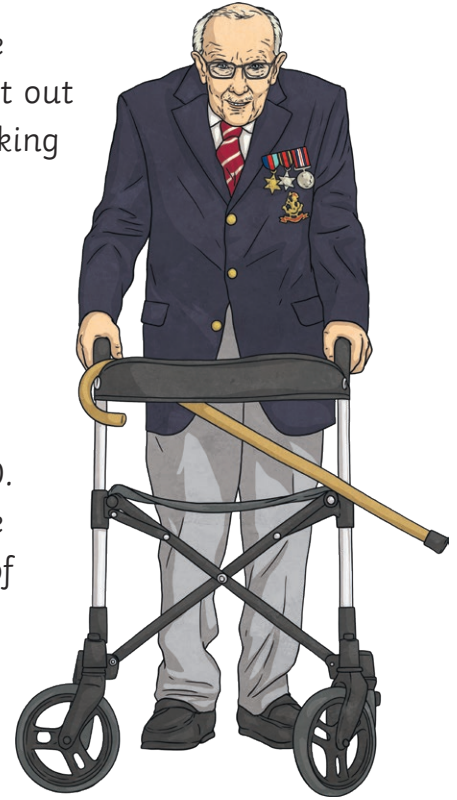# Captain Sir Thomas Moore

Captain Sir Thomas Moore was the **veteran** who made headlines around the world in April 2020, when he set out to raise money for the National Health Service by walking 100 laps around his garden. Not only did he raise an incredible amount of money, but he also broke several world records at the same time. Sadly, Captain Sir Thomas Moore passed away on 2nd February 2021.

Who was Captain Sir Tom Moore?

Captain Tom was born in Yorkshire on 30th April 1920. He was a soldier in the British Army and served in the Second World War. He lived in Bedfordshire with one of his two daughters and her family.

Captain Tom saw the hard work the hospital staff were doing when he watched the news during the COVID-19 crisis. He had been well looked after in hospital himself after a hip operation in 2018 and he decided that he wanted to do something to raise money for the National Health Service (NHS).

Tom's Target

Captain Tom began his challenge as a 99 year old. He decided to walk 100 laps of his garden (10 each day), leading up to his 100th birthday, which was on 30th April 2020. He set himself a target of £1000, which he reached in a day.

Captain Tom completed his laps with the aid of a walking frame. By the time he finished, he had raised over 27 million pounds!

Breaking Records

With his story being shared around the world, more and more people donated money and Captain Tom broke several records during his fundraising efforts.

He raised more money from a charity walk than any other single person. He released a charity song, with singer Michael Ball and the NHS Voices of Care Choir, which became the highest selling single of 2020 in the UK by that point in the year. Six days before his 100th birthday, his single went to number 1 in the charts. He is the oldest person ever to have a number one single.

Did You Know...?

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

- The Royal Mail stamped every item posted during the week of his 100th birthday, with a special postmark with a message for Captain Tom.

- People have been inspired by his story and sent him birthday cards. He had so many cards, they had to be stored in the local school hall.

- Captain Tom completed his laps while wearing his three army medals.

Glossary

veteran	An ex-member of the armed forces.

Captain Sir Thomas Moore Questions

1. What does NHS stand for? Tick **one**.

   ○ New Hospital Staff

   ○ National Health Service

   ○ National Hospital Staff

   ○ Nurses & Health Staff

2. Draw lines to show when the events happened.

Captain Tom began his challenge.	1st
Captain Tom released a single.	3rd
Captain Tom finished his 100 laps.	4th
Captain Tom celebrated his 100th birthday.	2nd

3. How do you think Captain Tom felt when he heard how much money he had raised? Tick **two**.

   ○ sad

   ○ amazed

   ○ disappointed

   ○ humbled

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

Captain Tom wanted to raise £1000.	
Tom Jones released a single with Captain Tom.	
Captain Tom raised money for the NHS.	
Captain Tom used to be a sailor.	

Captain Sir Thomas Moore Questions

5. Read the paragraph 'Tom's Target' **Find** and **copy** one word that means the same as help.

_____

6. Fill in the missing words.

He was the _____ person ever to have a number one _____.

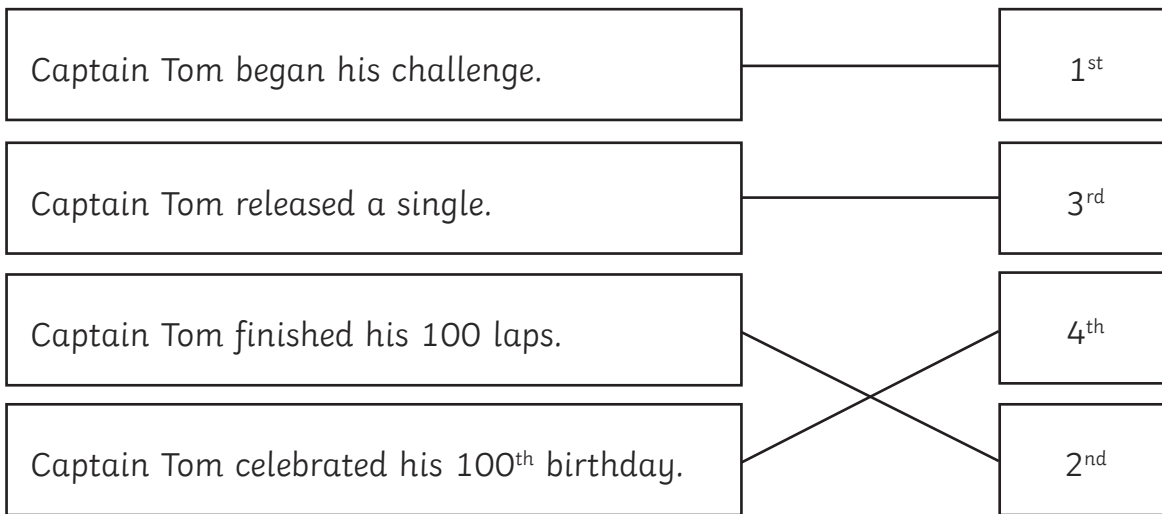7. Why do you think Captain Tom wanted to raise money for the NHS?

_____

_____

8. Describe Captain Tom in two words and explain your choices.

_____

_____

Captain Sir Thomas Moore Answers

1. What does NHS stand for? Tick **one**.

   ◯ New Hospital Staff

   ✓ **National Health Service**

   ◯ National Hospital Staff

   ◯ Nurses & Health Staff

2. Draw lines to show when the events happened.

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   ◯ sad

   ✓ **amazed**

   ◯ disappointed

   ✓ **humbled**

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

Captain Tom wanted to raise £1000.	True
Tom Jones released a single with Captain Tom.	False
Captain Tom raised money for the NHS.	True
Captain Tom used to be a sailor.	False

Captain Sir Thomas Moore Answers

5. Read the paragraph 'Why 100?' **Find** and **copy** one word that means the same as help.

    aid

6. Fill in the missing words.

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

7. 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.

8. Describe Captain Tom in two 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.