

Cymru am Byth



Welsh Guards Charity Impact Report 2018-19



Registered Charity Number 1152766



Foreword

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

I am delighted to introduce our third Charity Impact Report which highlights how The Welsh Guards Charity has achieved our charitable objectives over the last year. I hope you will see, and agree, that much has been achieved whether it be in supporting our veterans and families, the Battalion, preserving our heritage, promoting the Regiment and looking after those in need in our Regimental family.

We can only reflect a fraction of the Charity’s output in this report as its scale and output covers a wide spectrum. However, this report does provide an excellent overview of the Charity’s worth and the many who benefit from it.

We continue to warmly thank the wide array of people who have supported our Charity over the year. This support comes in many forms, some in direct donations, fund raising activities, bequests and legacies or simply giving time to the Charity. There are too many to list here but you are all really important, my thanks to you all.

Our thanks must also go to the many service charities who we work with and who continue to 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 a very good place thanks both to those involved in running it, including our Regimental Trustees, and to the great many who support it in so many ways. The continued success of the Charity allows us to retain the services of our Regimental Veterans Officer, who does so much excellent work and provides effective, prompt, support when and where it is needed. We must continue to build our charitable funds so that we can sustain the Charity into the future. I am confident we will achieve this.

I do commend this report to you and I remain so grateful for the continuing efforts of so many who support our Charity. Thank you to you all.



**REGIMENTAL TRUSTEES
2019**

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

The Welsh Guards Charity website continues to evolve and now pulls together all the various Welsh Guards strands into one place. It gives 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

Cover photo – Subsidised by the Welsh Guards Charity, Members of the Welsh Guards Association during their annual Battlefield Tour to Hechtel and Cambrai



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.**

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

REGIMENTAL VETERANS OFFICER

Funded entirely by the Welsh Guards Charity and established in 2014, the Regimental Veterans Officer (RVO) ensures 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

Facebook: Welsh Guards Regimental Veterans Officer or Jiffy Myers

Facebook Messenger: Jiffy Myers

WhatsApp: 07411 950784 - Jiffy Myers

2019 Regimental Christmas Card



This quality card from an original painting by Sean Bolan depicting the Central London Recruiting Office Guard returning to Barracks across Horse Guards in the 1920's 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

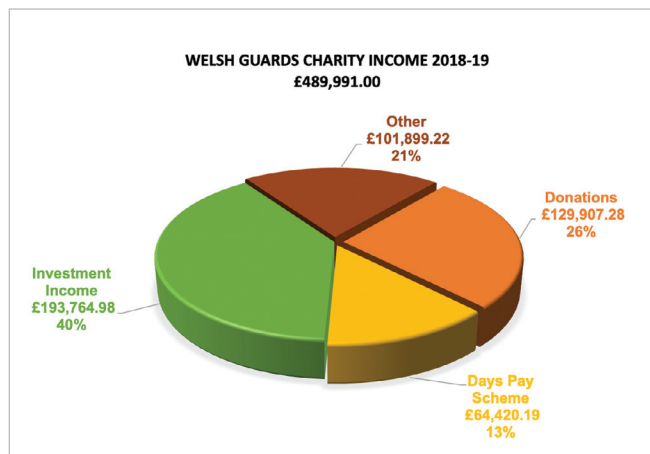


Income and Expenditure

Income

Income from Investment continues to underpin all we are able to achieve, but we are also blessed as a Regiment to have some remarkable supporters and fundraisers who consistently support the work of the charity and without whom much of what we achieve would not be possible.

The serving members, as always support the charity through the Day's Pay Scheme (DPS) which has seen a 40% increase in take up since 2017 and these three income streams, together with personal contributions for events, bank interest and the sale of Regimental items (all shown as other income in the chart), allows us to consistently support all the very many worthwhile Regimental commitments for the good and benefit of Welsh Guardsmen and their families

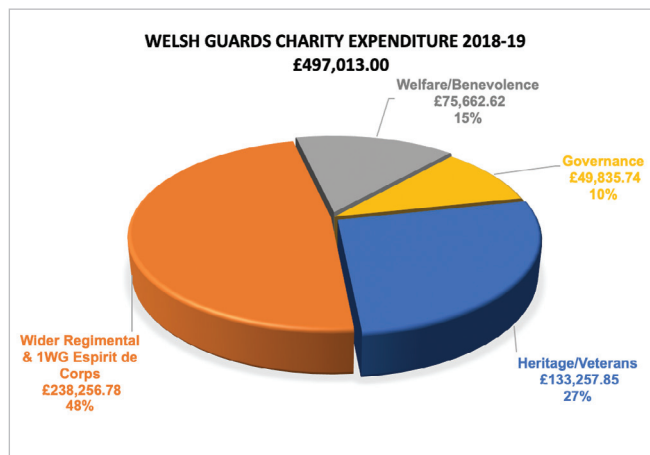


Expenditure

With over £1m expended over the last 3 years fulfilling our charitable objectives, 2018-19 has seen a continuation of this expenditure, with the Regimental Trustees once again able to authorise substantial funding in all areas.

There is not one part of Regimental life that is not supported and affected by the Welsh Guards Charity, from the purchase of Leeks for St David's Day (at £1 each), the Poppy Wreaths for Remembrance Day (at £18.50 each) and the funding of Regimental Representation to attending Remembrance events in Europe to the more routine expenditure within the Battalion helping towards sports, adventurous training and welfare (of both those serving and our veterans).

The examples on the following pages of this Impact Report will give you an idea of just what the Welsh Guards Charity is able to achieve when we have such tremendous support.



There is insufficient space in this report to thank all our terrific fundraisers personally, but one young chap who deserves a special mention is Lestyn Jones from Caernarfon Amateur Boxing Club, seen here presenting his donation having saved his pocket money for 4 years half of which he donated to the WG Charity.





How we help - Welfare and Benevolence

In 2018 the Welsh Guards Charity has continued to support serving soldiers, veterans and their families and with over £75,000 spent on welfare overall, there have been 68 direct requests for financial assistance received by the RVO which resulted in over £18,000 being provided in personal grants for various needs (with the needs assessments usually carried out by a SSAFA Caseworker).

All requests for assistance are treated with the strictest of confidence and adhere to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Details of the grants are not published, but some examples of what the Welsh Guards Charity has provided are shown below.

- ▶ Heating oil for an elderly veteran in need.
- ▶ Purchase of an electric powered vehicle (EPV) for a disabled veteran.
- ▶ Basic furniture and white goods for Veterans moving into a new home after becoming homeless.
- ▶ Basic clothing for a Veteran on his release from prison.
- ▶ Sports equipment for Veterans to help with their mental health.
- ▶ Children's clothing for a veteran in need.
- ▶ Grants to help with priority debts.
- ▶ Purchase of a riser chair for a disabled veteran.
- ▶ Rental deposit for a Spouse.
- ▶ Essential housing repairs for Veterans in need.
- ▶ Purchase of IT equipment to allow a veteran to find a new occupation.
- ▶ Home adaptations for disabled veterans.
- ▶ Funding to provide a wet room for a disabled veteran.

If requests for support require a large amount of funding, the Welsh Guards Charity will work with other Service Charities to meet the required needs (e.g. ABF, The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes).

Not all requests for support require funding and, in these cases, the RVO will arrange a personal visit and discuss the support options available. If the individual concerned wants to proceed, the RVO will refer them for any specialist treatment or therapy as required. Again, these requests are treated with the strictest of confidence and are not reported on other than as statistical information (e.g. number of mental health related cases). The RVO usually has about 20-30 active cases running at any one time.

Over 100 home, hospital, care home or local visits are conducted each year to individuals in need. The RVO also gives presentations to other Service charities and government organizations on veterans needs and issues, highlighting where improvements can be made. Presentations are also given to help raise the profile of the Welsh Guards Charity and to assist in fundraising.



The RVO and Danny McLaughlan after Danny received support to set up a new home



Example of a project funded entirely by the WG Charity to support a disabled veteran with assistance provided by his old Platoon – Welsh Guards DIYSOS



The RVO with Adam Hobbs who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident in Thailand



Fostering Esprit de Corps

In 2018 the Battalion received over £108,000 of grants to offset the cost of sports, adventurous training and welfare and it is probably true to say that these grants help set us apart and offers our people just that little bit more. Whether it is being given free tickets for Wales Rugby internationals at the Principality Stadium, providing subsidized ski trips or simply providing the right sports equipment for the right sport, everything is funded in some way by the Welsh Guards charity. But it is not just in 1WG that we look after our people, with over £130,000 spent on wider Regimental Esprit de Corps activities (i.e. Household Division Golf, Guards Cricket, Sailing, Regimental Magazine production, Parliamentary Visit, support to 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. The following few photographs will hopefully give you an idea of how we support our most valuable asset – our people:



1. 1WG Boxing Team
2. Battalion Ski Trip
3. 1WG Running Team
4. 1WG Welcome Home Parade Cardiff 2019
5. Rugby Debenture ticket recipients for Wales v Ireland, LCpl Oxtoby & LCpl Lewis
6. Helping celebrate the 100th Birthday of Mr Sid Elsbury
7. Falklands Visit 2018
8. Full page paid advert in Royal British Legion (Wales) Brochure
9. Regimental Remembrance Sunday
10. Association Biennial Lunch Swansea
11. Falklands Memorial Wrexham



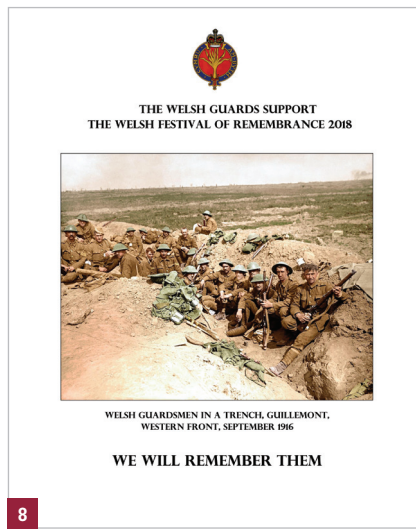
How we help - Veterans and Heritage

With over £133,000 spent on looking after our Veterans and Regimental Heritage in 2018-19, the Welsh Guards Charity is once again demonstrating its reach and the positive effect it can have on Welsh Guardsmen (serving and veteran) and their families. A significant step for the charity in preserving our heritage was the recent purchase, at auction, of a medal group (see back page) to ensure they remain within the Regimental family.

We continue to help fund our veterans and heritage in many areas; the annual Wrexham Falklands Reunion, subsidising the Association Battlefield Tour, Biennial

Lunch, funding St David's Day, providing the trophies for the Association golf competitions and the Ludlow Race Day, subsidising visits to the Falkland Islands, assisting the volunteers at the Welsh Guards Collection, Oswestry and many more activities besides (far too many to list here).

This year has also seen the start of the programme of repair and conservation of the many Rex Whistler paintings owned and cherished by the Regiment, a costly but very important aspect of preserving our Regimental heritage for future generations and a good example of the charity fulfilling its charitable obligations and objectives.



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On 10th April 2019 the Welsh Guards Charity, in furtherance of the charitable objective to preserve our Regimental Heritage, were delighted to secure, at auction, the distinguished medal group and other items of Regimental interest belonging to Major AP Joyce MBE MM BEM (aka Bobby Joyce).



A Regimental legend in the truest sense of the word, with his deeds surrounding the award of the Military Medal (MM) in 1945 the subject of the coveted Victor Comic cover story on 8th July 1972. The medals and artefacts will be framed and displayed in the in the Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess 1st Battalion Welsh Guards where it is very much hoped they will inspire other young Non-Commissioned Officers for years to come.



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