

We need our Paramedic Car



Help us save
this vital community
health service!

We



our

**AMBULANCE
CAR** 

- 996 call outs in 2019, over half to category 1 - 3 emergencies, 400+ risk to life calls
- Over 45,000 Purbeck residents and more than three million visitors each year rely on this service



About this booklet

This booklet has been made as a testament to our paramedic car and the importance of retaining it in the future.

Without our car the health of both residents and visitors would be in peril. Within these pages you will find the stories of the people who have relied on the car, the concerns of the community were it to be withdrawn, and a loud chorus of voices from our Parish and Town Councils, children, parents, workers, care home residents, the clinically vulnerable, those who have suffered accidents and required emergency assistance, residents, visitors and local businesses - all united in saying:



“We, the community of the Purbeck Isle, need this vital service!”

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Our car: the facts

Why we need the Swanage based Purbeck Paramedic Car

Swanage is at the end of the Isle of Purbeck peninsula and is a popular holiday destination. With the planned loss of A&E, Maternity and Children's units from Poole, Swanage will be approaching 30 miles from either Bournemouth Hospital, or from Dorset County Hospital, with much of the journey on busy single track roads.

It takes a long time for a patient who is critically unwell to get from this end of the Isle of Purbeck to Poole Hospital by Ambulance now. A freedom of information act response to Langton Parish Council showed that, over a 13 month period, the average time from a category 1, imminent danger of death call from a BH19 postcode, to arrival of the patient at Poole Hospital, was 1 hour 43 minutes.

According to the Ambulance Trust, it will take an extra 19 minutes to take patients to Bournemouth, increasing the risk of disability or death. As hospital care moves further away, it becomes even more crucial that Swanage and villages have fast, responsive Paramedic Care available close to home.

A freedom of information act response from the Ambulance Trust shows that in 2019 there were:

- 996 call outs of a Paramedic Car to BH19 postcodes - that's just Swanage, Langton, Worth + Studland.
- Over half of these call outs were category 1-3 emergencies, the most serious.
- There were more than 400 call outs that year where there was risk to life (category 1-2 emergencies).

These figures do not include call outs of the Ambulance Car to Corfe and wider Purbeck. There are also many stories in this booklet where the ambulance resources we have now struggled to meet the need - ambulances were called, but did not arrive for up to six and a half hours.

What are the ambulance resources currently based in Swanage?

Our Ambulance resources are:

one 24/7 Ambulance staffed by 2 Paramedics

one 24/7 Ambulance Car staffed by 1 Paramedic (the Paramedic Car)



Why were we given the Ambulance Car?

The Paramedic Car was first allocated to Swanage as compensation for the overnight closure of the Swanage Cottage Hospital Minor Injuries Unit, back in 2008. There was recognition at that time that it was a long way to Poole A&E from Swanage, and that there needed to be overnight support here.

What is the Paramedic Car and how is it different from an ambulance?

The Car is a 4 x 4 Rapid Response Vehicle - a fast car - based at Swanage, and covering Purbeck. As a 4 x 4 the Car can also go cross-country to get to areas that the ambulance can't get to – like the top coast path. Unlike the Swanage Ambulance, which can be outside Purbeck all day, the Car does not routinely take patients to hospital, and the agreement is that the Car remains in Purbeck, unless there is a major emergency. So, as well being part of our Ambulance resources, this fast Car is much more likely to get to us quickly, and, as the stories show, is often first on the scene in an emergency.



What are the functions of the Paramedic Car?

The Swanage and Purbeck Ambulance Car + Paramedic:

- i) provides a rapid response (as nearer and faster) to save life in emergency pending arrival of the ambulance
- li) treats the 50% of patients who do not need to go to hospital at the scene, avoiding unnecessary journeys to Poole, and protecting hospital resources
- lii) provides a replacement service when the Swanage Minor Injuries Unit is closed (8pm - 8am).
- iv) supports Purbeck GP home visits, helping to ensure that these are covered.

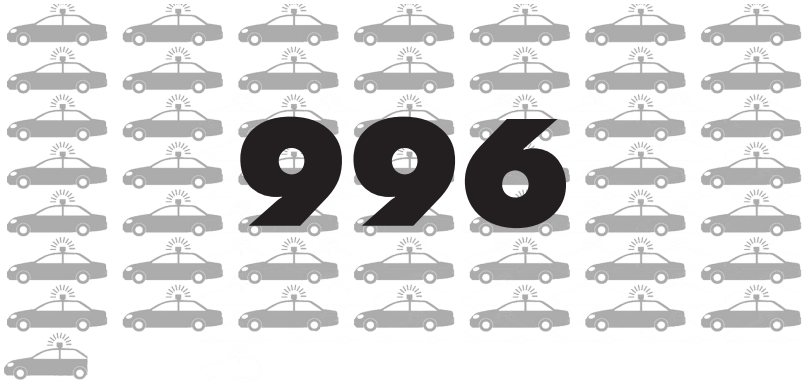
Ambulance resource commitment made to Swanage residents by Dorset CCG in 2018

Due to the challenges the Ambulance resources face now, and the planned loss of A&E, Maternity and Children's units from Poole, Dorset Council asked for, and were given, a minuted assurance by Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group that Swanage based ambulance resources would be fully maintained, and were likely to be increased. An additional Ambulance for 10 hours per day is now based at Wareham - but clearly that cannot replace our Swanage based 24/7 Ambulance Car. It may be out when an Ambulance is needed here, and it is in any case impossible to get from Wareham to Swanage in 8 minutes, the target time for a category 1 (imminent danger of death) emergency.

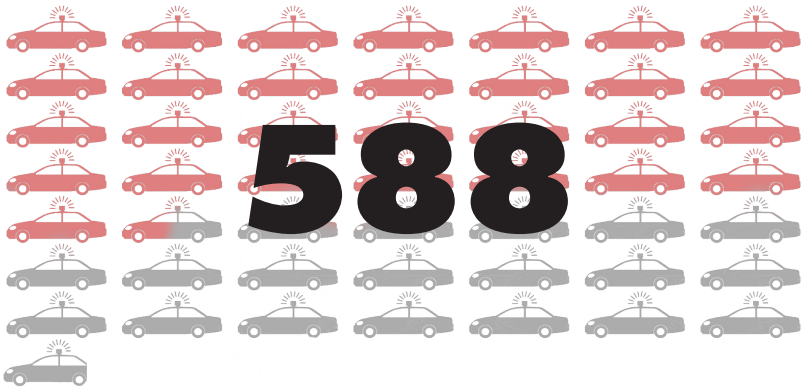


Our car: the numbers

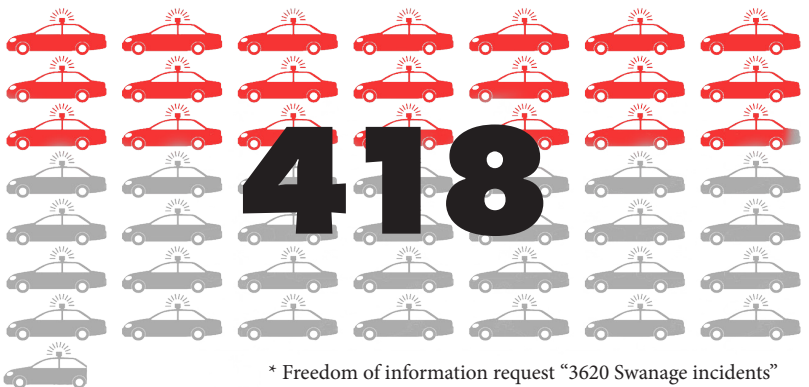
Total number of call outs to BH19 postcodes in 2019*



How many were call outs to category 1-3 emergencies



How many posed an active threat to life



Our campaign

The history of the campaign goes back to the commitment that the Clinical Commissioning Group made in October 2018 that, given the planned loss of A&E, Maternity and Children's emergency care from Poole, Swanage based ambulance services would be fully maintained.

In February 2020 a resident told the Town Council that the Paramedic Car was being withdrawn with effect from the first of April. The Ambulance Trust confirmed that the Car was being withdrawn, however said that they would continue to provide it if Dorset CCG would pay for it. It also appears from the publicly available minutes of a September 2019 meeting of the SWAST Public Board of Directors that in the last couple of years the Ambulance Trust has considered selling Swanage Ambulance Station, however were unable to do so due to Japanese knot weed on the site.

Since February 2020 there has been a battle to save the Paramedic Car. The first petition "Save Swanage Ambulance Car" was started at this time by Melvyn Norris, the Chair of Swanage Area Forum.

During 2020 there were further occasions when it seemed the Car would be withdrawn imminently - in June and at the end of December. On each occasion the campaign raised the alarm, and the Town Council lobbied Dorset Council, Dorset CCG and the Ambulance Trust.

In February this year, Purbeck GP's were asked whether, if Dorset CCG removed their funding from the Car, the GP's could set up a new service to support GP home visits from 1st April. The Car would be withdrawn and the emergency response function would be lost.

Although Dorset CCG say that no final decision will be made until "public engagement" has occurred they have not confirmed that retention of the car is still being considered as a possibility.

In response to this threat our whole community has come together to stand up for our service:

- Over 7,000 people have signed the petition to Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group to Save Swanage Ambulance Car



- Hundreds of Swanage and Isle of Purbeck residents are displaying banners, garden stakes and posters

- Shops and community venues across Isle of Purbeck Towns and Villages are displaying banners, stakes, posters or leaflets

- Schools and Churches in our community are supporting our Car

- Swanage, Corfe, Wareham, Studland, Langton and Worth Town and Parish Councils have issued statements supporting retention of the car. Swanage Town Council has asked for a meeting with Dorset CCG, the Ambulance Service and Purbeck GP's to discuss all options to ensure ongoing funding of the Car.

Who we are

The ambulance car campaign team is as diverse as our wonderful community - and has crossed all political, social and generational lines - led by Swanage Town Councillor Debby Monkhouse, we have both Labour and Conservative representation in our group. We also have representatives of Swanage Community Coronavirus Response, The Swanage Area Forum, retired NHS workers, local residents and ambulance car users working tirelessly behind the scenes to help keep the campaign going and amplify the voice of our community!

What you can do to help

If you would like to help us retain the ambulance car, please consider signing our petitions.

To: Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group - Save Swanage Ambulance Car!

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-swanage-ambulance-car>

To: Richard Drax MP - Please Help us Save Our Paramedic Car!

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/richard-drax-mp-please-help-us-save-our-paramedic-car>

Or contacting the DCCG directly at - feedback@dorsetccg.nhs.uk

Richard Drax directly at - richard.drax.mp@parliament.uk

SWAST via their online contact form at - <https://www.swast.nhs.uk/>


The production and distribution of our campaign posters, banners and this booklet have been made possible by the generous donations of our community members. If you can make a financial contribution to keep the campaign going please visit our website for ways to donate: saveswanageambulancecar.org

Please keep an eye out for our appeals for assistance on our facebook page "Save Swanage Ambulance Car" or on our website. We are always in need of fresh ideas and talents! Please contact us on swanageambulancecar@gmail.com if you have any comments, suggestions or would like to help.




"I DID NOT REALISE I WAS HAVING A STROKE. MARTIN'S SKILLS AS A PARAMEDIC AND RAPID RESPONSE DRIVER SAVED MY LIFE!"

#SAVE SWANAGE AMBULANCE CAR

HELP BY SIGNING OUR PETITION 
www.saveswanageambulancecar.org

"I HAVE LASTING MEMORIES OF THAT NIGHT, AND OF THE SWIFT, COMPASSIONATE CARE THAT RUSSELL THE PARAMEDIC, AND THE SWANAGE AMBULANCE CAR, GAVE TO ME!"

#SAVE SWANAGE AMBULANCE CAR

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Your stories

A large part of the campaign has been the gathering of stories from our community. These stories provide both a powerful testimony and an evidence base for why the Isle of Purbeck needs to keep its paramedic car. These stories have often moved us, and the willingness of people to share these intense and intimate moments with us has been extraordinary. Thanks to all.

Dani's story...

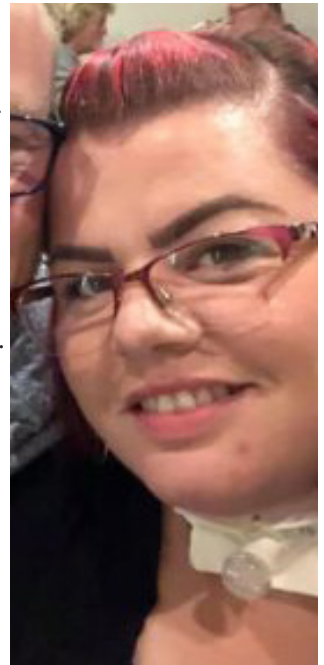
"Having a paramedic car in Swanage is a great comfort and life line for me.

In 2018 a car accident left me with a spinal injury and a tracheotomy breathing aid, sadly this will never improve. The spinal injury has left me wheelchair reliant and the tracheotomy makes me able to breath safety and clearly.

With my spinal injury at a high level, I am also at risk of autonomic dysreflexia, which we have learnt to keep a eye on but if left untreated it is fatal.

Living in a seaside resort where in summer months it can take a good hour to 90 minutes to get to our nearest A&E. This would not leave me with a good outcome if I was to have a AD ATTACK. Or even quite possibly fatal should my tracheotomy come out.

Having a paramedic car in swanage and having some one with medical knowledge to be able to get to me should the worse happen is a life line for me. Please don't take my life line away."





Julia's story...

"Several years ago, in the middle of one dark horrible night, I woke up with severe chest pains. I felt very ill and frightened. I dialled 999. The paramedic, Russell, came, examined me, tested and treated me, reassured me, and then took the decision to take me to Poole Hospital in the Swanage Ambulance Car because he needed me to have a scan to determine the damage.



He was wonderful, and in no time at all, I was in the ward, being examined and the Paramedic then left to go back to Swanage ready for the next call. After hours of examination, the doctors came to the conclusion that it was not a heart attack or a stroke, although no reason for the very real pain and shortness of breath I was experiencing was found.

I have lasting memories of that night and of the incredible swift, compassionate care and reassurance that the Paramedic and the Swanage Ambulance Car gave to me. **This is just one story of experiences of Swanage residents who have been used this absolutely vital service WE CANNOT LOSE IT."**

Graham's story...

"I found my beloved wife in bed in a pool of blood. I called the ambulance and within five minutes the Rapid Response Swanage Ambulance Car arrived with a paramedic who treated her, called an ambulance to take her to Poole Hospital via the ferry.

They arrived at Poole Hospital minutes before she erupted again. Any later and it could have been another story.

My wife sadly died in January, however she would have died two years ago had it not been for the rapid assistance provided by the Paramedic Car: the Paramedic gave my wife two more years of life.

Please keep our rapid response car as it is an absolutely vital lifeline."

Roger's story...

"Mid-summer Sunday afternoon. Returning to my car, having walked my daughter's dog, I suffered a complete cardiac collapse, resulting in a National Trust warden ringing for an ambulance; apparently, my heart stopped beating for a number of minutes.

The Swanage rapid response ambulance car, and Matt Trant the paramedic, arrived within minutes and treated me at the scene; saving my life. An ambulance then arrived. Matt immediately drove the ambulance to Poole Hospital whilst 2 Paramedics, Peter and Mike, undertook CPR and defibrillation en-route.

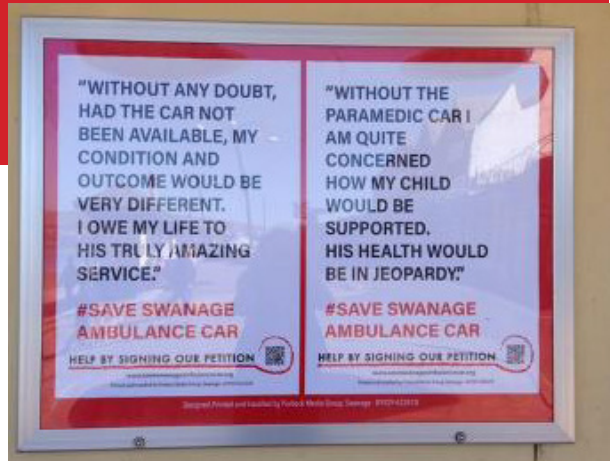
I would not be here today without our vital Swanage Ambulance Paramedic Car."

Mel and Gerry's story...

"We rang Swanage Medical Practice for an urgent Home Visit on the advice of the Ambulance team who had treated my husband, Mel during the night for chest pains, loss of vision and an inability to breathe properly.

By 11.50am no GP was available for a Home Visit. The Swanage Ambulance Car and paramedic arrived, treated him and took tests, then immediately arranged a bed at Poole Hospital TIA Centre.

Absolutely fabulous service from the Swanage Ambulance Car staff; swift, warm, compassionate response. We both felt safe and completely reassured in what could have been an otherwise terrifying, powerless situation."



The campaign in Swanage

“Swanage Town Council recognises that the retention of the Paramedic Car is vital for Swanage, and that its removal would be a threat to the lives of local people.

This Council resolves to make every effort to prevent the withdrawal of the Paramedic Car and to urgently contact the MP for South Dorset, Dorset Council’s People and Health Scrutiny Committee, South West Ambulance Services Trust and Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group to secure its retention.

In order to try to influence the stakeholders involved, this Council will also request a meeting with the South West Ambulance Services Trust and other interested parties to clarify the costs of maintaining this service and the funding options available. ” - Swanage Town Council



Caroline's story...

"I have over the last few years needed several hospital visits but have twice been visited by the Swanage paramedic car, the last was last summer.



I had been out of hospital a few months and had some awful lesions/abscesses. During the evening one of these burst, there was blood everywhere and I was in considerable pain. After calling 999 the Paramedic arrived who was wonderful, he calmed me down, as I was very upset with the amount of blood. He managed to stem the blood and sat with me for over an hour discussing everyday things and taking my mind off what was happening. He asked me questions regarding my medications and gave instructions on what to do should the bleeding start again: he told me to ring and he would return immediately regardless of the time. Thankfully all was OK, I didn't need to go to hospital, and I was attended by my local district nurses the next day. Had I had to have gone to Poole it would have added extra stress, longer waits and also with Covid-19 it was safer to stay at home. I have a prolapsed disc and have had to call the Paramedic a few times regarding this – again saving me a trip to Poole.

I can honestly say without this service we in Swanage would be lost."

Lawrie's story...

"Our story took place in Whitsun 2013. My 32 year old son took ill, we didn't realise how seriously. The second night we called 111 and the lovely Tammy arrived within minutes and calmly assessed the situation. She realized, and we didn't, that he had lost the use of his legs and called for an ambulance to get him to Dorchester. Within 48 hours he was being red lighted to Southampton, where they finally identified transverse myelitis. He was in intensive care for 10 days and in hospital for 2 months. **We really think that if she hadn't come and identified that there was something seriously wrong, he may not have recovered."**





Kevin's story...

"Two and a half years ago I suffered a stroke! I was in the best of health physically, running long distances regularly. I was a mobile mechanic at the time working in and around Swanage. Two days before my birthday, on May 10th, I woke up with a twitching in my thumb. Thinking nothing of it I prepared as usual to drop my son to school and then headed out on my usual 10 trail run.

But doing my shoe laces was tricky with the twitching. My wife insisted I pop into Swanage Cottage Hospital and have a quick check over before I venture on my run! Well I was delayed in the hospital for over an hour so I missed my run and came home and went off to work! I was told it was a trapped nerve in my neck!!!

By lunch time the sensation was getting worse so I popped home for lunch, my wife was a bit concerned so insisted I call the local surgery, they were all too busy to see me as I did not consider it to be urgent! Martin the local rapid response paramedic driver just so happened to be in the surgery and offered to pop down to see me. He carried out several tests on me, but for some reason he would not leave, he kept questioning me about any other symptoms of which I had nothing other than my arm now tingling. I wasn't until my wife said that I had a headache for a couple of days, this is when Martin and his skills as paramedic and a rapid response driver saved my life!!! Within a couple of minutes I found myself with my wife in the car and on my way to Poole Hospital on blues and twos at top speed. He was so calm and reassuring. We arrived at Poole Hospital and were greeted by the stroke team, which he had organised while driving me to hospital.

I was in intensive care for two days...

Without any doubt had Martin and the car not been available my condition and the outcome would have been very different.

I owe my life and my well-being to this truly amazing service. I am blessed I have made almost a full recovery as a direct result of this service getting me to hospital so quickly."

Patricia and Tina's stories...

Patricia, a visitor to the town and Tina's sister

"While staying in Swanage over the Christmas period

I became suddenly ill and needed urgent assistance. I had previously had a cardiac procedure so was very concerned when I had chest pains and found it difficult to breathe. The ambulance car arrived in minutes and the first responder was able to take an ECG straight away to determine whether I was having a heart attack. He was also able to advise which hospital to take me to that was not overwhelmed in A & E. The nearest hospital would have taken some time to get to and without this service I would not have had the immediate help I needed at that time. The ambulance car is invaluable to the local community and to the high number of visitors who go to Swanage in peak seasons."



Tina Foster, a Swanage resident, Town Councillor and Patricia's sister

"I have learnt that the Paramedic car which covers Swanage is to be withdrawn. I recently had cause to use the ambulance service when my husband collapsed at home. I dialled 999 as he did not appear to be breathing and within minutes the paramedic car was at my door. The car was closely followed by the ambulance which took him to Poole Hospital."

I am pleased to say he has now recovered but this was helped by the swift response from the paramedics. The reassurance I had from them, and their calm and professional manner, made the whole experience far less traumatic for us both. I dread to think what may have happened if the car was not available and the ambulance out of town on another emergency."



Jodi's story...

"We had the paramedic car out multiple times for my Father as he kept experiencing TIAs and other low blood pressure due to dementia and Parkinson's. They were able to assess him quickly and work out whether or not a trip to hospital was necessary. Not only relieving the ambulance crew (which often comes from far afield and takes much longer to arrive) by standing them down, but also reducing demand on Poole A & E. If it ever had become a full stroke their quick response would have been invaluable."



Sarah's story...

"Last year my father collapsed at home, and this car was there within 15 mins of my call and saved my father's life. So please, please keep it going. Kimmeridge is a remote village and to cut this service would be devastating to the whole Purbeck community."

Jackie's story...

Not a life or death experience but I badly broke my ankle on East Hill Corfe Castle in June 2015. The car arrived within 10 minutes and I was given much needed pain relief and support until I could be rescued and taken to hospital. I will always be extremely grateful for this rapid response and I'm disgusted that this service is being removed considering the distance we are from a major A&E unit."

All of us at the campaign would like to send our heartfelt condolences to the Searle family for their loss. The community grieves with you, and that you have found time in this moment to speak out in defence of the paramedic car is deeply moving. Rest in peace Henry.

Henry's story...

At the age of 19 Henry was given 12-14 months to live, after being diagnosed with the most aggressive form of Brain Cancer.

Aged 25, he died peacefully twelve days before his 26th Birthday.

His defiance of the odds is a testament to his spirit and the love of his family.

On the day of his passing his family wrote that:

"The local ambulance car, and the assisting paramedic teams were fantastic and arrived on both days within minutes to try and save Henry. As a local community we need to pull together, sign the petitions and keep our services here in Swanage.

There is no doubt that in this instance, and so many like it, the ambulance car provides essential care, comfort and reassurance to those who need it the most. The rapid response of the paramedics on board the ambulance car can mean the difference between life and death for those we love.

Henry's battle is over but there are many more people in our community that need our support, people that need and deserve life saving treatment within minutes.





For the Ambulance Car

Why take
away our
Ambulance car?

We can not
know what the
Emergencies are?

It is a life saver,
help giver,
to our community
of all ages.

So let us reach
out and teach
the joy of caring
and sharing.

And keep our Ambulance
Car, that binds
Our community.
Irrevocably.

Carlotta Barrow

So many lives
at different stages.
Many a tale
of old and frail
and new life saved
without fail.

Just yesterday morning,
out calling to
Neighbour falling.
Another life saved.



Jennie's story...

"I can't say that my life was saved by the paramedic car, but I was extremely grateful for its prompt assistance about a year ago when I developed serious chest pains and thought I might be having a heart attack. The paramedic arrived within half an hour, and was able to give me an ECG, which was normal. It turned out I was suffering from gastric reflux, whose symptoms can mimic those of a heart attack, and I was taken to Swanage health centre by the car, and treated there. This service is vital for Swanage residents. My 91 year-old mother also lives in Swanage and is anxious about what might happen without this service."



Clare's story...

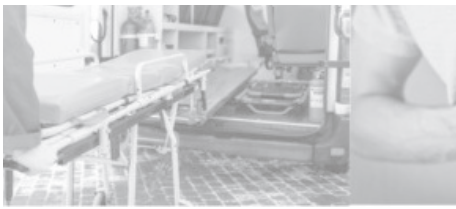
My life wasn't saved, but I injured my back badly while cleaning a holiday caravan. The paramedic car was there in less than 5 minutes. I needed an ambulance to transport me home. The car paramedic stayed with me, we waited for 3 hours, I was in an awful amount of pain. Had the car not been with me, I would likely have been in agony for 3 hours and stuck on the floor outside. It was raining and cold."

Nigel's story...

"In February 2017 I was involved in a serious no fault motorcycle accident along High Street Swanage.

I sustained very serious injuries with a smashed pelvis, disintegrated and dislocated hip, compound break in the lower leg. First to arrive was the ambulance car to administer some very necessary pain relief and assess the situation. The ambulance arrived quite a bit later and in the event a helicopter took me to Southampton General – the nearest trauma hospital.

The ambulance car paramedic was able to assess me and organise the helicopter as I needed trauma surgery quickly. Given the distance of Swanage from hospitals the paramedic car is an essential life saver. I now live in Swanage and can see that our safety depends on the continuity of this service."



Alan's story...

"I was only recently made aware that there was a possibility of Swanage being deprived of the Paramedic Car and also of the incredible "service" which the Team have provided and at the moment are still doing.



On the recent August Bank Holiday Monday, my wife Margareta Causon, who for many years was employed as a Physiotherapist at Swanage Hospital (having retired in the year 2003), suffered a stroke as she was cleaning her teeth, just after rising from our bed to begin another day.

She is now eighty years old and has always had an optimistic outlook on life and until recently, was able to enjoy playing her flute in the Swanage Town Band prior to the lockdown. However, she regards every year after reaching eighty years of age now lived to be regarded as a "bonus".

I discovered her in a collapsed condition on our bathroom floor gasping for breath and thought without doubt she would not recover. Within thirty minutes of the paramedics being alerted, they had arrived at our home situated at Locarno Road, Swanage. After they had given her oxygen she began to respond. There is no doubt about it that the speed at which these lads were on the scene saved my wife's life and I will always be indebted to them.

The town of Swanage undoubtedly cannot do without the facility of the paramedics based in the town as the older generation needing attention unexpectedly is the norm.

It so happened that my wife was taken direct to the Poole NHS Hospital Acute Stroke Unit. Had the Stroke Unit been based in Bournemouth, the time taken to get her there by road would have taken longer. Speed and effective attention is all important in the incidence of dealing initially with a Stroke patient. Thanks to the paramedics and the wonderful kindness and care given my wife at Poole NHS Hospital, she has made a miraculous recovery in that she has suffered no apparent mobility, speech or memory problems and still retains the ability to make decisions if necessary which is a great relief to me."

Bridget and Peter's story...

"We've had two occasions in the last few years to be thankful for this car – each in the middle of the night. On each occasion the car arrived within 15 minutes. The first time was when my husband suffered a strangulated hernia which needed urgent action, and the second was when he had a seizure and period of unconsciousness, needing an ambulance trip to Poole. The paramedics were able to assess the situation, and call an ambulance within a very short time.

We are very heartened to hear of this campaign to keep the Swanage car in Swanage as sometimes it is vital to have treatment and care within a very short time."

Ken's story...

"On the 26th February this year my wife, aged 79, fell heavily in the sitting room. Although lying face down, in great pain, from her Red Cross experience she told me to leave her until the ambulance arrived. During the following 2 and a half hours I telephoned 999 three times. Each time I was told the ambulance was very busy but was on its way. When the big ambulance arrived at long last, the medics had to administer Morphine gradually to get her up to get to the ambulance. During all the 2 and a half hours, she was in extreme agony. The hospital discovered that she was lying down with a crushed shoulder blade and a broken left humerus. She is now embarking on a slow period of recuperation. From my wife's pain experience with broken bones relief from pain if nothing else indicates that a Swanage Ambulance Car is desperately needed."

Sue and Trevor's story...

"My husband had a heart attack at night in 2013. The ambulance car was here quickly and I believe the paramedic saved his life. It was an hour before the ambulance arrived and he was taken to hospital. The same thing happened in 2019 and again, his life has been prolonged by the swift action of a paramedic."



The campaign in Wareham and Corfe

“Wareham Town Council recognises that the retention of the Paramedic Car is vital for the area, and that its removal would be a threat to the lives of local people.

The Council will make every effort to prevent the withdrawal of the Paramedic Car and will urgently contact the MP for South Dorset, the MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole, Dorset Council’s People and Health Scrutiny Committee, South West Ambulance Services Trust and Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group to secure its retention.” - Wareham Town Council

“The time in which paramedic staff reach patients is literally a matter of life and death and the rapid response provided by the ambulance car as well as the ambulance has been much valued by Purbeck and Corfe Castle residents.

As we are on a peninsula it takes extra time for services to reach us and return which is why the coverage of one ambulance car and one ambulance in Swanage is so valuable. In future we also face the much longer journey times to Dorchester and Bournemouth after the closure of Poole A and E.” - Corfe Parish Council



Rosalind's story...

"My husband had a massive heart attack in 2018.

The Swanage ambulance car turned up within minutes and stabilised him then called the air ambulance. I was told his life was saved by this prompt treatment. Please save this invaluable service."



Cindy's story...

"Late on Friday night, my partner had a severe asthma attack – struggling to breathe.

The ambulance crew from the car attended ahead of the main ambulance. If they had not come so promptly this might have been a very different scenario.

He will be home tomorrow, forever grateful for the swift efficient service that saved his life."

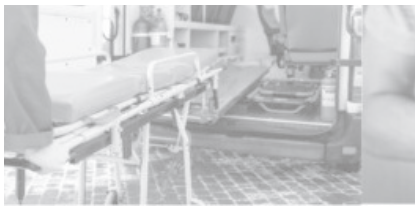
Rachel's story...

"Back in 2014 I was due to have my baby on a very busy August Bank Holiday weekend!

My waters broke at home and I wasn't sure if I was going to make it to Dorchester hospital, so I called 999 an ambulance was on its way. But within 2 minutes the ambulance car arrived (I can't remember the paramedic's name as my daughter is now 6) he gave me gas and air and supported me until the ambulance arrived.

This was an amazing service for which I am extremely grateful!"





Hannah's story...

"As a family we have had to call the paramedic car out on several occasions over the years.

In 2015 the car came, with ambulance back up following later, to try and help my Dad. Sadly my Dad died, but they were there very quickly. They had also visited a week or so before when he fell and hit his head, he was treated at home and offered advice by the paramedic.

In 2019 the paramedic car came to my house to see my 13 day old baby. The paramedic was wonderful, calm and supportive, and got here quickly. My baby was really unwell and had to go into Poole hospital high dependency unit, if this hadn't happened quickly there was a chance we wouldn't have him with us now. He still goes to the hospital a few times a year. At a time of a crisis, paramedics will be required to help administer his life saving medication, and then to get him into hospital. Without the paramedic car I am quite concerned with how my child would be supported: his health would be in jeopardy.

The paramedic car also went to my help my Grandma multiple times, sometimes resulting in hospital trips in the ambulance, and sometimes with advice to visit the doctors. They were invaluable in supporting and reassuring my grandparents."

Paul's story...

"Our son had an urgent need for a nebuliser some years ago and if the ambulance car hadn't come out in the middle of the night we don't know how serious a situation it might have been."

David's story...

"I am a resident of Durlston with a young family and both my own parents and in-laws living in Swanage – all in their 70's.

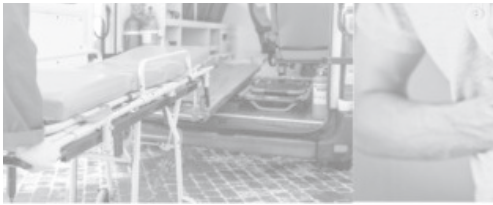
My father suffers with a condition known as Addison's disease, also called adrenal insufficiency, a rare disorder that occurs when your body doesn't produce enough of certain hormones.

He takes daily medication, however if he is exposed to any type of infection, he quickly declines and can suffer an adrenal crisis which requires immediate hospitalisation and treatment as his body just cannot cope with responding to the infection. This is a life threatening condition and timing is absolutely critical. Most critically he requires high dosages of hydrocortisone as he enters a crisis, which leads to continuous monitoring for around 4 days following stabilisation.

My father suffered one such crisis most recently in Sept 2020. I received a call at 6am from my mother to say his response appeared to have declined overnight and he was not responding to his normal medicines. The trigger for this was something as simple as an upset stomach the day before. Upon arrival I immediately called for an ambulance as he was incoherent and breathing was very shallow. Unfortunately the paramedic car was not available (if anything we need more paramedic cars!) presumably with another patient.

The 999 operator was extremely helpful and committed to stay on the line until an ambulance arrived as he was a high risk patient having previously suffered a transient ischaemic attack (TIA). We waited further. Eventually I was asked to locate the public defibrillator at the end of Park Road as a precaution.





Naturally I was extremely anxious. The ambulance arrived 110 minutes after dialling 999 and after emergency treatment to stabilise him quickly transferred him to Poole Hospital as the nearest and quickest to get him treated properly.

If the paramedic car is withdrawn, my fathers experience becomes everyone's experience. This is everyone's problem – old or young, and I personally fear for the welfare of my family and the residents of Swanage. If this is the level of service we can anticipate in Swanage, it stands to reason that we will see an increase in deaths for critical patients requiring rapid treatment and the decision makers need to held accountable for this if the car is withdrawn."

Amy's story...

"My partner had just returned from Southampton hospital having had a quadruple heart bypass. A few days later he had a heart attack and the Swanage ambulance car turned up within 5 minutes of calling 999.

He was visibly relieved to see them, as was I, and when the ambulance arrived they took him to Dorchester where he stayed for 2 weeks. He was then transferred to Southampton where they discovered a collapsed bypass.

He came home when they were satisfied it had settled down and again within a few days he had another heart attack. The ambulance car turned up within a few minutes again and the paramedic did their bit to keep him safe until the ambulance arrived where he was taken to Poole this time.

It made such a difference to both of us to have help so quickly when we were both so anxious and he was in pain. Prolonged waiting could have resulted in a much worse outcome."

Tamara's story...

"I just wanted to say a big thank you for the paramedic car coming to the aid of a friend who has been poorly at home, and who also had a fall this morning. Surely this is another reason to keep this vital service going.



I also work in at the Pines Hotel in Swanage, and I can't count the number of times we have had to call out the ambulance for guests, especially during the night. The car has come out to us so many times, and it has been a god send, particularly when the ambulance was busy elsewhere."

Bridget's story...

"I had a heart attack in the early hours of the morning. The ambulance car was very quickly on the scene. He then called an ambulance, but the treatment he gave me, and the care until the ambulance came, was fantastic. Please keep our car!"

Sue's story...

"My husband's life was saved by the prompt arrival and actions of the ambulance car when the medical centre Dr was concerned by his symptoms... The paramedics thought it was sepsis and had an ambulance here within minutes

On earlier occasions, when we had ambulances here to respond quickly (the vital point of the ambulance car...) The services took literally minutes to arrive and whisk him away when he had an anaphylactic reaction.and on another occasion when he contrived to dislocate his thumb (bones poking through skin) they were here in minutes. There have been several other emergencies, but I don't want to monopolise the booklet!

The service this car, the paramedics, and the ambulances provided are absolutely vital to our comparatively remote and isolated community and we should all be fighting tooth and nail to keep them."

The campaign in Studland, Worth & Langton

“This is a hugely valuable service in the Purbeck peninsula, particularly given the relatively small number of ambulances available, the limited road network and long response times often experienced in reaching and delivering patients to hospital.

We would urge the Trust to reconsider any such plans for withdrawal, and keep this vital service in place.” - Langton and Worth Parish Councils

“Studland Parish Council unanimously supports the campaign to retain the Paramedic Car “ - Studland Parish Council



Kim and Brendan's story...

"On Thursday 11th March, at about 9.30, my 64 year old husband stepped off his workshop roof onto a ladder that slid away, throwing him onto his back on to a concrete path. He totally winded himself but his instinct was to get indoors and he staggered into the house and collapsed half on the sofa, half on the floor. He was in a lot of pain in his back and arm, as well as being winded, and has previous history of fractured vertebrae and wrist bones, so knew he had badly injured these bones.



As it was in Covid lockdown, we were unsure of what to do, so started by calling 111, that began going through a lengthy automated programme. He could not bear the pain so we halted that process and dialled 999. The operator answered fairly promptly and took details and ascertained that his vital signs seemed alright. We then waited for the ambulance.

By lunchtime there was still no sign so he phoned to see what was happening. They said that there had been a serious incident and did not know what time they would arrive. At some point a paramedic phoned to check on his vital signs but still had no idea when an ambulance would turn up. My husband had by then been half lying on the sofa for hours, as he could not move. I then managed to drag him up the sofa by his coat so at least he was flat. He had no medication or painkillers during this time and was still in a lot of pain, looking extremely grey.

The ambulance arrived around 4pm and they did not why it had taken so long, other than a generally busy day. The ambulance crew were brilliant and very caring and considerate on working out how to get him out of the house and down a very steep, long path and giving him medication for his pain. He eventually arrived at Poole hospital at about 5pm.

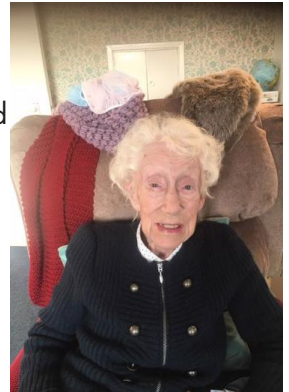


We were very concerned about this six and a half hours wait, because of his previous history, and did not know if any permanent, critical damage had been done that could have had life changing consequences. He was diagnosed with a fractured vertebrae and radius and was in Poole hospital for 5 days while they monitored his situation.

I do not want others to wait for hours with potentially life threatening, or life limiting, injuries. We do not have enough Paramedics and vehicles available at the end of the Purbeck Peninsula now, to consider reducing Swanage based support is madness."

Sue's story...

"Regarding the Swanage Ambulance Service: my Mother, then 91, and now 97(!) was taken ill very suddenly one June day. The wonderful paramedics arrived within 10 minutes and were very supportive and knowledgeable. They decided it was best for Mum to go over to Poole Hospital and wasted no time in getting her there. I fully support the campaign to keep this essential service."



Alice's story...

"My mother died a couple of weeks ago aged 90. In her last couple of weeks at home I needed to call 999 4 times. Thankfully the longest we had to wait for help to arrive was about 40 minutes as the crew came from Weymouth. That 40 minutes seemed like an eternity with my mother suffering acute chest pain. The ambulance car attended on one occasion and was with us within a few minutes. It was a godsend as the crew told us if we had had to wait for an ambulance on that occasion it would have taken hours. Overall the emergency services were fantastic but the response time of the car made an amazing difference to my mum's quality of life at a very important time."

Joanne's story

"I really do hope that together we can save this vital service.

Over the last few weeks my severe asthma has deteriorated and I know, without doubt, had it not been for the first and fast response of Russell in the Ambulance Car I would not be here. Without sounding dramatic I know this to be true.

I suffered a severe and life threatening asthma attack that came on extremely suddenly. It's not always easy to get an ambulance close enough to where I live in Swanage but Russell was with me within 3 minutes of my partner's call to 999. That time was vital. The lovely ambulance crew turned up to assist about 15 minutes later but I was already on a Nebuliser and life saving drugs had been administered.

Both crews stayed with me but it was vital that Russell got to me first and the two teams worked together. I know, unfortunately, that this won't be my last attack, but knowing we have this amazing service, I feel less anxious about the time my next attack comes because I know I will be responded to quickly. If we did not have this service my anxiety would be dreadful.

It is without doubt a much needed service, and to cut it would, I believe, be a catastrophe for the local people, and for saving lives. We live in a rural, cut off area demographically. Nothing would be gained by removing this service. I'm certain that South West Ambulance Service has received numerous praise over the years on behalf of our incredible fast response car and the team who drive it. The necessity is there."





Jayne's story

"I have 2 examples, both with my 90 year old mum, within the past 2 years.

In the first incident, my Mum had a fall in her flat and sustained a nasty head injury (she is on blood thinning tablets). I rang 999 as she had passed out for a few seconds and her head was bleeding badly. The local ambulance car was with us within 20 minutes. He kept my Mum stable and stemmed the bleeding whilst carrying out other observations.

The regional South West ambulance service advised us that they were 2 hours away. The paramedic in the local ambulance car advised that she needed urgent treatment due to her risk of excessive bleeding so he took her and myself to Poole hospital in the car where she was given a scan and treatment for her head injury. She was kept in for 24 hours under observation.

In the second incident, my Mum, who has a lung condition called bronchiectas, was struggling to breathe so I called 111, who said I should call 999. The local ambulance car arrived within 15 minutes and the paramedic assessed her condition. Having taken observations and assessed her, she (the paramedic) then rang for a South West ambulance at 11 am, and was told an ambulance would not be available until much later in the day. She kept Mum stable and gave her oxygen at home but very quickly she became worse so she intervened and advised South West ambulance that she needed to be re-graded to 'blue light emergency'. Mum was eventually taken into Poole hospital where she was diagnosed with pneumonia and put on pressurised oxygen. She was in hospital for 3 weeks. The A&E doctor said that without the paramedic's intervention Mum could have deteriorated quicker and may not have survived whilst waiting for a South West ambulance.

I also want to say that the regional South West ambulance paramedics are fantastic and it is not their fault that there are not enough of them but it is clear that there is a serious necessity for a local ambulance car in Swanage especially as A&E will ultimately be based in Bournemouth."

Nicky's story...

"Last October my mother, who was 80 at the time, and has limited mobility, fell over and broke her wrist. It was 3pm. I was with her in her home at the time and we called 999, to be told that they were very busy, and it may be a number of hours. I was told she couldn't be moved. Luckily she was indoors as despite several calls it was 6 hours later, at gone 9pm, that the ambulance arrived.



In between time, she was desperate for the toilet and wanting to have some dignity she didn't want to do so on the floor. She started to move herself despite her pain and so I had to help her up to minimise any further harm, it was an awful situation to be in. The staff who arrived were lovely, and apologetic for the delay, and she was taken into hospital.

Later in the year, in the dead of winter my father, who has Alzheimers, had a patio door fall on top of him and knock him into the garden. I rushed around when my mother called, and he was laid out on the patio, bleeding but still conscious. I phoned the ambulance and was told not to move him. It was freezing cold. As there was again a delay, and again due to the distress caused to him by the delay myself and one other managed to move him inside, and wrap him in blankets. When the ambulance finally arrived, I think it was a couple of hours later, they said he would probably have had hypothermia if he'd stayed outside until their arrival.

I know both my parents were both shocked by the delay in the ambulance on these two occasions. We have a high number of elderly people here in Swanage, they are less able to cope with the ambulance delays, and, inevitably, they are more likely to die as a result of these delays."



Dave's story...

"I had two occasions last year to require an ambulance, one was successful after a wait of over an hour and a half, and there was a second more serious one, in August 2020, where no ambulance attended.

I went to work in the morning feeling healthy, but in the afternoon collapsed with severe stomach pains. My son phoned for an ambulance and was told they were busy and couldn't give a response time, he asked for the ambulance car and was told that was not available, he then asked if he could take me to Swanage hospital and was told no, wait for the ambulance to arrive, but they didn't know when that would be.

As my son is a lifeboatman first aider, he then decided to bundle me into his car, and he drove me to Dorchester hospital where they diagnosed I had a knotted intestine which had died. I had an emergency operation at 3am followed by 10 days in intensive care and 6 weeks in hospital. They said if I had been delayed in getting to Dorchester A&E I would not be here now. Whilst recovering at home in November, I woke up with pains in my heart. My wife took me down to Swanage hospital at 8:30am. They monitored my condition, and I said I needed to go to Dorchester hospital to have a scan.

They phoned for an ambulance at 9:30am but it was not until gone 11am before one arrived. After a MRI scan I was diagnosed with pericarditis, inflammation of the lining of the heart.

I am pleased to say that, hopefully I have made a near full recovery. However, had my son decided in August 2020 to wait for an ambulance, rather than driving me to Dorchester Hospital, I would not be telling you my story now."

Liz's story...

"I had a cluster of epileptic seizures at the end of January this year. It took 3 hours for an ambulance to reach me. It is unfathomable that taking resources away is even being considered."

Maria and Bryan's story...

"Three years ago on Christmas Day my lovely partner Bryan started to feel very unwell and was having a lot of trouble breathing. I called for an ambulance, the only person available at the time was the paramedic with the ambulance car. He arrived and did tests etc and said Bryan needed to go to hospital, and he would take us.



In the meantime, he had a call to attend an infant who was unwell and possibly choking. Bry was stable so the paramedic attended the call, which turned out to be not so serious, and he came back for us and took us to Poole.

It turned out Bryan had a collapsed lung and without the prompt treatment he had, things could have been much worse. Bryan spent 4 days in hospital whilst having a chest drain in, and his lung healed and reinflated.

We are so grateful to the lovely paramedic who kept us calm with his calm manner and humour. People of Purbeck need this car , especially if we have to travel to Bournemouth for A and E. The expertise of the personnel and the fact they can be with you so quickly can only help for a better medical outcome.

We signed the petition to save this service as soon as it started. I hope it can be saved."



David's story...

"My family have had a couple of experiences with the car.

First Experience; some years ago my grandson experienced kidney failure while visiting Swanage and as result became very ill. Fortunately, Swanage Hospital A and E department realised what was wrong and organised an ambulance car to take him to Poole.

I suggested that I take him in my car but A and E said no because if there was a crisis en-route, I could not take any action while I drove at the same time. Anyway, final result: Grandson is still here, having regular Dialysis and now waiting for a transplant.

Next Experience; I developed a serious bleed at home one night, and car came with crew trying to stop bleeding but failing and taking me to Poole; the crew also cleared up mess in our bathroom. They were brilliant.

We must have a suitable vehicle based here in Swanage 24/7."



Stories from our care homes and carers

Domiciliary Carers: Tamara, Zoe and Janine's story...

"My colleagues and I have had the pleasure of working in the Swanage community and surrounding area for the best part of 10 years as domiciliary carers. On more occasions than we can remember, we have had to call out paramedics for our vulnerable clients, who we assist to live independently in their own homes. The Paramedic car is usually, if not always, the first on the scene, to offer medical care, assisting us with moving and handling of our clients if they have fallen, and supporting us and family members in dire situations.

To lose such a vital service would not only be detrimental to the residents of Swanage, there would also be a serious impact on the health and safety of the large number of vulnerable adults here who receive domiciliary care. Domiciliary Care services rely on the paramedic car, we see it as an extension of our services. Without this vital service, we would have to wait longer for ambulances that often have to get here from Poole, Bournemouth or Dorchester. As carers, if there is no family member present, we are not permitted to leave the person we are caring for until the care has been officially handed over. Whilst we are waiting, there always is someone else that needs us. The removal of this car from Swanage will mean longer waiting times for Domiciliary Carers, and this will increase the risk of anxiety, depression, and sometimes death, for the clients we cannot get to.

The Swanage paramedic car offers reassurance, support and advice to the clients and their families, and to the Domiciliary carers. We have a limited amount of medical training. From my experience they make our day, offering us support in very sad and dire situations. Just the paramedic telling us that we did a good job means the world to myself and my colleagues.

On a personal note, I had to call paramedics at 02:00 am for my son a few weeks ago. The paramedic car was outside my house before I ended the call. Vital steroids were given to my son before the ambulance arrived. In some cases, time is of the essence. And the paramedic car is not a luxury it is an necessity. **Please Save our Paramedic Car. It is crucial in supporting our care homes and attends each Swanage home 20 - 50 times each year."**



Heather's story...

"One of my elderly neighbours had a fall and the next day had a brain haemorrhage. The ambulance car arrived at her home long before an ambulance arrived. The air ambulance was called to take her to hospital. The lady sadly died of her injuries, but both she and her nephew would have been reassured by the ambulance car.

Another one of our neighbours has had a few visits from the ambulance car in the past 12 months, as she has had falls, and is in poor health.

My father is bipolar and he and my mother are each other's Carers. The ambulance service has been called to my parents house on many occasions in the past, as part of the care for his mental health when he has become extremely manic and also because he has had a few falls in the past year.

“AS A CARE FACILITY OF MANY CLINICALLY VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS I AM UNABLE TO STRESS THE RISK ENOUGH IF THIS IS WITHDRAWN FROM SWANAGE.”

As he is on blood thinners, he needs to be assessed (and reassured because of his mental illness) and taken to hospital to be checked out to ensure that there is no internal bleeding. As he is bipolar, he becomes very concerned when he is unwell and sadly has had to be sectioned in the past few years as a result of his concerns spiralling for his physical health.

The Ambulance Car is a vital service for Swanage. Let's hope that we can keep it."

Children's stories

Karen's story...

"When my son was 12, we had the Paramedic Car out because he was very ill with type 1 diabetes (we didn't know at that stage) and had gone into diabetic ketone acidosis (DKA). By the time I rang 999 my son's breathing had become affected by the DKA, it was very frightening.

The Paramedic was able to give him I think about 12 bottles of fluid to start to rehydrate him (my son remembers better than I do, he made him count them!). The paramedic also spoke to the heli-med team to discuss his treatment. The heli-med told the first responder that he had done what they would have done and consequently he didn't need the helicopter but could go into Poole A and E by ambulance.

All the staff were reassuring and fantastic with my son and me too.

Getting rid of the paramedic car seems like a money saving exercise rather than a patient centred plan of good care for the community they are meant to provide for."





Sarah's story...

"We had the ambulance car come to our house at 2am one night when our then 2 year old had breathing difficulties with croup. The paramedic was very reassuring and looked after us. Although in this instance we did end up going to hospital in an ambulance as the medicine wasn't effective enough for her, I know that there are some cases where you can be treated at home. The paramedic car is a fast way to get the right treatment to patients out here, helping people stay away from hospital, and it is far less stressful than seeing an ambulance!"

Sally and George's story...

"We live in this beautiful part of the world now: this happened in Eastbourne, when my son was little. It brought home to me how much we need the ambulance car and paramedic to assess, and to deal with the critical first few interventions.

My son was run over age five. Kneeling next to him in the road, I only allowed myself to breathe when the ambulance car got there, which was within five minutes. The ambulance took twenty minutes, but the car paramedic had assessed and stabilised him for transfer. It is my absolute belief that he would not be alive today if an ambulance car had not been available following his accident. He had a broken collar bone. A broken leg. His head was scalped, and he was concussed, where he went up in the air and under the car. He had operations and treatment lasting a year.



We need our ambulance car - it's about people, children, mums, dads and grandparents. Friends and family. We need it for our community."



Holly and Edith’s story...

“The Swanage Ambulance Car helped Edith when she was just 10 months old and became unconscious at home.

She had been vomiting for two days with a nasty bug. By early evening she started to be floppy, hadn’t kept anything down and then became unconscious, not breathing properly.

We could not rouse her for a very long 8-10 minutes. We phoned 999 immediately and the ambulance car was with us within minutes.

It was frightening but we felt reassured and confident having the paramedic’s calm and expert help. Luckily she made a full recovery.

In medical emergencies we know that minutes can make a difference between life and death.

As a community we would be vulnerable without this essential service.

Thank you so very much to the Ambulance Car for the excellent service you provide us. We need you.”

Louise’s story...

“Our 14 month old son got a piece of apple stuck in his throat on New Year’s Day this year. The ambulance car was the first to arrive, and was with us within minutes. Fortunately my son was breathing, but had his throat been completely blocked, their prompt arrival could have meant the difference between life and death. I am incredibly grateful for their speedy response, and it is very scary to think that this vital service is at risk of being withdrawn.”



our

AMBULANCE

CAR

IT’S AT RISK!

HELP BY SIGNING OUR PETITION



Colouring by Edith (now aged 6)



Zoe's story...

"Our 1 year old daughter had a seizure/episode so we called 999. Both the paramedic car and an ambulance arrived at the same time - we were very surprised that the ambulance arrived so quickly.

We were so grateful to both teams for everything they did. As the ambulance had arrived the paramedic car wasn't needed on this occasion, we were very grateful it was so close.

Our daughter has since had a diagnosis and another hospital stay. For us, living in Swanage with a daughter that is potentially going to need assistance in the future, the ambulance car is so important."

Alexandra's story...

"I am a mother of a young family, with 5 children. This year alone I have had the ambulance car/ambulance out 3 times, the most recent just a few weeks ago.

A couple of years ago in the winter months I was close to losing my premature baby to bronchiolitis.

We absolutely need some first port of call for help as ambulances aren't close enough, and we are too far away from hospitals. It doesn't bear thinking about where I may be now if it wasn't for them."

Nicky's story...

"The car has supported my son twice:

My son got knocked out in the playground at school, the ambulance car paramedic arrived swiftly and gave initial care to my son until the ambulance arrived to take him to Poole Hospital.

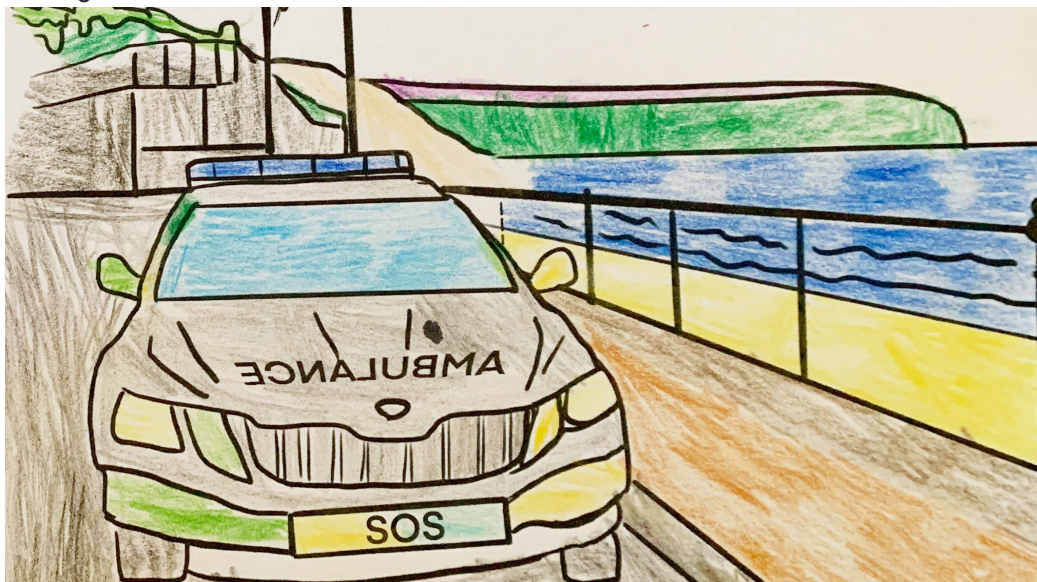
My son suffered an asthma attack at home, thankfully the ambulance car paramedic managed to stabilize him, and prevented the need of a hospital visit."

Craig's story...

"As a parent of 4 children and 2 with major life changing conditions, one having a heart condition and one being a type 1 diabetic I can tell you how important the ambulance car in Swanage actually is, first hand. Without this car, and these guys, who take time in their lives to be part of the NHS, I don't know what we would do. It's not until you need it, that you know how much it matters.

During one particular health crisis we initially called an ambulance, but it took nearly 2.5 hours to get to Swanage. The only thing that saved our children's lives was the rapid response from the ambulance car. This has happened on more than one occasion. I thank God that it was there for us, if it had not been there, our lives would have been so so different.

So please believe me when I tell you this ambulance car is so important you have NO idea until you really need it. And thank you guys because without you and the ambulance car I dread to think how life for us as a family would have changed."





Colouring for the community!

Help us Save the Ambulance Car by colouring a picture which may be included in our new booklet of stories or even win a prize! All entries will be published on our website (with permission!). Email your finished picture to swanageambulancecar@gmail.com



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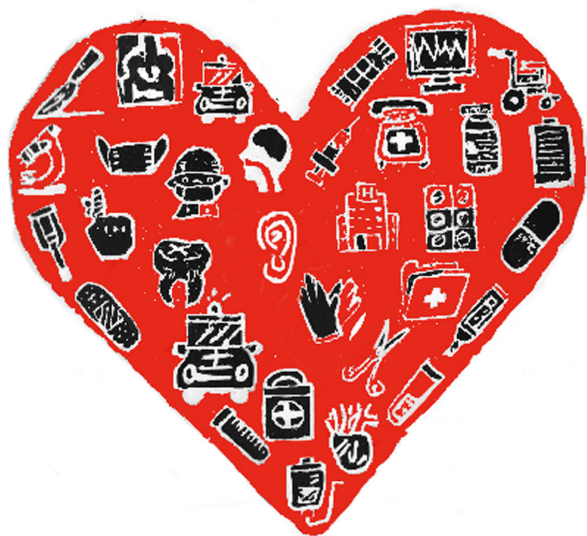
Thank you so much to all the children who have submitted drawings to our "Colouring for the Community" competition. We are so very proud to have such community minded and creative young people alongside us! You can download the colouring sheet and submit for the next competition round at swanageambulancecar.org!

Thank You

To the people of the Isle of Purbeck, to our Churches and Schools, our Community Organisations and Businesses, and our Town and Parish Councils, for standing up for our Swanage based 24/7 Purbeck Paramedic Car. Thank you to all of those who have played a part in this campaign for making this booklet possible.

And our biggest thanks go to our Paramedics, who have been with us through so many of our difficult times – saving lives, helping prevent long term disability, and offering care and compassion, including at the end of our lives.

We



our

**AMBULANCE
CAR** 

IT'S AT RISK!

HELP BY SIGNING OUR PETITION





**Rapid
response**



**Overnight
cover**



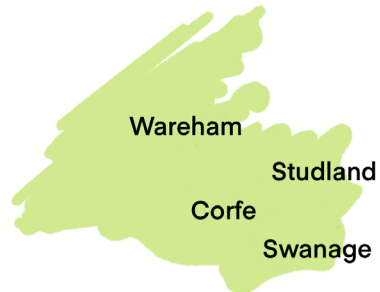
**Emergency
care**



**Frees up
ambulances**



**Supports GP
home visits**



**For all of the
Isle of Purbeck**