



NORTHUMBRIA BLOOD BIKES



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

News	Page 2-4
Fundraising	Page 5-11
Events	Page 12
Our Members	Page 13
Our Sponsors	Page 14
Just for Fun	Page 15-16

Contact Us

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



Northumbria Blood Bikes



Northumbriabb



@NorthumbriaBB

Northumbria Blood Bikes
Northumbria House
Abbey Road
Pity Me
Durham
DH1 5FJ

Donate



[donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/
northumbriabloodbikes](https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/northumbriabloodbikes)

Hello!

*Welcome to the Winter 2021 issue of
NBB's Newsletter!*

*As we round up the year and reflect
upon the phenomenal effort our
volunteers have put into the last
few months, we're looking forward
to what 2022 will bring and
celebrating the festive season!*

*So, get those final few presents
wrapped, grab a hot chocolate, come
on in and have a very, very, Merry
Christmas!*

The NBB Team





NEWS



Outstanding Volunteer Award 2021

Each year we ask our volunteers to nominate their Volunteer of the Year, which we award at our AGM. It was great that we were able to award this year's recipient in-person.

We are extremely pleased to announce that our 'Outstanding Volunteer' for 2021 is awarded to the fabulous **Carol Nelson!**

Carol was nominated by her fellow volunteers for her hard work and dedication as a Shift Controller and Speaker. As a highly competent Shift Controller, Carol often takes on shifts at very short notice. She is a credit to NBB, proudly representing us at the Tyne Theatre NHS Day earlier in the year too.

Carol is a wonderful volunteer who frequently gives up her spare time to give engaging, informative talks to a variety of people, from Women's Institutes to Girl Guide groups. Carol is also known to bring along some of her homemade cupcakes for her audiences to enjoy!

We are proud to have Carol as part of our Blood Bikes family. This recognition is very much deserved and a huge **CONGRATULATIONS** from all of us at NBB!



To find out more information about becoming a volunteer with NBB, please visit our website and complete an online Membership Application Form:

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/membership_form



NEWS



Christmas Card Design Competition

The winners of our Christmas card design competition are Jasmine (age 10) and Evie (age 12)! THANK YOU to everyone who took the time to enter, it was a very tough competition and your efforts are much appreciated! Our Christmas cards are now available to purchase, to place an order, please email:

publicity@northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk



Send Christmas eCards

And donate the cost of cards and stamps!



DontSendMeACard.com

NBB Ecards

If you're not a fan of sending Christmas cards, you can now send NBB Christmas eCards, donating the cost of cards and stamps to NBB! Visit: DontSendMeACard.com

Our volunteer Frank Soulsby, his father and their friend have already donated **£40** in lieu of sending Christmas cards this year – **THANK YOU!**

Blood Bike 'Morpeth'

We are thrilled to announce a new motorbike has been added to our fleet! Blood Bike 'Morpeth', a BMW 1250RT, has been purchased with funds raised during Councillor Alison Byard's Mayoral term in 2019/2020. Alison was generously supported in her fundraising efforts by the residents of Morpeth Town. They raised money through events such as The Great North Run and the Mayors Ball, along with donations from the Masonic Lodge of Northumberland (Northumberland Freemasons) and the William Leech Charity.

In total, they raised an incredible **£35,000**, which has not only covered the cost of our new bike, but also some running costs.

We would like to express our sincerest THANK YOU to Alison and the residents of Morpeth for all their hard work and support!





NEWS



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Relay Roundup

Our Rota Manager Chris Mann has coordinated several relay requests from other areas over the past few months. These requests support the relay of blood, blood products, baby milk, specimens, equipment and samples over longer distances in the UK. Some have even involved use of Civil Air Support!

Jeff, Jim, Harry and Chris have kindly 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 it's always a pleasure to work alongside other UK Blood Bike groups.

Western General Hospital to Newcastle Freeman Hospital

Jeff	3 rd August
	10 th August
	24 th August
	31 st August
	7 th September
	14 th September
	21 st September
	2 nd November
	9 th November
	16 th November
Jim	28 th September
	19 th October

Salisbury Hospital to Newcastle Genetics Lab - Civil Air Support

Jeff	12 th October
Harry	27 th October
	10 th November

Birmingham Medical School to Newcastle Freeman Hospital

Harry	22 nd October
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Birmingham Medical School to NSECH

Harry	3 rd November
-------	--------------------------

Sunderland Royal Hospital to NHSBT Barnsley (to Wetherby)

Chris	14 th November
-------	---------------------------

Crumlin Hospital to Newcastle Freeman Hospital – Civil Air Support (Milk transfer)

Harry	17 th November
-------	---------------------------



The total distance covered by items transported by relay so far this year is a whopping **6,300 Miles!**



FUNDRAISING



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Tyne and Wear Festival of Rescue

A huge THANK YOU to all of those who stopped by our stand at the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Festival in September! Our volunteers Jim, John, Eric, Paul, Carolyn, Chad and Rianne were representing NBB during the event, providing information and showcasing one of our blood bikes.

We were delighted to raise **£177.40** from donations put in our buckets too! Our volunteers love speaking with members of the public at events like these, to raise awareness of what we do at NBB and help raise those all-important funds.



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



FUNDRAISING



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Stormin' the Castle

This year marked the 30th Anniversary of Stormin' the Castle. This event takes place each year at Witton Castle, this year over the weekend of the 3rd to the 5th of September. The event is a biker rally and custom bike show supported by bands, traders and various stands like ours!

Our volunteers Derek, Eammon, Anthony, Rob, Dave and Tiger Taylor were all in attendance; camping out over the weekend and chatting to the lovely people who stopped by to make donations and admire our Blood Bike.

We raised a phenomenal **£1141.40** over the whole weekend! Thank You to everyone who made a donation!

Events like these really do make a huge impact, supporting the running costs of our bikes and cars.

If you missed this year's event, Stormin' the Castle will be back again next year 2nd-4th September.

*Tickets now are available online:
storminthecastle.co.uk*



The Reece Foundation and Pearson Engineering 12 Days of Christmas

NBB have been lucky to secure funding from The Reece Foundation to cover our running costs throughout the festive period. We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to The Reece Foundation for supporting us, enabling us to continue our service during this crucial time.

**REECE
FOUNDATION**

We have also been nominated as part of Pearson Engineering's '12 Days of Christmas' again this year, as one of the charities they are supporting with a monetary donation, THANK YOU for the nomination!

**PEARSON
ENGINEERING**

"Pearson Engineering are happy to support NBB for the 2nd year running in our 12 days of Christmas campaign. NBB plays a vital role within our community and we are grateful to show our support in this small way."

- Molly Clavering, Marketing Communications Executive at Pearson Engineering



FUNDRAISING



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As always, a massive **THANK YOU** to everyone continuing to donate to NBB and to our wonderful volunteers who distribute and collect our tins and buckets!

Check out where some of our donations have come from over the past few months...



£195.34

A huge Thank You to our wonderful volunteer Stuart Tate and his family, for the collection at his mother June's funeral. June was a keen NBB supporter and will be greatly missed.

**Conservative Club Annual
Dinner Dance Raffle**

£192

THANK YOU to John Watts and all those at the Annual Dinner Dance at Little Haven who contributed.



£200

A heartfelt Thank You to our volunteer Gary Tait and his work colleagues for the donations made in memory of Gary's daughter.

The Mallard
Seaham

£165



Whitby Way pub
Whitby

£49.12

Porkie's Butchers
Langley Park

£25



The Cross Keys
Esh

£87



**Davidson of Darras
Hall Bakery**
Ponteland

£36

The Fox & Hounds
Shildon

£26





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Informative Talks - Roundup

We've had a busy couple of months packed with talks, THANK YOU SO MUCH to Ian, Stephen, Stuart, Carol, Peter and John for representing NBB and for all the donations received. Let's take a look at some highlights...

Witton-le-Wear WI

The ladies were very attentive and kind throughout, donating **£82.40**.



Ouston Ladies Club

This fabulous 93-year-old lady wanted a sit on our blood bike... of course we happily obliged!

We are also very thankful to have raised **£75** from this event!



Wylam WI

Carol and Stuart met with the lovely ladies of Wylam WI for an informative chat and a cuppa.

The ladies made a whopping donation of **£138.30!**



Hexham Guides

Last year, the girls raised an impressive **£521.03** by doing a sponsored walk. Carol met up with them for a demo and to share some delicious homemade cupcakes!

West Auckland WI

Thank You ladies for the **£112.40** donation!

Probus Club - Berwick-upon-Tweed

£85 was raised by Peter at the Probus club!

The Ladies Fellowship - Darlington

Ian attended this talk and raised **£107!**

Brunswick Club for Men

John raised **£133** at Brunswick Club!

Constance Chapter of Freemasons - Consett

A notable donation of **£115** was raised at Consett Masonic Lodge from their raffle. THANK YOU!

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



FUNDRAISING



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've won over the past few months...

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

Draw Date	Winners supporting Northumbria Blood Bikes
7 th Aug	Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
18 th Sept	Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
25 th Sept	Mrs L (Gateshead), Mr B (Blyth), Mrs T (Chester-Le-Street) & Mr B (South Shields) all matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
2 nd Oct	Mrs H (Cramlington) & Ms R (North Shields) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
9 th Oct	Mr T (Darlington) & Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
16 th Oct	Mrs R (Washington) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
23 rd Oct	Mr B (South Shields) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
6 th Nov	Mr R (Wallsend) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
13 th Nov	Mr L (Cramlington) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
27 th Nov	Mrs K (Co Durham) & Mrs T (Prudhoe) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
4 th Dec	Mrs K (Co Durham) & Mrs T (Prudhoe) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets
11 th Dec	Mrs G (Hexham) & Mrs A (Durham) both matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets

Give as you Live

With the recent announcement of the closure of the online fundraising platform Virgin Money Giving, we are very pleased to announce that we have a new platform set up with Give as you Live. This new platform has some new features that we're looking forward to using in the future!

You can set up a direct debit for monthly donations and create fundraising pages too!

Through Give as you Live, we're already raised an incredible **£438**



A massive THANK YOU to those adapting to our new platform and sending donations to NBB!



FUNDRAISING



Percy Hedley Gala

Our volunteers Carol and Rob were representing NBB at this year's Gala at Percy Hedley. Thank You to all those who stopped by to make a donation. We raised a total of **£54.47**.



The Garage Burnhope Christmas Day

A total of **£181** was raised at our attendance at The Garage Burnhope, when they held their Christmas Day this year. Thank You to Tiger and Rianne who were there representing us!



NHS Ride of Thanks - North East

Sunday 19th of September saw the second time that riders came together to show thanks to our NHS in the North East. The ride was organised by Spencer and our volunteer rider Peter was in attendance with one of our Blood Bikes.

The route started from Newcastle and ended in Hartlepool, riding via four of the North East's hospitals on the way.

THANK YOU to everyone who stopped to put donations into our bucket and for showing your support to our NHS workers throughout what continues to be a difficult time.

You raised a commendable total of **£96.60!**





FUNDRAISING



Great North Run 2021 – Sunday 12th September

Although it was a little different this year, we were delighted that the GNR went ahead to raise vital funds for so many charities. Our 45 runners raised a staggering **£19,485.20!!**

Here are some of our runners who bravely ran the iconic half-marathon (13.1 miles)!

Next year the GNR will be held on 11th September with the usual route hopefully reinstated along with our cheer points!



Recycling for Good Causes



You can now donate your used stamps to raise funds for NBB! 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



Morpeth Air Cadets Visit

Mike and Peter were able to show off our newest blood bike 'Morpeth' to the Morpeth 404 Sqn Air Cadets. The cadets are regularly involved in raising funds for various causes, one of which was Councillor Alison Byard's campaign for our new bike. It was a pleasure to meet the cadets and show them how their fundraising efforts make a difference.



Motorcycle Live

Our volunteer Bill attended the Motorcycle Live Show in December, to represent NBB – meeting members of the public, demonstrating one of our bikes and spreading the word of what we do.



The week-long event drew in some famous names too! TV's Find it, Fix it, Flog it's Guy Willison, British Superbike Championship winner Neil Hodgson, Grand Prix Motorcycle racer Niall Mackenzie and even former MP Lembit Öpik all popped by to see Bill at our stand! What a weekend!

UPCOMING EVENTS

We hope to be seeing many more of you out and about very soon in the New Year. Here are some of the upcoming events we've got planned...

- Dalton-de-dale WI Talk – 10th January
- Mowden Park Townswomen's Guild Talk – 3rd February
- George Stephenson Lodge Talk – 9th February
- Tuesday Fellowship Club Talk – 22nd February
- Ingleton and District WI Talk – 9th March



OUR MEMBERS



Quarterly Recognition Badge Awards

Our volunteers don't ask for anything in return for their hard work, time and energy volunteered to NBB, but to show our appreciation we have our fabulous award badges. The badges range from the 25 Shift Bronze badge to the phenomenal Red and Gold 200 Shift badge.

A huge THANK YOU to every single one of our volunteers and CONGRATULATIONS to those receiving the following badges this quarter...

YOU ARE ALL AMAZING!

SILVER



50

**Shaun A
Stuart T**

GOLD



100

**Ann B
Graeme M
Paul F
Ian B
Paul P**

GOLD & RED



200

**Jeff G
Paul C
Steven D
Susan D**

We need YOU!

Northumbria Blood Bikes rely on the voluntary contributions of its members to run and deliver our service. We have various roles you can get involved in, including Volunteer Riders, Volunteer Drivers, Shift Controllers, Fundraisers and Support Roles.

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



98 Riders



97 Drivers



39 Controllers



30 Fundraisers

All new members are allocated one of our NBB 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



JUST FOR FUN



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CHRISTMAS BRAINTEASERS

1.

NIGMASSHT

2.

Turkey

SSSSSSSSSS

3.

**Spear
Pepper
Garden**

**Cottage
Apple
Shepherd**

4.

XMAS

5.

**Hello Summer!
Hi Spring!
Yo Autumn!
Howdy Winter!**

6.

Mistletoe

XXX

7.

A3 tortilla A4

8.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ANSWERS:

1. Midnight Mass, 2. Turkey Leftovers, 3. Mince Pies, 4. White Christmas, 5. Season's Greetings, 6. Kisses under the mistletoe, 7. Wrapping paper, 8. Noel



JUST FOR FUN



FESTIVE WORDSEARCH

A	N	T	U	R	K	E	Y	C	Z	F	W	S	A	Q	J
Z	B	X	O	D	R	C	W	E	D	U	J	C	L	X	U
T	L	N	U	V	F	H	R	B	O	N	F	D	S	G	A
R	O	U	T	E	S	R	E	W	Q	D	S	R	W	L	V
M	O	L	D	C	H	I	X	L	H	R	E	I	A	C	T
R	D	O	Y	N	X	S	B	T	Y	A	Y	V	C	O	G
A	F	D	A	M	O	T	O	R	B	I	K	E	O	N	R
D	T	O	V	D	Q	M	X	E	W	S	V	R	Z	T	I
P	M	N	K	A	F	A	Y	E	N	E	H	X	A	R	E
R	V	A	U	X	H	S	B	S	S	Z	F	J	K	O	F
E	E	T	R	C	K	E	A	W	A	C	Y	N	O	L	W
S	Q	E	P	I	Y	I	Z	D	N	O	E	L	G	I	M
E	I	V	T	M	D	U	G	Z	T	V	T	G	N	L	E
N	Y	B	T	N	Z	E	A	U	A	B	K	D	I	X	R
T	R	D	E	P	U	V	R	P	D	Z	M	U	V	R	R
S	J	Q	C	X	Z	L	J	A	C	H	A	R	I	T	Y
U	S	N	O	W	B	M	O	K	P	B	A	Y	G	S	A
E	C	B	T	D	Q	P	G	V	N	W	S	N	A	U	O

BLOOD
CHARITY
CHRISTMAS
CONTROL
DONATE

DRIVER
FUNDRAISE
GIVING
MERRY
MOTORBIKE

NOEL
PRESENTS
RIDE
ROUTE
SANTA

SNOW
TREE
TURKEY
VOLUNTEER