



Heartstart Havering, PO Box 4144, Hornchurch, Essex. RM11 1GE
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Media Information

For the Attention of: Newsdesk

Date: February 5 2003

Save a Heart don't break a Heart this Valentines Day

Giving heart attack victims a fighting chance is the aim of new scheme being launched in Havering.

Heartstart Havering is the brainchild of husband and wife team Andrew and Anneliese Attack, both first aid instructors from Hornchurch.

The scheme offers two-hour courses to teach CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) to enable the public to assist heart attack victims.

Andrew explained: "More than 270,000 people suffer a heart attack every year and 46 per cent of these are fatal, of which 30 per cent die before they have even reached hospital.

"Early administration of CPR doubles the chances of survival but often a member of the public with no medical expertise is first on the scene.

"Heartstart Havering has been established by a group of local volunteers to allow any member of the public who lives or works in the Havering area to receive this essential training."

The new Heartstart Havering scheme is one of 800 schemes already set up under the Heartstart UK banner since its launch in 1992 by the British Heart Foundation to promote emergency life support.

Among those supporting Heartstart Havering are Peter Edeson, resuscitation training officer at BHR Hospitals Trust, Hornchurch GP Dr Alex Kornfeld and Havering councillor Keith Darvill.

The scheme will be launched on February 14 2003 in Havering Town Hall by the Mayor of Havering at 11am.

Ends



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Notes to editor

The launch event will start with an exhibition at 11am followed by the official launch at 11.15 am and is expected to end by about 11.45 am.

Photographers are welcome, please follow the signs from inside the main entrance or ask at the main reception desk for directions.

There will be presentations by Helen Murdoch, Regional Heartstart UK Coordinator from the BHF and Philip Selwood, Assistant Chief Ambulance Officer from the London Ambulance Service.

The Mayor will then receive the training equipment on behalf of Heartstart Havering from various donors, the main donor being the BHF.

Details of future courses can be found on our website at www.havering.org.uk

Members of the press are invited to take part in a course at 7:30pm on Tuesday 25th February, please contact Andrew Attack on the number below or by fax or e-mail to book a place for any of your staff.