

Titahi Bay Bowling Club receives life-saving Defibrillator

Lions Club of Titahi Bay has funded another defibrillator for the Titahi Bay community. At a cost of \$4,100.00 which includes a 4 hour of training session for 15 people, Titahi Bay Bowling Club now in conjunction with Titahi Bay Fire Station have access to these life-saving tools. Wellington Free Ambulance was the agent for the purchase of the defibrillator, and provided the training session. They handed the new defibrillator to Titahi Bay Bowling Club President, Maurice Oliver at their training session, with Greg Koschak from Lions Club of Titahi Bay eagerly watching.

"This defibrillator is a very important tool that is respected and needs to be available more and more for the public, especially during the summer months. Titahi Bay Bowling Club thank Lions Club of Titahi Bay for funding this defibrillator" says Mr. Oliver.

A defibrillator is a machine used to shock the victim's heart and restore the heart's normal rhythmic patterns. When a defibrillator is used, it in effect kicks the heart into action again, causing it to resume sending blood throughout the body. Statistics published by Wellington Free Ambulance say it is estimated that each minute that passes without defibrillation decreases the victim's survival chances by 10 percent.

The LIFEPAK CR Plus defibrillator is designed for safe and simple use by the first person at the scene of a sudden cardiac arrest. An internal computer analyzes the heart rhythm and guides the user step-by-step with clear, calm voice prompts. The *CR Plus* is a fully-automated device designed to automatically deliver a shock only if it determines one is needed.

Lions Club of Titahi Bay President John Linschoten said "When deciding on a defibrillator it is important to purchase equipment that uses compatible paddles with the ambulances, this saves valuable time when paramedics arrive as there is no need to swap paddles. Wellington Free Ambulance provides a product that suits and provides training for its effective use, but even though there is training provided it is still important to call 111 and get an ambulance there as soon as possible"

