

Cymru am Byth



Welsh Guards Charity Impact Report 2017-18



Registered Charity Number 1152766



Foreword

Major General RJÆ Stanford MBE
Regimental Lieutenant Colonel and Chairman of Trustees

The first Charity Impact Report for the Welsh Guards was produced to cover 2016/17 and I am pleased how well it was received across the Regiment and more broadly. This second report covers the Charity's work in 2017/18 and I am sure it will be equally well received. The Charity's work is immense in both scope and scale; only a fraction of its output can be reflected in this report which provides an excellent overview of what we have managed to achieve.

We remain ever grateful to the many who continue to support the charity and to all who have helped raise funds, or make donations, you have my and the Regiment's warmest thanks.

Without your help we could not achieve all we do.

My thanks also go to the many Service Charities who we work with and who do so much to support us, not least ABF the Soldiers Charity, SSAFA Forces Help, Help for Heroes and the Royal British Legion.

I believe our charity is in an excellent place thanks to the help of all our supporters, the Battalion, Band and Association. We support many people across a wide spectrum of activities and in so doing we achieve our charitable objectives.

I commend this report to you.



Regimental Trustees 2018

Major General RJÆ Stanford MBE
Captain TC Macdonald-Milner
Captain BMH Branston
Captain BCM Lewis
Captain RS Mason
Captain P Craig-Cooper
Captain R Forrest
Mrs M Bowen
TA Cooper Esq
D H Helm Esq
JAJ Price Esq
SC Rhodes Esq

Useful Links

Welsh Guards Charity

www.welshguardscharity.co.uk

1st Battalion Welsh Guards Website

www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/corps-regiments-and-units/infantry/welsh-guards/

1st Battalion Welsh Guards Facebook

www.facebook.com/1stBattalionWelshGuards

Welsh Guards Just Giving Page

www.justgiving.com/welshguardscharity

Welsh Guards Reunited

www.welshguardsreunited.co.uk

Cover photo – Funded by the Welsh Guards Charity, Members of 1st Battalion Welsh Guards visit the village of St Charles de Percy, Normandy to take part in a Remembrance Parade. Photo taken in front of the French Resistance Memorial with the Mayor, Jacques Desormeau.



Welsh Guards Charity

The Welsh Guards Charity was established in 2013 as a result of amalgamating several different Regimental Charities and Funds. The Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal, which was started in 2009 because of the significant numbers killed in action and injured on the Battalion's first tour to Afghanistan in 2009, is also part of the charity. With further deaths and casualties on the Battalion's second tour in 2012, the Appeal continued to grow into a nationwide appeal with an immense amount of success and support, including from the Worshipful Company of Drapers, former Welsh Rugby Union Captain Ryan Jones, the Peterson Family, Walk on Wales and our families and friends raising very large sums of money.

Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Registration Number 1152766), the Welsh Guards charity has the following charitable objectives:

- ▶ **To promote the efficiency of the Welsh Guards, by fostering esprit de corps and by such other means as the trustees shall from time to time determine.**
- ▶ **To commemorate and remember those members, or former members, of the Welsh Guards who have lost their lives or suffered injury, or put themselves at risk of loss of life or injury, in service to the public.**

- ▶ **To relieve either generally or individually persons who are serving or who have served in the Welsh Guards or the dependants of such persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.**
- ▶ **To advance the education of the public, including members of the Welsh Guards, in the history deeds, traditions and role of the Welsh Guards.**

The Welsh Guards Charity website was launched in September 2017 and pulls together all the various strands into one easily navigable place. Giving examples of the work we do, details on fundraising, news on the Battalion and the Association, events, a PRI shop, how to donate and much more besides, it can be visited at; www.welshguardscharity.co.uk



Welsh Guards Charity wristbands available at £5 (incl P&P) for two from www.welshguardscharity.co.uk

REGIMENTAL VETERANS OFFICER

Established in 2014, the Regimental Veterans Officer (RVO) is funded entirely by the Welsh Guards Charity to ensure that Welsh Guardsmen, past, present, future and their families have a dedicated individual to turn to in times of need, hardship or simply for advice.

Jiffy Myers MBE is available to anyone requiring help or advice from the Welsh Guards charity and is contactable on:

welshguardsrvo@gmail.com
Tel: 07456 985729

Welsh Guards Christmas Card 2018



This quality card from an original painting by Sean Bolan is sold in aid of the Welsh Guards Charity at a cost of £1 each. Order through the WG PRI at www.welshguardscharity.co.uk



Income and Expenditure

Income

2017/18 has seen an income of over £340,000 into the Welsh Guards Charity, with once again, the Welsh Guards Charity Investment Portfolio, donations and the continued support from serving Welsh Guardsmen with the Day's Pay Scheme underpinning all that we are able to achieve. The Day's Pay Scheme has seen an increase in take up and is now at 96.5% of all serving Welsh Guardsmen contributing (resulting in an additional £10,000 per year income for the charity).

We have received some most generous donations this year from our many wonderful supporters and these three income streams have allowed us to continue making grants for the good and benefit of Welsh Guardsmen and their families whether serving or retired.



Expenditure

The Regimental Trustees have again been most generous in authorising funding in all areas to fulfil the objectives of the Welsh Guards Charity (as listed on page 2) and with Esprit de Corps activity receiving over 41% of all expenditure, serving Welsh Guardsmen everywhere (not just in 1WG) are benefitting greatly.

Governance costs (accountancy, insurances, postage etc) are being kept to a minimum and stand at just 11% of expenditure with both Heritage/Veterans and Welfare/Benevolence receiving roughly equal shares of expenditure at 25% and 23% respectively.

Examples of this expenditure for the good and benefit of all Welsh Guardsmen are given on the following pages.



Free WG Charity Tee Shirt for all fundraisers

for details
www.welshguardscharity.co.uk

We've come a long way - extract from the 1965 Regimental Magazine

REGIMENTAL CHARITABLE FUNDS

It is generally well known these days that Charitable Funds exist within the Regiment to assist members and ex-members of the Regiment and their dependants who have fallen on hard times. These funds are legacies which have been left to the Regiment by officers and are invested and administered by the Regimental Trustees. The income is available for distribution by the Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel.

During 1964, this Headquarters assisted 86 cases and the total amount paid out in grants was £487 5s. 8d. In addition two ex-members of the Regiment received grants totalling £27 from the Guards Home Account towards the education of their children.



How we help - Welfare and Benevolence

Throughout 2017 the Welsh Guards Charity has supported our soldiers, veterans and families with over £104,000 spent on welfare associated activity, with the Welsh Guards Charity funded Regimental Veterans Officer (RVO) being the lynchpin who draws the various welfare strands together.

Home and hospital visits are conducted at the request of the individual, with support and advice provided [confidentially] either directly through the Welsh Guards Charity or

other Service Charities such as SSAFA, Royal British Legion, Army Benevolent Fund or Help for Heroes.

A lot of those who receive support contact SSAFA in the first instance with SSAFA then referring all cases to the RVO and other relevant Service Charities. SSAFA does not provide any funding, this comes from the Welsh Guards Charity and the other Service Charities that have been asked to help. SSAFA provides the Caseworkers necessary

to complete the procedure for grants to be issued.

The RVO also refers Veterans and families for specialist support through various agencies and charities including Veterans NHS Wales, Combat Stress, H4H Hidden Wounds, Homes for Veterans and local Government organisations. This year the RVO has conducted over 100 visits in support of Welsh Guardsmen and their families.

The WG Charity receives and processes requests for support almost every week and if necessary, other Service Charities are also asked to help. All requests are treated in the strictest of confidence which precludes us from going into greater details, but the following are a few examples of the grants we have recently provided:

- ▶ Bathroom alterations funded for an elderly, disabled Welsh Guards Veteran.
- ▶ Replacement EPV (mobility scooter) batteries purchased for some of our Elderly Veterans.
- ▶ A Child's bed and school uniform was paid for an ex-spouse of a Welsh Guardsmen, who has limited income.
- ▶ Cooker and carpets purchased for a Veteran who has a limited income.
- ▶ Specialist sports equipment purchased to support a disabled Veteran.
- ▶ Grant provided to purchase heating oil for a Veteran (with limited income) during extremely cold weather.
- ▶ Along with other service charities we helped fund a wet room for a disabled Veteran.
- ▶ A rail ticket and food voucher funded for a Welsh Guardsman with a limited income to visit his children.
- ▶ Grant provided to supply a food voucher for an elderly Veteran who had fallen on hard times.
- ▶ Equipment and tools funded for a Veteran to gain employment.
- ▶ Specialist software purchased for a Serving Soldier's disabled child.
- ▶ Rental bonds have been funded for Veterans who are in receipt of a limited income or have been living in sheltered accommodation.



Falklands Veteran Steve Hammond (20) with the WG Charity funded Pulse Swing Arm Crank adaption fitted to his bike (used when one knee doesn't bend as much as it should. This adaptor will let you generate as much power as possible without the foot and knee being lifted so high). This will enable him to ride and take part in the Centenary Cycle Challenge to Ypres in Belgium on 8-9 Jun 18.



The RVO and ex Gdsm Harris (now ABF) visiting sheltered accommodation in North Wales

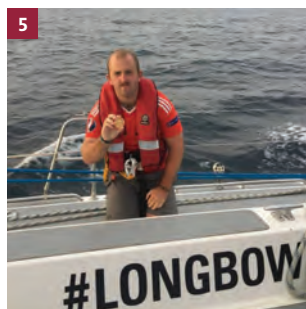


Fostering Espirit de Corps

The Battalion has continued to receive the full support of the Welsh Guards Charity and in 2017-18 was granted over £110,000 to offset the cost of sports, adventurous training and welfare. Welsh Guardsmen attended the Regimental Battlefield Tour to Italy in May 17, attended Autumn International and Six Nations games at the Principality Stadium, Cardiff free of charge, attended subsidized ski trips and took part in a wide range of sports and activities all of which are funded in some way by the Welsh Guards charity. It is safe to say that there is not an area of Regimental life that is not aided in some way by the Welsh Guards Charity and with over £79,000 spent on wider Regimental Espirit de Corps activities (i.e. Household Division Golf, Guards Cricket, Sailing, Regimental Magazine production, Parliamentary Visit, Guards Coy ITC Catterick to name but a few), we can all be proud that the Welsh Guards Charity is fulfilling its charitable objectives on a daily basis.



1. Rugby Debut ticket presentation
2. Traditional Guardsman's Christmas Lunch
3. Enduro
4. 1WG Fishing Team
5. Gdsm Brain ex LONGBOW
6. Battalion Football Team Cyprus Tour
7. Battalion Rugby
8. Battalion Ski Team
9. Battalion Boxing Training
10. Battalion Boxing Training





How we help - Veterans and Heritage

In 2017-18 the Welsh Guards Charity spent over £113,000 looking after our Veterans and Regimental Heritage. From funding the Wrexham 35th Anniversary Falklands Reunion in June to revamping the Regiments archives for future generations, we have helped in a variety of projects and areas and will continue to do so in the future. The Welsh Guards Collection in Oswestry has received support, Battlefield Tours have been subsidized, Memorials supported, visits to the Falkland Islands subsidized for veterans (returning for the first time), funerals attended, and birthdays celebrated. Over £1,000 spent on Poppy wreaths alone to remember our forebears, £350 on a WG Memorial page in the Aden Campaign commemorative magazine and artificial leeks purchased at £1 each - just a few examples of the unseen expenditure made to fulfil an important Welsh Guards charitable objective.



Welsh Guards full page memorial in Aden 50th year commemorative Magazine



Welsh Guardsman Charles Saunders celebrated his 100th Birthday on 23rd December at the Royal British Legion Maurice House Care Home in Broadstairs, Kent. Maj Ollie Richardson, LSgt Stuart Laing and Lt Col Tony Davies (22) helped him celebrate



The Welsh Guards Charity funded the 100th anniversary commemorative event in Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd to commemorate 100 years since the action in which Sgt Robert Bye was awarded the Victoria Cross



Llanelli Branch WGA Laying up of old Branch Standard supported by the Welsh Guards Charity



Supporting the Welsh Guards Collection



Artificial Leeks don't come cheap (£1 each) paid for by the WG Charity

Along with all other Household Division Regiments a substantial donation has been made to the Guards Chapel Organ Appeal;
www.householddivision.org.uk/guards-chapel-organ-fund



35th Anniversary Falklands Reunion Wrexham

Cymru am Byth



On 11th April 2018 this solid die cast bronze plaque was erected inset in a stone cairn at the foot of Sapper Hill in the Falkland Islands. Commissioned and paid for by the Welsh Guards Charity, it commemorates the Battalion's actions on 14th June 1982 and was unveiled by His Excellency Mr Nigel Phillips CBE, Governor of the Falkland Islands in the presence of Brigadier J F Rickett CBE, Commanding Officer 1st Battalion Welsh Guards during the Falklands Campaign and Lieutenant Colonel Julian Sayers and Major Charlie Carty MBE, themselves both Falklands Veterans. A reception was held afterwards for the many friends of the Regiment in the Falkland Islands who have helped us so much over the years.



Regimental Headquarters Welsh Guards
Wellington Barracks
Birdcage Walk
London SW1E 6HQ

T: 0207 414 3291
E: welshguardsara@gmail.com
W: www.welshguardscharity.co.uk
f www.facebook.com/1stBattalionWelshGuards