



Emergency supplies transported out of hours to save lives

NWBB L&L News



December 2022 Issue



Welcome to the Northwest Bloodbikes Lancs & Lakes quarterly newsletter. Designed to keep everyone up to date with what's going on across the charity. Each quarter we'll include region, event and personal highlights. Here are the lights outside Ormskirk Hospital.

Team News

Message from the Chairman

Welcome to the second edition of the new format newsletter. It's incredible how quickly Christmas has come up. I have been reflecting on everything that has happened in just those few short months, and it's fair to say that while the economic and political environment remains very tough, there have been so many moments of joy and pride in all we do as a charity.

In the update from our Treasurer you will see that our financial position has completely transformed since a year ago. This is not only a credit to Martin, but also to all of you who are making donations happen through talks, events, fundraisers, as well as of course just doing what we do as a highly visible presence on our roads.

Many of us came together at the 10th Anniversary party which was fantastically organised and attended. It was great to see so many of you and I am really looking forward to more get togethers in 2023.

In the 6 months that have passed since I became Chair I am delighted to report that the Trustees and Committee has come together in way that is far beyond my expectations. You should all know that in the background they are quietly solving problems, engaging directly with the NHS and thinking about new ways we can better serve their needs. We have some great projects for next year which I hope we can share in our next newsletter. It just remains for me to say **THANK YOU** everyone for all that you do for this charity and have a warm and safe holiday over Christmas and the New Year.

Finally if you would like to contribute in any way to the newsletter please email editor@nwbb-lancs.org with your ideas or articles.

Thanks! Colin

10th Anniversary Party



It has been a long time since we have all had a get together, but for our 10th Anniversary we just had to mark the achievement. A time to meet and socialise.

The 'Dinner Ladies' as they became known, Sue, Trish and Val took on the task. Sue couldn't have done it alone and thanks them both sincerely for their invaluable support. The table decorations with balloons galore, Val's table centre pieces and Sue's little bikes set the theme for a truly biker celebration.

On the night we had a wonderful turn out. Members were presented with 5 and 10 year service badges by our Chair followed by making merry with food and drink, and a very successful raffle which raised **£400**. For those present it was a great night, for others we hope you can come next time!

Region Fundraising Events



The West region were out in force at Tesco's Southport. The weather had meant that the liveried bike had to be trailered in, but we had a great spot just inside the front entrance. Over £890 was collected on the day which is fantastic.



Huge thanks to Paul Grundy, Lisa Grundy, David Clough, Andrew Hilton, David Clarke and Steven Uttley for manning the collection event at Asda at Grimshaw Park Blackburn in November. They loved meeting so many shoppers and explaining what we do as Blood Bikers. Many thanks to Asda for allowing us to have the collection and to the Blackburn public for their amazing generosity and support.

You can always find out what what events we are attending by checking in online at NWBB L&L website <https://nwbb-lancs.org/events.php>.

While we cannot always be represented at every event, (our core work always takes precedence) thanks to the events team we do attend many every month.



Many of us prefer to shop local and support our local retail outlets. At the same time many of us also have occasion to use big on-line retailers. So if using Amazon use their **charitable arm** instead:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> You can have Amazon's charity donation on your purchase routed to North West blood Bikes Lancs and Lakes. This quarter we received another £117 at no extra cost at all to our members and supporters, and since we joined the Smile program we have received £1155 in total from Amazon alone.

New Members

We are ALWAYS on the look out for new members, so please spread the word, be it controllers, fund raisers, drivers, riders, people with marketing or social media expertise send them to us at:

membership@nwbb-lancs.org

Finance Update



After two difficult years in 2020 and 2021 our Charity has made an incredible financial recovery in 2022. Significant donations were received from the Eric Wright Charitable Foundation, Leyland Women's Golf Club and from the family of our dear departed rider, Russell Curwen. The post-COVID revival of fundraising by our brilliant Events Teams has made a huge contribution. We now have sufficient reserves to cover more than one year's running costs, which is remarkable for any charity. This has also enabled us to increase the allowances that can be claimed by our volunteers (should they wish to do so) to the maximum allowed by HMRC rules.

Fleet News



There have been a couple of incidents in recent weeks where boxes have unfortunately become separated from the carrying rack of the bike. One incident on a fleet bike, and another from a private bike. We have therefore reviewed our box securing procedures and a new video, starring Paul Pain, has been made and is available on the website. The straps are now to be placed place over the box before fitting the cover, and further secured with additional bungee, which will be issued to all riders in the New Year.



We were also extremely fortunate to have no less than three new motorcycles donated to our fleet in memory of Terry Derbyshire, Peter Foster and Alan Hart. Having been handed over just two weeks ago (picture above) our new East based RT, Terry, successfully completed its first official maiden shift just a couple of days ago - Blackburn to Manchester Royal Virology and behaved impeccably.



We are eternally grateful to all at Carnarvon Lodge who raised so much money for a bike in Terry Derbyshire's name, including our Trustee Adam Dennett, who was his close personal friend.

Here are Jonathan, June and Simon who were well pleased to be introduced to 'Alan'. June Hart made the incredibly generous gesture of donating enough for us to purchase an entire bike in memory of her late husband.

Finally, we are indebted to Peter Foster's family for their generosity in his name.