



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 9th December, 2019

Stuart Grimley & Heart Attack Survivor Announce Defibrillator on Pearl St

Stuart Grimley MP has purchased an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) which will be located at his electorate office at 1/15 Pearl St (next to Hayden Real Estate).

The defibrillator was purchased through Mr Grimley's Electorate Office & Communications Budget and will be available for the community – should they need it – in the case of emergencies.

A former detective with Victoria Police, Mr Grimley has attended scenes where his first aid skills have been deployed and has seen firsthand the effectiveness of defibrillators in saving lives.

Mr Grimley was joined by Torquay local Sean Purcell to launch the installation of the defibrillator and to share his own experiences in having his life saved by one of the machines.

Mr Purcell was on Torquay's Whites beach in July 2014 when he collapsed suddenly as a result of sudden cardiac arrest, despite being just 37. He was dead for 45 minutes.

Mr Purcell, who now works for a youth development program called LifeChanger, owes his 'new life' to a defibrillator, sourced by 10 community members from Peppers Sands Resort on the morning that Sean's heart stopped.

He is very grateful to see investment from Mr Grimley's office in the device.

Defibrillators are used on those who are unconscious and not breathing properly and where CPR is required. The defibrillating device at Mr Grimley's office has clear voice prompts to guide someone using the machine for the first time or under stress.

The defibrillator is registered with Ambulance Victoria and is available in the office during business hours. This life-saving device adds to other available defibrillators located within area including Woolworths on the corner of Bristol Road and Walker Street.

Mr Grimley's office is open Mon-Fri 9-5pm however is closed on Christmas Day until New Year's Day. There are instructions on the office window for emergencies outside office hours.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"This defibrillator adds to others within the area and I encourage people to head to the Ambulance Victoria website to become familiar with their nearest publically accessible AED.

My biggest hope is that this defibrillator actually never needs to be used, but in the case that it does, I hope it gives someone a second chance they may not have otherwise had."

Quotes Attributable to Sean Purcell:

"Words can't adequately explain how grateful I am that the locals on Whites beach had the presence of mind to not only administer CPR that morning but also go to great lengths to source a defibrillator and start my heart again with it.

This is one thing you buy and never hope to use, but it's great to see Stuart and his team investing in a defibrillator given the amount of people Torquay attracts in the warmer months.

I think having a defibrillator centrally located in Pearl Street is a good idea especially given it's a highly populated area over the summer period."

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