



# Newsletter

North West Lancs and Lakes Blood Bikes



December 2018

Merry  
Christmas  
&  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



**"Volunteers Who Care"**

NWBB-Lancs & Lakes

Unit 5, Momentum Place, South Rings, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6EF

Registered Charity 1147282

## Chairman's bit...

*Merry Christmas* to all our members and yes, I can say it now "Mr Demaline" because it's December.



"Tis the time of good cheer", and boy do you all deserve it. You all do what you do without grumbling, well apart from when the weather isn't too kind, but then that's the nature of the beast. "Beast" is what it's become, but a tame beast, mostly.

I am regularly in contact with our customers, i.e. the hospital staff who rely on us, and it does get embarrassing sometimes the amount of praise they pour on us. I keep telling them that we don't do it for them, we do it for the patients and that they are just the middlemen / women.

I am often asked questions like:

Q: How many samples do you take over a year?

A: Not got a clue.

Q: How many patients have you helped?

A: Not got a clue.

Q: You take donor breast milk to maternity wards, how many babies have you helped?

A: Not got a clue.

Now the BIG one.

Q: How many lives have you saved?

A: NOT GOT A CLUE.

Then I tell them, we don't need to know. All we need to know is that we've helped as many people as we possibly can.

Our Riders have travelled thousands of miles on motorbikes and our Controllers have made thousands of telephone calls and text messages. Our Fund-raisers have brought us thousands of £'s in.

What more can be said? Except that in just over 6½ years we have responded to nearly 60,000 call outs. We know we've helped at least 60,000 patients, but then how many samples are in a bag, 5, 6, 10, 20?

How many have had the blood we've transported, or the medication, etc. So, times that by 60,000 and you're getting close.

Duncan Oag; is our Stats man and tells us every month what we've accomplished and how much we've saved the hospitals in monetary terms, and the figures are outstanding.

I'm humbled and Proud at what you all do, so all I can say, to every member, and of course our supporters of both NHS staff and people or organisations who help us;

***HAVE A FANTASTIC CHRISTMAS AND AN  
EVEN BETTER NEW YEAR***

***&***

***TO ALL THE PATIENTS IN HOSPITALS  
"GET WELL SOON" AND GIVE US A BREAK.***

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## Sainsbury's charity of the year collection - Bamber Bridge and Morcambe store October 13th/14th

This was our second collection weekend with the store and after our success in August we were quite excited. The staff are so welcoming and the customers so supportive of what we do. We had a huge amount of members turn up to support each day and this is really encouraging as it can be a long day and hard work so big thanks to them!



We managed to raise a total of £1895 which is just phenomenal and already we are counting down to the next collection on 24th/25th November.

Thank you customers of Sainsburys Bamber Bridge and Morcambe for your support.

Contributor Becky Newton

## Wesley Methodist church Donation 2nd October

A lovely evening with the ladies from the Wesley Methodist church and they kindly donated us with a cheque for £820.00 big thank you to all the ladies for the donation.

They also did a collection this evening and handed over another £64 making the total donation £884.00 also thanks to Mike Whitbread for sorting



the evening out, and thanks to Phil Taylor, Stuart Hurst, Andrew Hepburn, Des Laker and Mike Heaton for also coming along for the evening.

Contributor Robert W Clarke

## BAE Systems annual Graduate Conference in Heathrow 4th October

Last night I attended BAE Systems annual Graduate Conference in Heathrow and I was lucky enough to come away with the Community Involvement award due to being a part of NWBB!!

There was some amazing competition but the judges were "blown away" by blood bikes and the work we all do. So just wanted to say a huge thank you for allowing me to play my small role in such



a wonderful charity!! And a massive thanks to all the people that sent me their presentations!

Contributor Hywel Davies

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## *The right side of humanity...*

Year 8 at Our Lady's High School in Fulwood chose us as their charity for the year and they collected £387.53.

Our Chairman was asked to give a talk to their assembly explaining what we do and what the money will be spent on.

As Paul said, "It's a long time since I had to stand in front of an assembly, and boy has it changed. The school hall is like a cinema. To get children as young as these on board with us is marvellous, they grow up on the right side of humanity, hopefully."



From left to right Eden Turley, Paul and Sol Wilkinson. They were helped by Eden's sister Lois.

Contributor Paul Brooks

## *A Royal Appointment*

This all starts when I received a strange phone call in January letting me know that I had been nominated to attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham palace.

"Thank you" I said "when do I find out if I have been successful"

"You have" I was told "this is the call to let you know".

Well fast forward to the 15th of May and the day

had finally arrived.

The Sun was shining!!!

Travelling on the train suit bag in hand, checking and rechecking I had everything I needed to get in to the palace. As I was allowed to take a guest so my partner accompanied me. Both as great fans of the Royal Family and the Queen we were really excited and honoured to have been invited. Hoping with fingers crossed it would be the Queen hosting (as she does not host every party).

After a quick change in the hotel we left for the palace at 2 it didn't open until 3 but couldn't wait any longer. We joined the queue and chatted to the other people waiting to get in there was about 6000 people expected from every charity and government department you can think of.



On entering the Palace we stopped for the obligatory photo, we were then ushered through the inside of the palace to make our way to the garden this was very surreal.

We then made our way to the tea tent I think these were the best cakes and sandwiches I have ever tasted with a glass of Sandringham Palace Apple juice.

The Garden was then organised into lines as the



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National anthem played the Queen stepped out along with Prince Andrew, Prince Edward and the Countess of Wessex.



We were so lucky that the Queen made her way down our line chatting to those who had been selected to chat (I wasn't but it's a good job I think I would have fainted)

After the Queen had made her way to her own tent we were able to enjoy a stroll around the lake and gardens with the brass band playing in the background, taking some lovely photos along the way, we even found the trees featured on the David Attenborough documentary.



As we finished our stroll there was more lines forming and again we had a front row view off the Queen as she left.

All in all it was a great experience I still can't believe I was there its quite like I was watching it on the TV.

Contributor Jordan Wayne

## Film Night at Kendal Brewery organised by Brewin Dolphin



Colin Kendal, Malcolm Burton, Patrick Thorsby, Tim Holiday and Tony Ryan enjoying the smell if nothing else, although they all enjoyed the film. What made it even better was when Melanie at Brewin Dolphin phoned to say that we raised £1000 for NWBB.

Contributor Paul Brooks

## Southport Auto Centre

In September the Southport Auto Centre put on a fantastic fundraising event for NWBB-L&L. Chris Regan and his team converted their premises in Wright Street, Southport into a motorsport showroom with vintage and classic bikes and cars on display. Our liveried bike and display stand being the centre of attention.



Lots of raffle prizes had been sourced through the efforts of Chris and West rider John Brookes.

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When everything was counted up Chris Regan presented a “massive” cheque for £1,700 to West Area Manager, Martin Walsh. Many thanks to Chris, Mike, Will and the rest of the staff at Southport Auto Centre who worked so hard to make this happen.

Contributor Martin Walsh

## *Donation by Standish Quilters*

I attended and present a ‘Crowd Talk’ to The Standish Quilters Autumn Fair, which took place at the Community centre, Moody Street, Standish on Saturday the 13th October 2018. It was suggested that we could allow the blood bike to be used for photographs for which there would be a small charge for parent to take photographs. Whilst the intention was good, the weather was not. In fact it absolutely threw it down and was only good for ducks.



It was so bad that no children attended at all and therefore no funds were collected from that source. However, on the 1st of November I couldn't believe it when I was presented with a cheque for £910.00 from the Standish quilters themselves, from sales of their work etcetera.

This was such an eye opener, when you consider this is a local area of crafters. I would like to thanks everyone of them for their support, especially Carolynne Parkinson, who organised the event.

Contributor Bryan Evans



You may have already seen above video on Facebook page, but many don't do Facebook. This film was not made by us, but it says it all and worth a watch.

Contributor Paul Brooks

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## Upcoming events

### December 4th

12:00 PM - Tarleton Luncheon Club - Talk and Lunch

7:30 PM - Maghull & District Lions Club - Talk

### December 5th

7:29 PM - Clitheroe Young Farmers - Talk

### December 6th

8:00 PM - Parbold & District Agricultural Group -  
Talk and Meal

### December 8th

10:00 AM - North West AJS And Matchless Owners Club -  
Cheque Presentation

11:00 AM - Altham Christmas Mega Celebrations &  
Christmas Market - Event

## Events Contacts

NWBB-LL Events Organiser  
Brenda Taylor @ [bbr041@nwbb-lancs.org](mailto:bbr041@nwbb-lancs.org)  
or contact you area event organiser

## Joking Around



**The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.**

**Surprise! Surprise!**

**It was an Apple.**

**But with extremely limited memory.**

**Just 1 byte.**

**Then everything crashed.**



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# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Remember what we do

**“HELPS TO SAVES LIVES”**

but also remember:

and SADLY, this has greater meaning now!

***NO JOURNEY IS SO URGENT AS TO PUT YOUR OWN LIFE AT RISK  
IF YOU DO THERE COULD BE TWO LIVES 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)  
also, 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](mailto:chairman@nwbb-lancs.org)

Publisher Mike Gough

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