

# Newark Community First Aid

Registered Charity Number 1152694

## Serving Newark and District

This is our report to people in Newark and surrounding villages, detailing our activities, achievements and plans for the future. Newark Community First Aid is a charity formed in 2013, operated by volunteers for the benefit of the local community. The objectives of the charity are to provide first aid training, first aid cover at local events and associated work. To ensure that everyone can learn first aid and that every event can benefit from high quality first aid cover, we provide the vast majority of our services **FREE of charge**. The only area of our operations that we charge for is workplace first aid training, where our policy is a 'fair price for quality training'. We operate in Newark and a 15-mile radius of the town.

### Community Training

One of our main objectives is to increase the number of people in the community with first aid skills so that more lives can be saved and suffering can be reduced. We therefore developed a programme of short (2½ hour) first aid courses aimed at developing key lifesaving skills.

We have now completed our third year and are pleased to report that we have trained 2,281 local people on our FREE courses. We have held courses in Newark and 46 surrounding villages, ensuring our training is accessible to all. Our courses cover adult & paediatric life support and basic 'home' first aid. As we enter our 4<sup>th</sup> year we would like to encourage many more people to attend. If you belong to a local community group, charity, sports club or simply have a group of friends who would like to receive FREE training please contact us to arrange your course.



We provide a range of workplace first aid training to suit low and higher risk organisations and those working with children. Our workplace courses: 'Emergency First aid at Work' and 'First Aid at Work' meet the requirements of the First Aid at Work Regulations 1981 and our paediatric courses comply with Department of Education Early Years guidelines. To give you confidence that we meet that requirement we are registered with the First Aid Industry Body which is itself accredited through the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) and you can view our registration at [www.firstaidindustrybody.co.uk](http://www.firstaidindustrybody.co.uk). Demand for our courses is growing at the rate of 25% year on year

Feedback from students on both our Community and Workplace courses shows 96.4% rate our courses excellent and 3.6% rate them good no one rates them average or poor (based on 90% return of feedback forms).

### Event Cover

Our volunteers provide first aid cover at local events every week of the year including Christmas Day, when we help the Salvation Army provide a meal and celebration for those less fortunate in our community.

We provide cover to many sporting events such as rugby, football, cycling, athletics, netball and cross country running. We attend many equestrian events, village shows, music events such as Newark Blues Festival, Wellowfest and major events on Newark Showground such as the Nottinghamshire County Show and Robin Hood Country Show.

Events have risen year on year with 214 events covered on year one, 322 in year two and 378 last year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016. This service relies totally on the commitment of our tremendous group of volunteers. We collect feedback from event organisers which shows the highest levels of satisfaction with our services in respect of the

booking process, the standards of our volunteers and our first aid operations. If you need our assistance at an event, please get in contact early.

### **Volunteers and Internal Training**

Our volunteers are the most important part of our operations. Their dedication and enthusiasm ensure we deliver excellent services to all sectors of the community. In the last year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 we have seen an 18% increase in our volunteer numbers but we need many more if we are to continue to meet the growing demand. If you are over 16 years of age, have some time to spare and would like to learn new skills, then we would be pleased to hear from you. We provide full training in a friendly environment, we provide your uniform and full insurance.

To join, our members complete a joining form and health declaration, they then have a criminal record check by the DBS as part of our Safeguarding Policy. Once this is completed new volunteers receive a range of training across a number of courses such as First Aid at Work, Infection control and moving and handling.

In addition to the main courses our volunteers can train weekly at our Monday evening training at the Newark Academy in Balderton. Members can move on to become advanced first aiders after a period of time developing their skills

### **Development of Resources.**

In 2015/16 we introduced a cycle response unit capable of passing through crowds to attend incidents. We also purchased a 4x4 Response Vehicle to ensure we can respond and if required extricate a casualty when ground conditions are poor. This is particularly important as we cover many rural events. Due to the continuing support from local people and organisations in the last year we have been able to purchase additional splinting & resuscitation equipment, pain relief kits and defibrillators.

### **Moving Forward**

To be able to meet the growing demand for our services we need more volunteers. We also need to replace our Mobile First Aid Unit which was purchased second hand when the charity started, plus with demand rising we would like to purchase an additional Mobile Unit. We are therefore organising an appeal to raise £20,000 over the next 18 months to allow us to make these purchases. The vast majority of our funding comes from donations made by event organisers and the general public. If you are able to help by making a donation or organising a sponsored event, it would be greatly appreciated. On line donations can be made at 'www.justgiving.com/ncfa', cheques can be sent to our postal address and you can contact us by email or telephone if you have any fundraising/sponsorship ideas.



Pictured left at an event, are some of our present resources including our recently purchased 4x4 Response Vehicle. The Mobile Treatment Unit is pictured behind our volunteers.

This is the Unit we hope to replace if we can raise sufficient funds.

**To contact us or keep in touch:**

**By Post: 6 Mount Road, Balderton, Newark NG24 3HF**

**Email: [newarkcommunityfirstaiders@hotmail.com](mailto:newarkcommunityfirstaiders@hotmail.com)**

**Telephone: 01636 683202 (Mobile) 07973 904808**

**Website: [www.newarkcommunityfirstaid.co.uk](http://www.newarkcommunityfirstaid.co.uk)**



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