

Restart a Heart Day:

Hampshire man reunited with air ambulance doctor who helped save his life.



Dr Rob Summerhayes and Tom Nickisson Richards with Ian and Jackie.

The retired builder was given bystander CPR in September 2024 and shocked with a defibrillator six times to attempt to restart his heart

76-year-old Ian Jurd was “blue and lifeless” when his wife, Jackie, walked into their local village hall in Medstead to see their friend performing CPR on her husband of 43 years.

Ian was dead – I could tell, added Jackie. Dave his badminton friend was performing CPR , and others were organising the defibrillator that is stationed at the hall, and the emergency services were called.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance crew were dispatched from Thruxton and landed on the cricket green just 100 metres away from the scene. Jackie watched on as they strode into the hall with their kit bags and joined their ambulance colleagues to attempt to save Ian's life.

Ian was taken to Basingstoke Hospital and after initial treatment was taken to intensive care and kept in an induced coma for five days. He later had three stents and an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) fitted. Ian said, "To think that two police cars, two ambulances and an air ambulance turned up within 15 minutes of me collapsing – I wouldn't have had better treatment if I was the King of England." I look at myself in the mirror sometimes and I can't believe I'm still here. I'm so grateful for everything that was done for me especially the CPR. Jackie and I feel so lucky. We've got a lovely family – with three children and five wonderful grandchildren. To be here for them is just a miracle.

Restart a Heart Day is a national day raising awareness of the importance of performing early CPR... Fewer than 1-in-10 people in the UK survive an out-of-hospital arrest. And for every minute without CPR and defibrillation, the chance of survival reduces by up to 10%.

St Andrew's Church have raised the funds to install another defibrillator near the entrance to the Church Hall, which is opposite the Castle of Comfort pub. This provides Medstead with defibrillators at both sides of the village and will be operational from the 9th October. It is intended to organise several dates for CPR training and familiarising the use of a defibrillator. These will be done by representatives from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, Alton Cardiac Rehab and Trustworthy Services Training and Support



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Aftercare Lead, Tom Nickisson-Richards, said:

“Outcomes like Ian’s are only possible thanks to early CPR and defibrillation - whether it's a friend, family member, colleague or stranger, learning and performing CPR could be the difference between life and death.

When our clinical team arrive on scene and see CPR being carried out, we know that patient has been given the very best chance of surviving and making it home to their loved ones.”

YOUR CHANCE TO BE ABLE TO SAVE A LIFE

Here are the dates, times and places where you can receive training in CPR and Defibrillator Familiarisation

Saturday 8th November

2pm. At St Andrew’s Church Hall, Medstead

Wednesday 12th November

12.30 - 2pm. At The Assembly Rooms, Alton

Wednesday 19th November

10.30am - 12.30pm At The Assembly Rooms, Alton

Saturday 22nd November

10.30am At The Church of the Good Shepherd

Four Marks

