



**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR READERS,  
RIDERS, DRIVERS,  
MEMBERS,  
SPONSORS AND  
SUPPORTERS.**

**HAVE A GOOD YEAR!**



# NORTHUMBRIA BLOOD BIKES

January 2019.  
Please feel free to copy, print, save or forward this newsletter to increase awareness of our charity.



Photo from Alan Ross.  
Some of the fleet, all looking good.

Providing effective and timely transport of essential blood and medical products.

Registered Charity Number 1166689.

## TALK AT CONSIDER MASONIC LODGE BY JOHN WATTS



On 12th December NBB member John Watts visited Consider Masonic Lodge in Consett where he gave a talk on Blood Bikes to members and their partners.

During the talk he thanked Freemasons throughout England and Wales for donating Bikes, Cars, other equipment and running costs to Blood Bike charities in the last 3 years now totaling over £1/2 million which commenced with the donation of Northumbria Blood Bike "Mark Master Mason".

During a Christmas dinner which followed the meeting, a raffle was held raising £140.00 which was presented to John for Northumbria Blood Bikes.

# BLOOD BIKING SANTA RUN 2018



Volunteers from the NBB and staff from the hospitals that we (the NBB) service, bringing happiness and cheer to those that are unwell and less fortunate.

# BLOOD BIKING SANTA RUN 2018

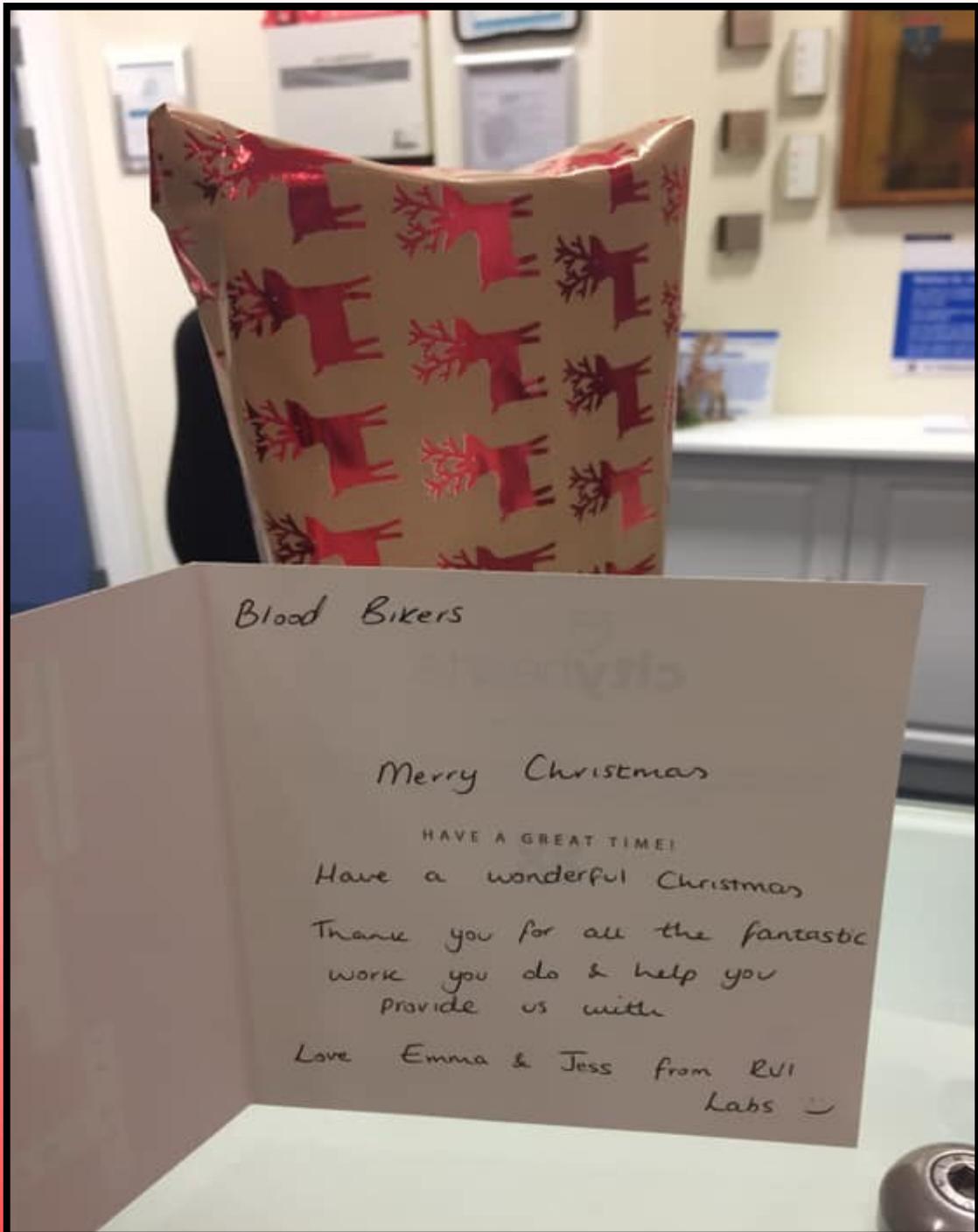


# BLOOD BIKING SANTA RUN 2018



As Northumbria Blood Bikes approach the start of 240 hours of service, with just over a week until the big day, the volunteers have begun by spreading festive cheer to children in our North East Hospitals. It all started last year with the first Northumbria Blood Biking Santa run. After months of organisation the team rallied donations of gifts and toys to deliver to children. Many of those children unfortunately find themselves spending Christmas in hospital undergoing specialist care. Thanks to the generous donations from volunteers, their friends, family, neighbours, their employers plus the support of other local companies Northumbria Blood Bikes were able to make an early delivery to the youngsters on the wards at three of our local hospitals

# Appreciation



Card and a present from the Path Lab at the RVI  
(Just one of a few our volunteers received)

# OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## Graham Moor—Chairman



As we come to the end of 2018 we are able to celebrate the successes of the year, and look with relish to 2019. Last month, our phenomenal new Newsletter Editor Nick Burton was too quick for me to pull some words together.

In October, our Chair, Mike Thompson, stepped down from the role after 4 ½ years of distinguished service in the Chair but previously as ICT Officer and Vice Chair. He has been instrumental in implementing many of the IT systems that we have now, and continued to lead the Charity to be one of the largest, most professional, busiest and most well-respected blood bike charities in the country. Mike has left the charity in a better condition than it was when he joined the committee, always a goal for a chair, improving our operational effectiveness and standing in the community, and leading the development of various professionally delivered training programmes for members. We want to take a moment to thank him for his service to the Group.

Having taken on the Chair of this group, I have exceptional feelings of pride and honour to hold the position. I have seen the charity progress from pre-operational stages where buying a first bike was a challenge, to our current position with well over 200 active volunteers, a wonderfully maintained fleet of professional looking vehicles, and multiple shift types for volunteers to be able to engage with the group.

The group continues to be one of the most loved charities in the region;  
Our volunteers continue to undertake shifts, attend events, deliver talks, and support the charity.  
The public continue to support us, donating in healthy amounts, and invite us to work with them.  
Our customers continue to ask us to undertake an increasing amount of work.

Over the year ahead, we will continue to look to retain our focus on excellence in providing professional customer service by means of a highly trained group of volunteers of whom we are exceptionally proud.

Several of our fleet will be replaced in service and, in addition, we will be looking at options to procure a number of smaller motorcycles to address the requirements of smaller riders which will hope to increase the breadth of volunteers who are able to engage with us. We will be looking to acquire a second exhibition trailer to be based in the North of the region to support events, and to replenish event kit with larger stands. We are looking to expand locations to store vehicles so that our members find it easier to get to shifts.

We look to welcoming new members to the Committee in the New Year to support the work of the group for specific areas which need support, and to continue to develop the charity through 2019, with the help of you!  
To end, I'd like to say thank you to each and every one of you, for being interested in our charity, and for whatever means you use to interact with us. We would be delighted if you are able to continue to give the Group your attention, and even more so if you are able to do a tiny bit more for us in 2019 than you did in 2018. Thank you for your magnificent support this year: here's to another amazing year to come.

Graham Moor  
Chair and Trustee

# OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## Steve Rawlings—Rota Manager

Hi all,

After what seemed like a tough summer filling shift's, it seems to have become easier as the winter months approached.

Many thanks to everyone who has had their name on the rota, no matter how many times or which type of shift.

Many thanks to the rota team, without their help I couldn't do the job.

Lets not forget those that never have tier names on the rota, the fundraiser's who are out most weekend's raising monies to make sure that we have bikes to ride and car's to drive.

A huge thanks to everyone in NBB for another superb year.

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NBB were asked to help out in three relays in December, two of which are the annual relay with the North West Blood Bikes at Carlisle. On the 24th December NBB's Rob Wilks met up with John Walker of the NWBB and collected samples to be delivered to the RVI.

On the 27th of December our Jerry Trowbridge met up with Simon Hanson from the NWBB and completed the same journey as Rob Wilkes. Later on the same day another one of our members Gary Pillans completed the final stage of a relay involving three (3) Blood bike groups, bringing samples down from Stranraer to the Freeman hospital. Gary met up with Derek Hunter from Dumfriess and Galloway Blood Bikes, they met at Carlisle and delivered the samples to the Freeman hospital.

Many many thanks to all the members who took part in these relays, and to the many others that volunteered to do the runs. Teamwork at its best.



# OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## Rob Wilks—Membership Secretary

To All Members (old and new),

As you are aware due to us not having any membership fees we ask all members to indicate that they wish to continue to support NBB, this is done by means of an annual membership declaration. Details as to how to complete this have been sent out so please check your emails and complete the form ASAP.



## Kirsty Lawrence—Publicity Officer

Over the past year we have had so many amazing publicity opportunities and I would like to personally thank everybody for their support. Whether it's sharing a post on social media or spreading the word about our charity in person it is all appreciated!



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**SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2019**

**DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FOR THE  
ANNUAL 360 CHALLENGE WILL BE  
RELEASED SOON**

**(PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A CHANGE IN LOCATION FOR  
THE START/FINISH)**

# BUS DRIVING SANTAS GET ON BOARD A FESTIVE GROTTO AND TAKE TO THE ROAD FOR CHARITY



Throughout December, bus drivers and office staff from Stagecoach North East's Slatyford depot in Newcastle are swapped their uniforms for festive costumes in a bid to raise money for the Chronicle's Sunshine Fund and Northumbria Blood Bikes.

Duty manager and bus driver Adam Morris, 31, from Kenton Bar, has worked at Stagecoach's Slatyford for 12 years and has been a volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes since 2014.

He said: "After losing my Mum to lung cancer when I was young, I wanted to do something positive to help others. I'm a bit of a wuss when it comes to needles and giving blood, so this was a way to give back."

When not driving a bus or in his role as a duty manager, Adam works a 12-hour shift each week, either as a controller locating blood bikes and cars and directing to jobs via GPS or as a driver/rider, delivering blood for air ambulances, hospitals and GPs all over the region.

He added: "I have always taken part in the annual Christmas fundraising campaign at the depot, emptying buckets and counting cash, but this year I decided to get more involved and I'm really looking forward to helping with the festive giveaways on our Stagecoach Santa bus."

*Stay tuned for the final official total*

# GEORDIE BROON MCC



After 20 years Geordie Broon MCC have closed their club and they have donated half of their remaining money to Northumbria Blood Bikes. The other half will be going to our friends at The Great North Air Ambulance. It sad to hear of the closure of the club but we are very grateful that they chose to support us with a donation of £1571.19.

# TESCO CONSETT BAGS OF HELP GRANT SUCCESS!



News was received that NBB were extremely successful with the Tesco Consett bags of help voting during September, and October. We came first in the vote and will be receiving £4000.

Fantastic news again, from our third Tesco blue token voting. Each of the grants that NBB has received will go towards funding new bikes for next year.

This achievement is something that the NBB should be extremely proud of. Its wonderful to know that the support that NBB has in the community is amazing and grows with each shift, talk or publicity event we do.

Thank you not only to Tesco but to every single customer who voted for us!

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND TALKS

Talk

**Tuesday 8th Jan**

**Fellside chapter**

Thursday 10th Jan

**Tesco Hexham  
collection**

Talk

**West Denton cardiac  
support group**

Friday 11th Jan

**Tesco Hexham  
Door collection**

Saturday 19th Jan

**Member induction  
followed by  
Shift controller  
workshop**

Wednesday 30th Jan

Talk  
**The Manors  
retirement home**

# A MOMENT TO REFLECT 2018



January.



February.

Fund raising at Tesco Newton Aycliffe.



March.

Awareness talk today to Bamburgh WI...  
£125



April.

Another great challenge, for those with iron backsides.



[www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk](http://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk)



[facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes](https://www.facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes)



[twitter.com/northumbriabb](https://twitter.com/northumbriabb)



[linkedin.com/company/2866951](https://www.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...

# A MOMENT TO REFLECT 2018



## May.

Steven Laws raising funds for the NBB



## June.

At Jubilee Park Spennymoor.



## July.

Another handsome NBB member raising funds at an awareness talk.



## August.

Jammers, Sean Jamieson and another member collecting £600 from Gypsy Rebels. MCC.



[www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk](http://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk)



[facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes](https://facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes)



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# A MOMENT TO REFLECT 2018



## September.

Kirsty Downham and Nigel Barlow receiving a cheque to the value of £146.30 from the proceeds of a cake sale on Suffragette day thanks to Gavin Davison.



## October.

Claws for thought?????



## November.

Good day in Washington today with Eric and Debs Metcalfe. Mark Master Mason on his best behaviour. Thank you Asda for inviting us



## December.

Our Ken Tait trying out the latest addition to the bike fleet.



[www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk](http://www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk)

 [facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes](https://facebook.com/northumbriabloodbikes)

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