



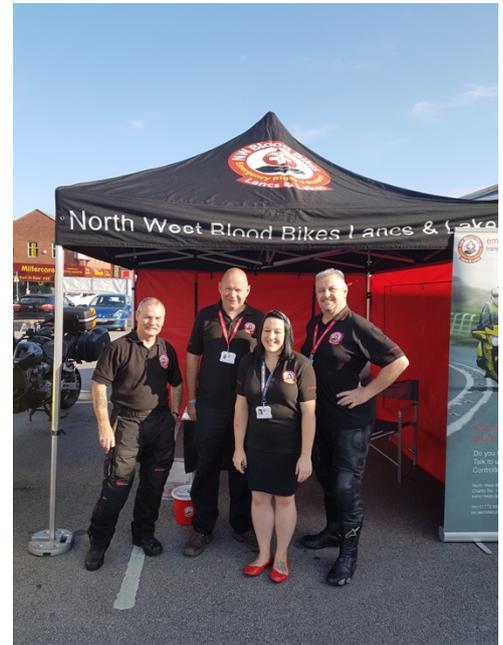
September 2017 Newsletter



Welcome to the September newsletter

What happened to this year we're in the 9th month already, soon be Christmas again 😊

We started with another very busy weekend with two events in Central, Emergency vehicles at Leyland Tesco



and collections at Fulwood ASDA.

There was also the Kite Festival at Lytham St Anne's: Before & After Pictures



Volunteers Who Care

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



Father and Son, Graham & Niall Miller from Central went on duty together on the first Saturday night in the month to help cover our East area.

No doubt they passed one another a few times during the night, but I'm sure they'll have made time for a joint coffee break.

Yet another Award:

We have now been awarded the Star of the Quarter by the University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay.



Presented to our Controller Manager, Duncan Oag and North Area Manager, Steve Dunstan by Mary Aubrey, Executive Director for Governance for UHMB.

This is another recognition of the superb work we do to help our Hospital Trusts.

2 **Volunteers Who Care**

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How It All Began

Blood bikes have been in operation since 1962 when Margaret Ryerson formed the Emergency Volunteer Service (E.V.S.) in Surrey, South London, England.

This was followed by the 'Freewheelers' action group in Stevenage, England in 1969 who initially served hospitals in Stevenage, Luton, Dunstable, Bedford and Hitchin. These original groups are no longer operating, but they inspired other groups to provide similar services.

The third group, which still operates today, was the Yeovil Freewheelers, founded in 1978, and this was followed by SERV (Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers) which formed shortly after E.V.S. disbanded in Surrey, South London.

In April 1981 in Surrey, SERV was set up to supply a quick and reliable means of transporting emergency blood products to the hospitals and medical facilities at night.

Prior to SERV the only means available to hospitals, doctors and other medical establishments for the transport of emergency blood supplies at night were the following:

- Taxi
- Ambulance
- Police
- Courier
- Transfusion service vehicle

Each of these options had good and bad points:

- **Taxis:** The advantage of these was that there were plenty of them. The disadvantage was reliability and cost. The cost to hospitals would range from £30 – £60 or more depending on location. The hospital also had to wait for one to be available and it was not guaranteed how long it would take to deliver.
- **Ambulance:** Fast and able to respond quickly. The disadvantage was it removed a much-needed emergency vehicle from service during the transport time.

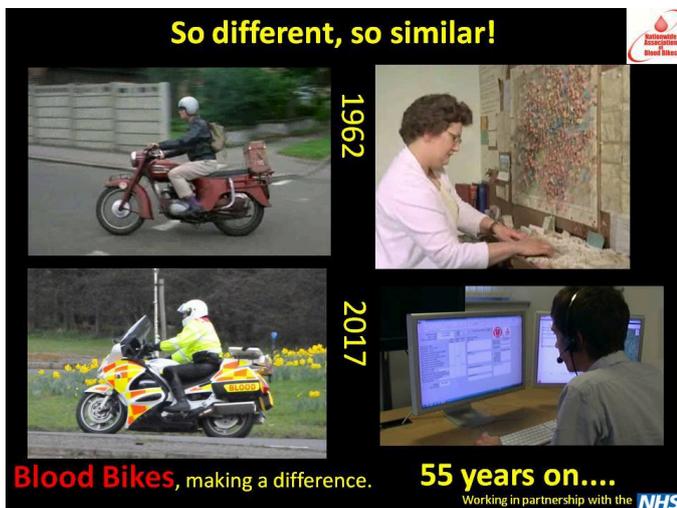
- **Police:** Fast and able to respond quickly. The disadvantage was it removed a much-needed emergency vehicle from service during the transport time.
- **Courier:** Limited availability during the night. High cost for service
- **Transfusion Service:** Provide regular day-time scheduled hospital deliveries, and Ad-Hoc deliveries to hospitals on special request.

NWBB Lancs & Lakes

All the above was done in the South of England and thanks to us, being the first in the North, other groups (North of Watford Gap 😊) started and collectively we cover the whole of the UK and North & South Ireland.

I am often asked why we are no longer members of NABB (Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes), well the simple answer is their restrictions would have stopped us getting where we are. We are not the only Group who are not members of NABB, there are about 8 others, some like us left for similar reasons and some never joined. We still have a close liaison with NABB though.

What is abundantly clear is that we are the largest, busiest and most successful Blood Bike Group in the UK, with 40,000 call outs in 5 years & 4 months, thanks to all of our 350 volunteers, Riders, Controllers, Fundraisers and Back Office staff.



Remember

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

Paul (Founder, Chairman & Trustee)

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

4 ***Volunteers Who Care***"

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