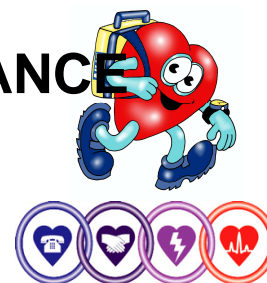




# EASTBOURNE AMBULANCE COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

*Help us, help our Community*



Charity Number 1135730

Dear Sir/ Madam

I represent a small group of Volunteers called the **Eastbourne Ambulance Community First Responders** who work alongside the South East Coast Ambulance in providing cover for emergency calls in the Eastbourne Area (our area covers Eastbourne, Pevensey and Westham). The scheme receives operational support and training from the Ambulance service but it is **entirely self-funded**.

Community Ambulance First Responders are volunteer members of the community, trained to respond to emergency calls through the 999 system in conjunction with the Ambulance Service. Responders provide immediate care to patients in their area. Because Community Responders are based within the community in which they live or work, they can attend the scene of an emergency in a very short time. Our Community Responders often arrive within a few minutes of the emergency 999 call and will provide care until the Ambulance arrives. A Community Responder is automatically alerted by the Ambulance 999 centre once the location of the emergency is known..

Typical calls we attend are:

- Cardiac or Respiratory Arrest
- Unconscious
- Choking
- Chest Pains
- Breathing Difficulties
- Fitting or convulsions
- Stroke
- Diabetic emergencies
- Anaphylaxis

A responder kit includes a defibrillator which actually stops the heart by giving a shock so that it might regain a normal rhythm, this is vital in Cardiac Arrest as early use can make a considerable difference in outcome. Other equipment carried consists of Oxygen, a suction unit, medical strength Asprin for possible cardiac cases, Glucogel a strong sugary substance for diabetic problems, a set of airways, and also other first aid equipment. As I am sure you can imagine all of this costs money, in fact to fully kit a responder costs almost £1800.

**Eastbourne Ambulance Community First Responders  
c/o Mr M Briggs 43 Terminus Road  
Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3QL**

Eastbourne Ambulance Community First Responders are a group of volunteers who respond to emergency calls for the South East Coast Ambulance Service. Each responder is equipped with a semi automated external defibrillator and other essential equipment. Donations and sponsorship will be happily received.

We face two problems, one of public recognition (many people don't know we exist although everyone is glad we do!!) and the other is one of funding. We have prospective responders waiting to serve their local communities within the Eastbourne area, however we need to purchase kits for them. I am writing to you to ask if you would consider making a donation large or small to our group?

We recently received a donation of equipment from the Charity SAD's UK, we received good coverage in the Eastbourne Herald with an article and picture. The group would welcome the publicity a donation could bring as well as the funds. Most of all, we want to help our community but we need your support. Major supporters are mentioned on our website with a link to their own sites and should a kit be sponsored by one company it can be marked with a logo.

Can you donate towards a Responders kit, would you possibly donate an item for our Tombola or alternatively have a fundraising event for our local group so that we can continue to respond to 999 calls within the Eastbourne area?

You can contact me via e-mail: [mattbriggs@eastbourneresponders.com](mailto:mattbriggs@eastbourneresponders.com) or by telephone 07989 487753. Thank you for your valuable time and I hope to hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Briggs  
Chairman  
Eastbourne Ambulance Community First Responders

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