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New route for Air Ambulance's Motorcycle Run

Tuesday 24 April, 2018

April 24th 2018

New route for Essex & Herts Air Ambulance's Spring Motorcycle Run

Cruise from Welwyn to North Weald this Spring and support a great cause

Organisers of Essex & Herts Air Ambulance's Spring Motorcycle Run on May 20th have introduced a new route for this year's event, which will also welcome learner riders for the first time. Starting at Police HQ in Welwyn Garden and ending at the North Weald Family Fun Day on North Weald Airfield.

Last year's event attracted over 3,000 bikers to the Family Fun Day at North Weald, with hundreds of local families joining the crowds to raise over £13,500 for the Charity.

Bikers will be led by professional Police outriders from their HQ in Welwyn to North Weald Airfield, home of the Charity's new helicopter, the AgustaWestland 169. Learner riders can gain tips on safe riding and riding as part of pack on the Charity's website, or can be set up with a more experienced "biker buddy" on the day for advice and tips.

At North Weald the fun continues for families and riders alike. Formerly the Essex Motorcycle Show, North Weald Family Fun Day will run with a suggested donation of £5 to assist with covering the event's costs, and will include trade stands, entertainment from stunt team On the Edge, live music, Kids Zone, as well as an all-important Safety Zone. It's also the perfect spot to see thousands of bikes arrive at the airfield.

Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Volunteer and Events Lead Jen Wall, said: "We know that last year's Welwyn to North Weald Motorcycle Run was a great day for the riders, and we believe the new route will be even more popular. We are looking forward to welcoming even more riders to this celebration of biking and of our ties with the biking community. We hope that everyone will ride safely and have a memorable day out."

Registration for the event, which is supported by sponsors, Woodlands Group and Specialist Aviation Services is £10 for a single rider and £15 for a rider and pillion. Essex & Herts Air Ambulance always encourages riders to collect sponsorship, but understands that it can be hard to find the time to raise the money. This year they have introduced a sponsorship ticket at £40 for a rider or £45 for a rider and pillion, which includes the £10/£15 registration fee and £30 in sponsorship.

Book your bike a place now on <u>www.ehaat.org/events-calendar</u> or call the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Events Team on 0345 5040 055.

Throughout the Motorcycle Run and Family Fun Day, Essex & Herts Air Ambulance will be using the hashtags #RideSafe and #MotorcycleRun to raise awareness of their safety message and to promote the event.

Photograph: Last year's event attracted thousands of bikers to North Weald Airfield.

For more information please contact the Communications Team on 0345 2417 690.

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Notes to Editor:

Essex & Herts Air Ambulance (EHAAT) is a Charity that provides a Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (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 no direct funding from the Government or National Lottery. It costs £500,000 every month to keep the service operational and saving lives, 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, tended to 1077 patients in 2016 and are the backbone of your local life-saving Charity.

The fleet, consisting of two Air Ambulances, and four Rapid Response Vehicles (RRVs - cars) operates seven days a week from 7am to 9pm. After sunset, the Critical Care Team continues to provide the service using Rapid Response Vehicles.

In addition, a Rapid Response Vehicle is operational on a Friday and Saturday evening from 6pm until 2am with a Pre-hospital Care Doctor and Critical Care Paramedic.

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Company Contact:

Essex & Herts Air Ambulance

T. 0345 2417 690

- E. stuart.ward@ehaat.org
- W. https://ehaat.org

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