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Monthly Newsletter

February 2015

Chairman's bit:

Hi all,

Well, what a quick start to the New Year we've already done over 600 runs in January, despite the weather, so I think a BIG pat on the back is deserved by both Controllers and Riders, well done guys and gals.

Controllers:

During the month of January we had 20 controllers covering 51 shifts and whilst on shift they handled 670 calls. This is the second highest number of calls we have received, the highest being November 2014, which included the Major Incident at RPH. Well done all those Controllers, without you we don't function.

These figures show how much we need Controllers so if you know anyone who would like to join us, just to do controlling, please twist their arms, as Kenny Everett used to say "in the nicest possible way".

Thanks to Matt & Neil for those figures.

General Meeting:

25th January saw our first General Meeting of the year and at a brand new venue too. My apologies to those who couldn't find it I will try and get better directions to you next time. Global Renewables built the venue, and as a condition by LCC when they sought planning permission it was to be open to anyone wanting a venue for meetings. The best bit is that it's free and tea and coffee are provided.

It was a great turn out of old and new members, but like any meeting it is almost impossible to meet and talk to everyone, but we keep trying.

Generally the charity is doing really well, thanks to all members, especially as we have saved the NHS hospitals loads of money and it's all down to you, Controllers, Riders, Fundraisers, and general members. As I've said before all the contacts at all of our Hospitals can't sing our praises enough, but that's not why we do it, is it? We do it to help our fellow man, which is something successive Governments are continually failing to do, but I won't go there ☺

One of the great things that came out of the meeting was the chance to have a photo shoot showing that not only do we use liveried bikes but members also use their own bikes, which is something we are trying to get over to prospective new volunteers, so well done everyone.

Members Important Info:

Our new website is likely to be live in approximately 10 days and you will all receive an email from me asking you to re-sign up for it when it goes live. Please follow the instructions

when you receive the Email to enable access to the Members area.

Weather!

This time of year we expect the weather to beat us and at the end of January it certainly did in the East and West. Photographs, courtesy of Neil Demaline, East Area Manager on Thursday 29th January.

Hey Ho! It had to happen, hopefully it won't last and we can all take the liners out of our bike jackets in a couple of months.

Fuel:

Rob Winn, formerly one of our trainers, has brought the following to my attention:

It appears that our current fuel (5% Ethanol) is being replaced with fuel with higher Ethanol content, (10%) in order to meet Government sustainability targets.

Although the attached listing shows the majority of bikes can use the new fuel without hassle, if you run older bikes then there will come a time to put hand in pocket and replace "vulnerable items, if they're available". Should be interesting to try and source Ethanol resistant floats for an old Norton, BMW, Suzuki, Honda, etc.

Yet again, another change forced upon us without even a whisper!!

What's come from where?

Members in brackets

£420 From Penwortham W.I.

£50 From Astley & Ellesmere Lodge (Chorley)

£200 From Leyland Masonic Fellowship

£100 From AVR Transcription Ltd

£1,300 From Chorley NFU Ladies Social

£400 From (Graham Jones's) Mum (She normally gives it to the RNLI) Thanks GJ's Mum.

£118 From (Mark Cooper's) customers.

£65 From the staff at Preston Microbiology

Forthcoming Meetings & Events:

Manchester Bike show is on at Event City, Manchester (next to the Trafford Centre). Show setup is on Friday 27th March, the show itself Sat and Sun 28th and 29th and we are manning a stand there. If anyone wants to volunteer for set up and to man/woman the stand for a day, get in touch with Haydn or Paul Brooks ASAP.
http://www.manchesterbikeshow.com

Although a long time off, Scott and Danielle Miller have started to organise anther Black Tie Dinner, so it will be mentioned regularly. Tickets this year have been reduced to £35 and Scott is hoping for 200 guests, which include the Midwives from East Lancs already, and at the time of going to press 150 prospective tickets have already been ordered, so if you want to go, contact Scott.

Annual General Meeting:

The AGM will be held at 10:00hrs on 26th April 2015 at:

The Masonic Hall, Cunliffe Street, Chorley.

If anyone wants directions, please call Paul on 07710 951159

At this meeting all positions on the Committee are up for re-election. At the moment the positions are held by:

Chairman	**Paul Brooks**
Vice Chair	**Graham Jones**
Events Manager	**Scott Miller**
Treasurer	**Haydn Williams**
Fleet Manager	**Andy Gilroy**
Manager Coordinator	**Scott Cassidy**
Secretary	**Graham Miller**

If you wish to stand for any one of these positions you will need to be nominated and seconded, please contact the Secretary secretary@nwbb-lancs.org for a Nomination form. The nomination form will be available from 26th February 2015 and MUST be returned to the Secretary by the 26th March 2015. Any returned after that date will be void. Voting will then take place by all those present at the AGM.

Meeting at Wigan:

On Monday 2nd February Graham Jones, Paul & Denise Brooks met with Andrea Arkwright at Wigan Hospital as they were asking for our help. On the face of it, it looks like we could be re-opening our South Area.

And Finally:

A Busman's Holiday

Anyone fancy a Busman's Holiday, if so follow the link:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-30005764

Take care out there and remember, **"NO JOURNEY IS SO URGENT TO PUT YOUR OWN LIFE AT RISK".**

Paul Chairman & Trustee.