

Captain Tom Moore

Captain Tom Moore is the war **veteran** who made headlines around the world in mid-April 2020, when he decided to raise money for the National Health Service (NHS), by walking 100 laps around his garden before his 100th birthday on April 30th.

The Challenge

Captain Tom has long been a supporter of the NHS. He spent some time in hospital after a hip replacement a few years ago and has been following the recent news about the NHS, as they work hard to treat patients during the COVID-19 crisis. He decided to set himself the challenge of completing 100 laps of his 25 metre garden, by walking 10 laps each day, finishing before his 100th birthday. Captain Tom hoped to raise £1000 for NHS Charities Together.



Worldwide Support

Captain Tom's challenge was reported by his local news and word soon spread about his amazing effort. People very quickly took Captain Tom to their hearts and his story was shared more widely, including on the national news. As more people heard about his challenge, they donated money to the cause. Within a day, Captain Tom had **exceeded** his target.



Captain Tom completed 100 laps (his last ten, with a **guard of honour**) two weeks before his birthday, so decided to increase the number of laps he walked to 200. At last count, he had raised over £28,000,000.

Fundraiser and Record Breaker

To help celebrate Tom reaching 100 laps, singer Michael Ball, the NHS Voices of Care Choir and Captain Tom released a version of the song 'You'll Never Walk Alone', which went straight to number one in the singles charts, breaking several records at the same time:

- the oldest person ever to reach number one (Tom was 99 at the time)
- the fastest selling single of 2020 so far

Every single sold raises more money for the charity. The money will be used to fund community groups that help support patients when they have left hospital, as well as wellbeing packs for NHS workers.

Biography

Thomas Moore was born in Yorkshire on 30th April 1920.

As an adult, he joined the army and served as a British Army officer in the Second World War. During his time in the army, Captain Tom was awarded three medals, which he has worn whilst completing his fundraising laps. A short **documentary** has been made about his military career and is due to be on screen in early May 2020.

When he was younger, his hobbies included motorcycle racing and he won several competitions.

He currently lives with one of his two daughters and her family in Bedfordshire.

Did You Know...?



He has had so many birthday cards sent to him from around the world, that Royal Mail have had to re-route his post to a special collection box.

Captain Tom in Numbers

£1000 - The target amount Captain Tom originally hoped to raise for charity.

24 hours - The time it took to reach his target.

£13,000,000 - The amount Captain Tom had raised by the time he completed the 100 laps.

100,000 - The number of birthday cards that have been sent to him by the public.

1.3 million - People had donated money to his **campaign** before the final week of April.

Pride of Britain

Captain Tom has been called a national treasure by the public and was awarded the Pride of Britain Award. This award is given to people who have demonstrated great courage or inspired people with their campaigning.

For his 100th birthday, Captain Tom is being honoured with a special postmark from the Royal Mail. All letters sent during the week of his birthday, will be stamped with a postmark that reads, 'Happy 100th Birthday Captain Thomas Moore NHS fundraising hero 30th April 2020'.

Glossary

veteran	An ex-member of the armed forces.
exceeded	To go beyond.
guard of honour	A group of soldiers arranged in a row for a special occasion.
documentary	A factual television or radio programme.
campaign	To work towards a particular goal.