



MEDIA RELEASE: THURSDAY, 16 AUGUST, 2018

Strathbogieshire Council urging you to register your defibrillator

Strathbogieshire Council is supporting Ambulance Victoria in urging those who own a potentially life-saving defibrillator to register them, as the location of a large number of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) is unknown across the state.

The chance of survival increases by 62% if a person in cardiac arrest is defibrillated by a bystander before an ambulance arrives.

Information about the location of registered AEDs is made available through an online registry, helping build community awareness and understanding on where local AEDs can be found.

Ambulance Victoria estimates that on average, more than 2,500 AEDs are bought in Victoria each year but not registered, often meaning their location is not known to bystanders responding to a person in cardiac arrest.

Ambulance Victoria CEO, Associate Professor Tony Walker, urged AED owners, including schools, medical practices, businesses, community organisations and sporting clubs, to take a moment to register their devices online.

“In locations like corporate offices, gyms and bowls clubs across the state, for every life-saving defibrillator in the community we know about, there are four we don’t,” said Associate Professor Walker.

Strathbogieshire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the registration of a defibrillator could save someone’s life.

“Please register your defibrillator because it could be the thing that saves the life of someone in your local community,” Cr McClaren said.

With the chance of survival reducing by up to 10% every minute that passes without defibrillation, everyone has a role to play when it comes to an emergency.

Ambulance Victoria has also recently launched a smartphone app called GoodSAM that is already helping to save lives across the state.

The GoodSAM app allows trained and trusted medical professionals to become ‘Good Samaritans’, sending an electronic call for help when people nearby are in cardiac arrest.

It does so using GPS technology, notifying up to three responders of the patient’s location and the closest defibrillators while emergency services are on their way.

Mayor McClaren said these measures are so important, combining to significantly improve the likelihood of survival during a cardiac arrest.

“The Strathbogieshire is a rural municipality, with a large geographical area; the more we can support each other with equipment and local expertise, the better.”

Visit [here](#) to find out more about GoodSAM and becoming a responder.

If you own or know about an AED in the community, you can register it [here](#).

-ENDS-

Media contact: Clare Allen- 0418 336 078