



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



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

Hello!

*Welcome to the Sunny Summer 2022
issue of NBB's Newsletter!*

*As we relax into the warm Summer
days, we take a look at the
marvellously successful past few
months and more of what this year
still has to offer!*

*So, pull up your sun lounger, slap on
that factor 50, come on in and have
a blissful Summer!*

The NBB Team





NEWS



500 Blood on Board Patient Celebrations



In June, we were kindly invited by our friends at the Great North Air Ambulance Service to attend the Blood on Board 500th Patient Celebrations. It was lovely to speak with those who have received the help of 'BOB' and was an emotional day for many. NBB representatives were given the opportunity to visit the teams in The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Labs and the GNAAS Helicopter.

Our volunteers rarely get the opportunity to find out who our service helps but alongside our friends at Blood Bikes Cumbria we heard exactly why our charity is such a vital link in the chain that allows Blood and Plasma to be given in transfusions at the scene of incidents giving patients the best chance of survival.

We are very proud to continue our support for our NHS, Great North Air Ambulance Service and their patients!

Retirement for Mark Master Mason

In 2016 we were delighted to introduce 'Mark Master Mason' a Honda Pan European to our fleet after we received a generous donation of £18,000 from the National Mark Benevolence Funds of the Masons. This donation not only purchased the bike but also kitted it out to become a blood bike and funded fuel for its first year in service. Since beginning its life of service, 7 years ago, the bike has done over 86,000 miles and completed thousands of jobs across our region as well as representing our charity at countless events.



This grant began the ongoing support from Mark Benevolence Funds which has seen grants awarded to our wider blood bike family around the country and to date they have awarded £497,146 to blood bike charities.

Unfortunately, 'Mark Master Mason' needs uneconomical repair work to continue its life and so we would like to wish it a very happy retirement. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Freemasons not only for providing us with the funds for this initial purchase but their continued support of our charity.

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



SPAR UK's Community Cashback £10,000 Grand Prize

Northumbria Blood Bikes have been awarded a £10,000 grand prize through SPAR UK's Community Cashback initiative. Launched in April, the Community Cashback initiative offered 30 grant prizes through SPAR stores across the UK with the aim of providing funding to local voluntary or community organisations and charities.

In the North of England alone, there were almost 1,300 applications for funding, with just six prizes available for the region ranging from £1,000 to a staggering £10,000! The five other worthy winners were Bolton North East Wildlife Trail, Bury Tandem Club for Blind and Partially Sighted People, The Sensory Spot CIC in Hartlepool, Bacup Pride and St Cuthbert's Community Gardeners in Catterick

Mick Redpath, Vice Chair of Northumbria Blood Bikes, said: "It is a marvellous feeling to receive the Community Cashback grand prize from SPAR UK. This will enable us to continue to urgently move anything the NHS require us to from hospitals, blood transfusion centres, care homes and doctors' surgeries. We operate across a huge area from Berwick on the Scottish border down to Darlington, and from Haltwhistle in the west over to Sunderland in the east, and so to receive a prize like this through a community initiative makes us feel very special."

Carolyn English, Fundraiser for Northumbria Blood Bikes, said: "I never in a million years thought we were going to win the grand prize. I still smile about the phone call I took as I was speechless. I thought it was a hoax and wanted an email to back it up! We're always looking for funds and have really suffered through the pandemic for fundraising opportunities."



team and learned more about the great work they do; I'm delighted that we have been able to add some extra financial help to this wonderful cause."

The cheque presentation was made to NBB by independent SPAR retailer Graham Grant outside his store in Winlaton alongside Tom Murphy, Marketing Manager at James Hall & Co. Ltd, SPAR UK's primary wholesaler and distributor for Northern England.

Tom Murphy said: "Northumbria Blood Bikes immediately jumped out as a deserving local voluntary organisation on our long list of applicants from the North of England. Having met members of the



NEWS



Bebside Weekend



What a fantastic weekend we all had at 'Easter at the Bebbie 2022' charity fundraiser. The total amount raised came to a brilliant **£1809.75!**

We wouldn't have had such a successful event and have raised this sum the without the support of those who helped to organise the event, our friends at Coast Radio and the team at The Bebside Inn of course!

We're looking forward to collaborating with the team at The Bebside Inn again for another fun filled weekend of fundraising very soon! Keep your eyes peeled!

Easter Egg runs

Our volunteers love attending Easter Egg runs, whether it's taking part as a rider, representing us at a stand or showcasing one of our fabulous NBB bikes. This year we attended both the Durham and the Northumberland Easter Egg runs. We were overwhelmed with the donation made by the Infidels MCC from their collection of **£1324.70!** Our buckets from both runs combined contained over **£370!** Thank you to each and every one of you who stopped by to make a donation.

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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Koast Radio Award

Not only did we raise a huge amount of money at the 'Easter at the Bebbby' event in April, but we were so pleased to have been presented with Koast Radio's Community Award on behalf of their breakfast show. THANK YOU! Koast Radio very kindly provided the music at this year's Easter event at The Bebside Inn.



6th Annual 360 Challenge

The 360 Challenge tasks entrants with a ride route taking participants to the furthest points of the Northumbria Blood Bikes operational area that our volunteer riders will cover many times during the year (the total area covered by our team is (approximately 3,317 Sq miles!). We'd like to thank everyone who got involved this year and look forward to smashing our total amount raised in next year's challenge!

TOTAL RAISED
£3,735.73

Tesco Cheque Presentation



We really enjoy meeting and speaking with the public at our supermarket fundraising days. We love it even more when the supermarket donates too! Back in May, our volunteers Rob P, Rob W and Melvyn collected a staggering £520.50 in their collection buckets, which was topped off with a £100 donation from Tesco! We are always very grateful to those of you who pop by our stand to chat to our volunteers and donate no matter how big or small!

'Every little helps' – as Tesco say!

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



FUNDRAISING



Brockbushes Farm Shop & Tearoom

We are absolutely loving being Brockbushes chosen charity of the year and we're having so much fun at our fundraising opportunities there. Our team held a stall at the food fair back in Spring to raise awareness and vital funds for NBB. You can catch us throughout August on most Saturdays in the farm shop!



Benidorm or Bust!

After 3 years, back in May, our volunteers Kirsty Downham, Steven Laws and Steven's son Sam, were finally able to take part in the 5-day drive from Dover to Benidorm as part of the iconic 'Benidorm or Bust' challenge. Leaving Durham for Dover, the team met up with the other participants taking part in the challenge and got to see their cars decorated in everything from crochet to a chariot disguise! One briefing and one delayed ferry later, the first day ended in beautiful Rouen.

Day 2 took our team from Rouen to Poitiers, giving the team some time to get used to driving on the 'wrong' side of the road! After an early night and a pizza, the team bedded down to leave in the morning for Pau.

Day 3 started with a quick exhaust fix and then a journey through beautiful vineyards, unfortunately the quick fix earlier didn't hold up and a visit to a garage was in order. All fixed, they were on their way to a nice hotel for a well-deserved half-way rest!



Pyrenees day came in the morning and as they headed to Zaragoza, with the most stunning scenery, some rather tight roads and a quick selfie at the border - off into the 39-degree Spanish heat they went!

The final day took our team to their destination of Benidorm. As the vineyards gave way to orange groves, the end was in sight! They finally got to Benidorm and didn't 'bust'! The team had a few days of relaxing after collecting their medals and bidding farewell to the car - just enough time to start planning the next challenge!

Our team raised a whopping £3000 and are looking forward to the next challenge in 2024! Thank you to Kirsty, Steven and Sam for your dedication and again to Matt Crick and Croxdale Fast Fit for kitting out the car!



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

A special mention for the following recent donations, they mean the world to us...



Our thoughts and heartfelt thanks are with our volunteer member Judith Russell and family following the passing of Judith's dad. We are very grateful for the £170 donated from contributions made at his funeral.



Sadly, the motorbiking community recently lost Jeff Newsome of the Infidels MCC. A donation of £501.44 was made to NBB by Jeff's family, friends and clubmates in his memory. He will be sorely missed by all.



Our condolences go to our NBB volunteer Frank Soulsby and family after the passing of Frank's cousin Alison. A donation of £40.00 was made in her memory.

**Thank you to all our volunteers and to those who made donations at the following events recently!
We always enjoy meeting you all, here are some highlights...**



- Morpeth Fair Day – Percy Hedley Summer Fair – Harton Village Jubilee Event –
- Grey's Monument Event – Hurworth Classic Car Show – Ponteland in the Park –
- Darlington Emergency Services Day – Newton Aycliffe Emergency Services Day –



FUNDRAISING



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Thank you to all the following businesses and their generous customers for all your donations received into our collection tins and buckets! We've received an outstanding amount over the past few months, we are so grateful!



Tyne and Wear Fire
and Rescue Service
Creating the Safest Community



THE PUG & PARROT



BLOCK & BOTTLE



The CrossKeys



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!



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
7 th May	Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
21 st May	Ms T (Newcastle) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
28 th May	Mr B (South Shields) matched 3 numbers and won £25!
4 th June	Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) and Miss T (Stanley) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
11 th June	Mrs H (Cramlington) and Ms T (Newcastle) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
18 th June	Mrs H (Cramlington), Mr B (South Shields) & Mr Y (Alnwick) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
25 th June	Mr C (Newcastle) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
2 nd July	Mrs H (Cramlington) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
16 th July	Mr T (Chester-Le-Street) matched 2 numbers and won 3 extra tickets!
23 rd July	Mrs L (Stanley) and Mr N (South Shields) 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 **£11,214**

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 another busy couple of months of informative talks, THANK YOU SO MUCH to all our volunteer fundraisers Ian, Peter, Alan, Stephen, Carol and Mike for representing NBB and for all the donations received. Let's take a look at some highlights...

St Aiden's & St Cuthbert's MU £82.40 		Stapleton and Cleasby WI £65 Bowsden Ladies Group £125 Darlington Divas WI £55.50	Fir Tree WI £88.70 	
Jarrow and Hebburn Local History Society £115.59	Ancient Order of the Foresters Friendly Society £400	Castleside WI £93 Whickham Ladies Club £93.30	Weardale Probus Club £73.60	Battlehill Townswomen's Guild £147.70

We've got plenty our information sessions lined up heading into Autumn...

7th September
Mowden Park Townswomen's Guild

12th September
Frosterly WI

19th September
Gateshead U3A

21st September
Hexham Beacon Club

22nd September
Jubilee Court Residential Unit

10th October
South Tyneside Retired Union

13th October
Rotary Club Blyth

14th November
Blind Life in Durham

16th November
NHS Retirement Fellowship

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



The Movement for Good Awards 2022

You can make a difference! We're not asking for money, or any real time, just your nomination of NBB. Anyone can vote for us and that one vote could potentially mean an extra £1,000 goes towards our running costs as we continue to make a difference. The more nominations NBB receives, the greater our chance of winning, so once you've done your part, spread the word and make it a movement!

With four phases in total, there are three phases offering £1,000 donations, if we don't win the first, we'll be entered into the second and the third. The fourth phase is an opportunity to be offered more significant funding where Benefact Group feels like it can help the most.



Please nominate our charity for the Movement for good charity donation program. The more nominations we get the better the chance we have of receiving funds!

Just visit 'Movement for Good' online to vote: <https://movementforgood.com>

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 reinstated - along with our cheer points!

We now have our team of runners ready to raise funds for NBB and run the 13.3 miles from Newcastle to South Shields.

If you would like to come and support #TeamBloodBikes on the day of the GNR, please head down to any of our cheer points to dish out some motivational cheers!

To join #TeamBloodBikes, visit:

www.northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk/GNR



Upcoming Events...

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

- **21st August** **Wetlands Memorial Event**
- **2nd – 4th Sept** **Stormin' the Castle – Bike Rally & Custom Show, Co Durham**
- **11th Sept** **Great North Run 2022**
- **17th Sept** **Hurworth County Fayre**
- **17th Sep** **Marley Potts Fire Station Open Day**

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



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 become a member, 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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SUMMER QUIZ

1. Where is the hottest place on earth?

- a. Death Valley, California
- b. The Sahara Desert
- c. The Metrocentre



2. What year was the beach ball invented?

- a. 1927
- b. 1938
- c. 1945

3. Watermelons consist of over 90% water...

- a. True
- b. False
- c. Only the really big ones

4. Which vitamin do you get from sunshine?

- a. Vitamin D
- b. Vitamin C
- c. Vitamin UV

5. In which two months are the Summer Olympics usually held?

- a. June and July
- b. July and August
- c. May and June

6. What does SFP stand for?

- a. Skin Protection Factor
- b. Sun Protection Factor
- c. Super Protection Filter



7. July is the National month of what summer food?

- a. Cheeseburgers
- b. Ice Cream
- c. Salad

8. In hours, what is the Guinness World Record for the longest BBQ ever held?

- a. 99 Hours
- b. 80 Hours
- c. 48 Hours

9. In what country is the world's biggest water park?

- a. Switzerland
- b. Australia
- c. Germany

10. Before they were used as flying discs, Frisbees were originally used as what?

- a. Dinner plates for dogs
- b. Pie tins
- c. Soap dishes

ANSWERS: 1. A, 2. B, 3. A, 4. A, 5. B, 6. B, 7. B, 8. B, 9. C, 10. B



JUST FOR FUN



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SUMMER WORDSEARCH

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

**BBQ
BEACH
BLOOD**

**DECKCHAIR
DONATE
FESTIVAL**

**FUNDRAISING
HAPPINESS
HEATWAVE**

**HOLIDAY
RELAX
SUMMER**

**SUNSHINE
TRANSPORT
VOLUNTEER**

Join us in Autumn for another bumper issue of the NBB Newsletter!