

Cornwall Blood Bikes

Registered Charity Number: 1140165

Riding for Life



June 2015 Newsletter (ramblings from the saddle).

Late again I know but just how busy are we?

The number of jobs for May was 178 bringing our total for the year to date 854; I could have just made the last number up as the calculator battery died... well done anyway.

So May what's happened? Our new members (or should we be calling ourselves Volunteers? In my opinion it sounds better and makes people aware that we are not doing this for personal gain) have been busy with inductions and Buddy rides while the weather has been nice. It makes it so much easier to get people out and about when the sun is shining and the roads are dry. That said the end of the month had a sting in the tail with gales and pouring rain now that's more like Blood Biking weather.

This month has been great for collections and money being donated to our cause. There were collections at Wadebridge, Falmouth and an afternoon spent in the main street of St Agnes during their Victorian Fayre as well as money donated by Bunsuffle Café in St Agnes. There was also a quiz night held in the St Agnes Hotel, which was very well supported by locals and a good number of people from CBB, thanks for supporting guys. The raffle prizes were something to behold but the hats Garry provided where strangely enough the first to go, we may be on to something there Garry? It could just be a St Agnes thing...

The amount raised in May was somewhere near to £1600 give or take. That brings the amount raised since our big change around at the end of last year to £12,604. Now I know that sounds like a huge amount of money and it is but we always need more so we can't rest on our laurels besides laurels are uncomfortable.

Roger Alway has been getting involved with the Friends Of the NHS group which if not immediately should begin to help us. It is certainly getting the message out to NHS people that the NHS does not fund us. We are also in the process of finding other ways of sourcing funding through the NHS but it is not easy and it's very like a maze where you have a bunch of keys and lots of doors. All you have to do is find the right key to the door then the work starts... thanks for your help with this issue Simon Williams.

We have been informed by the Committee of the Lanlivery Vintage Rally that they are going to give us more support this year at their rally over the weekend of 12th September which is very good news for us. We have also had an invite to the garden party held by The Falmouth Bay Residents Association at the Princess Pavilions in Falmouth on 12th September. This is an important event as any money raised is match funded by another Falmouth organisation.

For our new volunteers Garry Williams may still have some secondhand bike kit that was donated for the relaunch event in April so if you fancy having a look at what is left give him a call and pop round to see him. All proceeds will go to the charity.

Bike Nights... we need to get behind this event if it is to be a success. Please get out to other bike nights around the county and beyond (yes there is a road after Bodmin) and get the message out that we are waiting to meet. I have to be honest I only have a few hundred stories to tell about my time in the Navy and clearing landmines around the world so time is running out and I can see people eyes already clouding over when during the quiet spells on a Monday

night I say 'did I tell you about...'. So come on and help me out.

If you have any ideas about making this a good night out get in touch with Steve Wells as he has taken on the challenge of organizing the event.

The only event for June so far is a collection at Morrisons Bodmin on 12th June. Please let Roger know if you can attend as soon as possible.

Ian Butler has ordered lots of new kit and is now just waiting for it to arrive so please don't be disheartened that you have not been given anything yet, its on its way. Ian also attended the NABB AGM last weekend, which tied in well with the collection of yet another BMW handed over to us from the nice people at Western Freewheelers. This bike will be operational ASAP so get your booking in if you want to ride it. The VFR and FJR while being put up for sale are still available for people to book out to ride so look on Dropbox or give Steph Mellows a ring. Remember, you don't have to take the bike for a full week but a couple of days are fine, call Steph to discuss.

Tickets for the Rat Pack event on 11th July are selling well so if you want tickets let me know soon otherwise you may be disappointed. This evening's entertainment is a good way for us to raise money with a raffle and an auction so please get the message out and start to sell tickets. We only have 160 seats for what is in effect a West End show provided by NGM Productions (<http://www.ngmproductions.co.uk/Welcome.htm>). The evening will consist of a meal then the full Rat Pack show all for £40 per person. It's a black tie dinner but then what would you expect if Frank Sinatra was singing?

If you have any bits you would like me to include in future ramblings please email me at fundraising@cornwallbloodbikes.org and I will see what I can do.

Right that's it for today don't forget to put your availability down on the rota and if you want a marked bike check out the booking form on Dropbox. **My last plea concerns Dropbox, remember to take the form you want to read or amend out of the box and put it on to your desktop. That way we don't get duplicate forms, which leads to confusion.**

Ride safe

Mark