

Time Critical Logistical
Remote Offshore
Maternity/Neonatal
Transport Retrieval Mission
Chatham Islands 2023

Penny Bee Flight Midwife

Jacinda Duffy Neonatal Transport
Nurse

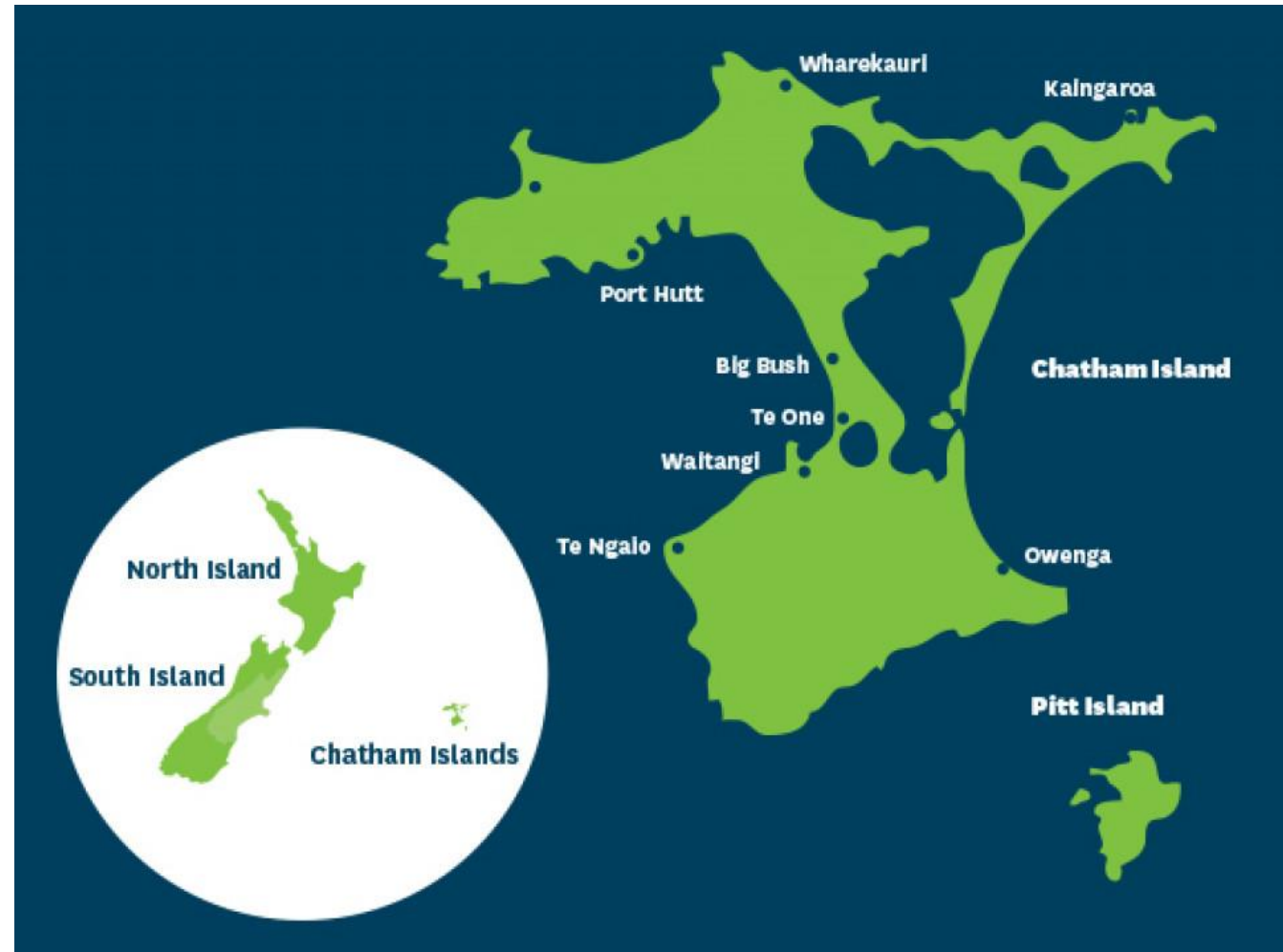
Christchurch Women's
Hospital/NZ Flying Doctors
Christchurch

Chatham Islands



Chatham Islands

- 862kms east of Christchurch
- 772kms east of Napier
- 45 mins ahead of New Zealand
- 2hr 15min flight time from Christchurch (2hrs 30min back)



Chatham Islands

- Population 680
- Main industry – fishing and farming
- No high school
- Direct airlink with Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch



Chatham Island

- Medical personnel at Chatham Clinic minimal
- No Midwife
- Women mainly birth in Christchurch
- Women moved at 34/40
- No hospital
- GP led clinic only



Case

Presentation

- 19yr old primigravida woman on Pitt Island
- 27 weeks gestation
Antepartum haemorrhage (APH)
- Contacted Chatham Clinic
- Weather minor storm





Case Presentation

- 1400hrs call received by Christchurch Women's Hospital from Chatham's Clinic
- Obstetric SMO (CWH) advising retrieval to Christchurch
- Minimal information – women on Pitt Is
- Obstetric and Neonatal services informed
- Call to Air Retrieval service (CARS)
- King Air currently on another mission

Case Presentation

- Dr + 2 nurses to travel to Pitt Island
- Time frame
 - arrange boat
 - 30min drive clinic to port
 - 1hr Chatham to Pitt by boat
 - total time loading/unloading 2hrs
 - eta Pitt Is 1500hrs
- Expected information 1515hrs to Chatham clinic and CWH
- Eta back to Chatham's clinic 1700hrs



Case Presentation

- At Christchurch Hospital
 - Discussion – Neonatal/Obstetric retrieval
 - King Air eta 1630hrs
 - 2 aircraft (mum and baby)
 - 4 units of RBC (mum) 1 unit RBC (neonatal)
 - King Air take-off 1715hrs
 - neonatal team + incubator
 - Challenger 604 jet take-off 1815 (1hr flight time)
 - flight midwife + flight nurse (ICU)



Case Presentation

- Other information
- sometimes the stars align
- Obstetric SMO on Chatham's
- 2 aircraft available
- weather has settled and clear



Case Presentation

- Woman arrives at Chatham's Clinic at 1700hrs
- Reviewed by Obstetrician
 - pre term labour, 7cms dilated, footling breech, Hb82gdl
 - Magnesium infusion (IV) betamethasone (IM), Nifedipine (PO)

Information still sketchy due to phone lines
-Chatham's nursing team built a makeshift neonatal resuscitaire/incubator



Case Presentation

- 30 min drive
- All team members and incubator to clinic
- Team huddle with obstetrician
- Handover by Obstetrician
- Plan – transfer out
- Midwife instructed by obstetrician about potential delivery complications



Case Presentation

- Plan
 - Incubator to return to aircraft in ambulance
 - Woman to travel seated in front of police vehicle
 - Midwife and neonatal team to travel in police vehicle
 - Woman to be lifted onto aircraft



Case Presentation



- Jet arrived at Christchurch at 2300hrs
- Nil issues on flight
- Woman transferred by ambulance to CWH
- 40 mins after arrival C/S
- No evidence of abruption, likely cervical incompetence



- Christchurch Women's Hospital
- Neonatal Retrieval Team
- Neonatal Considerations

- Unexpected call at home for a retrieval
- Minimal information
- 19yr old
- 27 weeks gestation
- APH



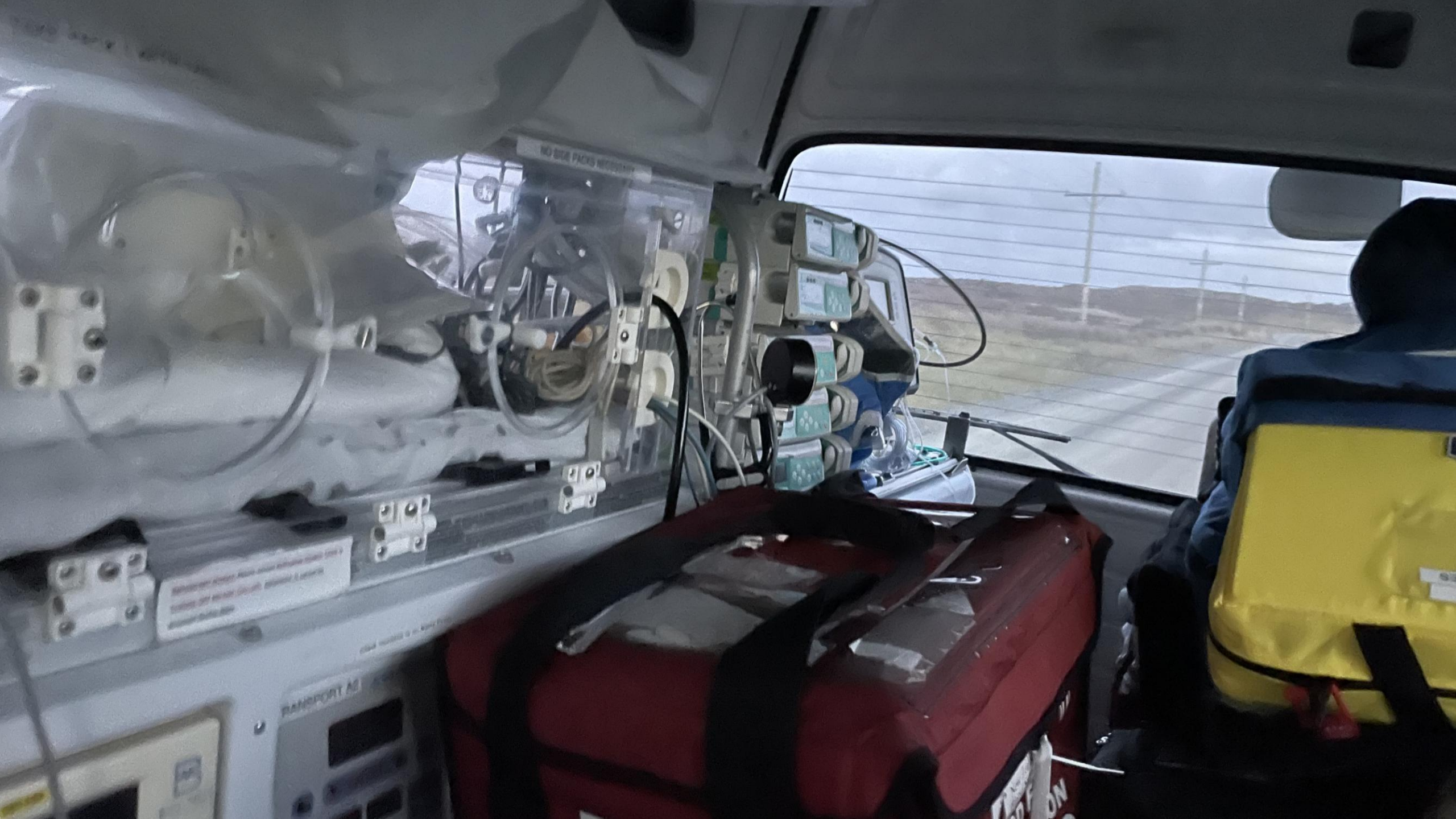
- Specialised neonatal equipment required
- Preparing for all scenarios
- Decisions regarding who should go on the retrieval and how they would travel



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- Travelling alone
 - Some communication issues
 - Anticipating various scenarios







NO DUE PACKS NECESSARY

REMEMBER ALWAYS: ALWAYS WEAR SEATBELT AND
PLEASE DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL & DRIVE

TRANSPORT A2

TRANSPORT A2



- Further complications
- Options discussed

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- Decision made to leave ASAP prior to delivery



27 weeks gestation stock image

- Unique neonatal considerations
- Respiratory Distress
- Hypothermia
- Metabolic, GI and neurological complications



Umbilical venous catheter stock image

- Emergency equipment rationalized
- Most important drugs and equipment







Tiana

