



SARS Update, Spring 2021

It's Spring, the sun is trying to come out and we are really excited to let you know about two fantastic developments in the last couple of months. SMED27, our third rapid response vehicle joined SARS in early April, all thanks to the generosity of Tom Ward at Smarter Metering Services. It is a significant addition to our fleet and responded to an emergency call within just 30 minutes of being handed over.

With a third vehicle in operation, we have, for the first time in our nearly 50-year history, established a second base in Suffolk – hello Saxmundham! SMED26 is now based there and will help provide additional coverage along the East coast.



SMED27



SMED26 is now based at Saxmundham

We are extremely proud to see this expansion and change take place, it has not been an easy twelve months so to come out of a pandemic with a third vehicle and a second base is really rewarding and positive.

SUFFOLK FREE PRESS, Thursday, June 6, 1974 13

S.A.R.S. — A UNIT THAT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

Up until eighteen months ago your chances of living after being involved in a car crash were considerably less than they are now — assuming of course that you even survived the initial impact.

If that seems a strange statistic, then you are probably unaware that, since July 1972, an organisation has existed solely to ensure that crash victims have the best possible chance of survival.

The organisation is the Suffolk Accident Rescue Service — S.A.R.S. — and relies on the cooperation

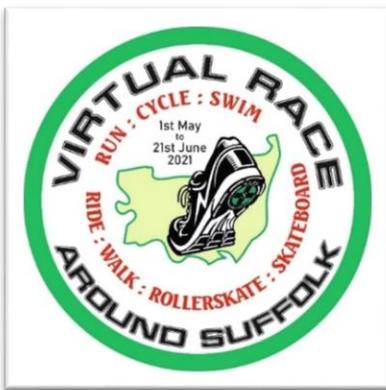
Report by Shane McGarvey

- 1 Laerdal Modulade Kit — a substitute for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, but instead of using the mouth, bellows blow the air into the victim's lungs. The equipment has a valve to ensure the air goes the right way.
- 1 Laerdal Laryngoscope, a specialist branch of medicine.
- A doctor's Accident Rescue Kit (left to right): carrying case, Rediplint, Ambuocker, "Doctor" fluorescent tablet, laryngoscope, Modulade kit with attachments, Mediatec vice — MAGPAS. But in terms of work force S.A.R.S. is one of the

As we enter our 50th year of service we are very proud of all the lives we have saved and improved since we started back in 1972. It's incredible to think SARS will be 50 years old on 1st May 2022! Take a look at the medical kit from 1974 in the newspaper article opposite, things have moved on slightly since those early days!



In early March, Sars ran an incredibly valuable intensive simulation and training exercise for some of our volunteer responders, to ensure we maintain excellent clinical skills. Candidates enjoyed a variety of lectures, kit familiarisation, interactive workshops and simulated prehospital exercises. Our volunteers were assessed on skills including sedations, advance life support and trauma care – practising these skills ensures we can provide the highest level of care when treating patients. We are so grateful for your voluntary donations that have allowed us to invest in continued professional development for our clinicians as we seek to grow our voluntary resources over the next 12 months.



This year we are repeating our hugely successful virtual fundraising challenge **VIRTUAL RACE AROUND SUFFOLK** to celebrate our 49th anniversary and to raise vital funds to help secure our future. It takes 220 miles to circumnavigate Suffolk. Can you complete the equivalent distance before 21st June? You can do it at home, in your garden, on a treadmill or at the local pool! You can do it on your own, with your family, or as a (virtual) team. The challenge finishes on Suffolk Day, Monday 21st June 2021. We would love you to get involved.....

www.justgiving.com/campaign/racearoundsuffolk2021

Finally we just wanted to share a good news story. We have recently been in touch with patient Dave Cleland, 54 years old, from Woodbridge. On Saturday 20 February 2021 Dave had a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) at home. Thankfully Dave's wife Bernie had, only the day before, completed CPR training. With the help of the call handler, Bernie applied her CPR skills and within minutes the ambulance crew arrived on scene, closely followed by volunteer Sars Critical Care Paramedic Liam Sagi. EAAA were also called to help get Dave to Papworth Hospital as quickly as possible. His care is a great illustration of teamwork and how Sars contributes to ensuring a positive outcome for patients. We are pleased to say Dave has now recovered and is doing really well – walking 71 miles in April raising funds for charity. Well done Dave and huge thanks to Liam.



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