



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 June 2021 issue of NBB's Newsletter!

This month, as we celebrate World Blood Donor Day on June 14th we're getting very excited about the return of some of our events this summer!

So, put on your flip-flops, grab a lovely cold drink, come on in and as always...Stay Safe!

The NBB Team





NEWS



Retirement of Blood Bike 'Scott'



A year later than originally planned, Blood Bike 'Scott' has officially been decommissioned and retired from our fleet. Just before the world was turned upside down last year, we had planned for 'Scott' to leave our operational fleet however with the increase in demand for our service, we decided to delay his retirement.

Blood Bike 'Scott' was named in tribute of Scott Soulsby who sadly died in 2014. Scott had intended to join our team as a volunteer and his family have continued to support our charity in his memory. We hope that it has brought some comfort to his family and friends to know that Blood Bike 'Scott' has helped save lives across the North East for the past 5 years and the bike was loved by many of our volunteers.

Ahead of the vehicle's retirement, Scott's family had expressed they would like the bike to go to a loving home of one of our volunteers to be enjoyed for many more years to come. After being decommissioned as a Blood Bike and our volunteers submitting their bids - late in May, 'Scott' was delivered to his proud new owner Jonathan.

We would like to thank the Soulsby family and to all our volunteers who had the pleasure of riding with 'Scott'!

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



NEWS



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Relay Roundup

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

Jeff and Harry have 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

Harry	5 th May
	11 th May
Jeff	18 th May
	25 th May



The total distance covered by items transported so far this year is a whopping 1,905 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...



Stagecoach
Slatyford Depot
£1,149.59



An incredible amount donated by our kind friends at Stagecoach from their Easter Fundraising Week, our huge THANK YOU for your continued support and kindness towards NBB and other charities around the North East!
YOU ARE AMAZING!!



Fishnets
Greenside
£62

Our friends at Fishnets have filled another collection box – Thank You so much!

Delves Lane Village Store & Post Office
Consett

£28



£50

A heartfelt Thank You to the family of Derek Morris for the donation from his funeral collection.

Davidson Of Darras Hall
£40.62

Thank you to Davidson's bakery for your donation!



Jo Maia's Birthday Fundraiser
£75

A huge Thank You to Jo for her fab Facebook fundraiser donation!

FACEBOOK FUNDRAISERS - DID YOU KNOW?
Facebook pays all the processing fees for you so 100% of your donation goes directly to your chosen charity!

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



FUNDRAISING



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Movement for Good Awards

£1,000 could make a big difference to the work we do. That's why we'd be really grateful if you could nominate us in the Ecclesiastical Movement for Good awards. Your nomination could be the one that wins us £1,000!

The awards are designed to give eligible charities in the UK and ROI the financial assistance they need to help them make a real difference.

In total, 500 charities stand to gain £1,000 and we'd love to be one of them! If we win, the money will go towards keeping our fleet on the road - helping people across the North East of England.

It's quick and easy to nominate us. Just visit movementforgood.com

The **closing date** for nominations is **Sunday 13 June 2021**. The more nominations we get, the greater our chance of winning, so please spread the word to your friends and family!!



PLEASE NOMINATE US

We could receive a £1,000 donation with your help through the Movement for Good awards.

Please visit this link to nominate us: movementforgood.com



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
22 nd May	Miss L (Stanley) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
15 th May	Mr G (Blyth) and Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
8 th May	Mr M. (Gateshead) matched 3 numbers and won £25!
1 st May	Mr M (Bedlington), Mr W (Butterknowle), Ms P (Cramlington) & Mr T (Chester-le street) all matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets



FUNDRAISING



Recycling for Good Causes

Did you know you can donate your broken/unwanted jewellery to raise money for Northumbria Blood Bikes? If you have any gold, silver, costume jewellery, watches, broken or damaged items - you can recycle them at no cost to you whilst making money for Northumbria Blood Bikes!

You can also donate any unwanted banknotes from any country of any age, so all of those obsolete pre-euro notes are a perfect start!



Our partners at Recycling for Good Causes will reuse and recycle the

jewellery and banknotes, giving the proceeds to Northumbria Blood Bikes, saving materials at the same time!



If you would like to send your recyclable items to us, simply use your own envelope (no bigger than A5) and post free of charge by printing and attaching the freepost label available on our website.

Please do not send coins to the freepost address as the postage costs will far outweigh your donation



You can now also donate your used stamps to raise funds too! All kinds of stamps are welcome, on or off paper. Simply cut or carefully tear your postage stamps from the used envelope. Once you have a few to send to us, pop them in an envelope and send them to:

Northumbria Blood Bikes, PO Box 16992, Sutton Coldfield, B73 9YA (*postage needs to be applied*)

If you need any further information, you can visit: info@recyclingforgoodcauses.org



EVENTS



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UPCOMING EVENTS

NHS Day – UPDATE!

The NHS Day at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House will be streaming live on Monday 5th July from 7pm, please check out their website: tynetheatreandoperahouse.uk for the links to watch along live and to donate!

We are very excited to start up our in-person appearances again after such a long time away! We do still have some virtual events planned and may have to unfortunately cancel some events should any government guidance change. Fingers crossed we'll be seeing you all out and about very soon! Along with the much-anticipated NHS Day on July 5th, here are some of June and July's events which we will be in attendances for:

Spennymoor Gala – Saturday 3rd July 10am-4pm

This event promises to be a fabulous day out at Jubilee Park, packed full of entertainment! Sadly, there will not be a parade through the High Street this year as usual – however, the Gala Committee and Town Council Liaison Group are very busy behind the scenes ensuring the event goes ahead and making the safety of all in attendance their priority whilst hosting a fun day too!



Percy Hedley Summer Fair – Saturday 10th July 8.30am-2.30pm

At this year's summer fair, NBB will be in attendance alongside a range of food stalls, rides and plenty of fun of course!

Beamish WI Talk – Wednesday 16th June 7pm-9pm

We will be holding a virtual talk via Zoom for the members of Beamish Women's Institute with an update on how we've continued to provide our service throughout the pandemic and beyond!



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



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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 **302** incredible volunteers at NBB which includes...



109 Riders



98 Drivers



39 Coordinators



32 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>

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JUST FOR FUN



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BRAIN TEASERS

1.

SOUP

2.

**BEND
OVER**

3.

WISH


4.


WI FE

QUICK FIRE FACTS!

- ♥ 1 in every 1000 babies is born with a tooth!
- ♥ Your kidneys filter your blood up to 300 times per day
- ♥ The Fairy Fly (a kind of wasp) has the smallest heart in any living creature!
- ♥ Whales on the other hand, have the largest!
- ♥ The human heart weighs less than a pound, with male hearts weighing on average, 2oz heavier than female hearts

ANSWERS: 1. Split Pea Soup, 2. Bend Over Backwards, 3. Wish Upon a Star, 4. Midwife