



**Ambulance Service
of New South Wales**

Excellence in
Pre-Hospital Care

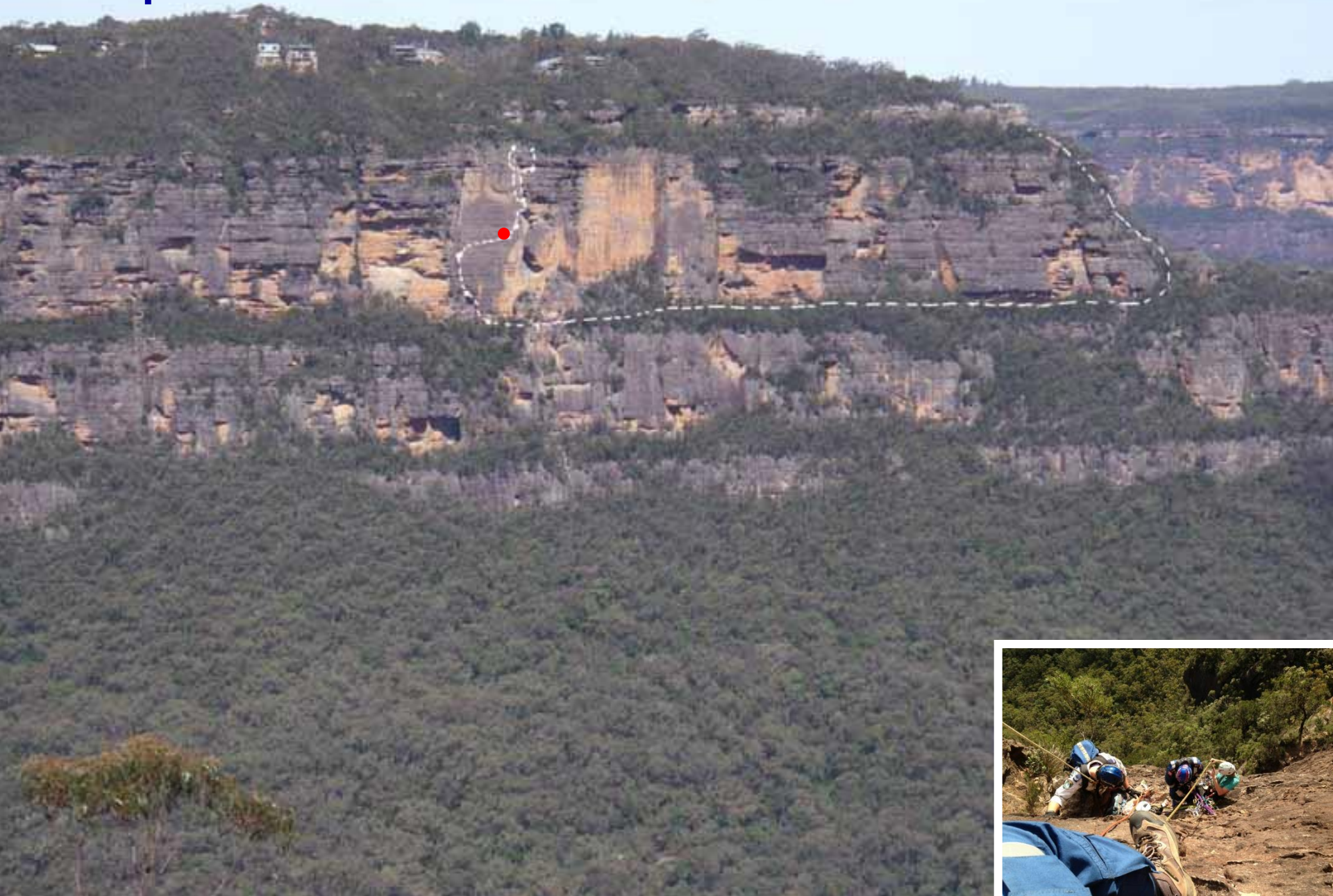


Clinical Helicopter Access

**Ambulance Rescue Helicopters
Ambulance Service of NSW**

Cameron Edgar

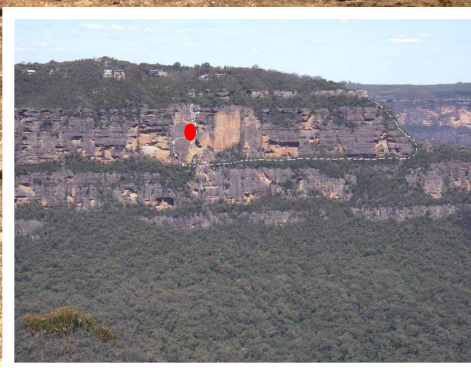
14 April 2013





Patient

Me





4 step approach:

1. Access
2. Triage
3. Treat
4. Evacuate



Access



2pm: Considerations;

- > 1000 foot cliff
- > Multiple climbers on cliff face
- > Unable to winch direct to patient
- > Several winch sites at cliff base
- > Crew has specialist access skills
- > 2.5hrs of light left



Triage

Clinical

Situational



3pm: Considerations;

- > 70m from top
- > 130m from bottom
- > Unable to do direct winch evac
- > Compound lower limb fractures
- > Left foot partially severed
- > Patient conscious with leg spasms
- > Crew trained to provide care at height



Treat

- 5pm: Considerations;
- > Vital signs stable
 - > Limited splinting
 - > 30 minutes to last light
 - > 200m to winch site
 - > Heavy bushland
 - > Compromised limb
 - > Air temp 10°C & falling
 - > Aircraft has 30mins on station time left

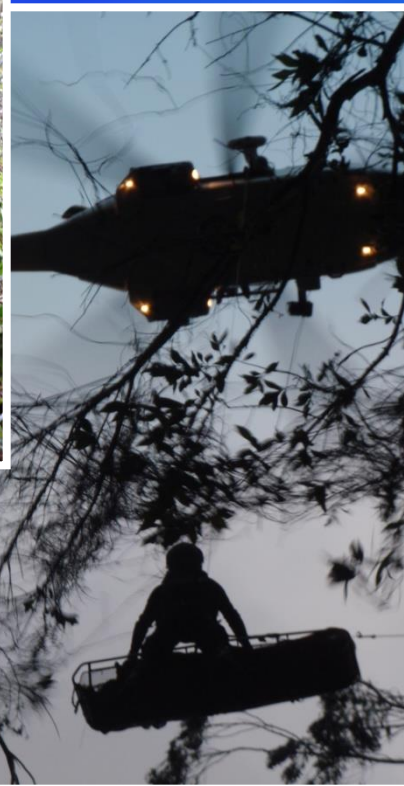




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Evacuate



- 5 – 5:30pm: Considerations;
- > Patient must be carried
 - > Light is fading
 - > Crew trained for overnight care
 - > Aircraft NVG winch capable
 - > Finite medical supplies
 - > Team been going for 4hrs & in 10th hr of shift
 - > Patient injured 5hrs ago



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Traditional Helicopter 'Access'

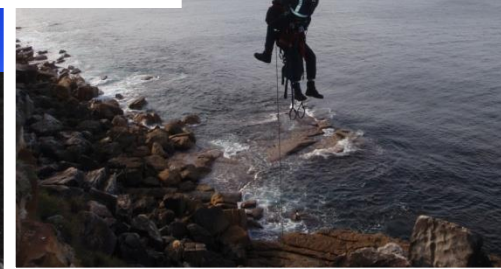
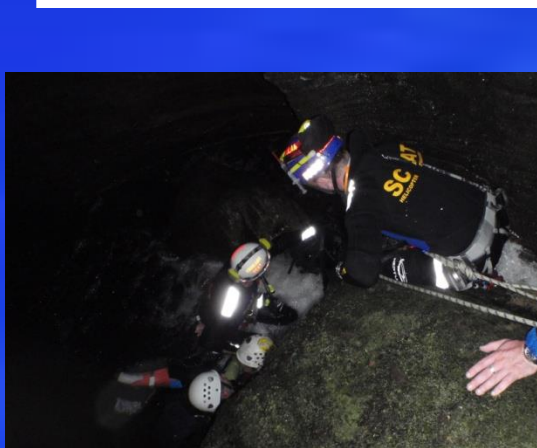
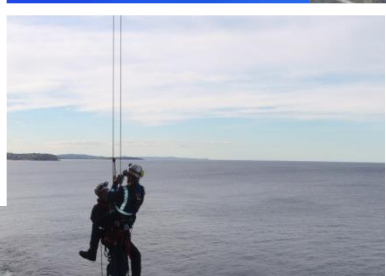




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Helicopters as a 'CLINICAL Access' tool



When you combine;
Medical + Aviation, as well as Teamwork, Discipline and Hardwork...



You get to do
something
AMAZING –
save a life...



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Thank you for your time...

Cameron Edgar

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NSW Ambulance

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