



# YEOVIL FREEWHEELERS BLOOD BIKE NEWS

MAY 2023 - VOLUME 2

## Spirit of the 60's

Our Vice-Chairman, John Edwards represented The Yeovil Freewheelers on the Yamaha 9GT TRACER in support of the Westland Classic Motorcycle Club, as a Marshall to recognise the significant sums of money raised by them on the day and in previous years, in the region of 40K in total.

It also provided a Yeovil Freewheelers recruitment platform for the 100 or so attendees (Marshalls and Classic bike riders).

The ride is estimated to have raised more than £1000 on the day.

Other Yeovil Freewheeler Blood Bikers were amongst the Marshalls on their own bikes and also taking part notably was our very own Tony Haywood.

The spirit of the 60's run started at Yeovil Rugby Club via Sparkford and Castle Cary to the Helicopter Museum at Weston Super Mare and then returned via Glastonbury.

Our blood bike was in a prominent position at the entrance to the museum whilst there and parked next to the gazebo back at the rugby club. It was also parked very proudly besides Alex Arthur, the event organiser, when he presented the prizes.



# HOW BUSY HAVE WE BEEN IN APRIL?

## HERE'S THE STATS!

In April we made 207 deliveries, 105 of which were for various hospitals, 1 was for medical centre, 17 were for care homes, 7 were for private laboratories and 77 were to private addresses. We did 4 CAT-1 tasks and 203 CAT- 2 tasks

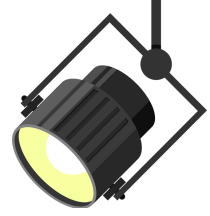
41 riders signed up for duty in April and were deployed 89 times.

The Blood Bikes did a total of 10,532 miles and our Dacia Duster did 496 miles, which is amazing. Well done to all those that gave up their own personal time to volunteer.



**#yfwwedeliver**

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Here at Yeovil Freewheelers we recognise the commitment of each of our members and value their generosity of time and knowledge, so each month we shall be spotlighting one of our members to give an insight into what being a member of The Yeovil Freewheelers is like. This month the spotlight is on one of our riders, Dom White. This is what he said about his time with us.

About 20 plus years ago I spotted a blood bike coming out of Dorchester and thought, as I love motorcycling so much that would be a good job. I didn't realise as many don't that it was voluntary. After chatting with a blood bike member on our stall at the Yeovil steam show some years ago I decided to take my advanced motorcycle licence. I signed up with the Rospa group and was mentored by Ian Piper.

I passed in June 2020 and applied for the Yeovil Freewheelers straight after that. After passing my blues and 2s assessment in September 2020, I was passed operational and carried out my first duty on 14th October that year. I only carried out one Cat 1 on blues before they got taken from us but have done many time sensitive deliveries since. I have clocked up over 100 duties and also managed to fit in many adhoc tasks.

When I first started riding, covid was in full swing and I enjoyed signing up for the evening covid run from YDH to the HUB in Taunton at 20.00hrs and 22.00hrs, picking up from other hospitals on route. It was a guaranteed 160+ mile round trip.

I have ridden in every type of weather at all times of the day and night but also enjoy bucket shaking at fundraising events and chatting to the public (even if they want to or not). I once organised a bucket shake outside Tesco Dorchester just before Christmas and backed with a merry bunch of blood bike volunteers we apparently broke the record of collecting. I think we collected over £1200 in 6 hours.



I have to thank the group for the experience of passing my masters last year. It was paid for by our charity and after obtaining my iAM (with a first may I add) I went straight in to the master training.

I very much enjoy riding for the group and promoting safe motorcycling alongside. Most of all knowing that I'm helping someone that's having a bad day in hospital and hopefully making a difference.

#itswhatwedo





# PUTTING THE **FUN** INTO FUNDRAISING

It's been another packed month on the fundraising front. Our volunteers have been out there with the buckets and card readers, doing their bit for The Yeovil Freewheelers.

After initially getting rained upon, we finally managed to set up at Abbey Hill Steam Fair



We were there for the whole of the bank holiday weekend and met some wonderful people. Our volunteers, John, Steve, Andy, Paul, Gus, Nigel, Kris and Tanya did a fantastic job erecting the tent and manning the stall, collecting donations for the charity

They were also fortunate enough to be located right next door to the Owl Obsession UK stall with one of their occupants paying a little visit to our stall, taking the opportunity to sit on the blood bike.



The Grandchildren of our founder Cecil Turner even searched us out and enjoyed having their photos taken whilst sitting on the bike too.



Whilst those guys were busy at Abbey Hill, another team of volunteers were busy down at Bovington Tank Museum for their Tracks and Wheels Event.

This was the first time we had ventured down to Bovington but it didn't disappoint. The sun shone and the crowds came, which always makes our fundraising so much more enjoyable. We love to talk about what we do and show off our bikes to people.



We didn't see that coming!

Two of our volunteers Phil and Derren headed down to Dorchester Rugby Club to do a spot of fundraising this month.

They were invited to attend an evening of clairvoyance with the local medium Bernie Scott, although she did warn us in advance that, having had charities at her shows before, it had never proven to be successful



Our Volunteers, Roger, Jane and Kris had a wonderful day there and we have been invited back again in the near future to attend further events at the Tank Museum, so keep your eyes peeled for that!



Thinking we would be outside the venue, we took our chances. But Bernie invited us inside the show itself and then invited Derren on stage just before the interval to explain who we are and what we do. In total we raised just over £170. Not even Bernie saw that coming!



# #DonorLove



To all of those people that have donated to  
The Yeovil Freewheelers this month

## **General Public**

S. Fleming  
A. Puzey  
G. Parle  
T. Giles  
A. Davis  
A. Scott  
D. Burns  
G. Kerr  
G. Jones  
P. Mackay  
N. Hoskin  
C. Spittle  
Anonymous via N Massey

## **Businesses**

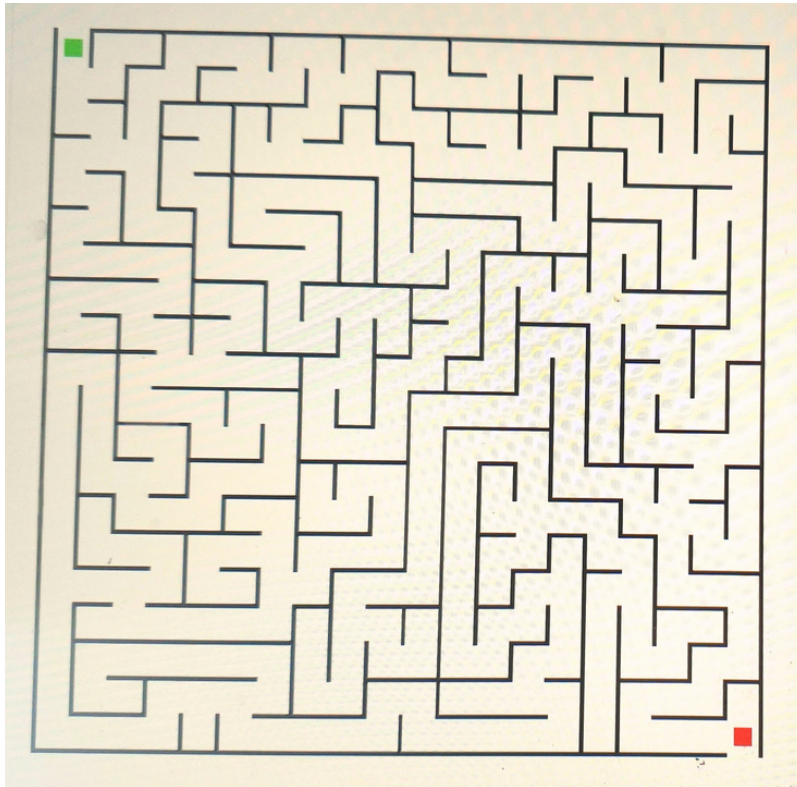
Yeovil Car Boot Sale  
Moose International  
Charities Trust  
Amazon  
Just Giving  
M. Aylmer via Probus  
Goulds Garden Centre  
Asda Yeovil  
Octagon Theatre  
Weymouth Bike Night  
Otter Nurseries  
Holeshots  
Ilminster Bike Night  
Morrisons Glastonbury  
Bernie Scott

## **A HUGE THANK YOU!**

YOUR DONATIONS MAKE SUCH A DIFFERENCE AND  
ARE SAVING LIVES



## Fun Corner



The Amazing Maze

2		9	7				4	
	1			2	5			
		3						
		7					8	
	4		1		8			3
						4		
		1	6					
	8			7			6	
				8	4	7	1	

Sudoku

If you've got any news you'd like to share in next months newsletter, contact Derren - [fundraising@yfwbloodbikes.org](mailto:fundraising@yfwbloodbikes.org)