



# DBB Solstice Challenge 2018

Aberystwyth to Gt Yarmouth  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> 2018



# Derbyshire Blood Bikes

**Saving the NHS money & helping to save lives.**

Derbyshire Blood Bikes is one of a network of volunteer Blood Bike groups covering most of the UK and providing a range of free medical courier services to the NHS.

Derbyshire Blood Bikes operates 24 hours a day 365 days a year in all weathers. We help to save lives, enable the early treatment of countless patients and save our health services a very substantial amount of money in transport costs.

Derbyshire Blood Bikes transport biological samples, medication, equipment or records as well as donated human milk which is used in the treatment of poorly or premature babies at hospitals across the UK – at NO COST TO THE NHS.

We are delighted that the demand of our service has significantly increased over the past two years. This year we are starting a brand new service for the Royal Derby Hospital Pharmacy Department which supports patients by delivering essential medicines to their home. This both saves money as well helping patients to be treated at home and so free-up valuable bed space.

Many people see our vehicles on the roads and think they are operated by the Health Service or Ambulance service. This is not the case; we are entirely funded by charitable donations and run by unpaid volunteers.

Derbyshire Blood Bikes is an independent charity operating thanks to the generosity of the public. Money is raised from bucket collections, talks, displays and sponsored events, along with welcome corporate donations from companies and charitable funding bodies. There is NO funding from health trusts, government or local authorities.

Everyone is a volunteer, giving many valuable hours every week. We estimate our 'volunteer value' (the minimum staff cost if we used paid people on the minimum wage) comes close to £250k each year. But we don't have any paid staff so EVERY pound collected contributes to the costs of operating the charity and the service. We believe, at a conservative estimate: for every £1 donated we save £5 to the NHS.

Increasing demand for our services is an ever present challenge for Derbyshire Blood Bikes and our fundraising teams. So, for 2018 we are establishing a new event, the **DBB Solstice Challenge**, to help us raise the additional funding needed to maintain and grow our service. We invite you to support this event by participating, helping at any of the event stops or donating through our giving site.



## DBB Solstice Challenge

The idea of the Solstice Challenge is very simple: raise essential funding for Derbyshire Blood Bikes by sponsored participants enjoying the sunset in Aberystwyth on 23<sup>rd</sup> June then travelling across the country to watch the sunrise on 24<sup>th</sup> June in Great Yarmouth - A journey of three hundred miles.

- Between 10 – 12 Teams of up to 4 motorcycles and cars will gather on the seafront Aberystwyth from 8pm for registration. Then the sun goes down at 9:48pm before embarking on a pre determined route right across the country.
- There will be a stop scheduled in Northamptonshire where participants must take a break and refreshment before continuing their journey.
- Journey's end is on the seafront in Great Yarmouth where the teams will enjoy breakfast as the sun rises at 04:30am.

The journey can be completed with time to spare between sunset and sunrise at a steady legal pace. This isn't large group ride and certainly not a race

Participants will be invited from Derbyshire Blood Bikers, RoSPA, IAM, Sponsors and other invited participants.

If you are interested in participating, helping to or donating to the event, please send your full name, phone number and email address to: **[andy.ramsden@me.com](mailto:andy.ramsden@me.com)**



# Derbyshire Blood Bikes



Charity No: 1143149

Website [derbyshirebloodbikes.org](http://derbyshirebloodbikes.org)



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