



Swallowfield Community Responders

Dear Supporter

Welcome to the May 2016 update for our Group.

Calls

In May we were despatched 25 times and were stood down four times making a total of 21 emergency calls physically attended and out of these we were first on scene 17 times (81%).

The distribution of these calls is as shown below:

AREA:	No of Calls		
	May	YTD	%
Spencers Wood	8	34	21%
Shinfield	5	27	16%
Whitley	3	42	25%
Swallowfield	3	9	5%
Lower Earley	2	10	6%
Other	2	4	2%
Mortimer	1	7	4%
Farley Hill	1	3	2%
Three Mile Cross	0	9	5%
Reading	0	8	5%
Burghfield	0	6	4%
Arborfield	0	3	2%
Beech Hill	0	1	1%
Riseley	0	1	1%
Woodley	0	1	1%
Hampshire	0	0	0%
TOTAL	25	165	100%

Parish	No of Calls		
	May	YTD	%
Shinfield	13	70	42%
Other	6	58	35%
Swallowfield	4	13	8%
Reading	1	7	4%
Stratfield Mortimer	1	7	4%
Burghfield	0	6	4%
Arborfield	0	3	2%
Beech Hill	0	1	1%
TOTAL	25	165	100%

Our average time to scene was just under 6 minutes and the average ages of patients attended were 67 for the men, 42 for the ladies and 2 for children.

Men took a commanding lead in May and represented 64% of our calls, with ladies and children 32% and 4% respectively.

Our total on call time was similar to that of April at 330 hours of cover, which represents just over 10.6 hours per day.

Calls attended can be categorised as follows:

Medical Condition	No Patients
Epilepsy	4
Chest Pains	3
Cardiac Arrest	2
Cardiac Issues - other	2
Difficulty Breathing	2
Anaphylactic Shock	2
Allergic reaction	1
Stroke	1
Unconscious	1
Fall in Home	1
Abdominal Pain	1
Unresponsive	1
No medical problem	1
Febrile convulsion	1
Diabetic Issue	1
High temperature	1
Grand Total	25

Despite the Ambulance Service having to respond to record numbers of 999 calls, our call out rates are actually down on previous years. There seems to be no real reason behind this as we are assured that if we are logged on and there is a call in our area we will be despatched. When people are giving up their time it is important that they are used at every single opportunity and therefore we will continue to monitor the situation.

Staff

You may have recalled that Steve had given up his previous job and was training to be a fully-fledged member of the Ambulance Service. We are extremely pleased to report that in May he successfully passed his Ambulance Technician Exams and once he has completed the required number of clinical hours, he will be able to proudly show his accreditation on his Uniform Epaulettes.

The whole team would like to say Well Done to Steve as this took a huge amount of hard work.

Unfortunately, we still have to advise that we are yet to get any new members into the team. We did have three people who called up and it was looking promising, but things have not progressed. So as ever, if anyone is interested in knowing more, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Equipment

We had a bit of an equipment malfunction in May when the screen on our Terrafix unit (a unit which despatches us and automatically turns into a very accurate sat nav) broke. It was out of action for over 5 days and so we were relying on being despatched manually and the Ambulance Service could not track where we are, so during this period our call outs were reduced. It just proves to us what an invaluable piece of kit our Terrafix unit really is.

Events

In May Barry was invited to the Mothers Union meeting in Shinfield where he spoke about both the Swallowfield Responders and Heartstart Swallowfield. It was a very interactive meeting and by the end of it everyone knew a lot more about how we operate and also the Automated External Defibrillator that Barry demonstrated. The meeting was also kind enough to make a donation towards the scheme.

We also helped provide First Aid cover to the Finch Coasters Running Club in Finchampstead who were having one of their annual fund raising events in Crowthorne Wood. Barry and Gary joined several others to provide First Aid to the hundred or so runners. The Ambulance Service kindly allowed us to use our vehicle such that if we were needed somewhere in the woodland we could get there easily. It was a great evening and the Club were very appreciative of us being there. In June we will be assisting at another run for them.

Other events we have coming up are:

11 th June	Swallowfield Church Fete
25/26 th June	Farley Hall Horse Trials
2 nd July	St Marys Church Fete, Shinfield
28/29 th August	Swallowfield Show

We are still looking at other events, so please watch this space, but these are the only ones confirmed as of now.

HEARTSTART SWALLOWFIELD

In May we delivered 2 courses, one public and one for the Thames Valley Police Cadets in Bracknell.

These two courses now mean that we will have trained 665 people via 66 separate courses and we are still getting comments such as

“Excellent course all round. The guys were absolutely amazing, entertaining & informative - Brilliant!!”

We do therefore encourage as many of you as possible to come along to one of our courses.

One of our previous attendees is heavily involved with the Scouts and asked us if we would like to join them at the Pang Valley Annual Camp in Pangbourne and be part of the “Community Zone” to show the youngsters CPR and also the AED (Automated External Defibrillator). We jumped at the chance and then found out that there would be approximately 500 young people there! So it was all hands to the pumps and lucky for us, Sean a previous member of The Swallowfield Community Responders volunteered so the three of us turned up on the day, ready for the onslaught!



It was as expected a very busy day with lots of the Scout leaders commenting on how busy our gazebo looked but it was also such a tremendously rewarding one. These younger members of our community really are interested and want to learn and if we can capture their interests now and train them on how to save a life, then hopefully it will stay with them for a very long time.



We continue to be asked to deliver courses and whilst we would love to say yes to each one, we are restricted by our Instructor availability as its all done in our spare time, so If anyone would like to be involved with the Heartstart Swallowfield team and would like to become an Instructor, please do not hesitate to contact us as we could do with another pair of hands.

Last month we left you with the thought that we may have some very exciting news to announce this month, and we do!

We were committed as a team to find the required funds to replace those that Gary would have won in the recent Britains Best Volunteer competition and we have! Whilst we will announce the sources in next months edition, we are very pleased to announce that we have secured funding to place an AED into three of the local schools. We have chosen these to be Lambs Lane; Oakbank and Shinfield Juniors as they either presently do not have a defibrillator of their own or are not very close to one. We met with each of the head teachers in May and it is hoped that by next months edition we will be able to say that each of them has their AED in place.

As ever, we thank you all for your support and if anyone would like to be taken off this mailing list, then please do let us know.

Regards

Swallowfield Responders / Heartstart Swallowfield

www.swallowfieldresponders.co.uk

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