



Swallowfield Community Responders

Dear Suppoter

Welcome to the July 2014 update for all of the kind supporters of our Group.

In July we saw a slight drop in the need for our services as we were only deployed 40 times and were stood down (ie: stopped from actually attending whilst on route) 10 times, which as a % of total deployment is one of the highest rates we have seen.

The analysis of the call areas was as follows:

| | July | TOTAL |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| AREA | Calls - Month | Calls - YTD |
| Spencers Wood | 11 | 54 |
| Whitley | 7 | 38 |
| Other | 6 | 36 |
| Beech Hill | 3 | 7 |
| Lower Earley | 3 | 8 |
| Reading | 3 | 31 |
| Three Mile Cross | 2 | 15 |
| Riseley | 2 | 9 |
| Hampshire | 2 | 7 |
| Shinfield | 1 | 30 |
| Swallowfield | 0 | 15 |
| Farley Hill | 0 | 12 |
| Arborfield | 0 | 21 |
| TOTAL | 40 | 283 |

Spencers Wood continues to be the area with the highest number of calls. Given the concentration and number of people living there this is to be expected.

We were first on scene for 80% of the calls we attended, sometimes arriving significantly before the Ambulance. Our average time to arrive on scene was just over 6 minutes.

The calls we attended included; chest pains, stroke, breathing difficulties, as well as a child who fell from a swing and hit his head, someone who was fitting, someone who had stuck a cotton bud too far in their ear, a broken leg and unconscious patients.

The ladies really hogged the limelight this month representing over 50% of the calls we attended, with men and children equally sharing half of the remaining calls each.

We logged 425 hours of cover for the community, bringing our total YTD to 2,741 hours, so we are on track to provide a similar amount of time to that provided last year.

Team News

During the month both Barry and Gary became First Aid at Work certified and therefore are now able to offer first aid event cover (provided as Individuals and not as Swallowfield Community Responders) to any local community event that requests it, in exchange for a donation towards schemes funds. Sean has booked himself on a similar course and hopefully will also have this qualification in the near future. The Group continues to look at qualifications which may be attained to gain further experience and provide additional services to the community.

Unfortunately due to work commitments, Andy, has had to step down as a responder, but fortunately we already have a new responder going through the recruitment process who will be able to assist during the week, which is great news.

Events

In July we attended the Spencers Wood Church Fete, the team were very grateful for the hospitality afforded to them by the organisers, so thank you very much. It was also a great opportunity for previous patients to come up and say hello and to say "thank you", which always goes down well with the team. We look forward to attending next years' event.

Our next event is the Swallowfield Horticultural Show on the 24th / 25th August – so please do come along and say hello and obviously support the Swallowfield Horticultural Society! - see <http://www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk/> for details.

HEARTSTART SWALLOWFIELD

In July we delivered 2 Public Heartstart Courses which brings the total trained to 199 with a minimum of another 36 waiting to be trained.

We continue to receive great comments such as:

"Exceeded Expectation"

"Excellent - Thank You. I learned a great deal AND enjoyed it."

"Very Good and highly valuable experience"

We are continually updating our course dates and will shortly be publishing new event dates in both Riseley (new venue) and Swallowfield.

Remember – we will always do specific courses for a company / organisation, so if you would like one for your employer or organisation, just drop us a line.

As we reported last month, we have set ourselves a target to raise funds for 5 Public Access Automated External Defibrillators for: Swallowfield; Riseley; Farley Hill; Shinfield and Beech Hill. We are working hard at contacting various charities, charitable trusts and have a National Lottery application is in process. We are committed to providing AED's to the community as we believe this will possibly save a life.

The importance of an AED in the community was shown in June when we were called to someone who was attending an event in one of the village halls, who had suffered a cardiac arrest. It was our own defibrillator that actually shocked the patient's heart back into a normal rhythm and quite probably saved the person's life. Time is extremely critical if cardiac arrest occurs and if there had been an AED nearby the patient's chance of making a full recovery is much, much better.

Our future course dates can be found at <http://www.heartstartswallowfield.co.uk/events/>. **Please help spread the word as our aim is to train as many people in the Community as we possibly can.**

As ever, we thank each and every one of you for your support, past present and future.

Regards,

Swallowfield Community Responders