



12th Life Saved By Project HeartStart Defibrillators

On Saturday 4th April Bryan and Pam Bombell disembarked a Virgin Blue flight from the Gold Coast when Bryan, 63 started to feel unwell.

Within minutes he had collapsed at Gate 34. Bystanders and Virgin Blue Guest Services crew began CPR immediately. Staff members Jack De Lange and Daniel Phillips quickly found a St John Defibrillator at the Gate and applied it to Bryan giving one shock.

When Paramedics arrived they took him to the Prince of Wales Private Hospital where he underwent triple bypass surgery.



Daniel Phillips and Jack De Lange meet Bryan and Pam Bombell for the first time since Daniel and Jack saved Bryan's life.

Within three weeks, Bryan was well enough to return home and was reunited with the staff who saved him.

Doctors have told him had it not been for the efforts of Jack De Lange and Daniel Phillips, Virgin Blue ground staff, he would not be alive.

His wife has written to Virgin boss Richard Branson praising the staff.

"I just can't thank them enough," Mrs. Bombell said. "Bryan had been complaining of chest pains on the flight but when we walked across the tarmac and up some stairs he was out of breath."

The defibrillator was installed as part of St John's Project HeartStart where Public Access Defibrillators are placed in high traffic locations such as airports, railway stations and shopping centres.

Thanks to Jack and Daniel's quick thinking, Bryan is the 12th person to be saved with defibrillators from Project HeartStart.

The same weekend, another Project HearStart Defibrillator was used to save a man in a Perth underground railway station.

ENDS

Note to editor:

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