

## **LIFE-SAVING DEFIBRILLATOR INSTALLED IN HAZLEMERE**

**By Kate Spree**

A new, life-saving defibrillator has been installed at Park Parade in Hazlemere thanks to fundraising efforts by the local community, The Midcounties Co-operative and Thames Valley Police.

The equipment was unveiled on the 9<sup>th</sup> November with the ribbon officially cut by Milly Roberts, Chairman of Hazlemere Parish Council.

Colleagues at The Midcounties Co-operative raised more than £900 through carrier bag funds which helped to pay for the equipment, installation, lockable box and insurance costs. Thame Valley Police and Hazlemere Parish Council also contributed towards the cost, donating an additional £1,100 raised through the annual Hazlemere Fete in August.

This year a record number of 6,000 people attended the fete, which is run in collaboration with Hazlemere Community Centre, Sir William Ramsay School and the Royal British Legion. The unveiling also featured a two-hour training session for anyone wishing to learn how to use the equipment

This is the 25<sup>th</sup> defibrillator to be installed in local areas where they're needed most by The Midcounties Co-operative. The activity forms part of The Midcounties Co-operative's regional community strategy which sees colleagues and residents come together to fundraise for local causes.

Milly Roberts, Chairman of Hazlemere Parish Council, said: "The shopping area at Park Parade is one of the busiest parts of Hazlemere. Shoppers come from right across the region so there's a clear need for a defibrillator.

"We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone for their tireless fundraising efforts."

Simon Hartland, Leadership Team Ambassador in High Wycombe, said: "Equipment like this has the potential to save someone's life and we're proud to have been able to contribute £900 towards its installation with support from the community.

"This is the 25<sup>th</sup> defibrillator that we've installed so far which marks a big milestone for us. We hope to continue fundraising for similar initiatives as part of our commitment to supporting the local community."

*For more about The Midcounties Co-operative, go to [www.midcounties.coop](http://www.midcounties.coop) or @midcountiescoop on Twitter*