

The

Blood Vessel



The Newsletter for Serv Oxon, Bucks, Northants & Berks

The Emergency Blood Transport Charity

Issue 6

www.serv.org.uk

email: newsletter@servobn.org.uk

May 2011

What an amazing year 2011 has been so far. The charity is celebrating 30 years of operation, OBN are having a record number of calls with the most ever completed in April, OBN Have increased their fleet to 5 Bikes and we are now saving for bike number 6 and SERV UK have moved into their first proper head quarters.

We've been very lucky with recent sponsorship and fundraising from DHL Bicester, Cummins of Daventry & The AA, to name a few.

I also had the pleasure of spending the weekend with members of Ridgeway MCC at their "George to the Dragon Rally" being entertained by moped jousting, live music and local beers (The things I do for charity!). Ridgeway MCC have pledged to donate the proceeds of the event to SERV.

We also have Anne Turpin - who works at Wexham Park Hospital who is taking part in a sponsored half marathon to raise money for SERV. You can sponsor Anne on her "Just Giving" Page at www.justgiving.com/anne-turpin

We are really grateful for the continuing and recent support from people and companies without whom, there is absolutely no way OBN would have been able to continue to meet the ever increasing demands on our service.

If our volunteers and supporters can achieve all this now, I can't wait to see what the future will bring.

Thanks to everyone who's been doing their bit, you're all awesome!

By Danny Bateman

You can get more regular updates on Serv OBNB by joining our [Facebook Group](#) or you can follow us on Twitter @ www.twitter.com/servobn

If you have an article you would like to see featured in The Blood Vessel, just send an email to newsletter@servobn.org.uk

Have you joined our Facebook Group yet?

Just visit www.servobn.org.uk and click on "Join our Facebook Group" Or go to Facebook and Search for..... "Serv OBNB"



Reading Honda, have kindly offered to service our dedicated bikes for the cost of parts only

www.bladegrouphonda.co.uk

SERV Celebrate their 30th Anniversary

SERV has come a long way since the early days back in 1981 when a group of bikers from Surrey started a free service transporting blood to hospitals in and around the Surrey and South London area.

30 Years on and SERV has grown to provide a service that covers most of the south east of England with start up groups in the eastern counties transporting not just Blood, Platelets & Plasma but other medical items such as samples, scans, vaccines, medication and more recently Donor Breast Milk.

The charity now has more than 500+ volunteers giving up their time to provide a service that



has saved many lives and the NHS thousands of pounds which can now be spent where it is needed most.

SERV celebrated the opening of the charity's new UK headquarters which opened on April 16th in Guildford, Surrey.

The celebrations will continue on Sunday the 5th June with a big party that you're all invited to (volunteers, families, friends, and members of the public) at the world famous Ace Cafe London - (Ace Corner, Stonebridge, London).

SERV Volunteers now entitled to 'NHS Discounts'

It's not often our volunteers receive recognition for all those sleepless nights, so it was a pleasant surprise when NHS Discounts decided to offer SERV volunteers the opportunity to register for their discount scheme which is normally only available to NHS workers. This really does show

recognition for the work that SERV does supporting the NHS.

If you want to register for NHS Discounts, visit..... www.nhsdiscounts.com scroll down and click on "Register Now", Where it say's "Do you work for the NHS?" simply select 'SERV'

NHSdiscounts.com ...and more



Membership and its benefits are exclusive to NHS employees. You can even let your friends and family register too.

Save £££s every week REGISTER NOW! ⇨

Welcome to Marie & Elizabeth

SERV OBN have recently purchased two Honda Deauville's bringing the number of bikes in our fleet to five.

Marie & Elizabeth are slightly smaller than our three Pan European's which will enable our smaller riders to ride our dedicated bikes but still big enough for our taller riders.

As is tradition with SERV OBN's fleet, the two Deauville's carry the names of famous medical women...

Marie Curie was a Polish-born French physicist and chemist famous for her work on radioactiv-

ity. She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and the first person honoured with two Nobel Prizes in physics and chemistry. She was also the first female professor at the University of Paris. Under her direction, the world's first studies were conducted into the treatment of neoplasms -- including cancers -- using radioactive isotopes.

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was the first woman to gain a medical qualification in Britain. In 1860 she resolved to study medicine, an almost unheard-of thing for a woman at that time, Dr Garrett worked for over twenty years



at the "New Hospital for Women" and later created the "London School of Medicine for Women". Marie & Elizabeth made their debut at the OX5RUN when 8 of our volunteers pushed the bikes 5 miles to raise funds for the Oxford Children's Hospital.....

Serv 'Push' to raise funds for the Oxford Children's Hospital

It was only a few months ago that several of our volunteers abseiled 100 feet off the Women's Centre at John Radcliffe to raise funds for the Children's Hospital.

This time we decided to enter a team in to the OX5RUN (A 5 mile run around the grounds of Blenheim Palace), some runners from SERV decided to push two of our dedicated bikes around the 5 mile course.

It was one of those things that "seemed a good idea at the time" and the 'pushers' "thanked" me (at least I think that's what they were saying!) for volunteering them as they struggled up the first hill!

The runners times were as follows.....

Louise Stepney	50mins 49secs
Zoe Sharpe	57mins 27secs
Erica Gassor	1hr 1min 28secs
Pushing Marie.....	
Richard Peck	1hr 22mins 42secs
Norm Humphreys	1hr 22mins 42secs
Steve Savage	1hr 22mins 43secs
John Stepney	1hr 22mins 43secs
Pushing Elizabeth.....	
Jamie Parr	1hr 26mins 36secs
Pete Jordon	1hr 26mins 36secs
John Gardner	1hr 26mins 37secs
William Lum	1hr 26mins 37secs
Charlotte Bateman	1hr 37mins 28secs
Rose Bateman	1hr 37mins 28secs

"Team SERV" raised over £2000 for the Children's Hospital



SERV does the 'Ride of Respect'



For the second year running, a number of riders from SERV took part in the 'Ride of Respect' through what is due to be re-named: Royal Wootton Bassett.

45 Riders & Pillions representing SERV rode from Hullavington Airfield through Wootton Bassett to show their support, not just for our troops and the families of those killed in action but also for the people of Wootton Bassett who have on so many occasions lined the streets to mourn our soldiers as they pass through the town. 10,000 riders took part in the ride and an estimated £130,000 was raised for the Afghan Heroes Fund.

As we rode through Wootton Bassett, people waved, cheered, applauded and some were even in tears, I even spotted a young girl holding a sign up which read "We Love you Bikers!".

Quite a surreal and emotive experience and not at all what I was expecting.

You can view a clip of SERV riding through the town at www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RyaFeo6dSg



SERV goes back to School



The Children at Hermitage Primary School in Thatcham, West Berks got a surprise when OBN's Dave Thomas paid them a visit with one of our dedicated response bikes. Dave gave a talk to the Children about SERV and what we do. The Children enjoyed the visit and particularly enjoyed seeing the lights and hearing the siren.

The children were still talking about the visit when they were collected by their parents at the end of the day. We're told that the teachers & Dave enjoyed the visit also!



We are now able to accept online donations at www.servobn.org.uk/donate

Do SERV have the X-Factor?

On New years day, OBN's John Stepney made an unusual delivery of Factor VIII to Milton Keynes General Hospital.

At the time all we knew was it was needed urgently (as most of our calls are),

We asked Grant Barker who is the team manager for Blood Transfusion and Milton Keynes NHS Trust what is Factor VIII?

He told us.....

"Factor VIII Concentrate is the treatment of choice for the vast majority of patients diagnosed with Haemophilia 'A'. This is an inher-

ited disorder where patients are unable to produce normal levels of Factor VIII. This is required to maintain the normal clotting of blood.

Reduced or absent Factor VIII levels can lead to acute life threatening bleeding or chronic bleeding into joints that can cause great pain and disability.

Over the New Year Bank Holiday, the fast and efficient action of SERV allowed us to continue to treat two paediatric patients who were at high risk of bleeding.

SERV was able to rapidly transport extra Factor VIII from the regional Haemophilia Centre at Oxford to Milton Keynes.

The Factor VIII was used by patients within a couple of hours of contacting SERV. The service that SERV provides is not only fast, but extremely simple to use"



SERV benefit from the Mayor's Charity Fund

SERV OBN were recently invited to a charity reception hosted by Bicester's outgoing Mayor - Councillor Richard Mould.

SERV have benefited from the Mayor's charity fund for the past few years and this year received a cheque for £1500. The people of Bicester take part in many fund raising activities throughout the year which we are pleased to have had the opportunity to assist with.

We look forward to helping with the upcoming Civic Parade and will be assisting with and leading the Bicester Carnival



Welcome Q.....

As SERV OBN is growing and becoming busier, we decided it was time to ask someone to take on the role of Quartermaster.

We would like to welcome Jenny Jordon (suffering wife of SERV rider Pete) who very kindly offered to take on the role.

Jenny will be responsible for ordering, maintaining and distributing stock of jackets, equipment, promotional supplies etc.

So Jenny, when do I get my Aston Martin???



Did you guess the number of calls for 2010?

Congratulations to Guy Lipscomb who correctly guessed the final total of 603 runs carried out by OBN throughout 2010, OBN's County Co-ordinator John Stepney presented Guy with a bottle of Champagne at a recent photo opportunity with DHL based in Bicester





0800 200369

Devitt Insurance currently insure all of Serv's dedicated bikes, free of charge. What's more.... If you phone them for a quote on 0800 200369 and quote "SERV", they will beat your renewal quote. If you then take out a policy with them, they will also donate £25 to SERV.

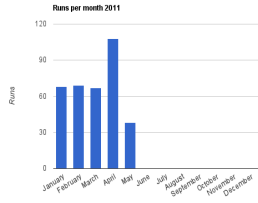


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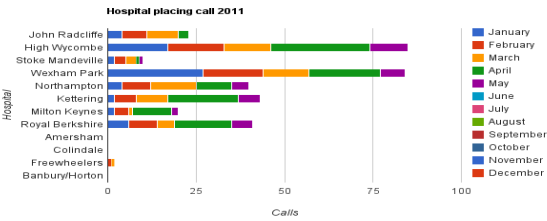
Call Logs

Serv OBN Has had another record year so far, having responded to 367 calls (as of 16/5/11) from Hospitals since 1st January 2011 Saving the NHS thousands of pounds



Our year end projection is now set to exceed 1000 calls

Our heaviest users of 2011 so far are High Wycombe General followed by Wexham Park Hospital in Slough in 2nd place, followed by Kettering General, Royal Berks & Northampton General



What a very, very nice man

Thanks to The "AA" who now provide Home Start, Roadside - Repair & Recovery for all of SERV's dedicated response vehicles, Free of Charge



This will save us paying out for recovery fees in the event of a breakdown, and allowing us to divert our limited funds elsewhere.

Special Delivery from DHL

A huge thank you to the staff at DHL in Bicester who have been raising funds for us for the past few months, They have now raised a total of £2,400.00 to date. This amount of money has made a huge difference to our operations, helping us to expand our fleet and workload.



Having had our busiest month yet in April with 108 calls, we predict we will have covered around 1000 runs by the end of this

year (throughout 2011). One of our biggest running costs is fuel for the dedicated bikes, we anticipate

this will increase as we expand our fleet to cope with the increased workload and the rising costs of fuel.

01908 540700

Providing Free live tracking for SERV's dedicated response vehicles

