



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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Northumbria House
Abbey Road
Pity Me
Durham
DH1 5FJ

Donate



donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/northumbriabloodbikes

Hello!

Welcome to the Spring 2022 issue of NBB's Newsletter!

As we dive into Spring, we look at the fabulous start to 2022 and everything this year still has to offer! Keep your eyes open for the NBB Easter Bunny popping up within the Newsletter – the total number will be revealed in the Just for Fun section!

So, don your Easter bonnet, crack open a chocolate egg, come on in and have a joyful Spring!

The NBB Team





NEWS



Brockbushes Charity of the Year

We had some exciting news to start 2022 as we have been selected as the charity of the year at Brockbushes Farm Shop & Tea Room!

The staff welcomed our volunteers whilst hosting a 'Meet our Charity of the Year' at the end of January, where some of our bikes were displayed. We raised £106 from this event and hope to raise more funds from events at Brockbushes throughout the year.

Our volunteer Carol has helped facilitate this amazing partnership between NBB and a local business to help boost fundraising and NBB's profile.



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



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8th Anniversary of NBB

On the 3rd of February at 7pm our charity will reach the 8th Anniversary since our service first went 'LIVE'!

In that time, we have completed over 80,000 jobs that have helped to improve people's healthcare journey. We owe this achievement to the support we receive from our team of volunteers, our service users, our donors and YOU the public.

THANK YOU to each and every single one of our supporters!

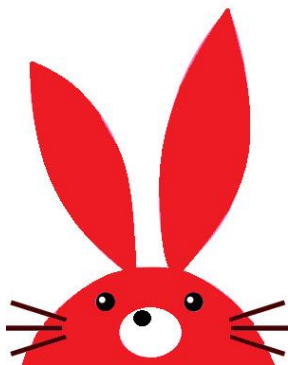


Stagecoach Slatford's Christmas Donation

Each year, leading up to Christmas, Stagecoach colleagues at Slatford put their efforts into fundraising for charity. They raised an amazing amount of money for our charity and The Chronicle Sunshine Fund.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated and also to Stagecoach.

The wonderful team at the Slatford depot welcomed our volunteers to collect an incredible **£5,090.83** donation!





NEWS



One foot in front of the other

It might sound easy to some but for others it can mean a long and sometimes painful journey.

In March 2013 Ria Burnett's life changed forever when she was in an accident. Ria didn't let her accident prevent her from giving back and became a volunteer for Northumbria Blood Bikes in 2016. She trained as a volunteer controller, gained her advanced motorcycle qualification so she could ride the bikes on shift and helped at fundraising events. After countless operations and rehabilitation to save her leg, she had it amputated in May 2018.



She continued to volunteer her time as a controller and fundraiser plus thanks to the National Association of Bikers with Disabilities (NABD) carried on riding her own bike with special adaptations they assisted her with. However, this wasn't enough for Ria and she worked to gain her advanced driving qualification which will allow her to drive the Blood Bike cars. After recently passing her assessment drive she is set to put her best foot forward, and we aren't talking about her real leg in this instance, as anybody who knows Ria she has to have style. Ria has previously had her prosthetic covers designed and made by Limb-Art and requested they design her a Northumbria Blood Bikes themed cover for when she is on duty.

Mark Williams, Founder and CEO of Limb-Art, said: "It was a true privilege to make this NBB cover not only for our great customer and friend Ria but for such a great charity. As an amputee myself, following an RTC, I know that if it wasn't for these hard-working volunteers I would not be here without the critical supply of blood. I really hope after our collaboration it will drive people to give blood and also help this charity by making a donation."

Ria Burnett, Northumbria Blood Bikes volunteer, said: "I am so happy with this amazing NBB cover and I will certainly #standoutstandproud!"



All the team at Northumbria Blood Bikes are so incredibly proud of Ria for overcoming her obstacles. She is a fantastic, dedicated and passionate volunteer that we are honoured to have as part of our Blood Bikes family. She is an absolute diamond and we hope her story inspires others. Thank you to the Limb-Art team for their gorgeous design and for providing it to Ria free of charge.

To donate to Northumbria Blood Bikes, visit: donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/northumbriabloodbikes

To donate blood, visit: www.blood.co.uk



FUNDRAISING



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6th Annual 360 Challenge – May 14th

The 360 Challenge tasks entrants with a ride route taking you to the furthest points of the Northumbria Blood Bikes operational area that riders will cover many times during the year (the total area covered by our team is (approximately 3,317 Sq miles!). The route will showcase some of the best areas Northumberland, Durham, and Upper Teesdale have to offer - wild spectacular Landscapes, Moor and Coast, something for everyone!

Once signed in you will be given an event card to complete on the route. A map will be available showing suggested roads to ride for spectacular views, but there are also four locations which participants must visit to complete their event card which needs to be shown at the finish for you to receive your commemorative badge.

Locations you must visit and check off your event card:

- Black Bull Pub, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE7 7XE
- Great North Air Ambulance Service, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0QB
- The Garage Bar & Grille, Co Durham, DH7 0BN
- Tesco Hexham, Tyndale Retail Park, Hexham, NE46 3PJ
- Tesco Berwick, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 2XG



The entry fee for the event is £15.00 per rider or £20.00 if you carry a pillion. FREE event t-shirt for the first 200 registrants! Please enter via Eventbrite: eventbrite.co.uk/cc/360-challenge-183129

All participants who successfully complete the challenge will receive a badge, and any individual who is successful in raising £360 or more will receive a 'SPECIAL AWARD' badge in recognition of their efforts.

There is also a special 'ELITE' badge for the individual who raises the highest amount of sponsorship for the event.

Online fundraising pages can be set up via our new online fundraising platform Give As You Live via: donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/360-challenge-2022





FUNDRAISING



Challenge yourself!

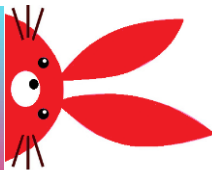
At NBB we love a good challenge! We're encouraging you to challenge yourself whilst raising vital funds for NBB. A win-win! We have the following challenges waiting for you to tackle – best of luck!

22 in '22

Are you ready to take on a 22 in '22? Decide your fate and set yourself a challenge linked to the number 22. From walking 22 miles a week to reading 22 books this year, whatever your fundraiser is will help make a difference to those who need our support most.

5k this May

Challenge yourself to walk or run 5K this May! A fab feel-good fitness challenge for all!



Head over to our Give as you Live fundraising page to create your fundraising hub for your event:

donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/northumbriabloodbikes

Remembering Carole Snee

In 2020 we shared the news that our much loved volunteer Carole Snee had sadly died. Her friend Mary has set herself an admirable challenge of completing the Lairig Ghru across the Cairngorms (20 miles of mountain trails and river beds!) this summer to raise funds for NBB in Carole's memory.

Mary has said that given the chance, her dear friend, Carole would have been right there with her on this adventure. Sadly, she passed away too soon, but Mary and Stephen will give it their best shot in memory of Carole Evelyn Snee.

Mary has already raised £375! If you would like to donate please visit: donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cairngorm_trek





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...



We received a generous donation made in memory of Frank Soulsby's very dear cousin Alison Golightly, who sadly passed away in December last year. Our deepest condolences and thanks go to Frank and Alison's family and friends.



After North East Biker Escorts arranged an escort for the service of Paul Green on April 4th, a donation of £400 was made to NBB in his name. Our heartfelt condolences and thanks go to Paul's family and loved ones.



We received another generous donation of £117.90 from Rob Pattinson in memory of his sister-in-law Ann Pattison who sadly passed away recently. Our deepest sympathy and thanks go to Rob, his family and friends.

Edward Gorrige &
The Acklington Village
Christmas Market

£64.50



The Burn Inn
Houghton
£24



Porkie's Butchers

Langley Park

£41



The Cross Keys

Esh

£46



**Davidson of Darras
Hall Bakery**
Ponteland
£42.50

Susan & the Microbiology
Dept at UHND's quiz night

£25





FUNDRAISING



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We've had so many amazing donations; we couldn't miss an opportunity to thank you all – let's see some more of those fabulous amounts...



**The Garage Bar and
Restaurant**
Burnhope
£73.50

**Steven Laws and
Mrs & Mrs Fitchett**

£20

Donated to NBB instead
of sending Christmas
cards last year – THANK
YOU!



**Leadgate
Cricket Club**
£64



A funeral escort arranged
for Audrey Brown by North
East Biker Escorts brought a
donation of £100 to NBB.
Our sincere condolences
and thanks go to Audrey's
family and friends.

Our NBB volunteers raised
an admirable
£442.65
at Dalton Park back in
March!

THANK YOU to everyone
who kindly popped by
and made a donation!



Fishnets
Ryton
£86.50



Our volunteer Gary went
along to Alnwick to collect
a big cheque for
£200
from Newcastle Garrison
Living History Group!

Check out those snazzy
outfits too!

We can't wait to share our next round of 'THANKS!' for all the generous donations we receive over the next few months in our Summer issue – stay tuned!



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! We have 35 supporters for NBB, and just look how many times they'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
18 th Dec	Mr C matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
25 th Dec	Ms T matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
8 th Jan	Mr T and Mr W matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
22 nd Jan	Miss T matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
29 th Jan	Mr B matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
12 th Feb	Mr B matched 3 numbers and won £25! Mr Y matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
19 th Feb	Mrs H matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
26 th Feb	Mrs T matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
5 th Mar	Mr M and Mr B matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
12 th Mar	Mr M matched 3 numbers and won £25! Mr N matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
19 th Mar	Mrs T matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
26 th Mar	Mrs H matched 3 numbers and won £25! Mr M matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
2 nd Apr	Mr W, Mr G and Mrs H all matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
9 th Apr	Mrs R matched 3 numbers and won £25!
16 th Apr	Ms T, Mrs H and Ms R all matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!

Give as you Live

You might already know, but we have a new fundraising platform set up with Give as you Live. 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 **£4,207.46**

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



Give as you Live®
Donate



FUNDRAISING



Informative Talks - Roundup

We've had a busy couple of months packed with talks, THANK YOU SO MUCH to all our volunteer fundraisers for representing NBB and for all the donations received. Let's take a look at some highlights...

Dalton-le-Dale WI talk given by Ian Muirhead, raising **£168.70**



Carol collected a spectacular amount of **£111.10** from her talk for the Fellowship Group in Denton Burn!

Volunteer Mike met with the ladies of Pegswood WI to give them an information evening and collected **£55** for NBB.

Our Blood Bikes volunteer Stephen made a visit to Ingleton District WI and received a donation of **£162** from the ladies.

Alnwick Probus club, talk given by John Watts



Carol and Jim headed over to see the 1st Hexham Cubs to give a very exciting role play talk – a lot of fun was had by all!

A donation of **£115** was received after a talk at Consett Masonic Hall by our volunteer John.

A fantastic amount of **£200** was donated to NBB after Nigel visited George Stephenson Lodge.

We've got plenty informative talks lined up heading into Summer...

16th May
St Aiden's & St Cuthbert's MU

31st May
Weardale Probus

23rd June
Wickham Ladies Club

17th May
Stapleton and Cleasby WI

8th June
Castleside WI

7th July
Norham WI

19th May
Bowsden Ladies Group

20th June
Darlington Divas WI

18th July
Battlehill Townswomen's Guild

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

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/contact/Request_A_Speaker





FUNDRAISING



Benidorm or Bust!

On 10th May 2022 Kirsty Downham and her team will take part in a 5 day drive from Dover to Benidorm. They also plan to sell the car at the end to raise even more money for Northumbria Blood Bikes! The car is all kitted out and ready to go with thanks to Croxdale Fast Fit!

There's still time to make a well appreciated donation via Give as you Live: donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/benidorm-or-bust



NBB Patches

Many Thanks go to Easy Custom Patches for our latest re-stock of NBB patches! You can get yours for a donation at our charity events coming up this year! See the Events section to see where our volunteers will be popping up next!

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



Great North Run 2022 Ballot

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

We still have spaces available for you to raise funds for NBB and give yourself the rewarding challenge of running along 13.3 miles of the North East. All we ask for is a £59 deposit and a target fundraising amount of £200.

To join #TeamBloodBikes, visit:

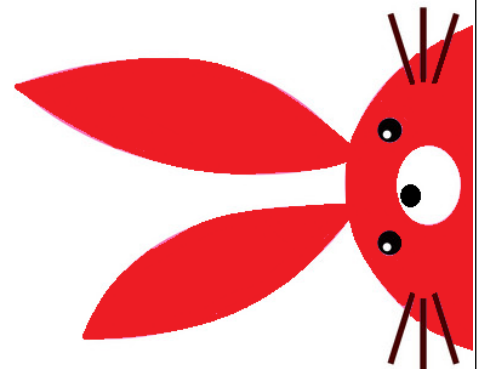
www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/GNR



UPCOMING EVENTS

We always love seeing all of your friendly faces at our events. Here are some of the upcoming events we've got planned...

- **29th April** **Brockbushes food fair**
- **7th May** **Newton Aycliffe Tesco**
- **8th May** **Hurworth Grange Classic Car Show**
- **11th May** **Annual Harrison Lecture**
- **14th May** **360 Challenge**
- **11th June** **500th BOB Patient Celebrations**
- **25th June** **Goldwing Members Club**
- **25-26th June** **Grey's Monument**
- **16th July** **Percy Hedley Summer Fair**



We can't wait to share coverage of the events happening throughout Easter with you, including the Bebside Inn Easter Weekend, Durham Easter Egg Run and events at Brockbushes. Catch it all in summer's issue of our newsletter!

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

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/contact/Request_A_Speaker



OUR MEMBERS



Recognition Awards March 2022

At our March open meeting, we had the honour of presenting our recent recognition awards to volunteers who have reached a milestone number of shifts. Well done to Bob C and Neil H for achieving their 'Gold Award'. We were also able to present our first 'Crystal Award' in recognition of 500 shifts completed to our volunteer Derek H.

A huge THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS to those receiving awards!

YOU ARE ALL AMAZING!



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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EASTER EGGHEADS

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



NAME THE BUNNY

1.



2.



3.



4.



ANSWERS:

EASTER EGGHEADS: 1. Nigel Mansell, 2. Guy Martin, 3. Murray Walker, 4. Valentino Rossi, 5. Sebastian Vettel

NAME THE BUNNY: 1. Miffy, 2. March Hare, 3. White Rabbit, 4. Peter Rabbit



JUST FOR FUN



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SPRING WORDSEARCH

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

**APRIL
BUNNY
CHICK**

**CHOCOLATE
DONATE
EASTER**

**EGG
FLOWER
GIVING**

**HOP
KINDNESS
LAMB**

**RIDER
SPRING
VOLUNTEER**

***Did you count how many NBB Easter bunnies appeared throughout the newsletter?
If you guessed 14, you're right!!***