

Cryonics UK Roadshow Training Report, September 28th-29th 2013, by Victoria Stevens and Tim Gibson.

We took our training weekend on the road this time to give members who may have difficulty travelling to Sheffield and other interested people down south a chance to see what we do. It also gave regulars the opportunity to familiarise themselves with Rowland Brothers funeral directors. In an emergency they will have to quickly locate the premises and use facilities there.

A few members travelled down early to meet with Tony Rowland to discuss how we will work together in the future to help our members most efficiently.

On Saturday we had a great turnout with more than 20 people. There were a few who had not been for a while and quite a few newcomers. Six cryonicists from the German cryonics group, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Angewandte Biostase e.V. came to see how we do things and to also discuss working together across Europe.

We began Saturday morning with a workshop on standby procedures until we could build up a flow chart of everything we do and in the right order. Seeing the overall picture is important as we usually spend most of the time focusing in on the details.

Next we took a tour of the ambulance, encouraging everyone to rummage through the many hidden cupboards so we can locate the items we need quickly in an emergency.

We moved on to the mortuary where the ice bath and Bob (our training dummy) awaited. We practiced inserting the intraosseous infuser into the chest and setting up the IV lines (IO lines to be precise) for administering meds. Next we practiced intubation which is often easier on a real person than a training dummy. The combitube airway tends to stick on the rubber of the dummy making it difficult to slide it down without lubricant. We reflected that anyone who can master it on the dummy probably has a good chance of succeeding with a real person when the time comes.

Rowland's staff gave us a tour of the premises which are a lot bigger than they look from the outside. They showed us the room that will soon be a new state of the art mortuary to be completed by the end of the year.

In the evening we all managed to squeeze into three cars and the ambulance and met up at the Gypsy Moth for a pub meal and plenty of discussion.

On Sunday morning we were joined by Chris Morgan, an insurance agent who has in the last year begun to specialise in arranging insurance for the purposes of cryonics. Chris did a presentation on the work he has been doing and the service he provides. He now has a new website specially for cryonics customers. He also discussed an upcoming meeting with a solicitor who will be able to act as a trustee/legal power of attorney for cryonicists who either have no next of kin or whose next of kin are not supportive of cryonics. It was agreed a member of CUK would also attend to help brief the solicitor on what we require, for example, on how time sensitive an emergency situation is likely to be.

After lunch we concluded the weekend with demonstrations of and practice in setting up and running the thumper (heart lung resuscitator) and later the perfusion kit.

A big thank you to Rowland Brothers for hosting this event and to their very helpful staff.