GOSPEL LANE ALLOTMENTS is awarded new defibrillator from British Heart Foundation

Gospel Lane Allotments is delighted to announce that it has been awarded a new lifesaving defibrillator and cabinet from the British Heart Foundation.

The defibrillator has been installed close to our entrance so that its accessible to the local community as well as the plot holders.

The defibrillator is available to the public 24/7 and is registered on The Circuit, the national defibrillator network, so that ambulance services can direct bystanders to it in the event of a cardiac arrest.

At Gospel Lane Allotments it has always been our ambition to install a Defibrillator on our site as we knew that it could be the difference between life and death in the event of a cardiac arrest. Alas it was always out of reach for us due to the high purchase price, installation and ongoing costs.

However, a few months ago we applied to the British Heart Foundation who were making awards to community organisations to fully fund a Defibrillator. We made a case, put it forward and after a little negotiation I'm pleased to say we were awarded with a fully funded Defibrillator and cabinet.

Our Association volunteers have taken care of providing the necessary electricity supply to the Defib cabinet and the Association is generously funding the running costs of the electricity used. In addition and at the Association's cost, we have extended our CCTV system to cover the area adjacent to the Defib to discourage any unwanted attention to the equipment.

This year, there are over 320 defibrillator packages available in the BHF's Community Defibrillator Programme, and areas with greatest need are being prioritised – areas with greatest need, where there is limited access to defibrillators.

The BHF and its partner organisations are encouraging other eligible organisations to apply for a free defibrillator. This could be the difference between life and death in the event of an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces the chance of survival by up to 10%.

With over 30,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests each year in the UK and a survival rate of less than one in ten, quick CPR and defibrillation is vital to improve survival rates.

Local Councilor Roger Harmer said:
"It's great to see another defibrillator installed for use by the community if it is needed. The more that are available the greater the chance that if someone is in distress they can be helped by one. A big thank you to the team at Gospel Lane Allotments and the British Heart Foundation for making this possible."

Dr Charmaine Griffiths, Chief Executive of the British Heart Foundation, said: "Every defibrillator has the power to save a life – that's why I'm thrilled that we're able to fully fund over 320 of these

lifesaving devices for the areas that need it most.

"When someone has a cardiac arrest, every second counts – early access to a defibrillator is vital to give someone the best chance of survival.

"Although we have made progress, there are still too many communities that lack quick and easy access to a defibrillator. With the reopening of this fund, more communities will now have access to a defibrillator that can save lives"

To hear more about BHF's community defibrillator funding programme, visit https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/defibrillators/apply-for-a-free- defibrillator-for-your-community

To take BHF's free online CPR training and learn how to use a defibrillator, visit: https://revivr.bhf.org.uk

About the Community Defibrillator Funding Programme

Since 2014, British Heart Foundation (BHF) has part-funded thousands of defibrillators in communities across the UK. However, many community groups could not commit to ongoing costs. The Circuit data has highlighted that areas in Great Britian with multiple socioeconomic deprivation are at a greater risk of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests (OHCAs) and less likely to have access to a public access defibrillator (PAD).

The BHF has introduced the Community Defibrillator Funding Programme which is focused on improving equity in defibrillator for communities most in need to and give more people a better chance of surviving an OHCA.

The programme is now open to applicants from across the UK and aims to remove further barriers to community groups.

This includes:

- The defibrillator
- An unlocked cabinet
- Installation where required
- Replacement pads and batteries for 10 years
- Materials to promote RevivR, our free online CPR training, to local communities

About The Circuit

The Circuit was developed by the BHF in partnership with the NHS ambulance services, Resuscitation Council UK, St John Ambulance and NHS England.

Each ambulance service was previously only able to locate defibrillators using their own regional databases. However, The Circuit provides a national view which means emergency call handlers across the country are able to direct bystanders to their closest defibrillator.
The number of registered defibrillators has more than doubled since all ambulance services started using The Circuit, but it is estimated that tens of thousands are not registered. This means they are not visible to ambulance services when 999 is called.

To ensure The Circuit achieves its ambitions, the founding health charities are urging all organisations with defibrillators to register them on the system. Organisations can bulk upload all their defibrillators in one go. It's free and quick and easy to do. For more information, please visit https://www.thecircuit.uk/.

About the British Heart Foundation

It is only with donations from the public that the BHF can keep its life saving research going. Help us turn

science fiction into reality. With donations from the public, the BHF funds ground-breaking research that will get us closer than ever to a world free from the fear of heart and circulatory diseases. A world where broken hearts are mended, where millions more people survive a heart attack, where the number of people dying from or disabled by a stroke is slashed in half. A world where people affected by heart and circulatory diseases get the support they need. And a world of cures and treatments we can't even imagine today.
Find out more at bhf.org.uk