



2006 RUSSELL MEDAL

CHARLOTTE HAINING

On Friday 12th May 2006, Charlotte Haining, aged 16 years (born 24/4/90), a member of the Leeds Scott Hall Life Saving Club and holder of the RLSS Bronze Medallion and Life Support 2 Award, left the Abbey Grange Church of England High School in Leeds with a number of other Year 11 students who were on study leave prior to their GCSE examinations.

Approximately 150 students had finished at lunchtime and went from the school to a nearby field at West Park. They were celebrating their leaving and many were drinking alcohol. Sometime later, a 16 year old girl, after consuming too much alcohol became ill and was unable to stand. A friend was trying to help her but he soon realised she was not going to get on a bus to get her home so therefore phoned for a taxi. As he was doing this the girl collapsed to the ground.

Charlotte, who did not really know the girl, was a distance from the two but immediately recognised there was a serious problem. Even though her friends were telling her not to get involved, and many were leaving the scene, she went to the collapsed girl's aid. By this time the girl was surrounded by a number of young people who did not know what to do and the situation was being made worse by one person who was attempting to tip water into her mouth.

Charlotte took control of the situation, moved everybody away and went through her initial resuscitation checks. By this time the girl was barely conscious but was breathing so Charlotte quickly moved her into the recovery position. She told one of the girl's friend's to immediately call an ambulance. Charlotte continued talking to the girl who was drifting in and out of consciousness and was at times vomiting.

Charlotte continued to monitor the girl until an ambulance arrived to take her to hospital. After treatment at hospital she was discharged later that day into the care of her father.

Louise Wells the Chief Coach at the Scott Hall Life Saving Club has said "Charlotte's actions in this very difficult situation were exemplary and the outcome of the incident could have been very different. Charlotte identified the seriousness of the situation and her resuscitation incident management and sensibility were outstanding. We are proud of her and I hope the RLSS can recognise her in some way".

For her outstanding example of strength, independence, proper assessment, calm and considered action Charlotte is awarded the 2006 Russell Medal.