

## Captain Sir Tom Moore: Legacy

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

### **The Challenge**

Captain Tom has long been a supporter of the NHS. He had spent some time in hospital after a hip replacement a few years ago and has been following the news about the NHS, as they battle 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, with the help of his walking frame and 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.

### **Fundraiser and Record Breaker**

To help celebrate 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. Captain Tom (aged 99 at the time) 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 also holds the record for the largest amount of money raised on a charity walk, by an individual. 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.

No-one has been more surprised by his success than Captain Tom himself. 'Never in my wildest imagination did I think this would be possible,' he exclaimed.

### **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. Captain Tom had received several hundred thousand nominations from the public and a judging panel agreed that he was more than worthy of receiving the award.

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'.