



April 2016 Newsletter



Chairman's bit:

Just a reminder, the Annual General Meeting is on the 8th May 2016 starting at 10am and for Members ONLY.

The venue is a lovely hotel, Barton Grange, which is north of Preston on the A6. The full address is:

746-768 Garstang Rd, Barton, Preston PR3 5AA

Directions:

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/dir//barton+gran+ge+hotel/@53.8306006,-2.8077376,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x487b6e3257468329:0xfc0c60f72b5206b0!2m2!1d-2.7376981!2d53.830621>

These meetings are a great place to meet everyone and I look forward to seeing you all there (or as many as possible).

It is also the time when you get to have a say as to who looks after the charity for the next 12 months, namely the Committee.

21,000 & counting.

As you know we smashed through 20,000 successful call-outs early this year, well the pace hasn't eased, in fact it continues to increase, mainly because some hospitals, Furness General for example, have just realised that we are there for them.

Last month, March, we had the busiest month since we started with just short of 1,000 call-outs in that month alone, yet we continue to respond with the same enthusiasm as we always have.

Thankfully we continue to attract new members and they often get a baptism of fire, either as Controllers or Riders, Two new ones (Controller & Rider) got hammered on their first shifts, but coped fantastically well.

Not forgetting us Olde Lags ☺ though the passion and commitment continues, and I ask the question again, "what would the hospitals do without us now?"

To all members, thank you from, me, the Trustees and the Committee.

NHS in trouble:

We all know that despite what the Government says (& I'm not getting into the politics of this) the NHS are constantly on the precipice of win or fail and a recent report from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trusts states: "A&E Units are "On the Brink of closure" over staffing crisis".

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals have recently had to breach their budget to pay for more staff, putting them even deeper in debt, and it's the same with all our Hospitals.

It's a terrible state of affairs, so just imagine if we stopped doing what we do, how they would cope financially. According to stats worked out by our very own Duncan Oag we saved LTHTR anywhere between £50,000 and £73,000 in 2015 alone, and across the whole of our region we

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saved them somewhere in the region of £360,000 in that year.

Events:

Shorrocks

Several events have taken place recently, not least Shorrocks Motorcycles at Penwortham:



I've taken a leaf out of Neil McCall's Newsletter: Study the picture below and tell me who is hidden in the mirror taking a picture. BUT will the person who it is, and those in the picture KEEP Quiet please 😊



Manchester Bike Show:

Thanks to all those who attended and Lee for looking after the stand on both days.

I'm afraid I only have one picture, which may frighten some of our readers with a sensitive disposition, so beware 😊



Overloading the bikes:

As you know Motorcycles are only guaranteed by the manufacturer to be safe and roadworthy with maximum loads for panniers and top boxes, usually 9 – 10kg each.

Obviously there are certain bikers who ignore this:



And we worry about carrying two Blood Boxes ☹

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**NWBB-Lancs & Lakes, Willowbank House, The Clough, Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley. PR6 7DG
Registered Charity 1147282**

IAM Offer:

From now on, any members wishing to obtain a discount from IAM for any of the below offers, must ring and speak to the IAM Customer Liaison Team personally.

Offer 1: IAM Skills for Life (Full Package) - IAM offer the full Skills for Life Package to any NABB member group volunteer for a discounted price of £135.00.

Offer 2: Full Test & Membership (No training) - IAM recognise that some groups already have in house training done by members who are registered advanced motorcycle riding instructors. IAM offer a discount for member group volunteers who train in house to the IAM standard and just need to pay for membership and their test. This will cost the applicant £75.00

Offer 3: Retest/Refresher (3 Yearly) - IAM recognise that groups need an independent audit trail for training and competency. IAM offer a 3 yearly refresher/re-qualification test to enable member groups to comply with the NABB membership standards (Section 4). The person taking this test should already have been trained and hold an IAM certificate to apply. The cost to the applicant for this test is £35.00 and they will receive a new IAM certificate if standards are met and the test is passed.

For all of the above offers, the applicant **must call 0300 303 1134** and speak to one of the IAM team and **state their intentions early on in the call** that they are a member of North West Blood Bikes Lancs & Lakes and wish to take up the IAM discounted offer. They **must also quote** early in the call this reference code **(Chairman or Secretary to be contacted for this code. It is not for NON-Members and must be kept within the group)**

Failure to follow this procedure will result in you being charged full price, don't forget the importance of letting the call handler know early on that you wish to receive the NABB discount.

Do not publicly broadcast this offer. This offer is **only open to current members of NABB Member Groups.**

NABB will be monitoring this closely and receive a statistical report from IAM upon request throughout the term of the offer, so please let the Secretary know if you have taken up the offer – we must prevent outsiders/old members from trying to claim discounts where the entitlement to do so has expired.

Bike Safe:

Lancashire and Cumbria Constabulary's are both supporting Bike Safe, which is linked to IAM and RoSPA, and other advanced groups.

I recently had a meeting with Insp. Andy Trotter, head of Lancs Police Road Policing Unit (yes there are still some about 😊) and they are trying to persuade riders to at least go on the courses, which is also a way to starting your advanced.

If you are interested check out this website and choose a location suitable for you. www.Bikesafe.co.uk They are generally held at Fire Stations around our areas.

BLUE LIGHT CARD HOLDERS:

Here are the latest offers for Blue Light Card holders. If you haven't already applied for membership, click this link and join; there are some good discounts.

<https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/newsletters/6thapril2016/6thapril2016-dsmdalaallakx.php?mid=158405&nid=212>

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Take care especially in the bad weather and remember:

**NO JOURNEY IS SO URGENT
AS TO PUT YOUR OWN LIFE
AT RISK**

Paul (Founder, Chairman & Trustee)

If I've forgotten something, forgive me, (but let me know, I can always do a supplement) or you want something including in the newsletter? Feel free to Email your copy (text and images) directly to me, chairman@nwbb-lancs.org