



Our Partnership with Blood Bikes - How it all began

The Mark Benevolent Fund became aware of the role of blood bike charities in January 2016 when an application was received from Northumbria Blood Bikes. Subsequent applications then followed as word spread about the work of the M.B.F.

Most blood bike charities come under the umbrella of the Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes (itself a registered charity) which acts as a representative body for blood bike groups throughout the UK. Their aim is to assist in the promotion of public health through voluntary support of hospital services. The charity provides out of hours transportation services for local NHS sites in the movement of blood and human tissue. Other organisations can also benefit from the work they do, all free of charge thus reducing the strain on NHS funding.

In May 2017 the Mark Benevolent Fund Charity Walk took place encompassing all Royal Parks in central London along the seven-mile route of The Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Walk. The event was embraced by hundreds of Mark Master Masons, their friends and families, and raised an astounding £437,934. The Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund wanted to give something back to the Brethren in the Provinces who had given so generously and decided to invite all blood bike charities in England and Wales to apply for funding for a new vehicle. Mark Provinces covering the majority of England and Wales are serviced by these charities and all that applied received a new vehicle. To date the M.B.F. has sponsored 16 Blood Bikes and 10 Blood Cars.

To coincide with the Blood Bikes Awareness Day the national handover took place at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham where we celebrated the important services given completely free by volunteers, to all our communities.

[Check out this fabulous video](#)



