

# Life-Saving Defibrillator Installed at Shipston's Leisure Centre

**08 February 2011, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire:** A life-saving heart defibrillator has been installed at Shipston's Leisure Centre, for use by the public in emergency situations.

The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was presented by the League of Friends, who have been working with Shipston-based heart rhythm charity, Arrhythmia Alliance, as part of the charity's "Restart the Heart" programme.

A-A is supporting social and community groups to introduce AEDs to public places as a way of combating Sudden Cardiac Arrest, the UK's number one killer. If a person is suspected of suffering a cardiac arrest, speedy help from an AED and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is often the only way they can survive such a catastrophic event.

Francis French of The League of Friends said, "We're delighted to be able to make this presentation. AEDs can truly save lives and having one at the leisure centre is an ideal place to prevent needless deaths in our community."

The Deputy Mayor Paul Rathkey said "We are delighted to be able to offer our support to this grass root charity, The Heart Rhythm Charity is new to the local area but has already proven invaluable with their work at placing vital life-saving equipment in Shipston and in the county of Warwickshire"

Gareth Wagg of Shipston Leisure Centre said, "We're really pleased to be part of the Arrhythmia Alliance initiative and play an active role in Shipston-on-Stour's community. The centre is a hub for fitness and well-being and we see this life-saving equipment as a vital element to the services we offer."

## News Release

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The AED will be placed in the Shipston Leisure Centre, supported by the Mayor Simon Welch and the district council.

Trudie Lobban, founder of Arrhythmia Alliance, said, “AEDs are vital when it comes to preventing loss of life from Sudden Cardiac Arrest. With CPR alone there is just a 5% survival rate but by using a defibrillator the chance of survival is increased by a further 45%. Survival rates drop between 7-10% every minute without defibrillation. We believe that many lives can be saved if defibrillators were installed in as many public places as possible.”

Arrhythmia Alliance would like to hear from more community groups or other organisations who would like help with facilitating the installation of an AED. For more information, contact [joanna@heartrhythmcharity.org.uk](mailto:joanna@heartrhythmcharity.org.uk)

### Ends

1. The A-A website can be found at [www.heartrhythmcharity.org.uk](http://www.heartrhythmcharity.org.uk)
2. For more information please call Jo Fearnley on 01789 451823 or email [joanna@heartrhythmcharity.org.uk](mailto:joanna@heartrhythmcharity.org.uk)