



NORTHUMBRIA BLOOD BIKES

December 2016

- Please feel free to
print, copy, save or
forward this newsletter
to increase awareness of
our charity!



More info on pages 14 & 15



Many thanks to Berwick Inner Wheel who presented us with £99.06 and £25 cheque. Plus their President has made us the charity of the year.



Gary Loader visited the Gentlemen of Hebburn Probus at Hartleburn Community Centre.

Warkworth rotary where Brian Slassor was kindly presented with £200 resulting from a talk done by Peter Robertson and Brian back in the summer.





St Vianney's RC Church Ladies Group talk



Hylton WI donated £25 and after a 'whip round' added a further £20. Gary Loader presented the talk and 2 of our budding future speakers Nick Burton and Rob Edmundson sat in the learn from one of experienced speakers



Shilbottle WI donated £35 – Gary Loader had a very enjoyable evening sampling their fine cooking & left after he judged their photo competition

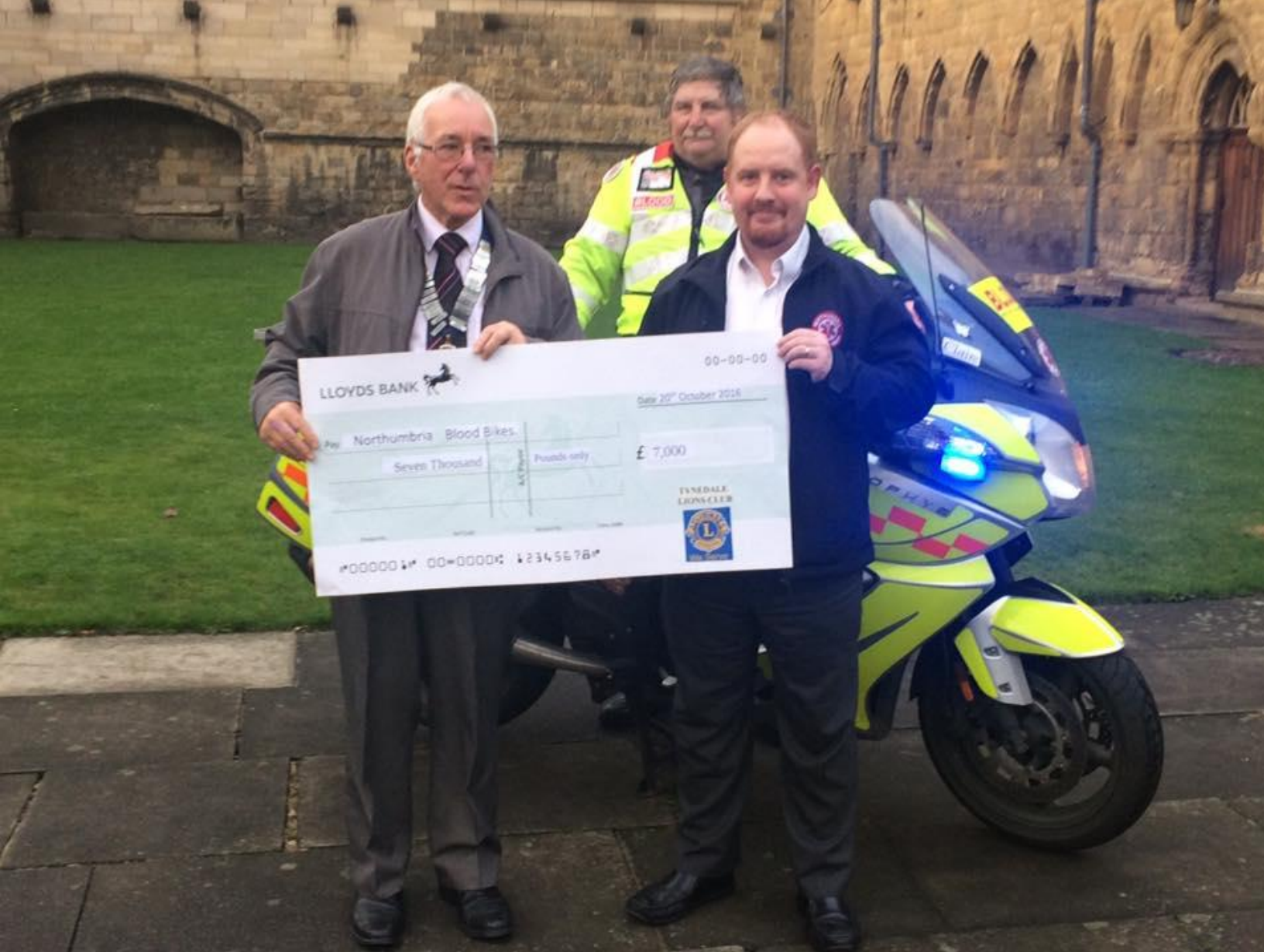


LEFT: Monkseaton Methodist Church talk with Nigel who was accompanied by Steve



Football, Biscuits and Banter held a fundraising evening with special guest Oliver Bernard. The evening was hosted by Mark Curruthers, from TV's Football Matters, a very successful evening raising £1011.30. £655 from the football memorabilia auction and 50% of the raffle money. Mike the owner of The Strawberry then made the total up to £1000. £11.30 in the bucket. A great night, well attended and a very nice chilli rice chips and nachos. Thank you again!





Our chairman Barry Bullas collected a generous donation of £7,000 from Peter Hawkins president of the Tynedale Lions Club. This donation came from the money raised at the annual Tynedale Beer Festival.

We had a great time meeting the members of the Lions Club and the two other charities that received a donation today. We even had time for our secretary Rob Wilks to show some of the Lions Club our bike.

We would like to thank the Tynedale Lions Club for their donation which will help us make a difference for the local community.



At the start of the year Egger UK chose us as their charity of the year and hope to be able to raise enough money to buy us a brand new bike. Thanks to Dan McPherson, (who featured in our September newsletter), and Egger UK for their efforts to help Northumbria Blood Bikes. Gary Annan went along to be presented with a cheque for £500. We would also like to thank the photographer Paul Robertson for taking some great photographs for us.



Thursday 24th November was the regular meeting of Restoration lodge, who meet at the masonic hall at Archer Street in Darlington. Brian Hill, the Charity Steward, presented John, Assistant Provincial Grand Master and one of our volunteers, with the cheque for £250 towards the Northumbria Blood Bikes on behalf of Restoration lodge.

Just before John returned to his seat the lodge Secretary, Andrew Hill (nephew to Brian), stood up and presented him with another cheque for £250 to be donated to the Blood Bikes. John was taken back with surprise and graciously accepted the donation. Andrew advised John that the money had been saved up from the 5 pence pieces both he and his mother Brenda had retained, since the introduction of charging for carrier bags where they have simply used their own bags. John apologised for not having another certificate on him but assured Andrew that he would visit Brenda and present them both with one.

Extracts taken from: <http://www.durhamfreemasons.org/news-archive/the-hills-have-eyes-focused-on-charity/>

Changes are afoot

In November Debbie Paton resigned from the committee. All of the committee want to say a great big thank-you to Debbie for all of the work she has done, which has helped the charity enormously. We are sad to see her leave the committee. Many of you will know that Debbie was also heavily involved in the training and management of Shift Controllers which has been above and beyond the original role she took on within the committee. Our Friday night regulars are relieved to know that Debbie will still be in their ear guiding them through their shifts with her regular controller shift.

Rob Wilks, has agreed to take over the role of Membership Officer and will do so immediately. This meant that we required a new Secretary as Rob moved roles. We're pleased to be able to tell you that following receipt of expressions of interest, and subsequent discussions, that Tegan Rawlinson has agreed to become the Charity Secretary. Tegan will be co-opted on to the committee for the remainder of this reporting year. Our new constitution decrees that a portion of the committee stands down each year at the AGM and as a co-opted committee member Tegan will do so. Tegan will, however, be eligible to stand for election should she wish to. We're sure you'll wish Tegan congratulations and give her the help and support she needs as she takes on this new role.

However, it is with regret that I have to let you know that Alan Johnston has stood down as Treasurer. Alan has recently taken on new employment and is unable to give the Treasurer role the time it needs. In the short term, Richard Scholfield will resume the treasurer role. We know, however, that combining the Fleet Manager and Treasurer role requires Herculean efforts from Richard and we would, therefore, we asked for any members who would like to express an interest to come forward. We will announce the outcome from the applicants in the near future.

We would like to welcome some people to their auxiliary roles, assisting the committee with their increasing workload; Jakki Harter our new assistant secretary to the committee, Ronnie Paton assistant radio assistant and Suzanne Hitchinson.

After a talk a few months ago Brian Slassor was invited up to the stage at a show by 'The White Gardenias' to receive £200. After he spoke to the audience about the work we do they had a whip around and added a further £140 to the donation. Thank you all very much!



Northumberland County Show have donated £500 to us and then honoured us as their charity of the year. Save the date for next year's show 29th May 2017



Above: Tesco Hexham door collection raised £1124.38. Great work from the team of fundraisers and thank you to everyone who donated.



Left: Callum Dixon, Tesco Newcastle Extra's Community Champion, handed over a donation of £100 to Geoff Spencer after customers voted for us in their community vote.



The National Railway Museum at Shildon Celebrating Local Superheroes



As we covered in our last newsletter The Newcastle Chronicle has begun printing The Chronicle's Wish 2016 tokens.

This is where you come in: we need your help. Four tokens will be printed a day for four months & also watch out for bonus tokens too. Please spread the word with your friends, family, colleagues & everyone you know that every token counts!

Please send your tokens to:

Northumbria Blood Bikes
30 Sheridan Drive
East Stanley
County Durham
DH9 6YU

Providing effective and timely transportation of essential blood and medical products
Registered Charity Number 1166689



Do it day

A global movement that encourages creative agencies to raise awareness of an issue, in one day, is came to the North East for the first time – Do it Day – in association with leading marketing title The Drum and founding Do it Day fringe partner Karol Marketing.

Do It Day sees leading brands including Coca Cola, Airbnb and Amnesty International challenge agencies to raise awareness of a real-life challenges linked to the environment, education & training, health & wellbeing, diversity, or community & commerce.

For the first time, the initiative was rolled out regionally in the UK, with Karol Marketing selected as the Drum's founding partner of The Do it Day fringe event. The award-winning agency was the first in the UK to replicate the process outside of London.

As founding partner, Karol Marketing chose to raise awareness of the issues facing Northumbria Blood Bikes. Karol Marketing executed their campaign on 10th November 2016 to help raise awareness and drive support for Northumbria Blood Bikes.

Stefan Lepkowski, managing director of Karol Marketing, commented, "Do It Day is a fantastic way for the industry to come together to raise awareness of relevant issues and we are honoured to be leading this initiative outside of London for the first time."



Thank you to everyone that came together to support @KarolMarketing with their campaign for #doitday. We had some incredible engagement with people across Newcastle and it gave us the opportunity to capture new audiences.

To have a marketing company choose us for a campaign like this meant a lot. As a small local charity run by volunteers we would not have been able to pull together the amount of time and hard work in such a small space of time.



As many of you will be aware last week Martin Dixon, a volunteer rider from our neighbouring blood bike group Bloodrun EVS based in Teeside, was involved in an RTC while on duty and sadly lost his life.

On behalf of all of the volunteers of Northumbria Blood Bikes we would like to pass on our sincere condolences at this sad time. We can't imagine how they must be feeling right now. The family and friends of the rider along with all the volunteers of Bloodrun EVS are in our thoughts.

A memorial fund has been setup for Martin Dixon, one of the many unpaid volunteers who give their time to help provide a free service to the NHS. Should you wish to, you can donate to Martin's memorial using this link <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tracy-wing/coverphoto>

During the week of Martin's funeral (Monday 12th till Sunday 18th), all Blood Bike riders/drivers across the UK are asked to wear a black armband while on duty as a mark of respect and tribute for all that Martin did.

From the Bloodrun EVS facebook page:

The funeral will take place on Wednesday 14th December – “We are asking for non-liveried riders to meet us at the Crematorium before 1pm; St Bedes Chapel.

Non-liveried riders can convene at the Blue Bell pub (u-turn needed on Acklam Rd if coming from there) or the Coronation pub.

Those forming the "guard of honour" must be in Hi-Viz jacket and ready to line the drive of the Crematorium before 1pm please.”

Big Changes for NBB Shift Controllers

NBB shift controllers had some big changes during November and we're hoping they'll all make life much easier.

The long-awaited dedicated entry forms for the BoB run and the Hexham run became available on 1st November. Shift Controllers should find them much easier to use than having to use the standard activity recorder for these jobs and early feedback has been positive. Of course, the Shift Controller User Guide for the Online Activity Recording System has been updated to include the new forms. It is available now in the members' library of the website.

Shift Controllers also have an all-new Shift Guide. It's designed as a step by step guide, to a typical shift, with links to all the relevant documents and forms that are needed at each stage.

We've also added a new Shift Controller Notices page. This page will carry reminders or messages and will be especially useful when things change or if we have temporary changes to procedures (like the suspension of carriage of blood due to low temperatures) that shift controllers need to know about. The notices should be checked before every shift.

The BIG news, though, is that the good people at Vocare have offered to cover our telephone lines on the night shift from 1.00am until 7.00am every weekday morning and we are starting a trial with them to see if our two organisations are a good fit. The trial began on 14th November at 1.00am and will run for three months while we assess the impact. We still need to cover that 1.00am to 7.00 am shift on Saturday and Sunday mornings but if the trial is successful this will reduce the burden for our own shift controllers as they'll have to cover fewer of these unsociable shifts.

Shift Controllers should note that the trial with Vocare has resulted in one important change to our handover procedures – it is now the responsibility of the OUTGOING controller to divert the Hospital Line at the end of a shift and not the incoming controller as had been the case.

I hope you'll agree that these are good news stories and positive changes for our shift controllers.

Members' information...

- As you all know we don't have a membership fee at Northumbria Blood Bikes. One of the consequences of this is the need for another mechanism to ensure that all those on the members register wish to remain with us. That mechanism is the annual membership survey and I'm pleased to tell you that this year's survey is now open. Closing date is 22nd December. There is one simple question to answer "Do you wish to remain a member of NBB for another year?" If you say yes, and we hope that you will, there are a few further questions that we'd like you to answer to help us improve the charity but it will take less than two minutes of your time to complete the whole thing. If you say no, there's an opportunity to say why not, and then, if you've handed back all NBB property, we'll remove you from our lists and records. The survey is available via the website at <http://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/members/survey> or using the menus Members >> Forms >> Annual Membership Survey
- You're probably also aware that, over the last year or so, we've published a number of policies and procedures which govern the way we run the charity. We're pleased to launch a new view of the members' library which pulls together the policies and procedures so that a) they are easier to find and b) it is clear which policies are relevant to the roles that you do. This collection of policies and procedures replaces the old handbooks which will be retired. Please make sure that you are familiar with all of the documents relevant to your role and look out for the notifications of new additions or updates to the existing documents. The new view is available at <http://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/members/handbook> or using the menus members >> handbook >> new handbook
- Swinton's will offer discounts to Blood Bike members for their own private insurance
- From January 1st 2017 we will be trialling an Evening Support Shift. Steve has taking into account a lot of feedback from member who would like to do more but circumstances don't always permit a full shift. Due to the popularity of the Hexham run this will give others a chance to do a shorter shift. Criteria will be in place whereby 2 12hour vehicles must already be on shift before this shift will be available to book. Look out for further details from our Rota manager in the near future.
- Over the festive period we need to fill full 24hour cover Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th, Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th December then also Saturday 31st December, Sunday 1st, Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd January 2017. Due to Christmas and New Year falling on weekends our cover does as always need to cover until the next working day. More so then ever we appreciate the dedication of our volunteers who will take up shifts during this time.
- In the New Year we will see the first of our recognition badges. This has been something that has taken a lot of planning behind the scenes but a small way to recognise our volunteers. Badges will be awarded to members who volunteer
- The new event attendance register is up and running. The old system didn't allow changes on apple devices but the new system does. Instruction and procedure are currently under review but will be released soon. Email reminders will be sent to those who have booked a shift,

FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY:

Lots of things happening, and we need your help to support them! If you can help, even if only for a couple of hours, please contact us....information is at the bottom of this page. NBB members can register their attendance for most of these events on our website (login required).



Tesco Bishop Auckland 10:00 to 16:00
Fundraising and awareness stand with our vehicles

TESCO
Every little helps



Tesco Metro Sunderland (The Bridges) 10:00 to 16:00
Fundraising and awareness stand

TESCO
Every little helps



Tesco Consett Genesis Extra 10:00 to 16:00
Fundraising and awareness stand with our vehicles

TESCO
Every little helps



Tesco North Shields (Norham Road) 09:00 to 19:00
Working with the Rotary Club who are collecting

TESCO
Every little helps



Sainsburys Washington (The Galleries) 09:00 to 17:00
Fundraising and awareness stand combined with a bag packing opportunity

Sainsbury's



Tesco Langley Moor 09:00 to 18:00
Fundraising and awareness stand with our vehicles

TESCO
Every little helps



www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes

twitter.com/northumbriabb

linkedin.com/company/2866951

FUNDRAISING HOTLINE:

0191 364 3113

- for any opportunities to increase our funding through sponsorship, locations for collecting tins, supermarket events etc...

Providing effective and timely transportation of essential blood and medical products
Registered Charity Number 1166689