

# Debenham First Responders



## Report to the Parish Council May 2013

### Year summary, 2012

2012 was very busy and eventful year for Debenham First Responders in which we saw both the number of active members and calls attended more than double. It was a year of joy and sadness: we had four new recruits join our team and we mourned the sad death of a long-serving, much loved and valued team member.

January saw our two newest recruits, Belinda Handley and Kevin Warren, becoming fully active and they quickly attended their first calls during our busiest month to date.

February was another record breaking month for us: 12 calls attended.

In March we finally acquired another set of kit. The kit was purchase with funds donated by our many sponsors to whom we are very thankful; without you we would not be able to carry on. The second kit gives us much more flexibility and reduces the time (and fuel) wasted in ferrying the one set of kit between team members.

April saw another new face on the team: we welcomed Lucy McKenzie who completed her training in March but had to wait until June for her first active call-out.

March, April, May and July were fairly average call-wise whist June was another busy month: 9 calls attended.

In line with other long-serving emergency services personnel three of our group, Karen Cook, Tori Payne & John Feeney-Howells where proud to receive the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal.

During our monthly training meeting in July the group discussed the huge benefits we were seeing from having a second kit in the team. We decided to purchase a third kit to eliminate the disproportional amount of travelling (for which we don't get paid) due to hand-overs, being undertaken by the team members living in Ashfield and Stonham Aspal.

In August our chairman, Stuart Buffton sadly passed away. It was a great loss to the team and we all miss Stuart's good humour and sage advice.

September heralded our acquisition of a third kit to the group. This mainly depleted our funding reserves but we feel it is community donated money being well spent and should allow us to provide more comprehensive cover to the community. Thank you again to all our sponsors; please take a look at our Sponsors page and join them if you can.

We had below-average call outs in August, September and October: 4 each month.

At the end of October another new recruit, Luca Alfatti, joined our ranks having completed his training earlier in the month; Luca attended his first call in November.

November and December were both very busy months with 11 and 12 calls attended respectively.

Throughout the year we responded to a total of 92 calls: a huge increase, in fact more than double the number of calls we attended in 2011 (41) and 2010 (48). This increase is as a direct result of the increased number of active trained responders we now have in the team and the flexibility

afforded by running multiple kits. We strive to provide cover to our community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (366 last year!), and typically we manage this 95% of the time. We think this is excellent for a service manned entirely by unpaid volunteers; we hope you agree!

## Finance

Last year we started with a healthy balance of £4451 in our East Anglian Ambulance NHS Trust (Charitable Fund) that enabled us to purchase 2 new kits at a total cost of £3490

### East Anglian Ambulance NHS Trust (Charitable Fund)

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>4451.43</b>
	<b>Income</b>
<b>Donation</b>	100.00
<b>Interest</b>	6.81
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4558.24</b>
	Expenditure
<b>Consumables</b>	17.94
<b>2 new kits</b>	3490.22
<b>Administration</b>	5.05
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3513.21</b>
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>1045.03</b>

### Cooperative Bank Community Direct Account

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>587.68</b>
	<b>Income</b>
<b>Total Donations</b>	130.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>717.68</b>
	Expenditure
<b>O2</b>	94.72
<b>Equipment</b>	353.04
<b>Consumables</b>	12.89
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>460.65</b>
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>257.03</b>

Having 3 kits means that we have to pay for one of our mobile phones as the Ambulance service will only provide 2 to each group.

## 2013 to date and Outlook for the remainder of the year

So far this year we have attended 34 call which is similar to the number attended at the same point in 2012.

After more than eight years Karen Cook has decided to leave the group. Karen was the founder of the group and has served as coordinator since its inception. We thank Karen for all her hard work over the years and hope she may return at some point.

We also congratulate and wish a bright future to Luca Alfatti who is leaving us soon to train as a Paramedic at Manchester University.

The loss of two active members once again leaves our numbers low and we are actively seeking new recruits.

## Call Summary

### Calls by complaint, 2012

Type of call	no.
Abdominal Pain	3
Allergies (reactions)	1
Breathing problems	13
Cardiac / Resp Arrest	7
Chest Pain	22
Convulsion / Fitting	3
Diabetic Problem	2
Falls	13
Headache	1
Heart Problems	5
Haemorrhage / Laceration	1
Sick Person	4
Stroke	2
Unconscious / Fainting	9
Unknown Problem	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>

### Calls by complaint, 1 Jan to 15 May 2013

Type of call	no.
Abdominal Pain	1
Allergies (reactions)	1
Breathing problems	8
Cardiac / Resp Arrest	1
Chest Pain	5
Convulsion / Fitting	1
Falls	3
Heart Problems	2
Haemorrhage / Laceration	1
Sick Person	2
Stroke	4
Unconscious / Fainting	1
Unknown Problem	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>

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