

Meet the team

Anna Perry, GWAAC CEO

The CEO of GWAAC for over five years, Anna is also a Trustee of Air Ambulances UK, a Director of the Association of Air Ambulances and a Governor for South Western Ambulance Service Foundation Trust.

Anna also has business interests in property and retail, and a keen personal passion for animal welfare, the environment and sustainability in general.



Professor Jonathan Benger OBE

Jonathan, or JB as he is known, was instrumental in the setup of GWAAC, acting as our first medical advisor. Jonathan still completes shifts with us as a Critical Care Doctor, and is also a Trustee of the charity.

As CMO for NHS digital he has overseen NHS Pathways, NHS111 online, the NHS.UK website and the NHS app, for which he received an OBE in the 2022 New Years Honours list.



Dr Phil Cowburn MBE, Critical Care Doctor

Phil qualified as a doctor nearly 30 years ago, and has been a Consultant in Emergency Medicine at the BRI since 2008. Phil is one of GWAAC's founding doctors.

Phil is also South Western Ambulance Service's Acute Care Medical Director, Medical Advisor at the National Ambulance Resilience Unit, Trauma Consultant at Southmead, and Medical Advisor to specialist police units in Avon & Somerset and Gloucestershire. His special interests are major trauma, major incident response and triage and complex incident response, particularly response to terrorist incidents.



Captain Jim Green, Regional Managing Pilot (South)

Jim has been working for GWAAC since 2014. Employed by our helicopter supplier Babcock, he is also their Regional Managing Pilot (south).

Jim is civilian trained, having begun his career in New Zealand. He has worked the oil rigs and been an instructor training military and police pilots.





Captain Alan Petch, Pilot

In 2021, Alan brought home the award for Pilot of the Year for his exemplary professional standards and innovative use of technology. Both of which have had a huge impact on GWAAC's operations, his colleagues, and the community he serves.

Alan's Landing Sites Project means that Critical Care Teams can make faster decisions about where it is possible for our helicopter to land in urban areas.

Dr Ed Valentine, Critical Care Doctor

Dr Ed Valentine is a Consultant in Emergency Medicine. Ed qualified as a doctor in 2002, and joined GWAAC in 2010. He has been the charity's Medical Director since 2018.

Ed holds Diplomas in Medical Education, Immediate Medical Care and Retrieval and Transfer Medicine, and a Masters' degree in Critical Care. His special interest is in Pre-Hospital Emergency Anaesthesia.



Vicki Brown, Advanced Practitioner in Critical Care



Vicki Brown, the South West's first Advanced Practitioner in Critical Care, joined the ambulance service in 2002, and GWAAC in 2012. Vicki has broken down barriers, achieving many firsts for her profession and winning a national award for her achievements.

Recently, Vicki became the first person from a purely paramedic background on the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care register for Consultant (Level 8) Practitioners in Pre-Hospital Medicine. She has plans to further increase the scope of paramedic practice.

Pete Reeve, Specialist Paramedic in Critical Care

Pete joined the ambulance service in 2007 and completed his training as a Specialist Paramedic with GWAAC in 2020. His varied career has involved Police training, working on the response to deliberate vehicle attacks and leading the tactical medicine operations stream for the Hazardous Area Response Team.

As GWAAC's Air Operations Officer since 2021, Pete has managed the paramedic team, and is also the charity's Wellbeing Coordinator.

