



Veterans & Families – Listening Project

email: veteransnfamilies@yahoo.com

www.vflp.org.uk



Welcome to our July 2022

We're back
so
grab
a
snack
It's time for...

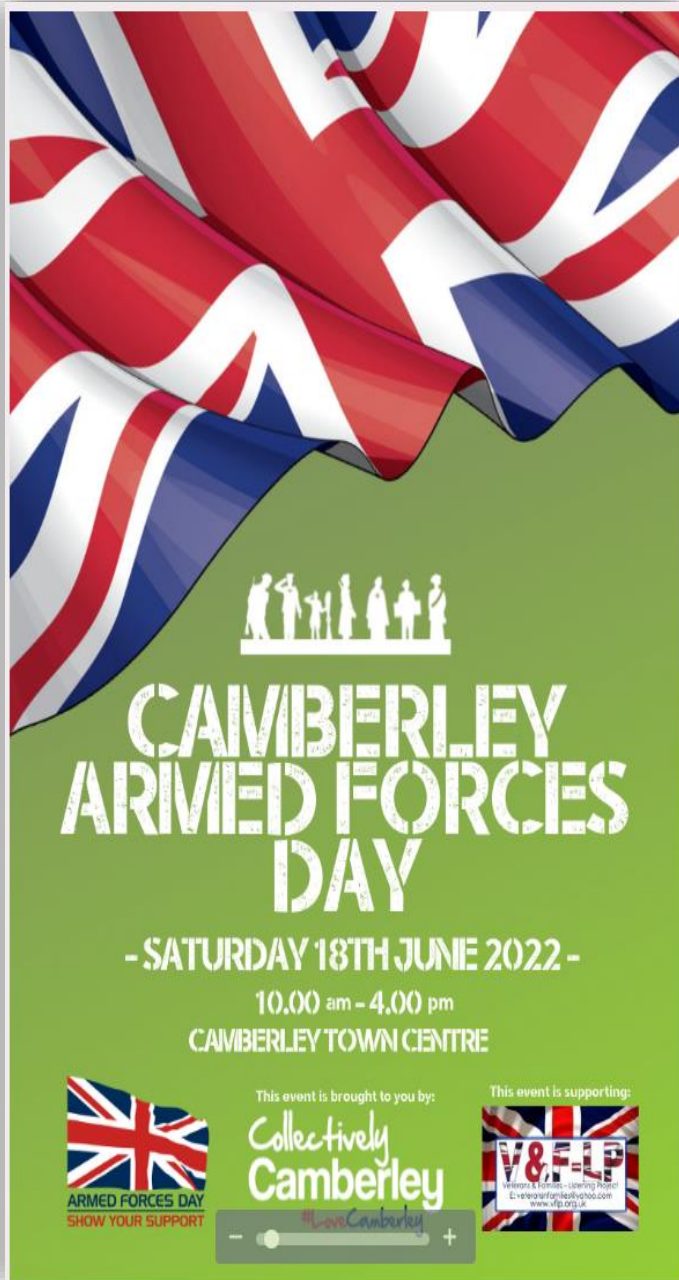
Hot Topics

...PLEASE NOTE...

August 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**Monday 8th August
V&F-LP Drop-In
will be closed**



We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you, to Jodie MacAndrew and Co. From Camberley Collective for organising the Camberley's Armed Forces Day celebrations, as well as a big, MASSIVE thank you to the FANTASTIC V&F-LP Team, you truly are OUTSTANDING.

Thank you too for the 'Real Camberley Hero' nomination, as well as raising over three hundred pounds. We truly do appreciate all your unconditional & continual support.





FUND

offers grants to
cover home fuel costs

The RAF Benevolent Fund, the RAF's leading welfare charity, has announced it is now offering grants of up to £520 towards home fuel costs amidst the current cost of living crisis.

On 1 April 2022, home fuel costs increased significantly for households across the UK as the energy price cap surged from £1,277 to £1,971. In response to the rapid and unprecedented rise in costs, the RAF Benevolent Fund has launched a grant for current and former members of the RAF, their partners and dependants, who may be struggling to make ends meet.

The grant supports those who have been most affected by the increase in home fuel costs as a proportion of their household income and is aimed at those who are in receipt of means tested benefits, such as Universal Credit or Pension Credit, and other households on low incomes.

Ian Johnson, Head of Individual Grants at the RAF Benevolent Fund, said: "As the cost of living crisis rages on, people are feeling more pressure to pay for everyday necessities such as food, petrol and energy, than ever before. To help ease this burden, we have introduced a one-off

home fuel grant and encourage members of the RAF

Family who may need it to get in touch with the Welfare team at the Fund to see how we might be able to help."

The government has announced two schemes to assist with increased energy costs – a council tax rebate of £150 for households in properties banded A-D and a £200 universal rebate in October. Though these schemes will provide some benefit, they will not come close to covering the shortfall that many families will experience in the coming year, highlighting the need for additional support.

To find out more information and eligibility for the RAF Benevolent Fund's home fuel grants, visit <https://bit.ly/38m0ayP>



**Royal Air Force
Benevolent Fund**

FITTING SEND-OFF FOR ARNHEN HERO

THE ashes of a renowned Second World War leader have been laid to rest after being lost for nearly 40 years.

Lt Gen Sir Brian Horrocks – who commanded XXX Corps at Arnhem – died in 1985, but his ashes were never collected from the funeral home in Chichester.

They were finally interred with full military honours at a ceremony at St Paul's Church in Mill Hill, attended by his descendants and troops from The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

Gen Horrocks received a Military Cross in the First World War and was taken prisoner twice.

At the 1924 Paris Olympics he competed in modern pentathlon.

Seriously wounded in North Africa in 1943, he recovered to lead the ground element of Operation Market Garden, a role immortalised by actor Edward Fox in the film *A Bridge Too Far*.

In 1949 he was appointed Black Rod.



www.soldiermagazine.co.uk JUNE 2022

PARAS ON PARADE

■ PARATROOPERS past and present will converge on Aldershot on June 18 to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands War.

Some 50 serving members of 2nd and 3rd Battalions, The Parachute Regiment will be joined by troops from 13 Air Assault Support Regiment and 47 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Logistic Corps – as well as veterans of the conflict – for a ceremony at the military cemetery followed by a parade through the town.

The Hampshire garrison was a hub for the airborne forces for 50 years before their move to Colchester.

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk JUNE 2022



VETERAN RETURNS TO SKIES ABOVE ARNHEN

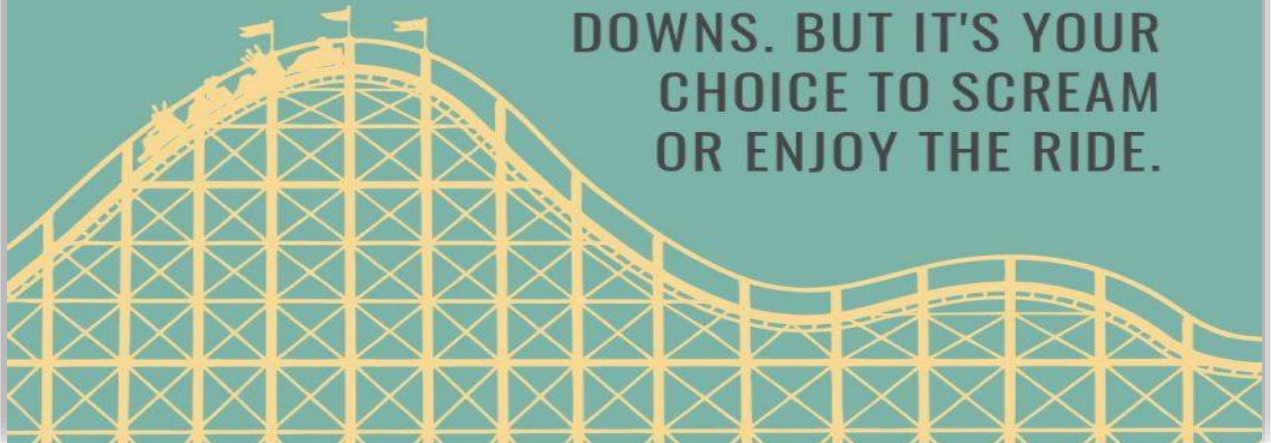
■ A FORMER soldier who took part in the glider assault on Arnhem during the Second World War soared over his former battlefields in more peaceful times as he took a seat in a modern sailplane. Ray Whitwell – who recently turned 103 – was on a visit to Holland organised by the Taxi Charity for Military Veterans when he was offered a flight at the Gelderse club with pilot Arjan Vrieze. The ex-Royal Army Service Corps soldier, who landed in the Netherlands as part of Operation Market Garden, said of the experience: "It was wonderful – but I was glad it was 2022 down there and not 1944."

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

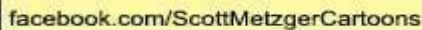


FIZZIN'
WITH
FLAVOUR

LIFE IS LIKE A
Roller Coaster



**DOWNS. BUT IT'S YOUR
CHOICE TO SCREAM
OR ENJOY THE RIDE.**





'Mindboggling' support from vets

Care home worker left humbled by strength of those he helps to look after

A UKRAINIAN nurse caring for British veterans has spoken of being humbled by their support amid the war raging in his homeland.

Yuriy Bukovych, who works at the Royal Star and Garter Home in Solihull, was left devastated by scenes of the Russian invasion.

But the ex-Ukrainian army medic said he had drawn huge strength from the former soldiers and his colleagues, who had all rallied around to offer assistance.

In addition to emotional support, they held a cake sale and raffle that raised over £900 for the British Red Cross appeal.

Father-of-two Yuriy – whose own parents still live in Ukraine – said he had been left shocked by the invasion.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing – I would never have imagined that this is possible in the modern world," he said.

"A lot of my friends are on the front line – one of them is highly ranked in the army – and my parents live in Khust to the west of the country.

"They have to go to bomb shelters several times a day – I worry a lot about whether they will continue to receive their pension and if the city can cope with thousands of refugees.

"But the support I have had from the very first hours of the war from Royal Star and Garter has been mindboggling – it is proof that everyone cares and I'm so grateful."

Yuriy, who has worked in the health sector since moving to the UK 20 years ago and has been with Royal Star and Garter for more than a decade,

believes he now has a new bond with the home's residents, some of whom fought against Nazi Germany.

"They have been watching all of this unfold on television and saying how horrified they are," he continued. "It has brought back a lot of memories for people and made me aware of what they had to go through during the Second World War."

And one moment in particular proved especially moving.

"I had a 100-year-old holding my hand and asking if I was okay – it makes me realise how special this place is," he added.

Royal Star and Garter staff have praised their colleague.

Solihull home boss Jamie Stubbs said: "It is hard to imagine all that Yuriy has been going through but he has continued to deliver care with courage.

"Staff and residents pride themselves on being part of the Royal Star and Garter family – I'm delighted we are able to support him and raise money for the relief effort." ■

Yuriy Bukovych and Royal Star and Garter residents. The Ukrainian says he has a new bond with those who fought Nazism



Picture: Shutterstock

“A lot of my friends are on the front line”

SOUTHPORT SUPPORT

■ A VETERANS hub has been created in central Southport by The Royal British Legion. Open to anyone for a chat and a cup of tea, it was set up to combat loneliness and provide more visibility for the charity.

"We wanted something modern and forward-thinking that would be accessible by everyone and would also attract veterans of working age," said branch secretary Sarah McEntee.

Visit branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/southport

VETERAN PLEA

● I AM frequently asked by veterans who I work with if there is a commemorative medal they could wear on their regimental corps blazers – despite never having completed an operational tour – for the sake of their pride and self-esteem?

They are honoured to have served their country, many for more than ten years, and want to display their patriotism and ongoing emotional attachment to the British Army.

The fact they never deployed on an operational tour is usually down to circumstance rather than design.

– Name and address supplied

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

Col Leigh Drummond, Assistant Head, Personnel Services, Army Headquarters, responds:

Official recognition of service for all Armed Forces veterans, irrespective of other awards or medals they may have been given, is the Veterans Badge.

Various unofficial medals are designed and manufactured by certain private enterprises, such as the National Defence Medal, the Veterans Star, and the so-called British Army of the Rhine Medal.

These are designed to commemorate some form of service with the Armed Forces, usually where no official MoD recognition has been given.

They have not been approved by the Queen and must not be mounted with official orders, decorations and medals.

However, veterans can wear unofficial honours mounted on a separate bar, although they carry no form of official endorsement by the MoD or Her Majesty.



**WE'VE
GOT
GREAT
NEWS**

Returning

**Monday 12th
September**

10:00 am – 1:30 pm



Kingsclear Memory Cafe



8am to 10am - Last Thursday of Every Month

Join us for our Memory Cafe to hear from our team and guest speakers providing information and advice around living well with dementia. It is an opportunity to ask questions and share experiences in a safe and supportive environment.

Get in
touch

Call us on freephone 0808 223 5516
Email to book a place j.barr@caringhomes.org
Park Road, Camberley
Surrey, GU15 2LN

Kingsclear
✱
CARING HOMES

Follow us today on:



www.linkedin.com/in/veterans-families-listening-project-aa9a74b0/



www.facebook.com/VeteransnFamiliesListeningProject



@VnF_LP



Veterans & Families – Listening Project
email: veteransnfamilies@yahoo.com
www.vflp.org.uk

V&F-LP is an independent member of ASDIC.
The association of Ex-Service Drop-in Centres,
Linking Veterans' Drop-ins together across the
United Kingdom.



www.vflp.org.uk

email: veteransnfamilies@yahoo.com
Veterans & Families – Listening Project

United Kingdom

Linking Veterans' Drop-ins together across the



Patreon.com/ScottMetzgerCartoons

METZGER

Remember

Returning



**Monday 12th
September**

10:00 am – 1:30 pm



What we do

We provide free support for veterans and their families, including a helpline, Veterans Welfare Service, Defence Transition Services and injury/bereavement compensation scheme payments.

Contact Veterans UK

Veterans UK helpline

Veterans UK
Ministry of Defence
Norcross
Thornton Cleveleys
FY5 3WP
United Kingdom

Email

veterans-uk@mod.gov.uk

Freephone (UK only):

0808 1914 2 18

Telephone (overseas):

+44 1253 866 043

Our current opening hours are *8.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday.
Please email us for enquiries outside these times.



Thank you
VETERANS
HONOURING ALL WHO SERVED



Take care
From the team V&F-LP

All information is correct at the time of going to press & PDF
Veterans & Families-Listening Project (V&F-LP)
does not endorse any products or service(s) advertised

*Subject to change

