



VA transforms  
lives every day

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*In 2017 Veterans Aid saw 479 clients, provided around 22,000 nights of accommodation and put 92 veterans into employment or on training courses. The charity appropriately homed 136 ex-servicemen and women.*

Major General Peter Peterkin  
Chairman  
Army & Navy Club  
36 Pall Mall  
London  
SW1Y 5JN

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

*Dear Major General Peter Peterkin,*

I am writing to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone at the Army and Navy Club for all the support you have given to Veterans Aid over the years. I am delighted to let you know that the generous amount of £255.28 was found in the latest collection tins you have displayed throughout 2018. Veterans Aid is a frontline operational charity and for us every single donation is important no matter how big or small. We are particularly grateful to the Army and Navy Club for all your acts of kindness besides the financial support.

Thank you for thinking of us and I hope you will enjoy reading the updates on the Charity's work which I have included below.

October was a busy month but a highly rewarding one for our clients with four New Belvedere House (NBH) residents poised to start work as field engineers for BT. After months of support we deemed them 'job ready' and all clearly impressed at interview.

Last month also saw the application of some final touches at NBH, including the completion of its very smart gymnasium. It has been a big hit with residents...but we are still fundraising to buy more much needed equipment.

In November we welcomed Big Issue journalist Adrian Lobb whose time as an observer in the Ops Room resulted in a very honest report of what our speed and unique methodology achieves on a daily basis.

One of those who sought our help this month is a lady who served in the RAF – for nearly 20 years. Like many whose lives get derailed after a relationship breakdown she started drinking too much and things simply got out of control. VA quickly got her into rehab and she is presently being funded through a residential treatment programme that will get her back on her feet.

Of course November is 'Armistice month' and this year's ceremony had particular poignance for being its Centenary. VA came into being to address the socio-economic legacy of WW1 and has offered uninterrupted support ever since. This year we were touched by a very personal gesture; the dedication of a special poem, written by Army musician CSgt Darren Hardy who has dedicated it to the work of VA. On November 11<sup>th</sup> his reading of *The Armistice Ghost* featured on the VA website and will remain there until the end of the month.

Thank you for helping us to survive and operate – and to provide the immediate, practical support to veterans in crisis that has distinguished us for so long. Without your help and belief in the work we do the essential support we provide would suffer greatly. We may be a relatively small charity but our impact is monumental to the individuals whose lives we transform.

*Yours Sincerely*

*Dorothy Jones*

**Caring for Veterans in Crisis... Now!**

**Patron: The Dowager Viscountess Rothermere**

[www.veterans-aid.net](http://www.veterans-aid.net)

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