

## **About Community First Responders**

Yorkshire Ambulance Service operates a Community First Responder (CFR) scheme where volunteers are trained to use life-saving skills in their local area. Tockwith now has its own CFR group. In many medical emergencies the first few minutes are critical and, if effective treatment can be provided at this time, lives can be saved and disability reduced. This is especially true for heart attacks and medical conditions that have caused someone to lose consciousness.

CFRs are trained in patient assessment, in basic life support skills including cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), defibrillation and oxygen therapy, and are equipped with an AED (Automated External Defibrillator), oxygen and a first aid kit. **Volunteers are not called out to trauma, traffic accidents or to infants.**

When a 999 call is received in the Ambulance Service Emergency Operations Centre, an ambulance is immediately dispatched. At the same time, **if a CFR is on-call in the area**, they can be alerted and asked to assist at the incident to ensure trained assistance reaches the patient as quickly as possible.

**Tockwith does not have enough volunteers at present to provide 24/7 cover.**

As our volunteers are based within the community, they may only be a few minutes away from a medical emergency. Often their role is to simply provide reassurance to patients and their families until the ambulance clinicians arrive. However, in more serious cases they can provide basic life support and oxygen therapy. In extreme cases, such as a heart attack, they can perform CPR or use their defibrillator to restart an arrested heart, which can save the patient's life.

If you are interested in training as a CFR volunteer or would like more information, you can contact the Tockwith CFR Co-ordinator, Lorraine Gill, by phone on 01423 358401 or by email [eastfieldgrange@btinternet.com](mailto:eastfieldgrange@btinternet.com). **New volunteers are always needed.**

### **Tockwith Community First Responder Volunteers**



**Top row. Richard Ebdon Jeremy Gill Tom Render (YAS) Nick Folkard.  
Bottom row. Lois Folkard Sarah Gill Fiona Steed**