

Billingshurst Emergency Assistance Team

Newsletter – February 2007



Team Co-ordinator

Trevor Williams

01403 784267

Thanks to Mallards of Billingshurst for their help in producing this newsletter.

Billifest

BEAT had a stand at the Billifest event that was held on 16th December. Here we were able to tell people about the group and seek further members and donations. Some people showed an interest in becoming members and on the day we raised over £140. As Responder Schemes are still quite a new idea, we welcome opportunities to provide a high profile presence at such events.

Help us to help you

www.999whereareyou.org

Welcome to the second newsletter from your local Community Responder Group - BEAT. The group continues to go from strength to strength. We now have 11 fully trained volunteers with other people showing an interest in joining the group. Our training continues to allow us to attend a greater variety of calls; we have enlisted the help of the co-ordinator of the West Chiltoning Responder Group, who is able to provide a continued and structured training program. Our new volunteers will enable the group to provide a greater level of cover. Our fund raising activities continue, but as time goes by, finding new avenues to explore continues to be a challenge. With our new members, and the possibility of needing to purchase additional equipment this year as our training expands, we are always seeking new ways to fund the group. Billingshurst Lions Club remains our major supporter, now having donated 4 full Responder Kits. Placing an article in the local press also instigated a generous donation of £250 from New Place Nursery in Pulborough. We have also just received notification of a generous donation from Saxon Weald. We have started looking in to registering the group as a Charity and will work with our colleagues in the Ambulance Service to pursue this idea further.

2006 Statistics

We were quite surprised when we added up our calls for 2006, especially as the group started in mid-February. During the year we responded to a total of **71** calls. Of these calls **65%** were in Billingshurst, **35%** being in other areas, some as far away as Loxwood, Coolham and Codmore Hill. On **78%** of our calls a Responder arrived before the ambulance; out of these calls **21%** were over **10 minutes** before. These figures prove the importance of having Responder Schemes in rural areas such as ours.

Skills and equipment which Community Responders are qualified in:

- Use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Oxygen Therapy
- Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- First aid, patient care and assessment
- Recognition of cause and type of illness/injury
- Scene safety and incident management.

If you would like to receive future newsletters by email please contact Paul Berry
paulm@berryadi.fsnet.co.uk

2006 Calls by Location

