouring in the Magpas team who saved their dad's life.

Here they are with their colouring in.



You can download these colouring sheets and lots more at magpas.org.uk/free-resources

COX
AUTOMOTIVE™

Company's drive to support local air ambulance charity

Magpas Air Ambulance has been flying from our operations base at RAF Wyton for over 10 years. In the spring, Cox Automotive, the world's largest automotive service organisation, became our new neighbours. When Cox Automotive learnt we provided emergency medical care to patients in life-threatening emergencies by road, as well as by air, an exciting new partnership was born.

Cox Automotive have now officially joined forces with **Magpas Air Ambulance** to sponsor the charity's two rapid response vehicles. The Magpas advanced medical team predominantly use these vehicles to respond to patients in life-threatening emergencies at night. During the hours of darkness it's not always quickest to reach our patients by air; the aircraft requires more checks and can only land at pre-approved landing sites at this time. However, with less cars on the road at night, the Magpas doctor-paramedic team can often get to patients very quickly on blue lights via road. In fact, the medical team who saved David's life (page 5) reached him in just 24 minutes using one of the **Magpas Air Ambulance** rapid response vehicles!



Magpas Air Ambulance medics go above and beyond

Here's a spotlight on just some of the incredible **Magpas Air Ambulance** clinicians, who have gone above and beyond to care for patients during the Covid-19 pandemic, for **Magpas Air Ambulance** and the NHS.

Pete Bell, Managing Director of Cox Automotive Vehicle Solutions, commented:



“ We are proud to be partnering with the team at **Magpas Air Ambulance**, who don't just save lives, but also help people to recover. Supporting communities is very close to our hearts at Cox Automotive. The opportunity to sponsor Magpas' rapid response vehicles based from our shared site at RAF Wyton and keep these critical vehicles operating is something that we are tremendously excited about. ”

Natalie Church, Director of Operations at Magpas Air Ambulance added:



“ We are thrilled to be working with **Cox Automotive**. Just last year, our clinicians responded to over 700 emergency calls via the Magpas rapid response vehicles and travelled over 30,245 miles – further than the distance around the world! Our response cars are a critical asset to our clinical service. Thanks to Cox Automotive's support, we can be sure that our vehicles will remain in the best condition for our medical team, and ultimately help save lives in the community. ”



When **Magpas Air Ambulance** Dr Adriana isn't working with the charity, she works in intensive care and emergency medicine at Addenbrooke's Hospital for the NHS. She explains, "I've learnt so much, including the true value of being part of a team. When you find yourself in seemingly impossible situations, it is truly empowering to be able to combine all your skills in order to care for patients when they need it most."



Magpas Air Ambulance Dr Rupert is also an Emergency Medicine Doctor for the NHS, based at Leicester Royal Infirmary. Rupert describes what motivates him, "For me, it's all about honing the skills, training and a decade's worth of experience, to bring the best care possible to patients; be that in the hospital or treating someone in a life-threatening emergency at the roadside."



Finally, Steve has been working as a **Magpas Air Ambulance** Critical Care Paramedic since 2012. When he's away from the charity, he works for the NHS East of England Ambulance Service as an Advanced Critical Care Paramedic. He sums up, "These times have been challenging, whether that's as part of the Magpas medical team or as a first responder for the NHS. However, in the midst of it all, I feel fortunate to be able to continue to respond to patients in their time of need – in both my roles."





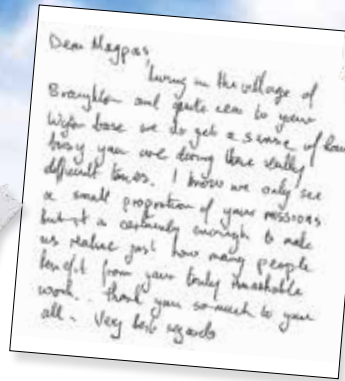
Thanks to your help, throughout all the uncertainty we are still responding 24/7

Overwhelmed by gratitude

You have been showing us your appreciation and incredible support during these uncertain times and we wanted to share some of this with you!



Have a cuppa on me - a sweet gesture much appreciated by Debbie, our Supporter Care Manager



One of the heart warming letters received at Magpas Air Ambulance HQ last month.



We've also been fortunate to receive incredible support from a whole host of businesses during the pandemic. From donating PPE and other vital equipment, to gifts in kind, food and drink. Businesses such as; **Hotel Chocolat, The Addison Arms, Innocent Smoothies, BGL, TJ Wines, Pipasha Restaurant, Godolphin, Domino's Pizza and BCH Operational Support Unit** to name a few and it's our turn to say a massive **THANK YOU** for your incredible generosity.

Here's a few examples where businesses have shown such kindness these past few months



Hotel Chocolat



Innocent Smoothies



Pipasha Restaurant

Forging a new way forward for fundraising challenges & events

Whilst the majority of our normal fundraising had to stop due to Covid-19, our Community and Events Team have been working hard to create a programme of new events that meet socially distanced guidelines for you to take on to help keep us flying.

You can find out more information about fundraisers and events on our website and Facebook page, which we regularly continue to update.



Cuppa & cake

We can finally enjoy other people's company again, and what better way to catch up than over a cuppa and a cake, whilst raising some money for charity?



Magpas Autumn Matchplay

Put your skills to the test in this knockout golf tournament as you play against the best in the region. Will you win top prize?



UK & Overseas Challenges

Run, cycle, trek or skydive your way to fundraising success – we have lots of exciting challenges coming up, all you need to do is find the one for you!



Magpas Air Ambulance, Centenary House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE29 3PE

magpas.org.uk

0300 321 4971

info@magpas.org.uk

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