

RUGBY POLICE BOWLS CLUB DONATE DEFIBRILLATORS

After a year of fund raising, Rugby Police Bowls Club recently donated two defibrillators (AED's) and cabinets to bowls clubs in the Rugby area. The recipients of the AED's were the Grange Bowls Club and Oakfield Bowls Club. The idea came about after the untimely death of Jill Sirett, a member of both the clubs. In consultation with Jill's husband Rodger, an Executive member of the Warwickshire County Bowling Association, it was decided to attempt to buy a defibrillator in Jill's



honour. However due to the efforts of Rugby Police B.C. members and Jill's former club mates at the Grange B.C., together with a generous donation from the Cemex Trust, it became apparent that they could afford to buy two defibrillators plus cabinets. As the Rugby Police team play their home games at Oakfield B.C. it was decided to donate the second one to them. Present at the handing over of the defibrillators was Martin Render, the Chairman of The Community Heartbeat Trust, who gave advice on the purchase of the appropriate defibrillators. During his presentation, he showed how easy it was to use the device as they were designed to be used by lay people, who had had no previous training in their use. He said, "The worse thing you can do with a defibrillator is not to use it, as if you do not the person is likely to die anyway. If the heart still as rhythm then the defibrillator will not allow you to shock the casualty, so do not be frightened to use the device." Rugby Police Bowls Club Secretary Rosemarie Geden said, "This has been a marvellous effort from all concerned, who gave freely of their money to such a good cause. We are only a small club but have over the past twenty years raised thousands of pounds for local good causes including: The Friends of Rugby Hospitals, Myton Hospices and the Air Ambulance". Rugby Police Bowls Club Chairman David Owen said, "We hope that the defibrillators will never be used, but if they are required and defibrillation is given promptly it increases the chances of



the patient surviving by up to 70%. Both clubs will also have the opportunity to arrange a short course of CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) training for their members, when the workings of the defibrillator will again be explained and I would urge all members of both clubs to attend one of these sessions. I am sure anyone from other bowls clubs who would like to attend would be more than welcome and I would

urge them to contact either club for details". Both the receiving clubs thanked Rugby Police B.C. for what they described as a magnificent effort in raising the monies to purchase and donate the defibrillators in memory of a very dear member and friend. N.B. Editors please note that none of our bowlers are now Serving Officers so therefore we have no links with Warwickshire Constabulary or any other Police Force.