

## SOS BUS RECEIVES AWARD AT THE HIGH SHERIFF'S AWARDS



The SOS Bus received an award from the High Sheriff at the annual event held this year at St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

The SOS Bus which has been operating in Newmarket High Street since October 2009 on a Saturday night and more recently at Bury St Edmunds was nominated in the Community Partnership Award. Over 800 clients have registered on the SOS Bus of which in excess of 230 have needed some medical intervention. St. John Ambulance volunteers have dealt with several serious emergencies ranging from a fractured skull, a “popped” Peptic ulcer, an individual comatose through a spiked drink, down to minor cuts and abrasions. Over 6,500 volunteer hours have been donated since the start of operation, which represents a minimum financial contribution to Newmarket and Bury and those in need in excess of £39,000

The project is managed by the Newmarket Community Partnership. Sue McAllister, Project Manager was overwhelmed with the success of both these projects. “It is really an honour to be nominated by the High Sheriff for these awards. The volunteers are who make these projects possible, such terrific people dedicated to making a difference – aren’t we lucky to have these people in our town?”

Anyone interested in volunteering on the SOS Bus, please do contact Sue McAllister 01638 664480 for more information.

PHOTO credit to Will Black. Left to right High Sheriff of Suffolk - Stephen Miles, Graham Page – Ensors Chartered Accountants (Sponsor), Simon Waldron (NCP), Volunteers – Claire O’Neill, Colin Middleton, St John Ambulance: Paul Wood and Lawrie O’Brien; Sue McAllister (NCP) and Inspector Neil Ireland (Suffolk Police)