

Captain Tom Moore

Captain Tom Moore is the war **veteran** who made headlines around the world in mid-April 2020, when he **pledged** 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 news about the NHS, who have been working 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, walking 10 laps each day, finishing before his 100th birthday. Captain Tom hoped to raise £1000 for NHS Charities Together.



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. More and more people donated money from all over the world. Within a day, Captain Tom had **exceeded** his target.



Captain Tom completed his 100 laps two weeks before his birthday, so decided to increase the number of laps he walked to 200.

More Fundraising

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 was number one in the singles charts on 24th April. Captain Tom is the oldest person ever to reach number one and the single is the fastest selling of 2020 so far. Every single sold raises more money for the charity.

Captain Tom Moore

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.

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 have donated money to his **campaign**.

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.
pledged	Promised.
exceeded	To go beyond.
campaign	To work towards a particular goal.

Captain Tom Moore Questions

1. How many laps of his garden did Captain Tom walk each day? Tick **one**.

- 100
 25
 10
 30

2. Number the events to show the order in which they happened.

- Captain Tom began his challenge.
 Captain Tom released a single.
 Captain Tom finished his 100 laps.
 Captain Tom celebrated his 100th birthday.

3. **Find** and **copy** one word that means promised.

4. What does NHS stand for?

5. Fill in the missing words.

Within a _____, Captain Tom had _____ his target.

6. How do you think Captain Tom felt when he received his Pride of Britain award? Explain your answer.

7. Why do you think so many people have donated to Captain Tom's campaign?

8. What do you think the money raised will be used for?

Captain Tom Moore Answers

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pledged

4. What does NHS stand for?

National Health Service

5. Fill in the missing words.

Within a **day**, Captain Tom had **exceeded** his target.

6. How do you think Captain Tom felt when he received his Pride of Britain award? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: He felt proud to receive the award. He was humbled that so many people had voted for him.

7. Why do you think so many people have donated to Captain Tom's campaign?

Pupils' own responses, such as: They were amazed that someone of that age wanted to walk so far for charity. They wanted to show their support for the work of the NHS. They were impressed with his determination. People want to help each other during difficult times and this is a good way to do that.

8. What do you think the money raised will be used for?

Pupils' own responses, such as: To help pay NHS staff. To buy things that hospitals need. To help look after people who are recovering from COVID-19.