

## RAPID REACTION SAVED ROC MANS LIFE



ROCA member **Charlie Tallis** of **28 Group** suffered a heart attack as he was crossing the road, with Johan Brown and Cheryl Stewart also of 28 Group, to go into **St Clement Danes Church** on Friday **October 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Fortunately for him on hand were several experienced First Aiders who quickly responded to the emergency. The responders are listed here together with Cheryl's account of events that followed. Our grateful thanks are offered to all those named below:-

Former **ROC Officer Martin Benson** from The Isle of Man (1st responder trained and holder of SJA long service medal).

Former **Chief Observer Clint Marler** 7 Group (First Aider), Northampton

**RauxAF Wing Commander Stuart Talton** stationed at RAF Cranwell and former ROC 29 Group Full Time Officer.

**RAF Sergeant David Adam** who had just completed his 1st responder training – stationed at RAF Halton

**RAF Cpl Dave Chambers QCS** stationed at Northolt.

**All of the above worked together as one team during CPR and Defibrillation which according to the paramedics saved Charlie's life. In the paramedic's words:-**

***'Your people saved him - we just carried on with what they had started – the right treatment in the first minutes are vital.'***

The Assistant Block Manager of a nearby building development on seeing the event taking place rushed a defibrillator to the scene. This was used in conjunction with the CPR before the ambulance and paramedics arrived. He is:-

### **David Coles**

St Edward 190 The Strand, London.

Two ladies from nearby Australia House came to help and I believe also brought a defibrillator as stand by. They slipped away anonymously. I have this contact for thanking these two members of their staff:-

### **Group Captain P Nicholas**

Air Advisor, Australia House, The Strand, London.

**RAF Flight Lt Jenny Collins** stationed at **RAF Odiham** and attending St Clement Danes Service in the capacity of an usher.

It was Jenny's gentle persuasive and diplomatic tactics that enabled Johan and I to attend the service. She persuaded us that as we had come a long distance it would be a shame to miss the proceedings and that she would go with Charlie in the ambulance and look after him. You can imagine we were torn between the two options. She handled the situation so very well.

Several of the helpers had Scottish connections Aberdeen and Dundee and Jenny was brought up in nearby Brechin. She is visiting her Dad here later this week and we are hoping we might be able to meet up with her and even introduce her to Charlie's son and daughter if possible.

I know we will not find this person but thanks go to him. Of black ethnicity he dived underneath Charlie as he fell between Johan and me and cradled his head to prevent it meeting the pavement. Johan only recalled this on the train home as flashbacks continued with both of us.

We mustn't forget the **London Ambulance Service** for their prompt arrival at the scene and the treatment they gave to Charlie and also the marvellous care Charlie is now receiving in St Thomas' Hospital, Westminster. Incidentally the hospital commented on the quality of the CPR administered.

***'Did the job with minimal bruising and no broken ribs'***

***Cheryl Stewart***