



NORTHUMBRIA BLOOD BIKES

**August
2020**



TESCO Bags of Help



Fundraising


Recycle Your Ink Cartridges and Help Support Northumbria Blood Bikes.

Did you know that you can help us raise funds simply by recycling your ink cartridges via our Recycle4Charity programme?

For each inkjet cartridge recycled via the programme we will receive a £1 donation, meaning you can help the environment whilst raising money for charity!


To start, all you need to do is go to the address shown below and sign up for your free account.

Register now at – <http://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/Register/C96154>



Recycling your ink cartridges with Recycle4Charity is a simple way to help the environment whilst raising money for your charity of choice!


How It Works

- 

Sign Up & Select Your Charity

Sign up for your free account and select which charity you would like to support
- 

Order Freepost Recycling Materials

Order recycling bags or boxes depending on how many cartridges you have to recycle
- 

Post Us Your Ink Cartridges

Pack your cartridges up and send them to us for free
- 

We Send Money To Your Charity!

Your charity of choice will earn for each cartridge received from the wanted list

Sign up now at
www.Recycle4Charity.co.uk



Fundraising

The Mask to have

As we all begin the challenging process of getting back to the 'new normal' we have been able to arrange for some Northumbria Blood Bikes branded reusable and washable face masks. We think they look pretty smart and just the job to help us all keep safe and well as we move forwards from lockdown. Want to head out to the shops then don one of these and show your support for NBB.

You can purchase one for £10 or two for £15, they can be mixed and matched to your requirements. The price includes postage, follow the link to place an order:

<https://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/facemasks>





Fundraising

Easyfundraising- Donate by simply shopping

During August '20 the easyfundraising folks have been running a number of great promotions. For everyone who is already signed up and shopping, we hope you have managed to claim the extra donations to NBB thank you.

It is simple to sign up to and you just click on their link and shop at your favourite stores. It's amazing how a single purchase can add up to a fantastic donation to us.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Over 4,000 Brand Partners

easyfundraising feel good shopping | £32M Raised | Trustpilot

[Find a cause](#)

EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK
You shop. Northumbria Blood Bikes gets money. For free.

www.easyfundraising.or...

[Register a cause](#) [Login](#)

Support Northumbria Blood Bikes

£878.48 88
Total raised Supporters

[Continue with Apple](#)

[Continue with Facebook](#)

or

[Continue with email](#)



Events

The Event that Nearly Never Was....The Mallard Pub, Seaham.

Gordon and Elaine Littlewood, proprietors at The Mallard pub Seaham, run an event every year, 'Ride Out & Rock' which usually consists of an organised ride out followed by a small concert. They nominate a charity to receive the proceeds of the event and it's a great day out for everyone.

This year 'Ride Out & Rock' couldn't go ahead as normal, for obvious reasons. Gordon and Elaine were not to be defeated however, and they changed the format to meet the COVID-19 guidance. I was also really delighted to hear that they had kindly chosen NBB as their charitable cause.

The event was very successful and a huge thanks to everyone who pitched in to make it such a fabulous day. I was overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone who attended, worked and performed. Special thanks must go to:

- 'Chunky Ducks' who made an amazing £500 donation;
- a raffle prize winner who donated their £100 winnings;
- Laura and Rob Smith, raffled off a week away in their caravan;
- one of the bands, the brilliant 'UK/DC' donated their fee for playing at the event, check them out here - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy8Odyouc_1-DOSEuahGBpw
- everyone who generously made donations via the raffles and our NBB collection buckets;
- Last but not least, a huge thank you to Gordon and Elaine and their team, for all of



Rock The Lockdown
The Mallard
A FULLY SEATED OPEN AIR
LIVE MUSIC EVENT
SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST
2.30 - 9.30
a whole lot of rock & a big lump of roll

UK/DC **Old Codger** **ALIBI**

V.I.P. £12.50 **STANDARD £10**

Entry by **Wristband Only**
Food Available
Fully Licenced Bar

VIP GUARANTEED SEAT & SERVICE WITH SHELTER
All Covid Guidance Must Be Followed
Charitable Donations To Northumbria Blood Bikes



Events



their hard work and for choosing NBB as their charity. Also thanks both, for putting up with my constant pleas to make NBB the beneficiary of their fundraising.



It has been a challenging year for everyone, and I was amazed to find out that NBB had received the incredible amount of £1,363.78 in total when all counted up. Our banking assistants were overjoyed to be counting up again. That's an incredible amount raised to support NBB, by the generous owners, customers and friends of the Mallard

Pub, Seaham.



I've got to give special thanks to Tiger Taylor and Gary A, who stepped in at the 11th hour to make sure the event was supported, couldn't have done it without you both.

Roll on next year, we're the nominated charity moving forward, thanks to everyone at The Mallard, pub, Seaham.- Arron G- NBB Volunteer.

The Mallard pub, Stockton Road Seaham, SR7 8EP, website:

<http://mallardseaham.co.uk/>

Facebook Account:

en-gb.facebook.com/themallardseaham





News

Fleet News- New Blood Car Naming- in memory of Sir John 'Jack' Edward Cohen

Earlier in the year we purchased our new Blood Car with the funding we had received at the end of 2019 from the Tesco Bags of Help Centenary Grants. In March '20 before we had been able to officially launch and name the car, we had to call it into action earlier than we had anticipated.

We used the car to help us to transport PPE at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic to help keep our volunteers safe. Now that we are beginning to get back to the new 'normal', we had the opportunity to name our new car and it has now completed its first duty shift serving the North East of England. In honour of the founder of Tesco the car has been officially named 'Jack' after Sir John "Jack" Edward Cohen. We cannot thank Tesco enough for donating £15,000 to our charity, so we could buy this car, and to every customer who chose to support us with their blue tokens during the voting period.

This car is now part of our fleet delivering bulky items and during the winter months it will be an integral part of continuing our service in extreme weather conditions. Welcome to the team 'Jack'.



#BloodBikes
#Tesco
#BagsofHelp





News

Mark Master Masons- The Mark Benevolent Fund- National Blood Bike Day

It was amazing to see the work of the Blood Bikes celebrated by the Mark Master Masons on National Blood Bike day. Here is the article they produced.



'Today is Blood Bike

Awareness Day and we are delighted to join in with our friends NABB The Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes in highlighting their fantastic work. The

Mark Benevolent Fund made the first grant in 2016 to Northumbria Blood Bikes. Since then we have supplied 18 bikes and 10 cars to 27 Blood Bike groups. In addition, this year we have given £23,541 to Northumbria Blood Bikes for a replacement radio system and £5,127 to SERV Kent - Bloodrunners for personal PPE to allow them to do their job. To date, the MBF has invested £497,113 in our Blood Bike Partners.

Our video of the handover of many of the vehicles at the National Motorcycle Museum is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irJ9zoiP3kE>





Benidorm or BUST 'The great escape' 2021

In 2019 some of our more adventurous volunteers and their friends and families took part in the Benidorm or BUST -1500-mile rally. Lead by our volunteer Steve they raised a whopping £1432.20 and everyone involved had a fabulous time.

We understand that there may be a space or two left for the 2021 'Great Escape'. If you are interested in raising funds for us by taking part, then check out the weblink. All costs are paid by the people involved so that 100% of all funds raised go to NBB.



www.benidormorbustthegreatescape.moonfruit.com

If any organisation or company wants to offer sponsorship for the event, then our NBB teams would be really pleased to hear from you to contact:

funds@northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



Competition Time- Can you create a Christmas Card?

Due to Covid-19 life has dramatically changed over 2020. One thing however that has not changed is that unbelievably Christmas is swiftly galloping or should we say sleighing towards us. We apologise for use the 'Christmas' word in September but there is a really important reason for this. We have run a competition to design the NBB Christmas Cards for the last few years now. We continue to be amazed at the talent shown by our competitors and want to give everyone the chance to get creative. With the success of our previous competitions we are excited to see what you design for us in 2020.

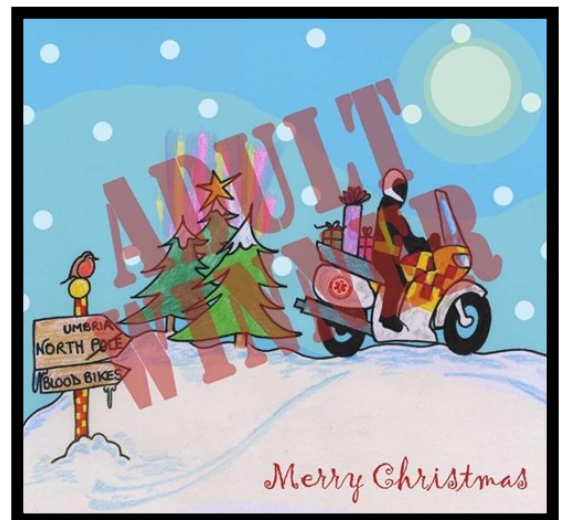
Design our NBB Christmas Card Competition- How to enter

1. You can produce your design in any way you wish. For example, it could be a drawing, painting, collage or a photograph.
2. Your design should preferably fit into a square shape on an A4 sheet to ensure it looks the same when reproduced as an e-card.
3. Send your design by email to publicity@northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk or post to: Christmas Card Competition, Northumbria Blood Bikes, Northumbria House, Pity Me, Co Durham, DH1 5FJ
4. Please include your name, contact details, your design and note if the entry is for the child or adult category. (we will have two categories – child category for under 16 years of age and adult category for over 16 years of age).
5. We will accept the following digital file types: PDF, JPEG. Please ensure that it is in high resolution with a minimum of 300dpi at actual size to ensure a good quality print.
6. A copy of our logo for us in your design can be found at: www.flickr.com/photos/northumbriabloodbikes.
7. **Closing date for entries is Wednesday 30th September 2020**



Competition Rules

- By entering the competition, entrants are giving Northumbria Blood Bikes (Registered Charity Number 1166689) the right to use their design, copyright free.
- There are prizes available for winning entries in each the child and adult categories:
Northumbria Blood Bike mug, a pack of 10 cards printed with their winning design and our attendance at an event of the winner's choice (within Northumberland, Tyne and Wear or Country Durham area subject to our availability).
- By entering the competition, the prize winner gives their agreement to publicity about their win (or if a child under 16 this is needs to be given by parent / guardian).
- Participants must be based in the UK. Prizes will only be sent to a UK mainland address.
- One entry per person.
- The winner will be chosen by a judging panel of at least 3 people from Northumbria Blood Bikes.
- The Judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered in.
- Winners will be contacted via email or post. The winners' names will be displayed on our website and on the card incorporating their design.
- Northumbria Blood Bikes are compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation and will not pass entrants' contact details to a third party.



Promoter: Kirsty Lawrence, Publicity Officer, Northumbria Blood Bikes, Northumbria House, Pity Me, Co Durham, DH1 5FJ.



Celebrating- National Blood Bike Awareness Day- 14th August

On the 3.2.20 at 7pm we marked the sixth anniversary of our charity beginning operational service. Since we began our volunteers have completed over 55,000 jobs and we are extremely proud of everything we have achieved. During the past six years Northumbria Blood Bikes has provided services free to the NHS and Great North Air Ambulance and entirely operated by our amazing NBB volunteers. We have also worked in partnership with other Blood Bike groups around the country to relay essential samples, blood, and baby milk safely to its final destination.



"I'm just going out for some milk"



When we say that, it means so much more...

Friday 14th August 2020

#BLOODBikedAY



During the Covid-19 pandemic NBB volunteers have continued to step up to do whatever they could to support the NHS. Every shift has been filled with NBB volunteers eager to transport blood and samples, essential equipment, and notes for our NHS colleagues. We also set up a dedicated hourly Covid-19 sample service and supported in the collection and distribution of invaluable PPE. Our incredible NBB volunteers still wanted to do more to help and were keen to take on additional daytime shifts working directly with NHS volunteers to support the delivery of medication and other supplies to free up NHS resources.



We could not do our work without our unstoppable volunteers, and not forgetting our hardworking committee members. Kirsty our publicity officer has put together a great video celebrating NBB, for National Blood Bike Day, we hope you really enjoy watching it:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=GkWsUc-CfEY>

Today we are joining our #BloodBike family in celebrating #BloodBikeDay and #RisingToTheChallenge



We are so proud to be part of the Nationwide Blood Bike group and we send our thanks to NABB the Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes for their ongoing support and hard work. NABB have been hugely successful in reducing blood vehicle road tax fees to zero. As well as working with BP Ltd to enable fuel discounts, including an incredible 10 weeks of free fuel during the lockdown period. NABB have some interesting news items on their website related to the work of Blood Bikes across the country so, if you have a spare moment or two check them out:

<https://www.bloodbikes.org.uk/news/>

In celebrating National Blood Bike day we would be remiss in not thanking our hundreds of individual supporters and organisations that continue to facilitate our work by making donations or raising funds for us. We could not do our work without these amazing donations, every penny helps us to go that extra mile, so a huge thank you to you all.



Northumberland Lottery Update

It's so easy to play. Log in to the website below, search for 'Northumbria Blood Bikes' and Register for an account, choose your lucky numbers and set up your desired payment. No subscription required so you can stop playing whenever you like. But as they say- 'You've got to be in it to win it!'

<https://www.northumberlandlottery.co.uk/>



[Draw 1.8.2020- Numbers- 966454 \(match the first 2-6 numbers in a row to win!\)](#)

No winners for NBB but if these are your favourite numbers maybe you could join and snap them up

[Draw 08.08.2020- Numbers- 656622 \(match the first 2-6 numbers in a row to win!\)](#)

Two weeks on the trot and no winners you have got to be in it to win it folks!

[Draw 15.08.2020- Numbers- 051892 \(match the first 2-6 numbers in a row to win!\)](#)

Mr V supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes- Matched 2 Numbers and Won 3 extra tickets

[Draw 22.08.2020- Numbers- 689802 \(match the first 2-6 numbers in a row to win!\)](#)

Mr T supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes- Matched 2 Numbers and Won 3 extra tickets

[Draw 29.08.2020- Numbers-680516 \(match the first 2-6 numbers in a row to win!\)](#)

Mr T supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes- Matched 2 Numbers and Won 3 extra tickets



Volunteers Week

Celebrating National Volunteers Week 1-7th June 2020

Following on from Volunteers Week in June 2020, we continue to highlight some of our fantastic NBB volunteers. Our volunteers are what make NBB the success it is, as we are solely operated by people who volunteer. We are always amazed at how much commitment our fabulous volunteers show and the pride they have in their work, supporting our NHS and Great North East Air Ambulance colleagues. Here are a few more profiles of our volunteers and why they volunteer for us. Thank you again NBB volunteers you are so brilliant, and we are awed by your dedication.

Hopefully we will re-open our volunteer recruitment, as soon as we are able to do so safely. If you are interested in joining us please keep a close eye on our website for updates.

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk





Volunteer News

Why I volunteer...

“Around about February last year whilst I working my nightshift as an engineer for Northern Powergrid I spotted a blood bike rider on the A1 traveling north. It was an awful night to be out, especially on a bike. Cold and wet, poor lad I thought. So the next day I did a spot of research and found out exactly what Northumbria Blood Bikes were all about and I was amazed that the service they provide is voluntary.

After a bit of thought and as I've always wanted to do some kind of voluntary work, with me having a passion for motorcycles I decided to get my advanced rider qualification and apply to become a blood bike rider. This was done last May and I became operational as a rider for NBB in February of this year. I've done 7 shifts to date, and when I retire in a couple of years hope to get more involved.

Bring on the next shift!

My name is Alan Bruce and that's why I volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes.”

#TimeToSayThanks #VolunteersWeek



Why I volunteer...

“Over the years I have been very interested in cars. Started Rallying in 1967, joined Mountain Rescue in 1988 and became accredited Blue Light Team Response Driver with Northumbria Police until I retired having received The Queen's Jubilee Medal for Services to Mountain Rescue in 2003. Then took the Advanced driving Test with the IAM and became an Observer.



At the beginning of 2015 I was made aware that NBB were looking for "Advanced Drivers" for their first car - The Yeti. However by the time I had been assessed by Jeff and inaugurated by Barry the 1st BoB car arrived. Regularly drove the BoB car, trying to achieve 4-5 runs a month.

During this period of my involvement the IAM contacted me to ask if I would do an article for their quarterly magazine on a drive in Northumbria. Because I had a 2 seat van at the time, and needed to carry a reporter and photographer they offered to get a vehicle from Nissan.



I immediately saw a possibility of publicity for NBB and asked the IAM that if I could get the loan of the BoB car would they feature it in the article. They agreed, so request was made to the "Committee" who agreed that they would swap the BoB and Yeti cars around for 2 days to allow me to do the article which appeared in the Summer 15 edition of the magazine.

Following on from the article I asked the IAM and my local group if a discounted Advanced Driver scheme could be put in place for NBB Riders who wished to do driving. The IAM agreed to a 10% discount off purchase and



the local group agreed to a £25 refund when a NBB Rider past their Driver Test. This scheme is still in place and at our last AGM was extended to include any NBB Member and whilst it was to run initially for a year, has now been extended indefinitely.

My current roles are Observing NBB members to achieve Driver Status and also I am now a NBB Assessor and carry out NBB Drivers yearly reassessments.

Memorable moment - assisting Ronnie and Debbie to achieve Advanced Driver status.

Best thing, a few years ago, having done a BoB run the night before, I was at the scene of a cyclist heart attack when the Air Ambulance landed and the Air Medics arrived with the very BoB box I had delivered the night before, made it all worthwhile.

Something positive - assisting members to become "drivers" and all the new friends I have met.

My name is Peter McEwen and that's why I volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes."

#TimeToSayThanks #VolunteersWeek

Why I volunteer...

"I first heard about Northumbria Blood Bikes through my daughter who is a nurse at the RVI. She would see the volunteers outside the hospital.

I looked into the role of a NBB volunteer and applied at the end of last year. I felt it was a great opportunity to provide help and support upon retiring





from work. I have volunteered as a blood car driver.

The NBB role fits well into my daily life being that I am now retired. It has been a little difficult getting started however due to the current pandemic. But now I'm up and running I find it easy to organise shifts around my other commitments.

The best thing I've experienced so far is the friendly people I've met so far whilst on shift. They have been there at every step of the way to supply advice and guidance.

The most memorable moments has to be the family standing at the side of the road giving me a wave when I drove past. It really does make it all worthwhile.

This is the first voluntary role I've had and it has made me realise not every role has to be a paid role to provide a great deal of satisfaction. Being able to give some time is such a rewarding experience, and thanks makes it all worthwhile.

My name is Brian Branch and that's why I volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes."

#TimeToSayThanks
#VolunteersWeek

Why I volunteer...

"I started as a volunteer rider and driver in November 2019. Rider / Driver and in the future I would like to volunteer as a speaker and fundraiser.





I can fit my volunteer shifts around my lifestyle as I'm self employed and control my own weekly diary. Flexibility is the key I suppose.

On my first ever shift I was dispatched to Hexham General Hospital, I was met by a nurse at the door who give me some samples for a transfer to North Tyneside General Hospital, the nurse said " I've a very poorly patient on my ward and need these results ASAP as it's suspected sepsis!" It dawned on me the importance of Northumbria Blood Bikes role within the NHS.

I'm very proud to be able to give something back to the amazing NHS and I would urge anyone to come forward to give their time to volunteer to this amazing charity. As a Northumberland Freemason I know how much support is given to the Blood Bikes and I know how well thought of the service is by the Freemasons in general.

My name is Thomas W Stewart and that's why I volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes."

#TimeToSayThanks #VolunteersWeek



Relay Roundup

Relay Roundup August 2020

Our rota manager Chris Mann also manages the requests from other areas to support the relay of blood, blood products, baby milk, specimens, equipment and samples. He sends a special thanks to the volunteers who, sometimes at short notice collect a blood bike or blood car and head over to meet colleagues from other blood bike organisations or the NHS. Team-work at its best and all free for the NHS. Great to work with you UK Blood Bike groups.

Edinburgh to Newcastle Relays

Our NBB Volunteer rider/drivers meet up with Blood Bikes Scotland to transfer and deliver urgent samples from the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh to the Newcastle Trust Hospitals

Date	Volunteer
3.8.2020	Jim L.
18.8.2020	Neil H.
24.8.2020	Dan Q.

It has been a little quieter than normal this month, but we remain ready to go and our volunteers continue to work hand in hand with other Blood Bike organisations to support the NHS.

#BloodBikes #ItsWhatWeDo
#TeamWork





Spot the Difference

Can you spot the 10 differences between the 2 pictures below?





Solution- Last Editions 'Spot the Difference'

Did you get them all?





Messages

Committee Updates Aug 2020

Sean Storey- Hospital Liaison

Demand has continued for our services and the Job data for July 2020 shows that we completed 1198 jobs this month. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers that continue to deliver services to our NHS and Great North Air Ambulance Service partners.

July 2020 NBB Job Statistics

Trust	Number of jobs
Newcastle	753
Northumbria	154
Gateshead/South Tyneside	33
County Durham and Darlington	89
BoB-GNAAS	56
Relay	66
Corbridge Medical Group	27
Other	20
Total number of jobs	1198

Chris Mann- Rota Manager

As expected as more of our volunteers return to work and with the main holiday season, we have had a few vacant shifts to fill for August '20. The rota assistants have been very efficient and have ensured that all vacancies have been filled. Thank you to our volunteers who continue to ensure that we deliver our services effectively. Thank you all.

Alan Johnson- Fleet Manager

As always, we have been busy ensuring that all vehicles remain roadworthy for the safety of our volunteers. Thank you to all the fleet assistants and volunteers who have assisted in moving our vehicles efficiently during the month.



A very special thank you to the Tesco Bags of Help who have added a newly named blood car to the NBB fleet. The car is named in memory of Sir John 'Jack' Edward Cohen and although we had permission to use it during the COVID-19 lock down, it is great to have it formally named and commissioned.

Tiger Taylor- Fund Raising Officer

The last two months have seen us beginning to bring events back into the diary. I know that our NBB fundraisers and speakers have been keen to hit the road running. Last month we supported the Northumbria Police Engagement event at Kielder. If you have not read the last newsletter, take a look, there are some great pics of our volunteers and our new gazebo's. This month a huge thanks must go out to NBB volunteer Arron G. who worked tremendously hard with volunteer Gary A. to ensure that The Mallard pub event was supported. I cannot thank the owners of The Mallard, Gordon and Elaine Littlewood and their team and generous customers enough. It certainly looks like an event to pop in your calendar for the future.

August has seen 'Easyfundraising' offering some extra donations to charities via their selling platform. It is simple to register and shop through their site with the added benefit that NBB would receive some funds to, all at no cost to you. Check out the website:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Congratulations to all of the winners coming through from the Northumberland Lottery. Our aim is to sell 100 tickets for NBB and we are currently standing at 73 tickets sold, a fabulous 9 tickets sold over the last month. It would be great to see that number rising again this month. If you have not yet joined it's a simple sign up and only £1 per ticket, please head to:

<https://www.northumberlandlottery.co.uk/support/northumbria-blood-bikes>

If you do have any events you wish us to attend, then please don't hesitate to contact me: funds@northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



supporting



WE'VE LAUNCHED OUR LOTTERY PAGE

Buy Your Tickets From Our Page - We Get 50%

- We now have a Northumberland Lottery page!
- Support local causes and win prizes of up to £25,000!
- 50% of all tickets sold from our page go to us!
- PLUS 10% goes to other local good causes!
- Tickets only cost £1 per week!
- Support us and win prizes - WIN WIN!

To Start Supporting, Visit:
www.NorthumberlandLottery.co.uk
And Search For:
Blood Bikes



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older