

YOUR IMPACT: 2022 REPORT

Together, we are saving lives **CareFlight**

Thanks to your support, we can continue to save lives and keep families together.



At CareFlight, we're no strangers to unexpected challenges – it's what we do. But the past few years have been tough for many communities. I think that's what makes CareFlight supporters like you so special. You step forward to help.

As we celebrated our 35th year of operations last year, I was powerfully reminded of what it means to have such an amazing crew and generous supporters.

With you by our side, we were able to care for more than 8,800 patients around Australia, saving lives and keeping families together.

In these pages, you'll see lots of smiles and read great stories of how much your gift mattered in 2022. I hope you'll help us again. Costs are rising – yet another challenge for us – but one I know we can overcome together.

- Mick Frewen, CEO, CareFlight



"We are so grateful to CareFlight because they saved our daughter's life. Thank you for supporting their lifesaving work."

- Jane, Izzy's mum



"I want to say thank you. I know it's people like you who made sure CareFlight could race to my side."

- Clare



"We've got our boy back and that's thanks to you and CareFlight."

- Aileen, Dylan's mum





David is among thousands of volunteers who have completed our Trauma Care Workshop

The impact of lifesaving skills

Beef cattle farmer David Cockbain understands how important trauma training is in regional communities. He's been involved in fire and rescue volunteering for over 30 years and seen his fair share of serious injuries on farms and in remote areas.

Your support allowed David to attend the free MediSim Trauma Training Workshop run by CareFlight. Just a few weeks later, David was at the scene of a serious motor accident, with multiple patients.

"Our team were able to use the skills, including correct spinal immobilisation and preparation ready to hand over to medical professionals," said David.



An emotional reunion 30 years in the making - Libby and CareFlight Pilot John Hoad

A rescuer is rescued

Though former police officer Libby Bleakley knew about CareFlight, she never thought she would need their lifesaving help one day. Libby had a scuba diving accident that threatened her life. Surfacing too quickly, she suffered from "the bends" and a blockage to the brain.

Libby was lucky. She was pulled from the water by off-duty ambulance officers and airlifted by CareFlight to the nearest hospital.

In July, Libby reunited with John Hoad, the pilot that helped save her life. She couldn't hold back the tears as she hugged her hero.

"Every day I wake up, every extra day I get, is thanks to CareFlight," she said.

Every bear represents a life saved

For Jacinta Dinn, every CareFlight bear she collects means another life she has helped. Since she bought her first bear in the mid-90s, Jacinta has collected almost 100 – nearly all the CareFlight bears ever produced.

CareFlight bears play a big role, helping us raise more than \$100 million to keep flying to the rescue. Jacinta finds it hard to play favourites, but thinks possibly the 'Patient bear, with a carefully stitched injury' would be near the top of her list.

Jacinta shows how a small act of kindness can make a huge impact – and for that, we say thank you!



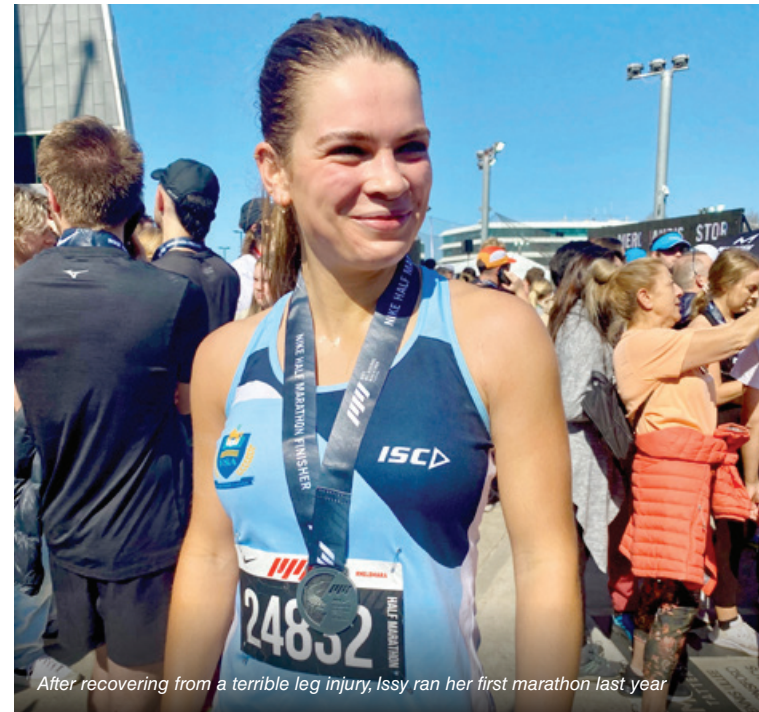
Jacinta and her amazing CareFlight Bear collection

Back on her feet

In October last year, Issy Mackay ran her first marathon. That achievement was through her determination – and your support for CareFlight. The year before, Issy couldn't even walk.

The first-year vet student was on her first university placement when her right calf was badly broken by a cow kick at a remote cattle station. In terrible pain, Issy was relieved to be met by CareFlight crew in a King Air aircraft at a nearby town, who assessed her at the local hospital and flew her to Darwin Hospital for emergency treatment.

"You can't even fathom the importance of being so far from critical care. If CareFlight hadn't have met me, the risk of permanent damage would've been so much higher," Issy said.



After recovering from a terrible leg injury, Issy ran her first marathon last year

CareFlight fly to the Tiwi Islands to save Alisha.

It was New Year's Eve and Alisha was climbing a tree with her little sister and a friend near her home on the Tiwi Islands.

When Alisha slipped and fell to the ground, it was clear to her little sister that the fall was serious. Alisha had shooting pains in her arm. Her sister and friend guided her home, holding her limp arm, tears streaming down her face, and complaining of tingling and back pain.

Alisha's mother, Louella, asked a neighbour to drive them to the clinic where the staff quickly assessed that Alisha needed medical attention that they weren't equipped to provide. Home to about 1,800

people, the nearest hospital was in Darwin, across 80km of open ocean that is prone to large swells.

Louella was relieved at how quickly CareFlight arrived, settled Alisha safely in the helicopter, and flew them to hospital.

Having lived on the Tiwi Islands her whole life, Louella knows the vital role of aeromedicine for her community. She has had to rely on CareFlight before, when her younger daughter suffered complications as a newborn and needed urgent medical treatment in Melbourne. She is very grateful that CareFlight could get Alisha to care so quickly.

Happily, both Louella's daughters are now thriving. After several weeks in a brace, Alisha returned to Wurrumiyanga just in time for the start of the school year – safe and happy, thanks to CareFlight, and you.

"CareFlight is so important, especially for little kids and old people."

- Louella, Alisha's mum

CareFlight NT nurse Jayne Sheppard loves saving lives.

I came to CareFlight in 2015 and I feel lucky – it's a dream job. We bring our critical care and advanced practice skills to patients who may not always have fair and equitable access to healthcare. What we achieve in our austere environment in the back of an aircraft with a team of just one or two is something to be proud of. Meeting patients and their families is a massive highlight.

"We bring top level care to all of the Top End in what is often the scariest day of their lives, and it is a day for them to remember. It makes you feel proud and happy."



CareFlight raced Alisha to Darwin hospital when she injured her arm after a fall



Alisha met members of her rescue crew at the CareFlight base in Darwin

Together, we can continue to lead the way. **CareFlight**



CareFlight developed the **doctor/paramedic helicopter crewing model** that is now the standard in Australia.



We were one of the first civilian operators to use **night vision goggles** to reach more people than ever.



CareFlight was the first civilian aeromedical service in Australia to provide **blood and plasma** transfusions at trauma incidents.



We created the **critical care stretcher bridge system**, to seamlessly transfer patients between the multiple platforms



We pioneered a **trauma care training program** to give vital skills to first responders in remote and regional locations.



We developed the **I-CARE aeromedical system**, a stretcher and critical care equipment used in an offshore medevac.

Our goal is to continuously improve the model of care, systems and equipment used in aeromedicine. Your generous support ensures we can continue to develop new ways to save Aussie lives.

Please send your donation today. Freecall 1800 655 876 or visit careflight.org/impact