



Medic Air European
Private Paramedic Ambulance Service

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 Winter 2003/04

NEW AMBULANCE

Our first 'new generation' ambulance has now arrived and has immediately been put into service as UNIT 4.

The new style ambulance features, not only a complete new design and livery, but also numerous comfort and safety features that would be considered uncommon upon conventional ambulances.

Of particular note is the new 'white noise' siren, developed by Sheffield University, which indicates to other road users the direction from which the ambulance is approaching - due to the presumed high cost, this innovation is not featured on any other ambulance operating within the Southwest and is a marked safety feature.



OFF TO COLUMBIA

We have donated one of our older ambulances to Devon-based charity, RAPID UK for a new and essential development project in Columbia, South America.

RAPID UK Director Graham Payne said, "This will make a marked difference and we are extremely grateful to Medic Air European for their contribution. "In 1998 Colombia suffered a devastating earthquake during which many of the personnel from the emergency services were killed." Mr Payne added. "In one night the response capabilities of the local emergency services in the areas affected by the quake were virtually wiped out."

www.medic-ambulance-plymouth.co.uk

If you're into surfing the web then our new website is bound to catch your eye.

It hosts a wide range of information about services as well as items of a more general interest; such as the history of the ambulance service in Plymouth since its start in 1913.

The website took many months of planning and is not just aimed at people seeking details of medical services. It also has things like vacancies for ambulance drivers or even contacts from Plymouth Ambulance Services in the USA. We've tried to make the site as varied as possible and have included pages on the history of the Plymouth Ambulance service - with some very old photographs.



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SERVICE FIT FOR A KING.

Our Service was chosen to provide medical cover for a new Disney film. Roger Ward and Darren Gibson went to Pinewood Studios to cover the 'Big Screen' version of "King Arthur". The film tells the story of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table from a realistic viewpoint.

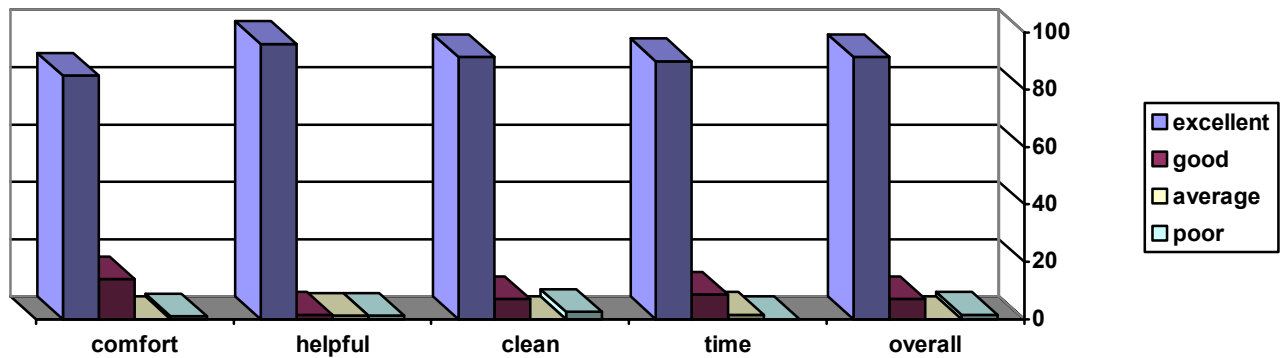
On the third day of filming, and only minutes after arriving on the film-set, the medic's skills were quickly put to test. One of the film crew collapsed on stage with a suspected heart attack.



NETCARE

In November, we were successful in gaining Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust's Netcare contract to supply ambulance transport for patients travelling to Hampshire. Three ambulances undertake the journey on a daily basis with patients attending Haslar Hospital in Gosport for orthopaedic operations.

As part of our continual improvement programme, each patient conveyed in phase one of the project was asked to complete a satisfaction survey form, aimed at rating: Comfort of journey, Helpfulness of ambulance staff, Cleanliness of ambulance, Timekeeping and Overall service of Medic Air European. The results shown below speak for themselves.



TRAINING

Eight new recruits have now completed their Basic Life Support and Ambulance Induction Course following initial training period at Medic Air European's Headquarters. They will now undergo a further 11 months classroom and practical assessments before sitting the advanced ambulance care assistant qualification.

Congratulations go to Jo-Anne Kittle, Dave Peake, Philip Harriman, Sharon Preston, Gillian Wheatley, Sharon Murphy, Kelly Faull and Rebecca Hutton

NEW CORPORATE IDENTITY

Many will have noticed that over the past few months we have changed our livery and uniforms. Unlike many other private medical or ambulance organisations, we do not try to imitate our NHS colleagues with battenburg vehicle liveries and green uniforms. WE ARE PROUD TO BE DIFFERENT.



NEW SPRINTER AMBULANCE

The newest acquirement to our fleet is progressing at G&M Ambulance Builders near Exeter and will be operational in early 2004. This new Mercedes has been specifically designed to meet our needs and is, yet another, major investment to our current expansion programme.

Oddly enough, the vehicle will be named UNIT 1 – this is due to it being the replacement for one of our older vehicles, which was donated to RAPID UK for reuse in underdeveloped countries.

MERRY CRIMBO BRACKEN WARD

Each year, Medic Air European sponsors the 1st prize at an NHS event. This year Derriford Hospital's Bracken Ward was the recipient for their 'Day at the Races' Christmas party held at Whitleigh Community Centre on December 13th.

Pictured (L-R) are Sister Helen Sargent, Sister Jean Vincent, HCA Karen James and Staff Nurse Nickie Price – the winner of a top-of-the-range DVD player and 20 DVD movies.



***Next Issue: is our Spring 2004
Newsletter, which is due in April***