



You may well have seen us in your rear-view mirror on the roads of Cornwall as you spot our high-visibility blood bikes.

## So who are we?

Cornwall Blood Bikes founded in 2011, is a purely volunteer run charity operating "out of hours" Monday to Friday 5pm-7am and 24 hours weekends and bank holidays.

A band of 65 strong volunteers consisting of both riders and coordinators; operating 365 days a year delivering urgent medical supplies; pathology samples, whole blood, platelets, medical notes, medical equipment, medication, donor breast milk and much more.

We pride ourselves on offering a professional, flexible, bespoke, and free service to hospitals and hospices across Cornwall.

The need for this free service has grown since its tender beginnings with mileage covered and operational jobs completed increasing and no more so than over the last few years with the Covid-19 pandemic crisis.

In 2020 the charity made an SOS call to our volunteers after carrying our first ever suspect Covid-19 swab and the response was outstanding, which meant by the 17th March 2020 we had launched our 24/7 emergency response to support our NHS partners as all our worlds started to change, but returned to normal operating hours in September 2020.

During this time the charity was working in collaboration on a very special project involving the blood transfusion team at The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust, South Western Ambulance Service and another Cornish Charity; The Cornwall Air Ambulance all funded by The Henry Surtees Foundation.



The Blood on Board project meant for the first time ever, that blood is now carried on board the helicopter, giving the critical care team the option to start emergency transfusions before a patient even reaches the hospital. In the inaugural year and to date of this project the crew administered 18 transfusions on scene, reducing the time between injury and intervention leading to positive outcomes in most of the cases.

In 2021 we covered 218,493 miles and completed 6,736 operational jobs.

To date in 2022 we have covered over 165,000 miles and completed over 5,500 operational jobs.

It is pure teamwork that keeps the wheels of this charity turning, with so much work going on behind the scenes.

Chair of Cornwall Blood Bikes; Jayne Penlerick explained that every single volunteer's contribution is richly valued, and there is never a big enough thank you for the sheer determination and commitment displayed. They are volunteers with the biggest hearts who will always continue to give their ultimate best for the charity and in turn the people of Cornwall.

An outstanding achievement when so many volunteers still have full time jobs.

It is a privilege to wear a Blood Bike jacket to provide our service. CBB as a charity receives no government funding and literally relies on the outstanding generosity from the communities of Cornwall with every single penny raised going back into keeping our wheels turning and our service operating.

To find out more about us please visit our website or call our General Enquiry line 0300 365 0912

You can follow us on social media Facebook, Twitter and Instagram





Call: 0300 365 0912 www.cornwallbloodbikes.org

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