

Welcome to Hand on Heart Charity's Newsletter, February Issue!

As you may have been aware, February is National Heart Month and we have dedicated our time to making more schools across the UK, Heart Safe! We received some fantastic donations from companies and organisations who held own-clothes days on Valentine's Day which will all go towards creating Heart Safe environments – and if that's not enough, we've also set the date for our 2014 UK Heart Safe Awards! All in all, a very busy but successful month; see below for more details for what else we got up to in February.

Heart Safe Schools

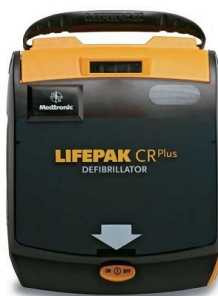
We were able to make even more schools in the UK Heart Safe throughout January, bringing our total to an impressive 258 Heart Safe schools in the UK created by Hand on Heart! These Heart Safe environments were created by both fully and partially funding schools to help them become equipped with a life-saving defibrillator. A notable donation came from EPC-UK who donated their first fully funded defibrillator to Westhouse Primary School in Derbyshire! We also received help from Lancashire County Council, Gavin Boyce and his colleagues at Raymond James Investments and the Ramsay Health Group! Our total of 258 Heart Safe school also means we have been able to train 2064 teachers in AED use and First Aid training and also 7740 children in Basic Life Support! We're incredibly proud of our achievement and thank all those who have supported us in creating Heart Safe environments in their local community.



Image Above
St Edmunds Primary School receiving their partially funded life-saving defibrillator from City West Housing Trust (L-R) Glenda Winstalley (Headteacher), Isabelle Jackson, Oliver Zaja, Davina Johnson (City West HousingTrust)

Physio Control

We'd like to take this opportunity in saying a HUGE thank you to Paul Bean of Physio Control for his and the company's ongoing support. In 2013 Physio Control became our Literature Sponsor, helping us redesign our entire image from leaflets to our website in addition to being our main sponsor of the UK Heart Safe Awards. We're already looking forward to our continued relationship and partnering for another amazing event in our 2014 UK Heart Safe Awards – we send our thanks again to Paul for being such an incredible support to our charity and our goals.



Courses

To ensure our charity is continuously developing and growing in the best way possible, the Hand on Heart fundraising team have attended two courses this year, one being Small Charity Communities, and the other being Events Fundraising to promote team development and build on existing skills.

Grants

We're thrilled to have been successful with not 1, but 2 of our grant applications already this year, this is a great start to the New Year for us and sets us up for making 2014 our most Heart Safe year yet!

UK Heart Safe Awards 2014

After the success of our 2012 and 2013 Awards, we're very excited to announce the date of our 2014 UK Heart Safe Awards! We will be hosting the prestigious event at the Radisson Blu Edwardian in Manchester on Thursday 2nd October. We have some fantastic sponsorship opportunities available if you'd like to be involved, and the category nominations will soon be open to nominate! To learn more about our event please click [here](#), alternatively you can contact Lesley@handonheart.org for more information about sponsoring, nominating or purchasing tickets.



Image above
Gary Keedy visiting the Hand on Heart offices.

Defibrillator Nomination Winners January 2014

Every month, Hand on Heart offers the public the chance to nominate a school to win a free Defibrillator Package on the Hand on Heart website. Yourself or your school can fill out our nomination form to outline why they deserve to receive a free funded defibrillator package

We had a phenomenal amount of nominations last month coming from all over the UK, from Belfast to Hertfordshire. We're incredibly happy with the response we've had and are pleased to report, we've made 4 schools Heart Safe from these nominations! The winners are as follows:

- Air Balloon Hill Primary School, Bristol
- Tonge Moor Primary School, Bolton
- The Willows Primary School, Timperley
- St Vincents Catholic Primary School, Altrincham

Congratulations to all of you on becoming Heart Safe schools!

Do you know a school that needs a defibrillator? Send them to our website where they could be the next winner of a free Defibrillator Package!

Thank You Gary Keedy!

A massive thank you to our very own ambassador Gary Keedy and his daughter Erin for their incredible support and fundraising efforts! Erin wrote a personal letter to all parents, encouraging them to support a fundraiser to raise funds for a life-saving defib for their school; St Paul's RC Primary in Blackburn. Gary has donated a lot of exclusive Cricket Memorabilia which is being used for a raffle organised by the school to help with the funding. This is a fantastic achievement so far and we wish our ambassador every success in his efforts in making his daughters' school a Heart Safe environment.

A life-saving gift

Gordon McLoughlin is fundraising to help equip schools with a life-saving defibrillator. This is in memory of his father, Jim who sadly died of cardiac arrest in January of this year. The use of a defibrillator at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary allowed extra time for a moment with his family and to say goodbye. This is an incredible loss for the McLoughlin family, however their decision to equip schools with life-saving defibrillators with the money donated at the funeral and on JustGiving, means Jim's memory will live on and will go towards protecting pupils and ensuring schools are Heart Safe. Gordon has raised a total of £1,500 so far which is an excellent achievement and will create a Heart Safe school in his local area. To make a donation, to help create more Heart Safe environments, please visit his JustGiving page to make a contribution.

New Stickers

To go with our new website and workbook, we have designed stickers specifically to give to children after completing their Basic Life Support Training! We're hoping this will raise awareness and will encourage parents to learn more about SCA in the young.

