

# 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 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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:

## Captain Tom Moore

- 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Captain Thomas Moore NHS fundraising hero 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020'.

**Glossary**

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

# Captain Tom Moore Questions

1. Write **True** or **False** for each statement.

Captain Tom was 100 when he started his fundraising campaign.	
Tom Jones released a single with Captain Tom.	
Captain Tom raised money for NHS Charities Together.	
Captain Tom served in the Second World War.	

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 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

3. **Find** and **copy** one word that means the same as bravery.

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4. What is the name of Captain Tom's charity single?

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5. Fill in the missing words.

People very quickly took Captain Tom to their hearts and his story was \_\_\_\_\_ more widely, including on the \_\_\_\_\_ news.

6. Why do you think Captain Tom wanted to raise money for the NHS?

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7. Give **two** examples of how Captain Tom has broken world records.

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## Captain Tom Moore Questions

8. Describe Captain Tom in **three** words and explain your choices.

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9. How do you think Captain Tom felt when he heard that he had reached his target of £1000 in just a day? Explain your answer.

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# Captain Tom Moore Answers

1. Write **True** or **False** for each statement.

Captain Tom was 100 when he started his fundraising campaign.	<b>False</b>
Tom Jones released a single with Captain Tom.	<b>False</b>
Captain Tom raised money for NHS Charities Together.	<b>True</b>
Captain Tom served in the Second World War.	<b>True</b>

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

- 1 Captain Tom began his challenge.
- 3 Captain Tom released a single.
- 2 Captain Tom finished his 100 laps.
- 4 Captain Tom celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

3. **Find** and **copy** one word that means the same as bravery.

**courage**

4. What is the name of Captain Tom's charity single?

**You'll Never Walk Alone**

5. Fill in the missing words.

People very quickly took Captain Tom to their hearts and his story was **shared** more widely, including on the **national** news.

6. Why do you think Captain Tom wanted to raise money for the NHS?

**Accept any of the following: He wanted to show them his appreciation. He wanted to say thank you for looking after him and others. He was impressed with their hard work during a difficult time.**

7. Give **two** examples of how Captain Tom has broken world records.

**He is the oldest person ever to have a number one single.**

**His single is the fastest selling of 2020 so far.**

## **Captain Tom Moore Answers**

8. Describe Captain Tom in **three** words and explain your choices.

**Pupils' own responses such as:**

**Determined because he didn't give up.**

**Brave because he was a soldier in the war.**

**Generous because he raised money for charity.**

9. How do you think Captain Tom felt when he heard that he had reached his target of £1000 in just a day? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: He must have felt proud that he had raised so much money. He would have been amazed that so many people had donated to his cause. He could not believe that he had reached his target so quickly.**