

DONCASTER ARMED FORCES & VETERAN'S STEERING GROUP

Quarterly Newsletter



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Doncaster
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Strategic Lead



Doncaster Carer's Wellbeing Service

The new Carer's Service in Doncaster

Being a carer can be physically and emotionally demanding. If you choose to support someone with a long term health condition or disability, we can help you to do so, without it having a negative impact on your life.

In this issue, we give you all the information you need to know about the new service that is there to support carers.

FOREWORD
*Councillor Mark
Houlbrook*
*Doncaster's Armed Forces
& Veteran's Champion*



Cllr Mark Houlbrook meeting with Steve Lowe, Project Nova

2022 has been an extraordinary year already.

On 14 June 2022 we remembered veterans of the Falkland's campaign and their families, bereaved family members, and civilians on the 40th Anniversary of the conflict.

June was also a time for celebration as we marked 70yrs of her Majesty the Queen's reign with Platinum Jubilee celebrations across Doncaster.

This is obviously tinged with great sadness with the passing of Queen Elizabeth II in September this year. On behalf of Doncaster Armed Forces & Veteran's Steering Group and as ex-military personnel, I would like to offer my thanks to all that Her Majesty did in 70 impeccable years as the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

On Saturday 24th June we celebrated Armed Forces Day in Doncaster with a fantastic parade through the City Centre and entertainment in Sir Nigel Gresley Square. We are now planning for 2023 and hope to make this the best yet!

Over the past few months, I have had the pleasure of meeting some fantastic individuals, groups and organisations who are working to support Veterans and those serving in the Armed Forces. We have forged close links with the Coldstream Guards, Gurkhas and the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (KOYLI). I am always amazed and humbled by the incredible work that goes on.

Remembrance Observations in Doncaster

Armistice Day - Friday 11th November 2022

The Armistice Day event takes place on the steps of the Mansion House. Because of the restricted space, we cannot accommodate a large contingent from your association but we would very much welcome your presence and that of a small contingent from your group. We ask that you arrive at the Mansion House for 10.20 a.m. where light refreshments will be served. At 10.45 a.m. invited guests will gather on the steps of The Mansion House to be welcomed by Ros Jones the Mayor of Doncaster.

The Vicar of Doncaster Minster, Canon David Stevens will then say prayers and a representative of the Royal British Legion will perform the Act of Homage. At 10.58 a.m. a Bugler will sound the Last Post and Two Minutes Silence will be observed.

Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 13th November

The traditional Remembrance Observance at the War Memorial, Bennetthorpe

- At 10:45 a.m. a Service of Remembrance will take place at the War Memorial on Bennetthorpe (opposite Elmfield Park gates). It will include the Last Post and Reveille, an Act of Homage and Wreath Laying Ceremony.
- Immediately following the conclusion of this service there will be a Parade to the Minster of St George (approx. 11:20 a.m.)
- As the parade passes the Mansion House the Civic Mayor, Councillor Ian Pearson, The Mayor, Ros Jones and senior military representatives will take the salute. (approx 11.25 a.m.)
- The parade arrives at the Minster of St. George where there will be a Service of Remembrance (commencing 11.45 a.m.)

If you wish to be part of the Parade please gather at the Cenotaph War Memorial no later than 10.25 a.m. in order that the Parade Marshal can guide you to your allocated place.

Free car parking is available at all Council owned car parks (the nearest being the Chamber Road Car Park off College Road (DN1 3BU) or the Scarborough House Car Park on Chequer Road (DN1 2DB).

Other services of Remembrance will take place throughout the City, but these will be arranged by community groups, Parish Councils etc. and not by Doncaster Council.

Recent Highlights

Falkland's 40th Anniversary

This year, we marked the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War. The conflict started on 2nd April 1982 and utilised all elements of the Armed Forces. It lasted 74 days, during which 255 British personnel lost their lives. In Doncaster, Falkland's Heroes were remembered by the unveiling of memorial benches in the City.



Doncaster's Falkland War heroes and friends and family attend the unveiling of memorial benches.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Queen's Beacon Lighting in Wadworth

Doncaster celebrated the late Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee with events across the city.

From Street Parties to Beacon Lightings, communities came together to mark this momentous occasion.

Annual Gurkha Celebration



Cllr Mark Houlbrook with members of the Gurkha community

In October, Mayor Ros Jones and Veteran's Champion, Cllr Mark Houlbrook were delighted to be invited to the Gurkha Annual Celebration. It is hoped that this will lead to a great relationship moving forward and we hope to see Gurkha involvement in next year's Armed Forces Day Celebrations.

October 2022

Armed Forces Day 2022

On 25th June Doncaster celebrated Armed Forces Day with a parade and activities in Sir Nigel Gresley Square. Plans are underway to ensure that the 2023 celebrations are the best yet .



Pictured is 219 Squadron of the Royal Logistics Corp receiving the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal from Civic Mayor, Cllr Ian Pearson.

Doncaster Carer's Wellbeing Service

If you're living in Doncaster and are an unpaid carer for a loved one, relative or neighbour then we are here to help to help you.

We can support you in your caring role, help you to stay connected in your community and provide you with guidance and advice.



We offer:

1-to-1 Support

We know that being a carer can be challenging at times, which is why our friendly and compassionate team are with you every step of the way to make sure you receive the best possible support.

Peer Support

We believe that being a carer is easier when you have people around you who understand what you are going through. Our peer support groups will bring together a network of carers in your local community who will help pick you up when you're down and celebrate the everyday successes of being a carer.

Information and Guidance

Our job is to make sure that your commitment is recognised by those that matter, and that positive steps are taken to enhance, prioritise and protect your wellbeing. We will identify support services available to both yourself and the person you are caring for.



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space

Angela Waite Carer's Strategic Lead, Doncaster Council

We recognise there are many Veterans who are also Carers or who need support themselves.

In Doncaster we want to ensure that all Veterans and Carers get the support they need. I am happy to announce that we recently launched the new Carer's Wellbeing Service.

We welcome you if you are a Veteran and a Carer, to connect if you need support, advice or information.

It is also **Carers Rights Day on Thursday 24th November 2022**. It is important that you understand your rights as well as having access to the support you need. Many family/unpaid carers have caring responsibilities for their relatives, friend or neighbours.

Each year Carers Rights Day brings organisations together to enable them to support carers and provide information and guidance on how they can seek support.

Carer's Rights Day Event

Where: St Peter-in-Chains, Chequer Road, Doncaster, DN1 2AA

When: Thursday 24th November 2022

Time: 11:30am - 2:30pm



DoncasterCarers.WellbeingService@makingspace.co.uk



01302 986900



www.makingspace.co.uk/doncaster-carers-wellbeing-service



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NEW Doncaster Central Armed Forces Breakfast Club

Every Sunday
9am - 11.30am

Red Lion Wetherspoons,
Market Place, DN1 1NH

Our purpose of the AFVBC is to facilitate veterans and serving Armed Forces personnel to meet face to face in a relaxed, safe social environment to enjoy breakfast and banter, to combat loneliness and allow veterans to 'return to the tribe'.

FREE TO ATTEND - There are no fees, subs or commitments. We don't exist to support any national charity, organisation or business. Just turn up, pay for your own breakfast (which the Red Lion Wetherspoons kindly discount for AFVBC Members) and enjoy the company of other Armed Forces Veterans.

For more information email:
doncastercentralafvbc@gmail.com



Doncaster Mayor, Ros Jones & Veteran's Champion, Cllr Mark Houlbrook meet with the Doncaster Central AFVBC

VETERANS

Looking for a Career Conversation?

Are you a Veteran or looking to leave the Armed Forces and wanting to explore careers across the City region?

These exclusive events will give you the first steps to accessing recruiting employers and tailored support to explore your options and next steps.

These are **FREE** drop-in events, no need to book!

For more information, please email: advance@doncaster.gov.uk

or call: **01302 735554** and select option 2



Where & When

Wednesday 19th October 10am - 2pm Doncaster Gallery, Library & Musuem, DN1 3BZ	Thursday 20th October 10am - 3pm Hilton Hotel, Leger Way DN2 6BB
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FIT FORCES

A project that supports the mental health and wellbeing of people that have served in our Armed Forces over land, sea and air

Fit Forces run by Club Doncaster Foundation and funded by People Focused Group (PFG), specifically available to veterans and those who have served within the Armed Forces.

The project consists of a range of sessions including walk and talk sessions, bike rides, gym sessions, football games, and monthly events such as fishing and weekends away. There are also opportunities to socialise with other veterans through NAAFI breaks within Foundation Fitness.

The runs every Saturday, from 9am-11am.

Your first session will include an introduction to the facilities available at Foundation Fitness, a stroll around the lake, followed by a quiz and the chance to meet other participants.

Each session will be delivered by veterans, Blue Thornhill and Mark Innis, who have 25 years of service within the army, and both believe the sessions are vital for former service persons.

"It's the physical, social and mental wellbeing and that's what we'll be focusing on within this group," Innis said.

"The sessions will be light-hearted and we want to make them as social as possible."

Health and Wellbeing Officer, Josh Bucknall, runs several projects around Doncaster aimed at improving mental and physical health and believes Fit Forces is a vital addition to the Foundation's offering.

"We've looked around Doncaster, and there's nothing similar set up like this, so we're hoping that people can come here and feel a part of the family - exactly like we do with all our other projects."



"We want to reconnect veterans, as there are a lot who have left the army and don't have friends. That's what we want these sessions to be about."

To find out more, please contact fitrovers@clubdoncasterfoundation.co.uk

LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS

We are keen to get your feedback on the content of these newsletters.

If you have any ideas for future issues or questions on anything included, please contact by either email or telephone.



ArmedForcesCovenant@doncaster.gov.uk



01302 735553



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