

EAAA sponsorship update



Ian (right) with Carl Firman, the first patient to be helped by the EAAA.

Senior director Ian Comer talks about comercrawley's corporate sponsorship of the East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA).

Hi Ian – first can you tell us why comercrawley decided to become involved with the EAAA?

"We've had links with the EAAA since it was formed in 2001. In fact, we acted for the very first patient to be helped by EAAA, Carl Firman, who suffered serious lower limb crush injuries when we has pinned against a wall by a car.

"We're an East Anglian company and very proud of being so – and we like to support the communities in which we operate. The EAAA covers a huge area spanning Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Bedfordshire – it adds up to around 11% of the whole of the country.

"When the opportunity came up to become involved with the EAAA, it was a very easy decision for us to make – we couldn't think of a better cause to support.

Why does the EAAA need corporate sponsorship?

"Although the EAAA serves the NHS it receives no ongoing government funding – the service is entirely dependant on the goodwill of the people and businesses of East Anglia.

"It's the second busiest air ambulance in the country - flying an average of four missions per day. The equipment is expensive, and running costs are high at around £3m per annum for both helicopters - that's why the donations made by us and other sponsors are so important.

"When we confirmed our sponsorship, Simon Gray, executive director of EAAA said we are making 'a major contribution to helping us meet our challenging funding targets - your support really will help us keep the helicopters flying'."

How does comercrawley benefit from the sponsorship?

"First, we're proud to be a corporate sponsor and to be 'doing our bit' to keep the region's two air ambulances flying – it's good to have the opportunity to put something back into the community.

"At comercrawley we are proud to be personal injury lawyers and take great pride in our work, and the service we provide for clients in securing the compensation they deserve.

"By supporting the EAAA we can show the positive side of the personal injury profession – that we are a responsible, caring firm happy to contribute and support good causes.

"What's more, our staff have become involved and are undertaking sponsored events such as parachute jumps and 15-mile runs, and are helping at EAAA fund raising events. This helps to promote a good team feeling and sense of purpose beyond our normal day-to-day business.

Thanks Ian – good luck with the sponsorship going forward.

Strengthening the motorcycle team

A warm welcome to Miriam Ashford and Becky Pull who have both joined comercrawley in the past few months to further strengthen our team.

Becky Pull has joined our 'fast track' team dealing almost exclusively with personal injury motorcycle claims – an area where we have considerable expertise and experience. The vast majority of the cases fall into one of two categories – young people aged 16/17 years riding mopeds or scooters, and more experienced riders using a scooter or bike to commute to and from work in a town or city.

The team helps our clients claim for items including damage to their bike, clothing and loss of earnings as well as the injury itself.

Miriam Ashford has joined the team of secretaries who support our five lawyers and two 'paralegals' to ensure that our cases run as smoothly and efficiently as possible.



The professionals

Our regular column in which we get to meet some of the people who help us deliver a top quality service to our clients – we call them ‘the professionals’.

Name:

I'm Veronica Downing, and I live near Halesworth in northeast Suffolk.

Occupation:

I'm an occupational therapist with my own independent practice, and I also own and run a disability assessment centre. I've been undertaking expert witness work in personal injury cases since 1994.

Background:

I trained in Oxford and worked in brain injury and general rehabilitation for the NHS and Social Services for 20 years, before setting up my own practice.

What do you do?

I assess people's functional disability following injury or disease. I then make recommendations on the equipment and rehabilitation that they require in order to restore them to their pre-injury level of functionality and lifestyle. My work covers all ages including paediatrics.

I also offer occupational therapy services to people in their own homes and at Rehability, the disability

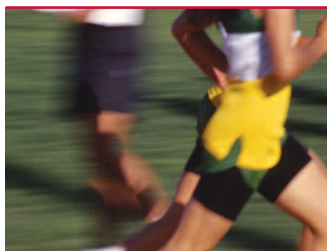
assessment centre which I set up in 2007 in a converted barn.

Where does your work take you?

I'm based in East Anglia but travel throughout the UK to assess clients. I am increasingly undertaking expert medical witness work elsewhere in Europe.

Why do you like working with comercrawley?

I've been impressed with the way they look after their clients' interests. If I have an issue to discuss with them on a particular case, they are very approachable and helpful. This enables me to access all the information I need to produce a thorough report.



Fancy a run?

We're delighted to once again be sponsoring the annual Diss Road race on Sunday 28 September – the oldest road race in Norfolk. There are three distances – 15 miles, 7.5 miles and a shorter 'fun run'.

Several of our team members and associates will be participating on the day to raise funds for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. We'd be delighted if you'd like to join us and/or help our fundraising efforts by making a donation.

For further information about the race go to: www.dissac.co.uk, or to make a donation ring Emma Crawley on 01379 644311.

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Publisher's statement

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To submit an article for consideration, or for further information about any article in the newsletter, please contact: enquiries@comercrawley.co.uk

Should you not wish to receive future issues of this newsletter please let us know, either by email: (using address above) or by telephoning 01379 644311.

Pleased to be of service...

Our regular round up of some of the recent cases we've been pleased to help settle on behalf of our clients.

A **Diss** man received a settlement of £1,250 after suffering burns to his leg when a hot water bottle split while he was in bed.

A lady from **Norfolk** tripped and fell against a door at her rented home. The door panels were not safety glass, and she sustained cuts to both arms. She received £4,000 for scarring to her arms.

A **Suffolk** man received £110,000 after suffering multiple injuries in a road traffic accident which affected his ability to work, play the guitar and enjoy other hobbies and interests.

A man from **Norfolk** who suffered a hernia as a result of pushing a heavy wheelbarrow over a muddy site at work received just under £4,700.

We made a claim on behalf of a **London** motorcyclist after a car driven by an uninsured driver pulled across his path. He received more than £12,000 for his injuries, loss of earnings, damage to his bike and clothing etc.

Another young motorcyclist in **London** was injured in a collision with a car that pulled out of a side road. The petrol tank on his bike exploded, resulting in burns and psychological injury, for which he received more than £18,000.

A **Norfolk** man was injured when his motorbike skidded on coolant dropped on the road by a tractor. Two other personal injury firms rejected the claim before we took it on and achieved compensation of £4000.

A **Yorkshire** man suffered an accident at work when driving a forklift truck. His trade union solicitor rejected the claim - but we took it on and recovered damages of more than £18,000.

And finally...

Mrs X consulted us after a sun lounger she purchased from Tesco Direct collapsed. Tesco admitted that the sun lounger was defective and settled in full within seven months.

If you - or a friend or relative - have been unfortunate enough to sustain an injury and would like to know whether you may be entitled to make a claim, simply give us a call on 01379 644311. It won't cost you a penny.