



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

### Stretford Fire Station open day

On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March we were invited to have stall at Stretford Fire station open day. It was a great day and a chance to give out our stickers and leaflets and raise awareness of the veterans group. Thanks to GMFRS for the invitation, we had a really successful day and sold more than £300 worth of military bricks and fire engines!



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### Donation of military bibles

This month we took delivery of a box of tri service military bibles and other books, so a huge THANK YOU to the Naval Military Bible Society. You can read more about them on their website

[www.nmbs.org.uk](http://www.nmbs.org.uk)

The bible will have pride of place on our breakfast remembrance table.

### Wool blankets

With heating bills rising and the unsure future of gas central heating, a couple of our ladies got creative with their knitting needles and crochet hooks! A huge THANK YOU to Anne and beryl for making some lovely huge woolly blankets. These were given to three of our local World War 2 veterans. Frank, Lewis and Albert were over the moon with them! They served in the RAF, Royal Signals and Royal Army Medical Corps. Remarkable that their ages combined equals 300!



### Birthdays!

A huge THANK YOU to Paula for making a 75<sup>th</sup> and a 65<sup>th</sup> special regimental birthday cake for two of our veterans. We managed to embarrass them and sing to them at our breakfast club! Bob was in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and Paul was in the Royal Corps of Transport. Happy Birthday guys!

Cakes by P make some amazing creations, why not take a look at her website

[www.cakesbyp.com](http://www.cakesbyp.com)





# Trafford Veterans CIC



## Winter resilience project

Since December, we have been running a number of activities to help people to stay warm. With funding from Trafford Council we purchased **100** winter bags which contained a fleece blanket, hot water bottle, thermal gloves, hat and a thermal mug. At our breakfast event we gave out the remaining **40**. These have been well received and been a great help to our keep our veterans keep warm!

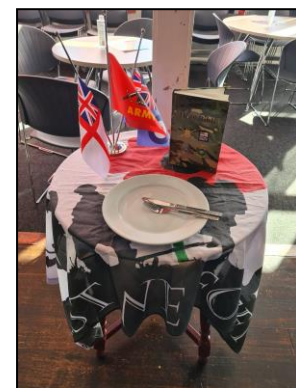


## Breakfast event

Our breakfast event is held once a month and we are all veterans and volunteers who put this breakfast on. To the newer members who turn up, it is not a café. Sometimes there may be a longer wait if we run out of sausages or eggs and we have to nip to the shop and buy more, but we do our best, so thank you for your patience! You can always offer to help us, our volunteers don't get to eat until after you all do! A huge THANK YOU to them.



This month we were joined by the Manchester Blood Bikers. They had a fundraising stall and we also raised **£150** on our veterans' breakfast raffle and donated it to them. For the first time at an event we set a special place on a remembrance table for those who are no longer with us. Theo our mascot bear also paid us a visit in the kitchen! The next breakfast is **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April**, be there or be square!



Thanks to 207 field hospital (Soldier Magazine), Navy News and RAF news, we were able to issue the latest copies of their magazines and newspapers.

**The number of emergency food parcels we have issued this month**



**We also referred a veteran to the armed forces champion at the DWP in Manchester to help with a PIP appeal.**



## Phil Bates

Sadly this month we say farewell to World War 2 veteran Phil Bates, who served in the RAF. He was a remarkable character and at one point he was captured by the Germans after his aircraft crash landed in enemy territory. Phil was 100 years old and he will be missed by his family and friends, especially those at St Mary's Church in Davyhulme.



*PER ARDUA AD ASTRA PHIL, MAY YOU REST IN PEACE*

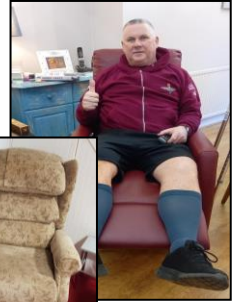






## Donation of 2 recliner / riser chairs

Thanks to a generous donation of 2 riser recliner chairs from people in the community, we were able to rehome them with an Irish Guards veterans father and also a Parachute regiment veteran in recovery from surgery. This will make a huge difference for both gents. THANK YOU!



## Veterans helping veterans!

Just lately, people have been asking others for support on our breakfast club page. These have been things like rehoming furniture, helping with gardening or tip runs and assembling flat pack furniture. It's great to see veterans helping other veterans! This month a big THANK YOU goes to Paul and his wife Donna, who spent 4 ½ hours assembling a wardrobe and a chest of drawers to help a Royal Navy veteran.



## Ally McCoist!

We were delighted to receive a call from Simon Dow at Altrincham FC in the community this month. The National Lottery were filming as part of their Lottery football weekends and Rangers legend Ally McCoist visited the club. We went to collect the donations for the Ukraine appeal and he helped us to load our van!



## Trafford Council security grant

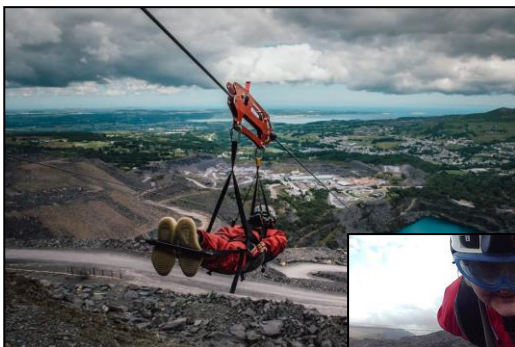
Thanks to some funding from Trafford Council, we secured £2,000 to be able to purchase goods to help with personal security and also other things around the home. With the visit of the blood bikers, we thought it might be good to issue some throttle locks for their motorbikes. We also gave these out to veterans who we know have 2 wheels! We gave out 20 in total, so a huge THANKYOU!



## How can you help us?!

All of our activities are run by volunteers. We attend community events and raise funds, apply for grants and accept donations. These things are a lifeline for a small group like ours and help us to continue to run both the transit van, minibus and all of the peer support activities and events. If you work for a company that might

like to sponsor something or If you are having a birthday or other special occasion, why not do a fundraiser to help us! Recently one of our craft group ladies went to North Wales and completed the zip wire for her birthday. She is very brave! She raised £185 for Trafford Veterans. A huge THANK YOU and Happy Birthday!



**HELP US  
HELP  
OTHERS**





# Trafford Veterans CIC



## Aid for the Ukraine

As armed forces veterans, we simply cannot sit back when there is a crisis or unrest in the world. Most of us who have served at some point have taken part in humanitarian projects. Either by rebuilding something, driving vehicles or delivering aid for example. On the 28<sup>th</sup> February, we made a decision to help the people of the Ukraine who are fleeing their homes.

With huge THANKS to St Matthew's community hall in Stretford, we have a place to drop off donations and sort them into boxes then store them until they are ready to go onto the vans. The people of the Borough have been so generous with their donations, so have local schools and businesses, so many to mention. Lets Cook Cookware and The Rotary clubs have been fantastic in their support by helping us to coordinate donations in Altrincham and Sale and also helping us with fuel costs. Sale United FC also allowed us to use their small club house to store packed boxes.



# 765



### **A big THANK YOU to them all too.**

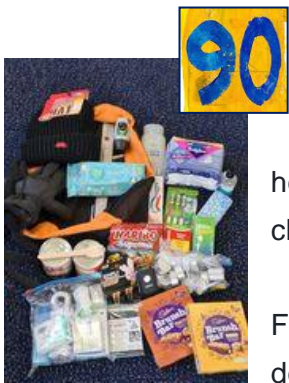
From the start of the project up until the 31<sup>st</sup> March, we had managed to pack and deliver **765** boxes of toiletries, nappies, baby and sanitary products to the distribution warehouse in Northwich. 3 van loads and 90 rucksacks (grab bags) sent to Andover to Veterans in Action.

We contacted Veterans in Action in Andover to see how we could support them with their convoys and loaned them use of our 17 seater minibus. This has now completed 2 round trips to Poland full of aid and back.

Why not take a look at what Veterans in Action do

[www.veteransinaction.org.uk](http://www.veteransinaction.org.uk)

Finally we would like to say a big THANK YOU to McPherson packaging for donating a ton of boxes and brown tape and to everyone who has volunteered to sort donations, pack boxes, load and drive vans and brew u





# Trafford Veterans CIC

## Useful links



0121 262 3058 or email [info@rfea.org.uk](mailto:info@rfea.org.uk)

[www.casort.org/information-and-advice](http://www.casort.org/information-and-advice)



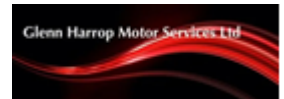
[www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank](http://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank)  
Streford, Partington and Trafford South all have foodbanks



0300 777 7777  
[customer@mytht.co.uk](mailto:customer@mytht.co.uk)  
[www.traffordhousingtrust.co.uk](http://www.traffordhousingtrust.co.uk)



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