

Shoreham Beach Residents' Association

Press Release – News from Shoreham Beach Residents' Association

The Shoreham Beach community is set to benefit from two life-saving defibrillator machines following a fund-raising drive by Shoreham Beach Residents' Association (SBRA).

Beach residents and visitors received a massive boost on Saturday (May 13th) when Dino Spurling, the manager of The Co-operative Supermarket in Ham Road, Shoreham, presented Chair Joss Loader with a cheque for £1,200, raised by a raffle organised by him and his team in-store.

Joss said, "To say we were stunned is an under-statement. Never, in our wildest dreams, did we expect the warm-hearted customers to dig so deep and to raise such a fabulous amount of money and thanks also to The Co-op for donating such great prizes.

"We can't thank Dino and his team enough for organising this. The Co-op has a proud tradition of supporting local communities and they have certainly done Shoreham Beach proud."

Joss and the SBRA committee launched the fund-raising appeal earlier this year and they now plan to site two community defibrillators at outdoor sites on the Beach, with access for all. These will complement the life-saving machine already in situ at Shoreham Fort and provided by the National Coastwatch Institution.

The first site will be at the western end of the Beach, on land outside The Church of the Good Shepherd in King's Walk. The second is planned for a central location, most probably in the vicinity of Ferry Road.

SBRA is match-funding The Co-op's donation and has also received a very generous donation of £250, from former county councillor for the Beach, Mick Clark. We also raised further funds on Sunday (May 14th) by organising a raffle at SBRA's Line Dancing event, again supported by local businesses.

Joss said, "The whole issue of providing life-saving equipment is a subject very close to my heart as my own father, Brian Hollebhone, died very suddenly, aged just 49, from a heart attack.

"It was 1984, he died while working as an engineer in Libya, and I have often wondered if prompt help could have saved him.

"My lovely father's death has left a very large hole in my family's lives and if installing these machines helps to save just one life, and to save people the shock and grief triggered by sudden death, then I will consider this a job very well done.

"This is a fine example of the local community working together with a High Street supermarket to help avoid personal tragedy. Our very sincere thanks to everyone for their very generous support. We hope to get these vital machines in place as soon as possible"

For more information about SBRA, please visit www.shorehambeachra.co.uk