



Helicopter Humanitarian Missions

# Sikorsky Lifeline

Stratford, Connecticut

## Bristow Winchman Saluted for 500 SAR Missions

Bristow Helicopters, which runs four search and rescue operations for Her Majesty's Coastguard in the United Kingdom is hailing Stornoway-based winchman Chris Murray for more than 500 rescue missions.

Mission number 500 was to evacuate a casualty with a broken leg from the MV Bowpower, which was 48nm West of Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis ([www.scotland-info.co.uk/lewis.htm](http://www.scotland-info.co.uk/lewis.htm)).

Murray, 51, has been with Bristow ([www.bristowtraining.com/sar.htm](http://www.bristowtraining.com/sar.htm)) as a winchman since 1988 and during that time has accumulated more than 3,200 flying hours, all in Sikorsky S-61 helicopters.

Murray has twice been awarded Her Majesty's Coastguard Commendation for Meritorious Service.

As a winchman who rides the hoist down to those in peril, he is no stranger to tense moments.

"Whereas the rest of us are dual trained as winch operators and winchmen, Chris has been a winchman on all of his 500 missions thereby taking all the knocks" said fellow crewman Steve Branley.



*Chris Murray*

