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RAC Rescue completes 10,000th mission

After more than two decades of operations, our RAC Rescue Helicopter team completed its 10,000th mission on 24 April 2024.

The call came in shortly after 5pm to assist a man injured by a fallen concrete wall in Bruce Rock. St John WA volunteers transferred the patient from the scene to the local airfield, where they were met by RAC Rescue. He was flown to Royal Perth Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, arriving at 8:42pm.

Since its inception in 2003, RAC Rescue has provided life-saving services to the WA community, delivering critical care medical services and search and rescue capabilities 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Whether it be serious road crashes, land and sea searches, cliff rescues or farming accidents, the RAC Rescue helicopters are often the fastest means of getting people to hospital and accessing remote and inaccessible locations.

With a dedicated backup helicopter, RAC Rescue also supports DFES incident operations as it did during major flooding events in 2021 and 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the flight crews, maintenance engineers, support staff and the DFES Aviation Services team who keep this service running.

We are extremely proud to deliver the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service alongside our emergency services partners including CHC Helicopter, St John WA, the Australian Maritime and Safety Authority, WA Health and WA Police Force.

The mission milestone falls just ahead of three new Leonardo AW139 helicopters coming online. These state-of-the-art helicopters will fly further and faster and feature some of the most advanced search and rescue technology and aeromedical equipment.

The RAC Rescue helicopters are sponsored by RAC, funded by the State Government and managed by DFES.

**CRAIG WATERS AFSM
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS**