



ACT
Government



Media Release

Ambos reunite with baby that couldn't wait

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The ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) has today reunited with a family in less stressful circumstances following the birth of a baby girl on the roadside in Gungahlin.

“It is not uncommon for the ACTAS to be called to pre-hospital baby deliveries and I am pleased to say that dad has managed the situation well with mum whilst intensive care paramedics were responding to the location, ACTAS Chief Officer David Foot said.

“Having been in a similar situation myself some years ago, I congratulate both Mr & Mrs Bowyer for their actions, quick thinking, remaining calm and for calling Emergency Triple Zero (E000) to assist,” he said.

At 6am, Saturday 15 November, 2014, Mr Bowyer was driving Mrs Bowyer to hospital following Mrs Bowyer going into labour. On Gungahlin Drive near the Barton Highway at Lyneham, Mrs Bowyer realised baby could not wait. Mr Bowyer then immediately pulled over and called E000. Whilst on the phone with an ambulance call-taker, Mr Bowyer delivered his baby girl before the ambulance crew arrived.

Mr & Mrs Bowyer were also confronted with an anxious situation with the umbilical cord wrapped around the baby's neck. Both mum and dad managed the situation incredibly well and baby Maisie was born with no further complications. Both mum and baby Maisie were assessed at the scene by intensive care paramedics prior to being transported to The Canberra Hospital.

“Today has been very rewarding for the ACTAS members involved to meet the Palmerston family again and see how Maisie is progressing,” the ACTAS Chief Officer said.

The ACTAS reunited with the Bowyer family today at the Joint Emergency Services Centre, Gungahlin.