



May 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, and is the time when you have your say as to who runs the charity for the next 12 months. I hope to see as many of you as possible.

The venue is, Barton Grange Hotel. The full address is:

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

Why I'm a Blood Biker (by Mick Steel)

Mick recently advised of an instance which has occurred which made him realise that we can also serve an additional purpose to that of our main task of carrying vital supplies at the behest of the NHS. He cited a personal circumstance where a doctor was urgently called to attend his mother in law and that she required urgent medication, which had to be collected by a family member from the nearby hospital. Mick was on duty at the time of this unfortunate occurrence and the Controller, Steve Pugh, was duly informed of a possible stand down, but Mick immediately set off to collect the drugs. Mick gratefully appreciated Steve's concern, not purely as controller, but also as a fellow member of NWBB & friend.

A couple of miles down the road Mick was informed that his mother in law had suddenly passed away and that the collection was no longer required. A sad story but the message Mick wishes to be passed on is that by NWBB doing

what we are doing we are enabling poorly people to continue to have the comfort, love and attention of their loved ones even at the end instead of passing with only strangers in attendance.

A sad story and our Condolences to Mick's wife Mandy and all the family.

PB. I would also like to add that we have built up a great family, when one hurts, we all hurt, and it's fantastic that we can all rely on one another in times of crisis or pain.

Long Distance Relays:

We had two relay runs in two days in April, one from Dumfries to Coventry and one from Royal Preston Hospital to the NHSBT at Bristol.

In the one from Dumfries, we had rather a minor role, but was ably managed and ridden by Sue Wolstenholme (Controller), Brian Lord (Rider & Nigel Pickin (Rider) and handed over to SSBB at Keele Services on the M6.

The second one: At 17:00hrs on Thursday 14th April 2016 I received a call from the Analytics Manager at Royal Preston Hospital Path Lab asking if we could take a sample for analysis to the National Blood Service Laboratory at Bristol. The sample, from a very poorly patient, was due to be ready around 19:00hrs. The night Controller, Edgar Baines was contacted and Peter Wright the night Rider from Central was the first rider in the relay.

"Volunteers Who Care"

Shropshire & Staffordshire Blood bikes (Louisa & Kirk) were contacted, as were Severn Freewheelers (Nathan) and Freewheelers (EVS) Bristol (Mark) and of course all were eager to help.

Sample collected at 19:08, handed over to SSBB at Keele Services, handed to SFBB at Frankly Services and finally handed to Freewheelers Bristol at The Gales. The sample was safely delivered at 23:55hrs. A brilliant time frame.

The following day I received this email from the Analytics Manager at RPH:

"For information. As a result of the specimen being delivered safely to Bristol NHSBT & the analysis that has been performed, the patient's treatment has been changed accordingly. There is no doubt that the service that you & your colleagues provided for us helped to save the patient."

As people have said on Facebook, "It's good to hear the feedback". It's also good to hear that we have helped save a life, even though we probably do that on a regular basis, it's still good to hear it from the horse's mouth. Well done all.

We Ride the Fastest Milk Bikes in the West:

Just after 4pm on Tuesday 26th April we received a call from Marianne Croft, the paediatric dietician at Alder Hey, Children's Hospital explaining that they had a baby there who was very poorly and needed it's mothers own milk, the problem was that mother was at Royal Preston Hospital with this baby's twin.

We deliver donor breast milk to all our hospitals, but there's usually a window of some 6 – 8 hours, so obviously no rush. That said they wanted this ASAP.

This request was only the second urgent milk run since we began in May 2012 the last one being Christmas Eve, 2013.

So Neil McCall and Fiona Aiken (Controller) were contacted and arranged with Mariusz (Rider) to do the run. Job completed in just under 1hr 28mins.

Preparation for Section 19: *(whenever they get their fingers out ☺)*

This is more of a reminder than anything else.

When we get a call from one of our Hospitals and it is said to be either Very Urgent or an Emergency, we need to get the name of the person stating that, which will then go on the spreadsheet. The reason for this is to protect the rider should there be any complaints or awkward situations.

New receipt books will be introduced as soon as the old stock expires, which have the words "Normal", "Very Urgent", "Emergency", on them, the latter two are in red, and underneath is a line where the person requesting it puts their name, or the name of the person requesting the run and the two words/phrases not required are deleted. Until they come into circulation I ask that riders use their discretion, but please remember it's for your safety ☺.

THE LONGEST RIDE:

This is a ride from John O'Groats to Lands End in a Day.

Alan Barrow (BBR234) is riding his bike on this route along with non-members Stuart Carefoot and Nick Macmillan (Alan's grandson). They will all be collecting for the two charities they have chosen, North West Blood Bikes Lancs and Lakes and Macmillan Nurses, (a worthy cause).

They are traveling to John O'Groats on Friday 17th June, resting on Saturday then starting the trip to Lands End early Sunday morning 19th June.

Accommodation at both ends, the last one at Lands End hotel for Sunday night/Monday, is sorted.

Alan has opened a page on just giving (www.justgiving.com/thelongestride) and a text option (dtag84 to 70070). They have entered a target of £1000 but they hope to double this.

If any rider wants to accompany them, please contact Alan directly on:

alanfbarrow103@btinternet.com

Clay Pigeon Shoot:

Pete Marquis, the owner of Pete Marquis Plant Hire and Demolition, does a great deal for charities, most notably St. Catherine's, but this year he contacted me and said he wanted to run a Clay Pigeon shoot at Blackpool and money received from it would come to us. He charged teams £250 per go and £100 from each team would be for us.

Lee Townsend represented us, and having done this before made quite an impression hitting 19 out of the 25 clays. Well-done Lee, (remind me to steer clear of you if you have a gun ☺). On Friday 6th May I went to see Peter and he handed me a cheque for £2,600.

No it's not Lee, but looks dangerous doesn't she?



Thank You Peter: (can you spot the shotgun on the truck?)

John McGuinness & Peter Foster:

On Thursday evening, 5th May 2016, I was asked to attend, along with other NWBB members, the Bridge Tea Rooms at Wray, near Lancaster to meet up with John McGuinness and a local artist Peter Foster.

Peter, who has painted several pictures of John, especially on the I.O.M. TT circuit, has painted and dedicated one for us of John racing past Crag nee Bar, with the dedication to NWBB Lancs &

Lakes, and John signed it for us there and then.

The idea is to have a limited number of prints made and then sell them, not only through Blood Bike groups, but also through the art and motorcycle world.

It's a terrific painting and Peter deserves a big thank you for painting it, and John for agreeing to it.



"Volunteers Who Care"

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

Talks & Events:

I have highlighted a couple of either high profile or big donations, but several members go out either during the day or in the evening giving talks to groups giving up their own time, and although the money donated isn't massive, as they say "every little helps" and the best bit is, more and more people are getting to know we exist and that we are a charity.

I gave a talk a few nights ago to a local WI group and in amongst them was a Nursing Sister from Chorley Hospital who didn't know what we do, she thought we were part of NWAS, she is now going to have a word with the Matron, so I apologise in advance if we suddenly get more calls from Chorley ☺.

Collection Tubs:



As you know we have a few collection tubs dotted about the area, in pubs, clubs and other venues.

These tubs are all numbered and at least one has been stolen, during a burglary at a pub, at least

one has been destroyed and several have gone missing.

Denise Brooks has been tasked with trying to keep a track on them. Tub number 75 is missing and was at RPH Path Lab. If you know where it is please let her know.

Whilst each tub doesn't collect a lot, collectively they bring in a fair amount so your help is asked

for, in tracing any tubs.

If you know of any tubs that need replacing or returning, again please Email Denise:

denisebrooks@msn.com

Take care especially 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 if you want something including in the newsletter? Feel free to Email your copy (text and images) directly to me, chairman@nwbb-lancs.org

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