

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**®

Captain Tom Moore



Written by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrated by Christophe Jacques

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Frances Lincoln
Children's Books

Once there was a humble boy from Yorkshire who
was born with his feet firmly on the ground.





His name was Tom, and the day he started walking his parents realized he would never stop.





From an early age, he showed a passion for all kinds of engines. Tom was just twelve when he found a broken motorcycle in a barn. He bought it for two shillings and sixpence, determined to fix it and take to the road.



Tom was working as an apprentice engineer when he was called up to join the Duke of Wellington's Regiment and fight for his country in a faraway land. He had never left his family before, but his knees did not tremble.





As soon as he landed in India, Tom felt like he was in an entirely new world. Sometimes, he had to share his bed with spiders as big as the palm of his hand, and poisonous snakes, but next to his comrades he felt at home.

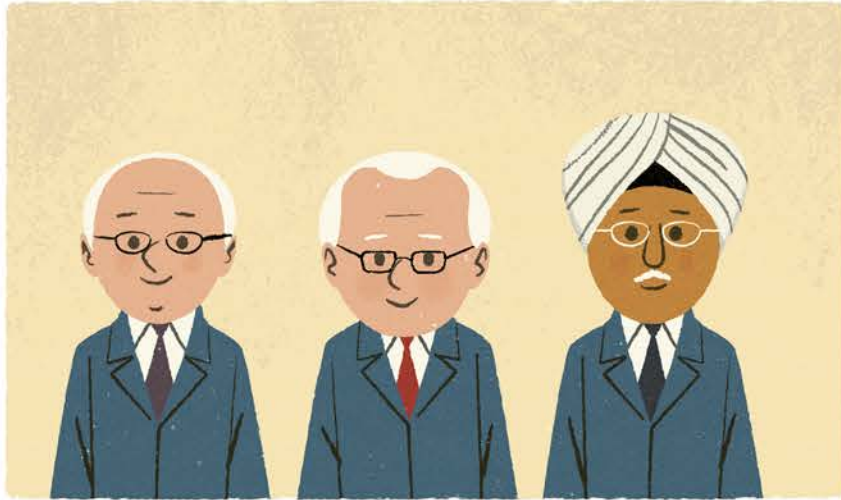


His firm determination and courage took him from soldier to Captain. Tom was always there to raise his team's spirits. Even in their toughest moments, under enemy fire, he knew they were on the winning side.









When the war ended, Captain Tom left the army and built a family, but he never forgot his friends. He started a reunion dinner that went on for 65 long years, until finally, it was just him answering his own invitation.

He was 90 when he slipped during his daily walk. After a few visits to the hospital, Captain Tom left with a ton of gratitude for the nurses and doctors who took care of him. And also, with a hip replacement and two new knees.

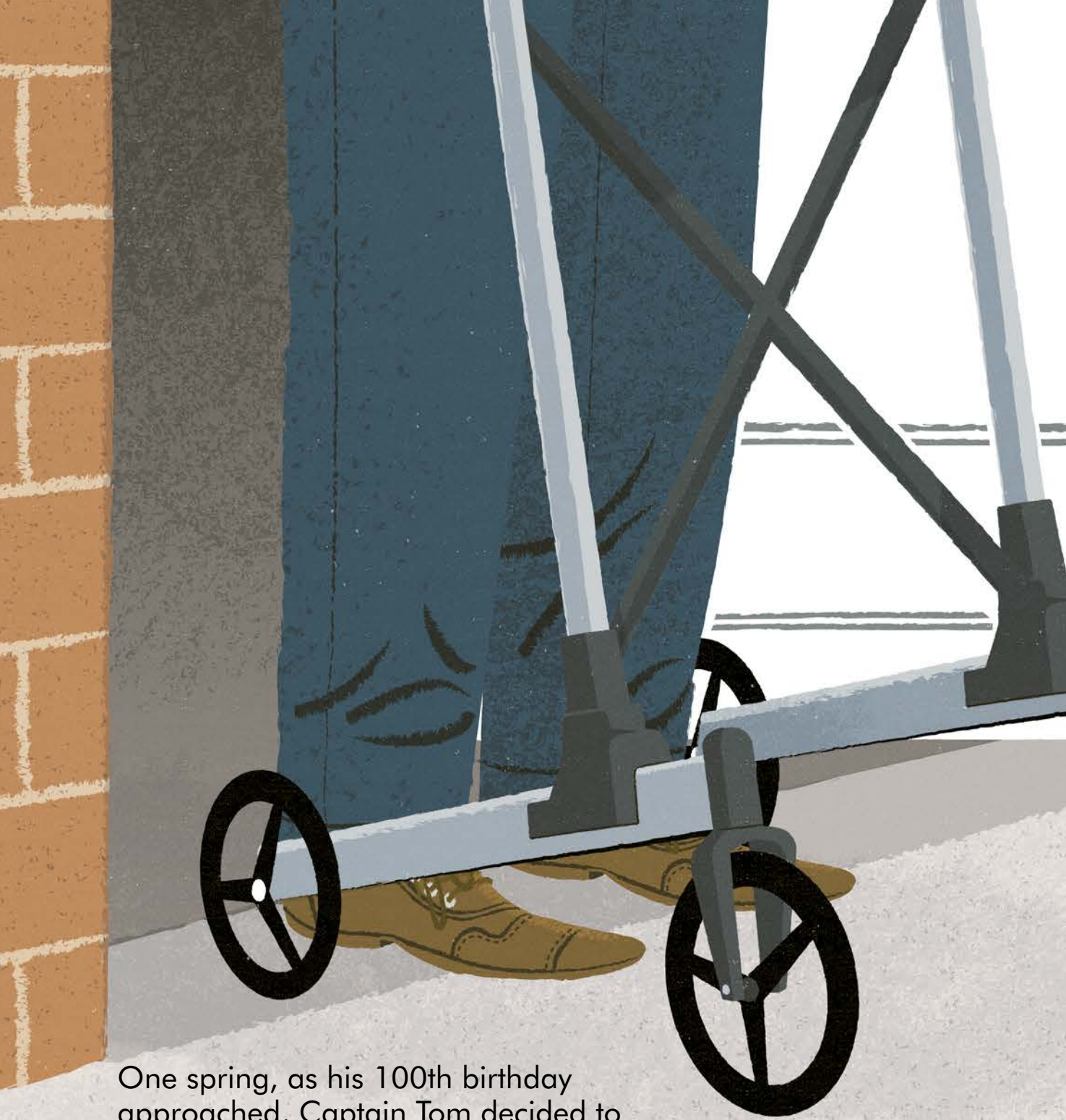




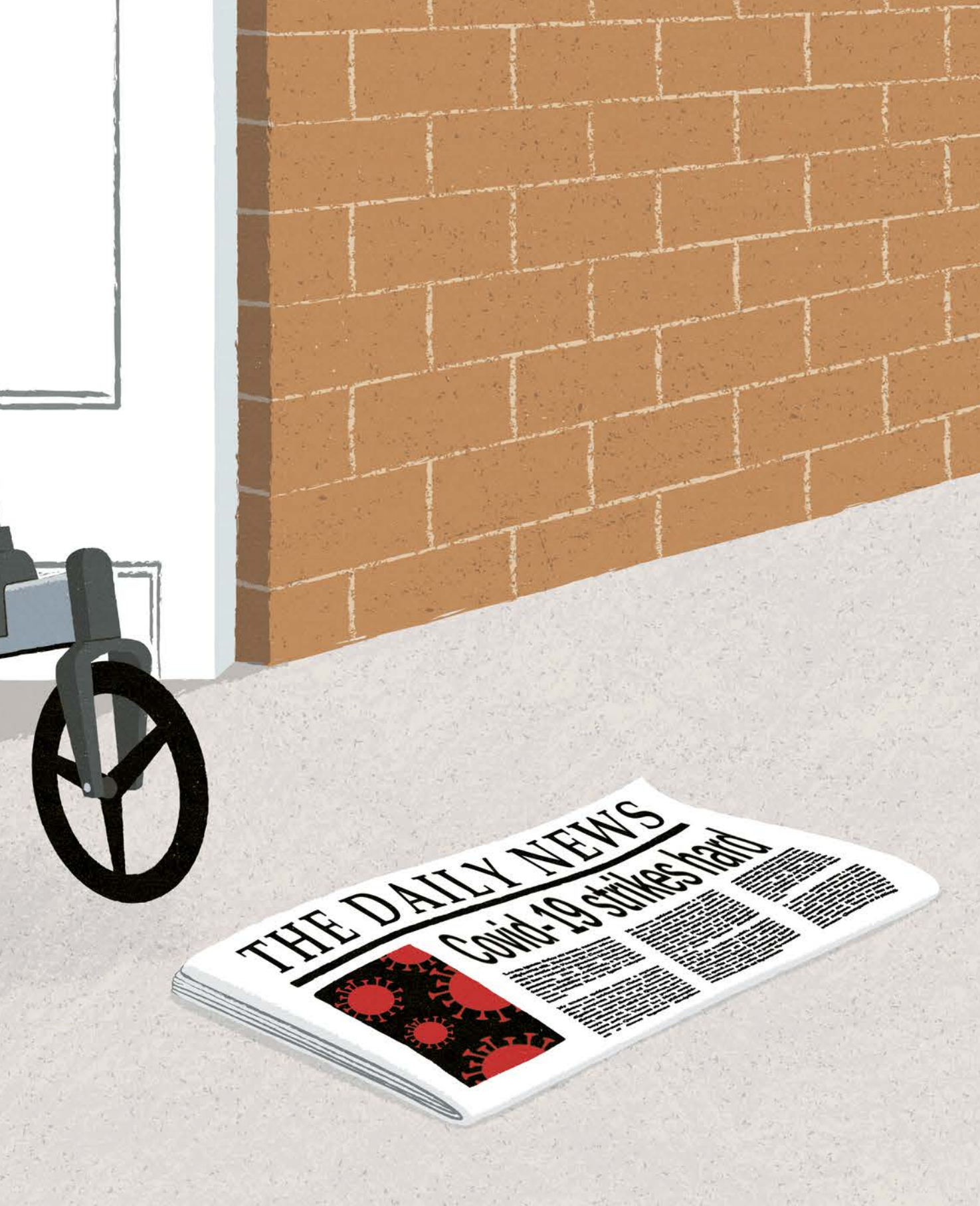
It takes just one step after another to get well, and Captain Tom couldn't wait to take the first. When his daughter found a treadmill on the drive and discovered it was Grandpa Tom who had bought it online, she felt very proud of him.







One spring, as his 100th birthday approached, Captain Tom decided to celebrate it by walking 100 laps of his garden before the big date arrived. He had just started walking when a global pandemic struck his country.



Holding his walking frame even tighter, Captain Tom kept marching with a new goal in mind. To raise one thousand pounds for those who once took care of him, and now were on the front line helping others: the healthcare staff.



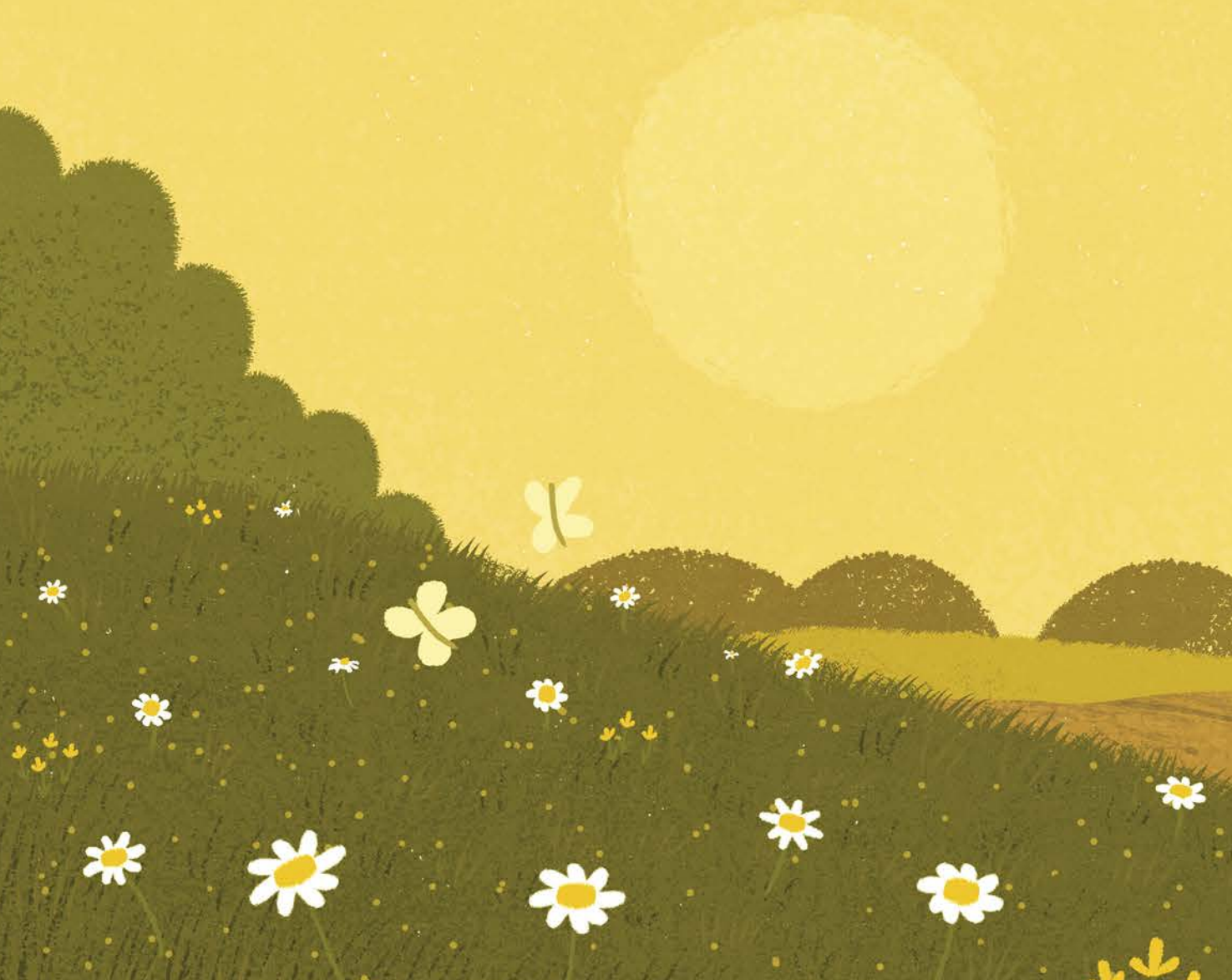




Everyone was so touched by Captain Tom's feat that, by his birthday, he raised more than 30 million pounds! His regiment was there to salute him, and he was sent cards from people all over the country, even from the Queen.



And tomorrow will be a new day and the sun will shine,
as little Tom goes for his daily stroll. The humble hero
and national treasure, who invites us to keep walking
next to him, never leaving anyone behind.





CAPTAIN TOM

(Born 1920)



c. 1940



2020

Tom Moore was born in Yorkshire in 1920. The world had just recovered from a flu pandemic, and people were starting to rebuild. Tom grew up with a love for all things practical and a knack for finding something to do to help. By the time Tom was 20, he was on his way to becoming a civil engineer. But then the world changed as another crisis struck: World War Two. In the army, Tom was sent to India, Burma, and Sumatra, where he helped keep tanks chugging along, and eventually was promoted to Captain. After the war, there was more rebuilding to do. The UK's National Health Service (NHS) was set up, which makes sure that people can get free healthcare at the point of use. Tom went back to Yorkshire, swapping tanks for motorcycles, which he raced and repaired. He married and raised



2020



2020

a family, living a quiet, happy life. But when Tom was 99, a pandemic hit, caused by the coronavirus. People were asked to stay at home to stop the spread and protect everyone's health. But trust Captain Tom to find something to do to help! In his army uniform and supported by his walking frame, he aimed to raise £1,000 for the NHS by walking 100 laps of his garden by his 100th birthday. Soon, people across the world were inspired by his goal, and had donated over £30 million! His 100th lap was celebrated with an RAF flyover, an honorary promotion to Colonel, and 120,000 birthday cards from people in the UK and beyond. He was even knighted by the Queen! Captain Sir Tom Moore shows the world that the best way to rebuild after a crisis is to come together—and keep on walking.

Want to find out more about **Captain Tom?**

Have a read of these great books:

One Hundred Steps: The Story of Captain Sir Tom Moore

by Captain Tom Moore and Adam Larkum



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Original concept of the series by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara, published by Alba Editorial, s.l.u

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First Published in the US in 2020 by Frances Lincoln Children's Books, an imprint of The Quarto Group.

100 Cummings Center, Suite 265D, Beverly, MA 01915, USA.

T +1 978-282-9590 F +1 078-283-2742 www.QuartoKnows.com

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A catalog record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-0-7112-6209-6

eISBN 978-0-7112-6208-9

Set in Futura BT.

Published by Katie Cotton • Designed by Karissa Santos

Edited by Katy Flint • Production by Nikki Ingram

Editorial Assistance from Alex Hithersay

Manufactured In Slovenia GP092020

1 3 5 7 9 8 4 6 2

Photographic acknowledgements (pages 28-29, from left to right): 1. Tom Moore (soldier), c. 1940, public domain. 2. Tom Moore, Military Veteran Who Raised Funds For NHS, Celebrates 100th Birthday, 2020 © Emma Sohl – Capture the Light Photography via Getty Images. 3. Birthday cards sent to Captain Tom Moore for his 100th birthday © Photo by Shaun Botterill/Getty. 4. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II uses the sword that belonged to her father, George VI as she confers the Honour of Knighthood on 100-year-old veteran Captain Tom Moore at Windsor Castle in Windsor, west of London on July 17, 2020 © Photo by CHRIS JACKSON/POOL/AFP via Getty Images.

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Captain Tom Moore

Discover the lives of outstanding people, from designers and artists to scientists. All of them achieved incredible things, yet each began life as a child with a dream.

Once there was a humble boy from Yorkshire called Tom, who was born with his feet firmly on the ground. His determination and courage saw him and his comrades through the worst crisis the world had ever known: World War Two. So when a new crisis struck in 2020, just before his 100th birthday, Captain Tom knew just what to do... This inspiring story of the captain's life features a facts and photos section at the back.

 9 780711 262096 www.quartoknows.com	51599 \$15.99 US \$18.99 CAN £9.99 UK Frances Lincoln Children's Books	 F L
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