

UKRAINE NEEDS AMBULANCES

Aussie, Aussie, Aussie; Oi, Oi, Oi 🇺🇸🇨🇦🇬🇧🇪🇺

The September 2024 Ukraine Crisis Appeal 'WOMBAT CONVOY'

WOMBAT CONVOY – Ukraine Before Me! <https://youtu.be/XG9B9jhvTuk>

The AFUO Ukraine Crisis Appeal proudly announces the successful delivery of another three heavy vehicle ambulances to Ukraine at a cost of \$96,082. 🚑🚑🚑

In total, the September 2024 convoy comprised eight ambulances and 16 drivers. This multi-national convoy included donors & drivers from Australia 🇺🇸 Canada 🇨🇦 England 🇬🇧 Scotland 🇪🇺 USA 🇺🇸 and Wales 🇨🇦. The convoy travelled over 2,000km, delivering to parts of western Ukraine. 🇺🇸

Hospitals across Ukraine have lost many ambulances to enemy action. The AFUO Ukraine Crisis Appeal works closely with Medical Life Lines Ukraine (MLLU) to provide ambulances so that injured children, women and men can access urgent medical support. For maximum impact these vehicles have been placed in hospitals close to the front line and in areas that have been recently targeted.

Ukraine before me! ❤️

All of the 16 male and female ambulance drivers in the convoy were volunteer civilians who risked their lives in order to provide aid to help save the lives of war effected Ukrainians. It is well known that Russia regularly targets ambulances and medical staff to undermine this crucial medical aid. Most of the drivers have no familial connection to Ukraine, they just have generous and caring hearts.

Driver training is mandatory with the specific aim to ensure tight teamwork and the safety of the entire team. Australian drivers in this Wombat Convoy were **Chris Leptos** AO, his son **Alex Leptos**, and NSW Ukrainian activist **Ivan Semciw**.

When asked to comment on what the Wombat Convoy meant for him, Ivan Semciw stated “+*Stefan Romaniw’s words resonate for me: “one for all and all for one”.*

Alex Leptos said: “*the hardest part wasn’t the driving, it was hearing the stories from the doctors and emergency workers who received the ambulances in Ukraine”.*

Chris Leptos said “*it reminded me of the legendary fleet of small British ships at the Dunkirk evacuation where everyone just did their bit – donors, drivers, logistics planners, organisers, and many others all pulling together”.*

Each member of the convoy had the goal of bringing their ambulance into Ukraine safely. Each of the 16 volunteer drivers succeeded in their mission – helping Ukraine.

All the ambulances arrived safely in Ukraine, filled with medical and practical aid, including dressings and medical kits, defibrillators, mobility aids, sleeping bags and blankets for displaced people, as well as dog food for dogs helping the Rescue Service, and computers for schools.

Our Thanks 🙏

Ukraine, the AFUO Ukraine Crisis Appeal and Rotary World Community Service extend their sincere thanks to these men and women for this conspicuous act of bravery and the humanitarian aid they

delivered. We also thank their loving families in supporting them in achieving their goal and supporting Ukraine.

We also thank philanthropist **David Seargeant** for his generosity in providing funding for one of the ambulances and several pallets of medical supplies.

Please like and share this post, and if possible donate to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal. All donations are tax deductible. The next convoy is due in November 2024.

Anyone wishing to volunteer their services to drive, please contact us at:
www.ukrainecrisisappeal.org

Further information contact **Darka Senko** at www.ukrainecrisisappeal.org













