



Chairman's Blog

April 2022

NHSBT



NHSBT have had issues when using their medium-size Blood box on long journeys; the box has not maintained the required temperature. They are now using the medium box for short journeys only. This decision will not affect our operation as our delivery points are not considered as long journeys. However, NHSBT may still use the large box on our routes at their discretion.

Milton Keynes hospital

Delivery to Milton Keynes Path Lab has new entrance. The entrance is still at the same location except the old yellow fire escape staircase has been removed and a door is placed at ground level, which requires a swipe card to enter.

The procedure now is that once you arrive at the door you call the telephone number and ask for the bleep number shown on the signage on the door. Please advise that you have a delivery: the Biomedical Scientist will then come and let you in and escort you to the lab via a lift. The telephone number is 01908 660033 and bleep number is 1412.

Below are photos of the new entrance and the signage on the door.





Message from Guy

Thanks for all the get-well messages, and your much appreciated offers of help, during my recent illness. I am making steady progress, but it is taking longer than I had hoped to get back to being fully operational.

Message from Operations & Rota

VEHICLES:

When you have one of the charity's vehicles, remember the following:

1. If you have it for a number of days without it being used make sure that it is still working on a regular basis by running it for 10 minutes every 2–3 days. In particular make sure it is operational at least 24 hours before another rider comes to collect it.
2. If you are going away on holiday, or for other reasons, please let Rota know well in advance so that a location can be found to move the bike to. Please don't leave it to the last minute or leave the keys with a neighbour.
3. If time permits please keep the bike clean and presentable. We don't expect it to be washed every time you go out but when the flies have built up on the front so you can't see the word BLOOD it might be time to wipe a few off.



ROAD CLOSURES:

There are a huge number of road closures at the moment, too many to post them all. Your controller will try to pass on any information they have but you may need to make things up as you go. A few things to bear in mind:

1. As soon as it is safe to do so, stop and contact the controller to let them know you are taking a detour. This not only advises them of your delays but also alerts them to the fact that you may need help with directions.
2. The new Tracker system is very good in these circumstance for helping the controller to see where you are and what you are doing. If you are unsure, STOP and ask the controller for guidance which is far safer than you trying to figure it out as you are riding along.
3. Try where possible to follow the prescribed detour, although those who have used the A43 recently will know that it is near impossible to understand.
4. Try to stick to large well-lit roads at night.
5. Do not try to make up time after the detour, or for any other reason. If you have advised the controller of the detour, as you are required to do, they will build in the additional time to your ETA and advise anyone down the line.

ROTA:

We are now well into the 3rd month of running the rota in a fashion of sending you a reminder on a Monday to ask you to check and then book. While this has worked well, in the last two weeks it has been a struggle to get the last few vital



vacancies filled. When you see the email from Rota on a Monday, please take the time to look through the Rota and fill in the vacant slots, particularly those in the current or next week.

To be clear: there are a possible 5 slots to be filled as a minimum to conduct our service successfully each shift. Day shifts require just the 3 regional riders or drivers but at night we also need a 1 community and 1 care home rider.

All Shifts (Day 08:00 to 19:00, Weekday Nights 19:00 to 06:00, Saturday and Sunday end at 08:00):

- 1 x North Rider or Driver
- 1 x Central Rider or Driver
- 1 x South Rider or Driver

Additional for Night Shifts Only:

- 1 x Community Hospital Rider (19:00 to 23:00 only)
- 1 x Care Home Rider (19:00 to 23:00 only)

In times of bad weather, it is helpful to have a Driver in each region as well as a rider.

And lastly if you find you are free and can offer help on the day, please feel free to text the duty controller and offer your services. It is so much easier as a controller when you know you have resources in the background ready to cover if we get busy.

NABB – Yamaha Tracer 700 Blood Bike



At recent NABB meeting it was stated that very little progress has been made with the Yamaha Tracer 700 proposed Blood Bike.

The stability testing has yet to be completed and there is no indication of the price or availability of the bike.

Our Group, at this time, has no interest in adding the Yamaha to our fleet as it is not suitable for our current operational needs.

Collections



Store collection dates for April are:

7th April	Woolgate Shopping Centre Witney
8th April	ASDA Wheatley
22nd April	ASDA High Wycombe
29th April	Beaconsfield Services M40

As always please support the collection dates.

Donations & Collections

NHS Retirement Fellowship	£210.35
Evenlode & Norton Lodge	£211.00
Oddfellows	£74.95
ASDA Slough	£693.96
Ruby Patterson – Boot Fair.....	£88.00
Beaconsfield Services M40	£1,092.64
Rotary Club of Reading	£100.00
AmazonSmile	£79.87



Presentations



The following presentations are schedule for April:

Berkshire Trefoil Guild

Rotary Club of Pangbourne

Oddfellows, Thames & Kennet

Buckinghamshire Freemasons

Probus Club of Henley on Thames

Townswomen Guild, Kidlington

What a great way to transport milk!!



DOT Milk Float - 1947 Villiers 123cc



Don't forget when shopping at Amazon to do it via Amazon Smile.



Kamran Irani

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Irani'.

Chairman

1st April 2022

