

9th January 2020

Pasha to star at Strictly Air Ambulance

TV dancing star Pavel `Pasha` Kovalev has been revealed as the celebrity judge for this year's Strictly Air Ambulance fundraising event organised by Essex & Herts Air Ambulance (EHAAT) on Saturday 28th March at Five Lakes Resort, Maldon.

Pasha and his dance partner Chloe Hewitt will assess the performances of the amateur contestants as well as performing their own demonstration dances. The evening will be hosted by TV and Radio Presenter David Whiteley.

Russian-born Pasha began dancing at the age of eight, and has taken part in both 'So You Think You Can Dance' on American TV and the BBC's 'Strictly Come Dancing'. During eight years as a competitor in the latter, Pasha won series twelve with Caroline Flack and was runner up three times.

Emily Donnachie, Events Manager at EHAAT, said: "I'm delighted that Pasha will be joining us for this year's Strictly Air Ambulance. He is a hugely popular figure in the dance world, and we are confident he and Chloe will add plenty of sparkle to our evening. Strictly Air Ambulance is one of our most popular events. Everyone involved takes their preparation and the competition seriously, and our audiences have a great night of entertainment for a really brilliant cause."

At the show, which takes place at Five Lakes Resort in Maldon, six amateur dancers partnered by local professional dance teachers will dance against each other in friendly competition. Each couple will perform either a Latin or Ballroom plus their choice of dance for their show case.

Contestants this year include Rob Jelly, presenter of 'The Early Wobble' on BBC Radio Essex.

Tickets for the show, sponsored by MDS Civil Engineering can be purchased from the EHAAT website, ehaat.org/events at £27.50. A limited number of tickets are available at £10 for an After Show Party attended by the contestants and their professional dance partners. Here guests will be able to enjoy a complementary glass of bubbly and a DJ.

Competitors for this year's event are:

Rob Jelly, BBC Radio Essex presenter, partnered by Joanne Taylor of Ipswich School of Dance

Louise White from Colchester, partnered by James Fenton

Rob Keen from Harlow, partnered by Zoe Jeffery of Dazzle Dance Centre

Rob Theobald from Rayleigh, partnered by Michelle Pavlovic

Stacy Grantham from Colchester, partnered by Sam Jeffery of Dazzle Dance Centre



Dawne Watts from Clacton, partnered with Ronnie Bradford of Feathersteps Dance Academy

For more information about the event and to book tickets, visit ehaat.org/events

-ENDS-

Photographs: Pasha Kovalev and Chloe Hewitt, Rob Jelly with Joanne Taylor

For more information please contact Gavin Sherriff, PR Officer, on 0345 2417 690.

Notes to Editor:

- Essex & Herts Air Ambulance (EHAAT) is a Charity that provides a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) for the critically ill and injured of Essex, Hertfordshire and the surrounding areas.
- The service is provided free of charge but, unlike NHS emergency services, the Charity receives limited direct funding from the Government and none from the National Lottery. It costs in excess of £750,000 every month to keep the service operational and cover all charitable costs, and this would not be possible without the generosity and goodwill of people and businesses of Essex, Hertfordshire and beyond.
- Each of the Charity's HEMS teams consist of two Pilots, a Pre-hospital Care Doctor and a Critical Care Paramedic.
- These teams, made up of highly-skilled individuals, attended 1,526 patients in 2019 and are the backbone of your local life-saving Charity.
- The fleet consists of two Air Ambulances, and four rapid response vehicles (RRVs - cars) The RRVs are crewed by a Pre-hospital Care Doctor and a Critical Care Paramedic and carry the same life-saving equipment as the helicopters.
- During the day, from 7am until 8.00pm, the Critical Care Team provides the service using helicopters based at Earls Colne and North Weald. An RRV is used before sunrise, after sunset or when the helicopter is unable to fly because of poor weather or maintenance.
- Overnight from 7.30pm to 7.30am the service is provided using an RRV based at North Weald.