

Weston-under-Penyard Defibrillator and associated VETS (Village Emergency Telephone System)

Weston-under-Penyard now has two defibrillators installed and operational. One in the refurbished telephone box opposite The Weston Cross Inn, and one outside the entrance to the village hall, next to the playing fields. These are accessible to any member of the public who may need a defibrillator to assist someone who is thought to have had a cardiac arrest. Full, self-explanatory, step by step, verbal and written instructions on how to use the equipment are included within the package.

No medical knowledge is required.

However, in any suspected cardiac arrest situation it is essential that the first thing anybody does is Dial 999 and call an ambulance.

Weston-under-Penyard has also introduced a VETS system of ten volunteers, who will simultaneously be contacted via an emergency telephone number. The sole objective of the VETS system is to alert one of the volunteers to take a defibrillator to the scene of the emergency, and should not be used for any other purpose. He/she may then be able to help administer CPR or to prepare the defibrillator, although this is not the primary objective of VETS.

The number to ring to request assistance in obtaining a defibrillator (VETS) within Weston-under-Penyard is:

01989 500 999

To summarise

Should you discover someone whom you suspect has had a cardiac arrest:

- 1 Always dial 999 and ask for an ambulance before you do anything else.**
- 2 Then dial the VETS number 01989 500 999 and ask for assistance in obtaining a defibrillator. Remember to give your location and contact phone number to the respondent. Try and make your location as easy as possible for the volunteer and the emergency services to find you.**
- 3 Commence CPR if possible and await further assistance and/or the ambulance.**