

SHV&F-LP

Surrey Heath Veterans & Families – Listening Project

e:mail:surreyheath.veterans@yahoo.com

www.shvflp.org.uk



Tuesday 10th April 2018

SHV&F-LP supports our Armed Forces by putting Veterans & Families first, throughout Surrey, Berkshire, Hampshire, and the UK.



Robert Locking - Armed Forces Engagement Officer for British Forces Resettlement Services BFRS. His position within the company enables him to travel throughout the country meeting with those that are involved in Resettlement within their respective Unit, Station or Ship.

Not only does he meet with serving personnel, Robert also visit places such as Mick Jackson House, The Beacon and the Launch Pad in Newcastle assisting the those that may have come across hard times. As well as visiting Prisons to provide the services BFRS provide to the Veterans in Custody, as we are here for the whole of the Armed Forces Community.

BFRS assist the Armed Forces Community find their second career outside of the Forces, this is done in many ways with their main effort being the National Employment & Career Fairs which are hosted in the major garrison towns throughout the country.

For further information on the services that BFRS provide please visit the website www.bfrss.org.uk

WINNERS OF
EAGLE RADIO - LOCAL HEROES FOR
MILITARY & EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARD 2017

Guest Organisations & Charities
that you can chat to, NO appointment needed.



You can speak privately, as well as confidentially to representatives from a variety of guest charities available. Accessible support and advice for Veterans & Families.

- * NO appointment necessary ✓
- * Walk-in's welcome ✓
- * Open to suggestions ✓
- * NO waiting time ✓

VETERAN'S WELL-BEING GROUP

Our Veterans' led Well-Being group is supported by TalkPlus you are welcome to attend, all it will cost you is your time, walk-ins are welcome.

WINNERS OF
 EAGLE RADIO - LOCAL HEROES FOR
 MILITARY & EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARD 2017



"Look, I've got nine lives and can sneak up on the best of 'em—it's following orders that I have a problem with."

GRAB A SNACK, & COME ON BACK IT'S..... TIME FOR HOT-TOPICS



LEAVERS: HELP AT HAND

ARMED Forces Charity SSAFA has launched a new mentoring facility for Service Leavers.

The two-year trial at Catterick Garrison will offer troops, emotional and practical help through weekly face-to-face meetings, which

supplement the support provided by the Army and Career Transition Partnership.

Catterick - based personnel can apply via their employment advisor, resettlement career consultant or directly via the charity. For further information:

www.ssafa.org.uk/help-you/currently-serving/mentoring/transitional-mentoring-catterick
REF: SOLDIER: Magazine of the British Army, page 11. March 2018

WINNERS OF
EAGLE RADIO - LOCAL HEROES FOR
MILITARY & EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARD 2017

Simpler Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures for the AFPS

New streamlined changes make the Armed Forces Pension Schemes Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures simpler



MOD's Veterans UK organisation, part of Defence Business Services, have taken steps to simplify the Armed Forces Pension Schemes complaints process, known as the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedures.

Veterans UK have listened to and taken on board the advice from The Pensions Ombudsman that the complaints process should be accessible, simple, and streamlined with the aim of achieving the right outcome at the earliest opportunity. Sharing that view Veterans UK have shortened the overall process so that they can provide a decision in a quicker timeframe. This change will come into effect from 01 April 2018.

The Pension Regulator expects that a decision will be made on a dispute within four months of receiving an application. The streamlined single stage IDR process will reduce this further, with Veterans UK operating a 60 working days timeline after investigations concluded that this could reduce the time taken to process a complaint by 25%.

Published 28 March 2018

From: Ministry of Defence and Veterans UK

REF: www.gov.uk/government/news/simpler-internal-dispute-resolution-procedures-for-the-afps

Elderly Gay Veterans Could Be Pardoned

VETERANS who were convicted of sexual offences before homosexuality between men was decriminalised five decades ago may be eligible for a pardon under legislation known as Turing's Law.

Those who served until 1967 can now apply to the Home Office for a pardon. If granted, they can contact the MoD Medal Office to establish whether it would be appropriate for Service decorations to be reinstated.

Pardon Definition:

A pardon is a government decision to allow a person who has been convicted of a crime, to be free and absolved of that conviction, as if never convicted.

Only the abolished offenses in the Sexual Offences Act 1956 and earlier civilian legislation-which relate to gay sex-are covered, even if they were tried by court martial. Other military offences, such as disgraceful conduct of an indecent kind of scandalous conduct by an officer, are not currently covered but may be considered for future changes.

An MoD representative said "This is a complex area-we are asking people to contact the Home Office in the first instance and, if a pardon is granted, individuals may then approach the MoD. It is important to note that the act that attracted the discharge must not remain an offence today – it must have been consensual and with a person over the age of 16."

The Protection of Freedom Act 2012 and the Policing and Crime Act 2012 made the Pardoning of the historic offences relating to gay sex possible.

REF: SOLDIER: Magazine of the British Army, page 11. March 2018

Congratulations

SAPPER SUPPORT



Always there when needed.

A 24/7 mental health helpline, set-up after the death of a Royal Engineer, has been recognised with a national award. Founded by Tim Evers following the loss of his colleague Chris Walmsley, Sapper Support: www.sappersupport.com received the BEST new charity accolade at the Charity Times Awards.

Although the organisation initially helped Royal Engineers, its nine volunteers now work across all three-Armed Forces as well as blue light services.

Evers, who left the Army two decades ago and is now a firefighter with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, said it had been “an honour” to receive the gong.

Call Sapper Support On: **0800-040-7873 OR 0800-040-7783**

REF: SOLDIER: Magazine of the British Army, page 21. March 2018



Ministry
of Defence

Veterans UK

Guidance

War Pension Scheme: what you need to know

Updated 12 March 2018

There are several compensation schemes administered by Veterans UK on behalf of the Ministry of Defence available to serving and former serving personnel who are injured as a result of their service in the armed forces. The scheme that applies to each individual will depend on when and where you served and when you were injured.

The War Pensions Scheme (WPS)

Your claim can be considered under the WPS if you are no longer serving and your disablement was caused as a result of service in the armed forces before 6 April 2005.

WINNERS OF
EAGLE RADIO - LOCAL HEROES FOR
MILITARY & EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARD 2017

The Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)

You can claim under the AFCS where the illness or injury was caused as a result of service on or after 6 April 2005. You do not need to have left the armed forces before claiming.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation (Overseas) Scheme (CICO)

You can claim under the CICO if you or your eligible dependants are the innocent victim of a crime of violence while serving overseas.

REF: www.gov.uk/government/publications/war-pension-scheme/war-pension-scheme-what-you-need-to-know

You can follow SHV&F-LP on: -



www.linkedin.com/in/surrey-heath-veterans-families-lp



www.facebook.com/surreyheath.veterans



@SHVeterans

We look forward to seeing you on
Tuesday 11th April 2018

NEW ADDRESS:

St Mary's Church & Centre
Park Road, Camberley; GU15 2SR
10:00 am- 1:00 pm
www.shvflp.org.uk

Tea & Coffee available...

Information correct at the time of going to press & PD

WINNERS OF
EAGLE RADIO - LOCAL HEROES FOR
MILITARY & EMERGENCY SERVICES AWARD 2017