

99-year-old man raises \$25 million for health service

19th April, 2020



A 99-year-old war veteran in the United Kingdom has been hailed as a hero for his fundraising efforts. Captain Tom Moore has raised over \$25 million for the UK's National Health Service (NHS) by walking around his garden 100 times. The World War II vet came up with the idea of raising just £1,000 to thank NHS staff for helping him with treatment for cancer

and a broken hip. Mr Moore set up a donation page on a fundraising website. He said he would do 100 laps of his garden before his 100th birthday on April the 30th. His endeavours caught the imagination of the British public, who have been donating millions of dollars a day to support him. Prince William called him a "one-man fundraising machine".

Captain Moore completed his 100 laps on Thursday. He vowed he would not stop walking as long as people are still donating. Over half a million people have signed a petition for the UK government to award a knighthood to Captain Moore. He would then become Sir Tom Moore. The soon-to-be centenarian was overwhelmed by the public response to his efforts. He said: "I appreciate it because the object for which we're donating, [the NHS,] is so important." The UK's "Independent" newspaper commended Captain Tom's efforts but said the government should be funding the NHS. It wrote: "In the midst of dark times, stories like these bring lightness. Yet such altruism is a damning reflection on the state of our NHS."

Sources: bbc.com / cnn.com / independent.co.uk

Writing

We should all give as much money as we can to our health service. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

veteran / hero / fundraising / health service / garden / treatment / imagination / 100 / vow / donating / petition / centenarian / appreciate / dark times / altruism / state

True / False

- a) The 99-year-old used to serve in the armed forces. T / F
- b) Tom Moore walked around his garden 100 times to raise money. T / F
- c) Mr Moore's original plan was to raise £1,000. T / F
- d) A British prince called Mr Moore a one-man fundraising machine. T / F
- e) Mr Moore has stopped walking now. T / F
- f) Many British people want Mr Moore to be knighted. T / F
- g) A UK newspaper condemned Mr Moore for his efforts. T / F
- h) The UK newspaper said Mr Moore's efforts reflected well on the NHS. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. hailed | a. 100-year-old |
| 2. raised | b. help |
| 3. thank | c. promised |
| 4. treatment | d. recognize |
| 5. support | e. condemnatory |
| 6. vowed | f. collected |
| 7. centenarian | g. centre |
| 8. appreciate | h. medical care |
| 9. midst | i. value |
| 10. damning | j. praised |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of 99-year-old Tom Moore?
- b) What have you done for charity?
- c) Should we all follow Tom Moore's example?
- d) What could you do to raise money?
- e) What would you like to raise money for?
- f) What should the \$25 million be spent on?
- g) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- h) What advice do you have for Captain Tom Moore?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A 99-year-old war | a. of dark times |
| 2. hailed as | b. for cancer |
| 3. came up with the | c. centenarian |
| 4. treatment | d. a hero |
| 5. a one-man fundraising | e. a petition |
| 6. as long as people | f. idea |
| 7. people have signed | g. reflection on the state |
| 8. The soon-to-be | h. machine |
| 9. In the midst | i. veteran |
| 10. a damning | j. are still donating |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How should the UK government recognize Captain Moore's efforts?
- What condition is your country's health service in?
- Why did Captain Moore's efforts become world news?
- What should happen on Tom's 100th birthday?
- What happy stories have you heard recently?
- Should governments be funding health services better?
- What questions would you like to ask Captain Tom Moore?

Spelling

- A 99-year-old war tenrvae
- ihelad as a hero
- ntmaartet for cancer
- a usfdignanri website
- His denouervas caught the imagination of...
- niatodgn millions of dollars
- people have signed a notepiti
- The soon-to-be anncneertia
- I apeptrcae it
- In the midts of dark times
- such almuits
- a nmagdni reflection on the state

Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. f	3. d	4. h	5. b
6. c	7. a	8. i	9. g	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Hospitals

You think hospitals are the most deserving recipients of fundraising. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are lower on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): wildlife, old people or homelessness.

Role B – Wildlife

You think wildlife is the most deserving recipient of fundraising. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are lower on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): hospitals, old people or homelessness.

Role C – Old People

You think old people are the most deserving recipients of fundraising. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are lower on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): wildlife, hospitals or homelessness.

Role D – Homelessness

You think homelessness is the most deserving recipient of fundraising. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are lower on the list. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): wildlife, old people or hospitals.

Speaking – Fundraising

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to do fundraising for at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| • Hospitals | • Old people |
| • Schools | • Medical cures |
| • Wildlife | • Animal protection |
| • Children | • Homelessness |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.