



Graham Wilson - Branch Chair

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2<sup>nd</sup> September 2007

Dear Member

### **Could YOU help Surrey Lifesavers respond to new challenges?**

Lifesaving, in all its guises, is going through a dramatic transformation. Interest in the sport is at an all time high, our outreach programmes continue to win acclaim, the water-based activity is seen as a fun but challenging way of completing the service element of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and the professionalisation of lifeguarding - both in pools and beaches - continues apace.

With 150,000 people dying needlessly of a heart attack in Britain each year, there has never been a greater need for life-saving and life-support skills.

In Surrey, as with Branches throughout the UK, we need to respond to these increasing demands, and to do so, we urgently need more people to volunteer their time and skills. Don't be put off by the thought that you 'don't know what to do' - we will be there to support and help you as much as you need.

### **WOULD YOU, OR A FRIEND OR RELATIVE, HAVE THE INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM TO HELP?**

Here are just some of the ways in which we are looking for support, if any of them (or something else that you have thought of) appeals to you, PLEASE email Stephanie Andrews (S.Andrews@collingwood.surrey.sch.uk) and someone will call to discuss what might be involved.

1. Run "Save A Baby's Life" evenings at a GP surgery once every two months.
2. Run "Save An Adult's Life" evenings at a GP surgery once every two months.
3. Help to set up a new life-saving club in a town near you.
4. Offer life-saving classes to a leisure centre near you.
5. Add a life-saving 'squad' to a local swimming club.
6. Help to set-up a Sports Coaches Life Support programme in Surrey.
7. Run a PR campaign for the Branch.
8. Promote life-saving and life-support in your local Council area.
9. Launch a new Rookie Scheme at a pool near you.
10. Raise funds to support Lifesavers locally and nationally.
11. Advertise Lifesavers Direct products to a wider market within the County.
12. Persuade your children's school to establish life-saving as a curriculum subject relevant to their swimming and citizenship objectives.
13. Offer the Branch professional skills such as accountancy, retail management, or journalism.
14. Help establish a Surrey Lifesaving competition squad.
15. Join the teaching staff of an existing life-saving club.
16. Set up a local Summer Lifesavers "camp", next year.
17. Establish a partnership with another local group to deliver life-support/life-saving through them (eg Scouts, Guides, CCFs, and other groups).

18. Speak at a local WI and offer a “hands on” session on life-support.
19. Establish life-support as a basic skill for all employees at your place of work.
20. Run a “Save An Adult’s Life” course for firms in a local Industrial Estate or Business Park.
21. Liaise with a holiday operator to provide relevant training to their tour representatives (eg risk assessment, advice for parents, water safety and life support).
22. Run “drop-in” life-support lessons outside a supermarket on a few weekends.
23. Visit a school to talk about life-saving.

We hope that you’ll feel there is some way in which you would like to help get the message about life-saving across to others in your community. Life-saving depends on people just like yourself, who have found it of interest and become a member of the Society, to promote and grow it at every opportunity. Please help us to make Surrey A Safer Place!

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

**Graham Wilson**  
Branch Chair

PS Some people say they would be happy to help, but don’t want a long-term commitment, especially to sitting on a boring committee! Don’t worry - we are looking for practical help and there’s no more commitment expected than you are able to offer.

PPS Remember that the best way to find out what is going on in the Branch is to check our website regularly - [www.life-saving.net](http://www.life-saving.net).

PPPS Most of the activities described above are suitable as projects for the Gold Standard of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. If you know of someone who is registered for this award and would like a real challenge for the Service element, please copy this letter to them.