



NORTHUMBRIA BLOOD BIKES



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service
The MBE for volunteer groups

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Contact Us

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



Northumbria Blood Bikes



Northumbriabb



@NorthumbriaBB

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Donate



uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving

Hello!

Welcome to the May 2021 issue of NBB's Newsletter!

As we head into the warmer months and see out the last of our fabulous springtime days, we're all looking forward to getting ourselves outdoors and doing more of what we do best... being AMAZING!

So, put your Easter bonnet away until next year, come on in and as always...Stay Safe!

The NBB Team





NEWS



NHS Day Update



Ahead of NHS Day this year on 5th July, our NBB representative visited the Tyne Theatre & Opera House to meet with some of the other representatives, sponsors and attendees. The event will be the perfect end to a phenomenal day (marking the day in 1948 the NHS was founded) celebrating our incredible NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers and an important opportunity to raise money for health-related charities too.

The show is sponsored by Northumberland Freemason's and the United Grand Lodge of England and will be FREE to watch; however, donations are encouraged and will go towards helping NHS-related charities.

A link to watch the show live will be available nearer the event. Keep your eyes peeled for more information in the next issue of our NBB Newsletter!

In the meantime, to donate go to www.gofundme.com/f/NHSatTT



NEWS



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Relay Roundup

Our Rota Manager Chris Mann has coordinated 4 relay requests from other areas over April. These requests support the relay of blood, blood products, baby milk, specimens, equipment and samples over longer distances in the UK.

Jeff has been carrying out these requests, collecting a blood vehicle, and heading over to meet colleagues from other blood bike organisations or the NHS. A huge THANK YOU to all involved, teamwork at its finest and all provided free for the NHS. It is always a pleasure to work alongside other UK Blood Bike groups.

Blood Bikes Scotland Western General Hospital in Edinburgh to Newcastle Freeman Hospital

Jeff	6 th April
	13 th April
	20 th April
	27 th April



The total distance covered by items transported so far this year is a whopping 1,425 Miles!



FUNDRAISING



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As always, a massive **THANK YOU** to everyone continuing to donate to NBB!

Check out where some of our donations have come from over this past month...

UHND Microbiology Team Online Quiz

£40

A massive Thank You to Susan and the team for holding your online quiz to raise funds!



One Stop Brunswick Village

£55.08



A huge Thank You to Tony Wilki for dropping the collection into NBB!



£109.40

A heartfelt Thank You to Mick Doyle for the donation from his partner's funeral escort arranged through North East Biker Escorts

If you would like to host a collection box, please contact:
Funds@northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk

Northumberland Lottery Update

NBB are proud to be part of the Northumberland Lottery, set up on the principle of raising money *within the community for the community*. Empowering local good causes like us to raise money in a fun and effective way whilst connecting with our supporters.



A ticket costs just £1 a week. Half of this goes to your chosen good cause (obviously NBB!) and you could win up to £25,000! Take a look at our NBB supporters below who have won this year already...

To find out how to play, check out the website: www.northumberlandlottery.co.uk

Draw Date	Winners supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes
24 th April	Ms R (North Shields), Mr T (Chester-Le-Street), Mr B (South Shields) and Ms P (Cramlington) all matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
10 th April	Ms R (North Shields) & Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
3 rd April	Mrs L (Stanley) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets



FUNDRAISING



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NBB Text Donation

Our Text to donate feature has now gone live. Donating has never been easier!

To donate £1, text NBB1 to 70201
To donate £3, text NBB1 to 70331
To donate £5, text NBB1 to 70970
To donate £10, text NBB1 to 7019

<http://easydonate.org/NBB1>

* Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme, operating as DONATE, a charity registered in England and Wales (1149800) and Scotland (SC045106). In addition to any text donation, you will incur your standard network message charge (based on your service provider rates). For Terms & Conditions, see www.easydonate.org

 FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Northumbria Blood Bikes Registered Charity No. 1166689



FUNDRAISING



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Great North Run – Sunday 12th September 2021



Are you up for a challenge? Yes? Then why not join #TeamBloodbikes for this year's Great North Run! We have places available for both NABB and NBB. We do ask for a £57 deposit and ask you to aim for a £200 fundraising target.

ALL OUR RUNNERS WILL RECEIVE

- ♥ A fabulous #TeamBloodBikers running top
- ♥ An official fundraising pack with tips to help you meet your goals
- ♥ An invite to a group photograph the day before the race
- ♥ Access to a closed Facebook support group
- ♥ Support from our enthusiastic Team Blood Bikes cheering points along the route
- ♥ Post-race marquee reception with access to a physiotherapist... and most importantly food and drinks to celebrate your achievement!

To join, just visit www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/gnr





EVENTS



Volunteer Virtual Talk – Bishop Auckland U3A

This month, one of our volunteers had the pleasure of giving a virtual talk to the Bishop Auckland U3A (University of the 3rd Age). Our speaker John joined the group's online meeting to share with them an insight into the work we carry out. The feedback received has been so positive and although we couldn't present in person, it has been great to get back to hosting this type of event again.

Thank you very much to everybody who joined us for our virtual presentation!



If your group or organisation would like us to join you for a 'virtual talk' or host a speaker when restrictions allow in person, please contact our talks coordinator to request a speaker via:

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/contact/Request_A_Speaker



GET INVOLVED



Northumbria Blood Bikes rely on the voluntary contributions of its members to run and deliver the service. So, how can you be involved in supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes with your time?

Volunteer Riders – Collecting and delivering blood or other important medical supplies to and from hospitals using one of our liveried bikes, you will have an advanced riding qualification.

Volunteer Drivers - Performing the same role as a rider, but when the weather is below a certain temperature or it is unsafe to ride, one of our liveried cars is used. The car will also be used for attending fundraising or publicity events.

Shift Controllers - Working from home answering calls from hospitals and passing jobs on to our riders and drivers, you will keep track of the riders, making sure they have reached their destination and made it back to base safely.

Fundraisers - Attending events on behalf of the NBB with other volunteers, aiming to raise funds for our operations, increasing awareness about who we are and what we do are just some of the important activities our fundraisers get involved in.

Support Roles – Behind the scenes, lots of support work goes into the smooth running of NBB.

If you would like to apply for membership, please complete our online Membership Application

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/membership_form

We currently have a total of **284** incredible volunteers at NBB which includes...



103 Riders



95 Drivers



38 Coordinators



33 Fundraisers

All new members are allocated one of our 16 mentors to guide them through the early stages



OUR SPONSORS



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Northumbria Blood Bikes exists entirely on charitable donations. However, demand for the service we provide doesn't stop. We need £5,500 a month to continue to operate. Northumbria Blood Bikes welcomes sponsorship from companies and can include:

- An acknowledgement and Thank You for your contribution on our website, incorporating your logo and a link to your website.
- Photo opportunities with vehicles, handing over the cheque for your corporate publicity and press.
- Incorporating your company name/logo on a bike as appropriate if a bike is funded.

Your donations are so important to us, they help us with...

<p>Blood Bikes</p>  <p>Without our bikes we can't deliver urgently needed blood and medical supplies</p>	<p>Hi-Vis Jackets</p>  <p>Each of our riders needs a Hi-Vis jacket to ensure they are safe and seen on the roads</p>	<p>Defibrillators</p>  <p>Our cars are fitted with semi-automatic defibrillators in case they are ever required</p>	<p>Vehicle Tyres</p>  <p>Due to the miles covered by our vehicles on shift, tyres need replacing more often than tyres on personal vehicles do.</p>
<p>Blood Cars</p>  <p>Our cars are required for larger item transfers and also when it becomes unsafe to use our bikes due to adverse weather conditions.</p>	<p>First Aid Kits</p>  <p>A First Aid kit & fire extinguisher are needed for each vehicle in case of emergency</p>	<p>Insurance</p>  <p>Our bikes cost £800 each year to insure. It's an essential cost to keep us on the road.</p>	<p>Fuel</p>  <p>It requires £3000 of fuel per month to keep our vehicles on the road, without fuel, we cannot survive.</p>

Please contact our Fundraising Officer for more information about becoming a NBB sponsor via our website, alternatively you can write to us or call 0191 364 3113



OUR PEOPLE



Bill's Brilliant Fundraising Feat!

At the beginning of April, one of our amazing volunteers Bill took on 'The Lakesman in Lockdown' challenge alongside his daughter in order to raise funds for NBB.

The Lakesman Triathlon is usually held each year in the Lake District, but the last two (due to Coronavirus restrictions), have been held virtually – still allowing keen participants to attempt 'The Lakesman in Lockdown' and subsequently 'The Lakesman in Lockdown – The Sequel' challenges.

After Bill's daughter challenged him to take on the 56-mile cycle element, he completed the ride on his trusty hybrid bike in under 5 hours, raising over £150!



Bill started with Northumbria Blood Bikes as a rider in 2016 and became a driver and controller soon after that.

We asked Bill why he became a volunteer with NBB and what he finds rewarding about the work he does for NBB.

"I always wanted to put something back into society after I retired and NBB is a good cause."

"I've done jobs where I have found out exactly how we help... A lady came up to me from the Children's Hospital. She brought me a cup of tea and explained how we had helped her baby survive an operation."

"I once transported baby milk which had been collected from a lady who had sadly lost her baby, but she wanted to supply her milk to help others survive. I was so taken back by her bravery."

"I just do a little, so we can help all."

A huge THANK YOU to Bill for his fundraising efforts and for being a fantastic human being!



JUST FOR FUN



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BRAIN TEASERS

1.

ICE³

2.

TYRE

3.

FLUBADENCE

4.

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QUICK FIRE FACTS!

- ♥ Not all animals have red blood! Spiders, Lobsters and Snails have **BLUE** blood due to the presence of a copper containing protein.
- ♥ Volunteers in the UK currently contribute an estimated £23.9 billion to the UK economy per year.
- ♥ Blood Donors can donate blood every 3-4 months
- ♥ The word BLOOD appears at least once in every Shakespeare play!
- ♥ The longest distance rode on a motorcycle in 24 hours was 2023.5 miles by South African man Matthew McKelvey in 2014! Phew!

ANSWERS: 1. Ice Cube, 2. Flat Tyre, 3. Bad Influence, 4. Crossroads