

FRIENDS OF CAISTOR FIRST RESPONDERS NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

Welcome to our review of 2014. As you will read below it has been a tremendous year for Caistor First Responders. We've had many new volunteers training as responders, increased levels of training, and good news on fundraising too with some new Corporate Friends along with some great donations from a number of different events.

You can read more about all these in the following articles.

However, 2014 was also tinged with sadness as the Group were very saddened to learn of the death of one of our founder members, the late and great, Dr Geoff Wood. There is a tribute to Dr Wood on the inside page.

A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW RESPONDERS

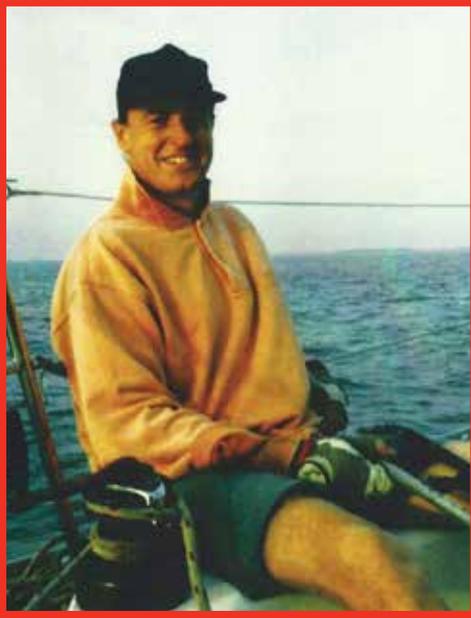


Those of our Friends who have read our newsletters in the past will know that the single biggest challenge for Caistor First Responders is finding, and retaining, our volunteers. It is a demanding role that eats into the one thing that many of us have little to spare – time!

The good news is that this year, following a publicity campaign and welcome meeting in April, we have had more new volunteers join the group than we have had for many years.

Pictured here we have Jackie Parker, Paula Clayton, Gemma Kireia, Brian Hunter, Andrea Maxson and Laura Davy, all of whom are new to the team this year. They have made a big difference to the team and to the amount of cover that we can provide. We welcome them, their skills and enthusiasm.

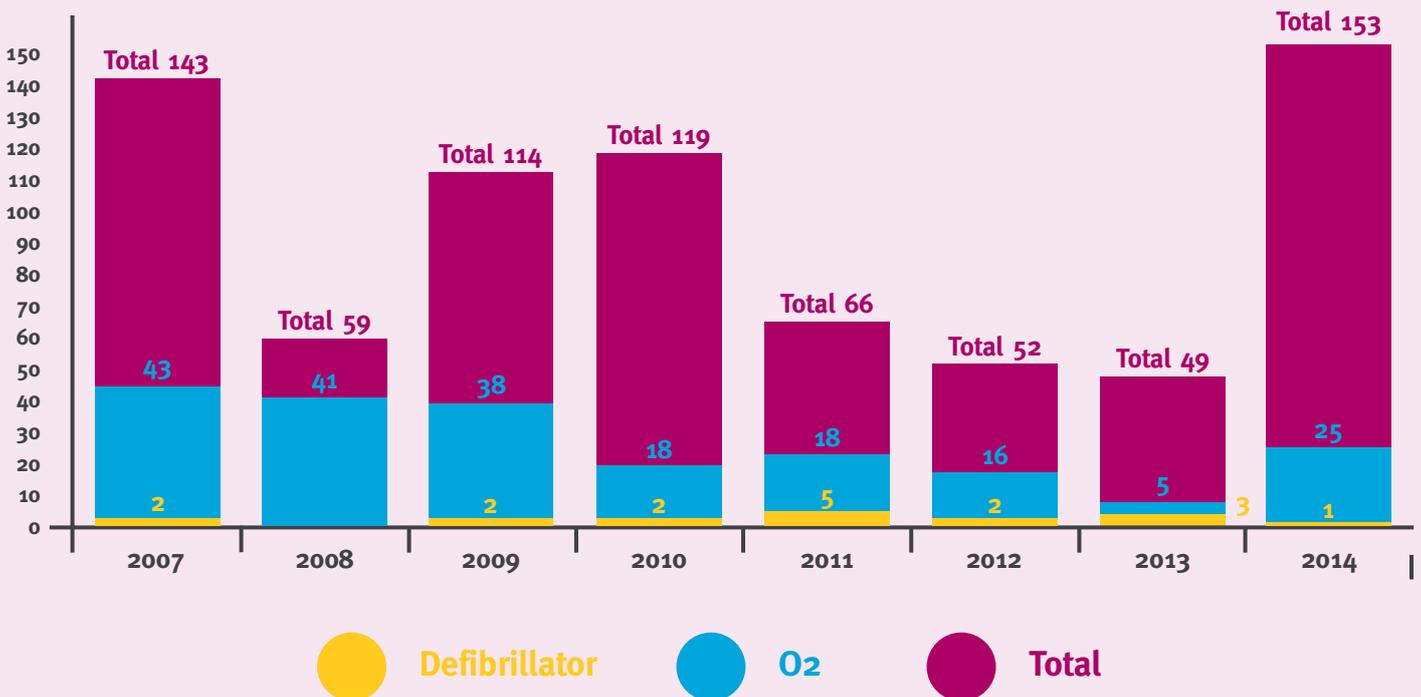
THE LATE AND GREAT DR GEOFF WOOD



Caistor First Responders were very sad to learn that Dr Wood died as a result of a motor accident, early in 2014. As Chairman Ian Dawson stated, "Dr Wood was crucial to the Group's acceptance in Caistor. As the people of Caistor trusted him, when he became a founder member of the Group they also trusted the First Responder Scheme. His role was essential in making the Group the success it is today." Dr Wood was a well-respected

member of the community in many ways, however he was greatly admired by the First Responder Group and will be sadly missed by us. It was no surprise that his Memorial Service was packed, including members of the LIVES team in their First Responders uniform. The group have arranged for a church kneeler to be made, which will form a lasting tribute to Dr Wood in St Peter and St Paul's Parish Church in Caistor.

MORE CALL OUTS



As the chart above shows we have had more call outs in 2014 than ever before. Last year the Caistor Group attended 153 call outs (compared to 49 the year before). We had to use the defibrillator on just one occasion and oxygen 25 times.

The statistics LIVES have recorded show that we attended 28 patients with chest pain, 22 falls, 15 breathing difficulties, 12 unconscious people, 9 patients who were fitting and 8 strokes.

Particularly at this time of year the Ambulance Service work under tremendous pressure, and we hope our presence in Caistor gives you some reassurance that help is readily at hand.

One reason for the extra call-outs is undoubtedly the new volunteers that have joined the group, meaning that we have more time on call.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW CORPORATE FRIENDS

The observant among you will have noticed that our newsletter is being sent out a few months later than usual (normally it is in November). The reason for this is that we have been aiming to recruit some new corporate friends to the scheme.

This has been a real success and we are delighted to welcome Caistor Yarborough Academy, The Frame and Log Cabin Company, KW Wilson and Sons, Lincolnshire Montessori, Paul Wiseman Electrical Engineers and Sandhams Wine Merchants. Each of these organisations has agreed to make a voluntary donation of £50 to £100 each year towards our costs. We welcome them with open arms and thank them for their generosity.



Caistor Yarborough Academy



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TWO NEW JOBS FOR LUKE KIREIA

At our AGM in May Luke Kireia became our LIVES Coordinator, as well as being our Group First Aider. He replaced Mick Timson who had carried out the Coordinator role for over 5 years. Mick, who used to work for the Ambulance Service, has always done a great job and the Group are very grateful for his commitment.

As well as becoming our LIVES Coordinator Luke also started a

new job working for the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) as a 999 call handler. This has given the Group a valuable insight into the Ambulance Service including some fascinating visits to the Ambulance Control Centre in Lincoln.

As if that wasn't enough, Luke got married in November and we congratulate him on all his achievements last year – what a year!



FAREWELL



The Group were sad to say farewell to one of our founder members, Mrs Christine Robinson, in June 2014. As well as being a Founder Member and a Level 3 Responder, Christine organised our rota for many years and on numerous occasions helped with the catering for our Welcome Evenings and Fundraising Events.

Chairman Ian Dawson presented Christine with a fine rose bowl when thanking her on behalf of the Group for some 14 years of volunteering.

FUNDRAISING



by Linda Oxley ©



We are always overwhelmed by the support that we receive from the local community. It is impossible to list all the fundraising events that have taken place in 2014 in support of Caistor Responders, however we feel that the following events deserve a special mention:

Paul Wiseman nominated us as their Golf Day Charity in August, which led to a £2000 donation;

A group of students doing their National Citizenship Service raised over £800 for us by

holding a Coffee Morning and Sponsored Walk; Rob Havercroft took part in the London to Brighton cycle race and raised £700;

And, once again, Nettleton Shooting Lodge held a Charity Day and raised money for a variety of local charities.

May we thank everyone who has taken part in these events and any other events during the course of 2014. Your support is humbling and much appreciated.

AND FINALLY...

Please can we request that you make your annual voluntary donation, using the envelope provided. We know many of you don't need to use the stamp so please feel free to return the envelope and we will use it again next year.

All payments are voluntary but if you can spare the usual £12 that would be great. All donations are only spent on helping provide our life-saving community service, be it on equipment, training or our contribution to LIVES.

Finally, may we wish you and your families a happy and healthy New Year.



VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

WE MEET ON THE SECOND MONDAY EACH MONTH - CAISTOR FIRE STATION - 7PM

Ian Martin
Motor Engineer



SOUTHDALE
SERVICE STATION



Systematic
PRINT MANAGEMENT



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Paul Wiseman
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