

AIR AMBULANCE NEWS

LIONS AIR AMBULANCE APPEAL



Air Ambulance
Kent Surrey Sussex

March
2020

HELPING TO SAVE LIVES
LIONS DISTRICT 105SE



We all know the importance of the service provided by the Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS), known to us as the Air Ambulance, and it was great to hear their presentation at our recent District Convention. David Welch, CEO of Air Ambulance Kent Surrey and Sussex (AAKSS) was effusive in his thanks to Lions for all our past and current support. Please see below the message of thanks he issued after the Convention. Once again, a huge thank you to all Lions and all Clubs who have supported the Lions Air Ambulance Appeal in the past. Convention agreed unanimously to support our latest Air Ambulance project, which is to provide a further emergency response vehicle, the need for which is set out in this Newsletter. Please support this appeal as much as you can in this difficult time. Please send your donations to District Charities Treasurer Tom Berry.

Howard Lee, Chairman Lions Air Ambulance Appeal

Rapid Response Vehicle Appeal

The Air Ambulance Service has long been recognised as essential to modern life, and worthy of the support of Lions. Since 2012, Lions Clubs across Kent, Surrey and Sussex have donated to Air Ambulance Kent Surrey and Sussex (AAKSS) over £315,000 for the following:

- to enable the development of a fully functional night flying service
- to provide two rapid response vehicles
- to provide a head scanner to be developed for in-aircraft use, and
- to equip the aircraft and emergency cars with eight video laryngoscopes

There is now a delay in our support for the head scanner project, whilst ethical approvals are obtained and patient trials are carried out. While we wait, we have had a further request from AAKSS



The two rapid response vehicles we previously provided, and which proudly carry the Lions logo, have been of immense benefit to AAKSS and its patients right across our District. However, because of their heavy use, it is becoming more and more difficult and expensive to keep their performance to the high standard required by the service. Therefore, AAKSS have asked us if we can provide another vehicle to join their vehicle fleet, so that they can maintain the standard and frequency of service required of them. AAKSS can obtain a suitable vehicle, tuned for high performance and kitted out for their needs, for a heavily discounted total price of £42,500. More details are available on request. **Please give generously** so that we can provide this essential vehicle as quickly as possible, and thus enable AAKSS **to save more lives**.

David Welch, CEO of AAKSS, Reports

I had the pleasure of attending the Lions convention on Saturday, along with Lynne and Kelly. I gave a short presentation to the 150 delegates about KSS and took the opportunity to thank them for their hugely generous support over the years including donations of over £300k towards our 24/7 operation, night vision goggles, rapid response vehicles, head scanner and video laryngoscopes.

No sooner had I left the stage and the Lions tabled and approved an emergency resolution to provide full funding for a new rapid response vehicle. Wow! I was amazed, humbled and extremely grateful. We are truly privileged to have such dedicated support.

Afterwards, I was honoured to meet and chat to so many Lions, from many different groups across Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Each and every person I spoke to was clearly incredibly committed to making a difference and helping people, not only in their local community but also regionally, nationally and internationally. Their philanthropic spirit really shone through and we can be proud to continue working with the amazing group of people.

