



The Fusiliers Aid Society

Charity number: 259229

IMPACT REPORT 2016

How your support helped Fusiliers in 2016

What we do.

The Fusiliers Aid Society (FAS) is the benevolent fund of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. It has incorporated the benevolent funds of our antecedent Regiments namely the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers, The Royal Fusiliers and the Lancashire Fusiliers. The fund supports all Fusiliers, regardless of rank, serving and retired, and their widows and dependants when there is evidence of hardship and need.

We also distribute Christmas grants to some veterans, widows, families and children, as well as ensure that the welfare funds of the First Fusiliers and our Reserve units are funded. This enables the welfare officers and Commanding Officers to provide welfare support to those under their command.

The fund can also make grants to support commemorative events, enabling the bereaved families and veterans to attend if they so wish.

2016 at a Glance

- 133 individual cases
- Over £133,000 distributed for the benefit of individuals
- £8,000 distributed to Battalion welfare funds
- £37,000 distributed to relevant service charities
- £8,570 distributed to veterans, widows and families as Christmas grants
- £61,000 distributed to serving and former members of the Regiment by the ABF Soldiers Charity.

FAS works closely with other service charities, notably SSAFA, The Royal British Legion, the Army Benevolent Fund and Help For Heroes to ensure applicants' needs are met.

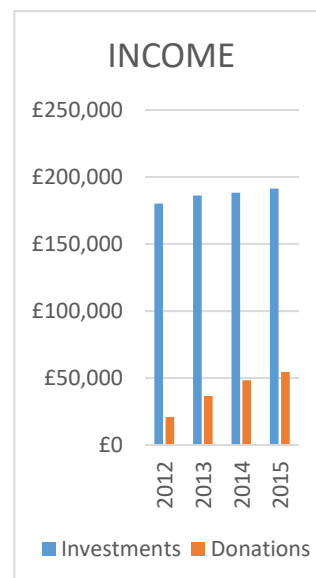
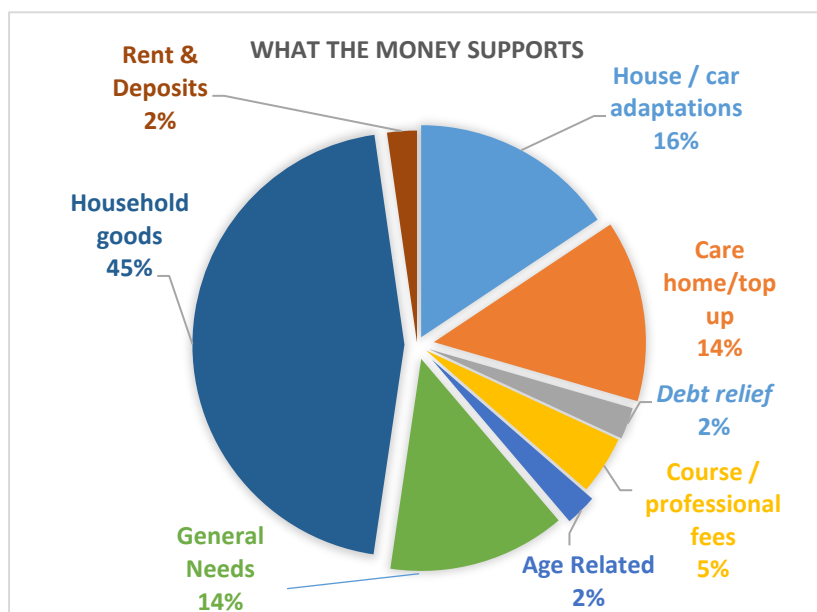
Our income is derived from investments, donations and the One Day's Pay Scheme (every soldier in the Regiment donates a days' pay to the fund - the scheme is administered by the MoD).

Donations are also key, as is active fundraising by those able to do it.

FAS maintains a page on Justgiving.com ([www.justgiving.com/fusiliersaidssociety.com](http://www.justgiving.com/fusiliersaidssociety)) which is used by individuals undertaking sponsored events.

Sources of Funds 2016

- £197,000 investment income
- £38,000 from donations
- £28,000 from One Days' Pay Scheme
- £2,200 from sponsored activities



How we help those in need.

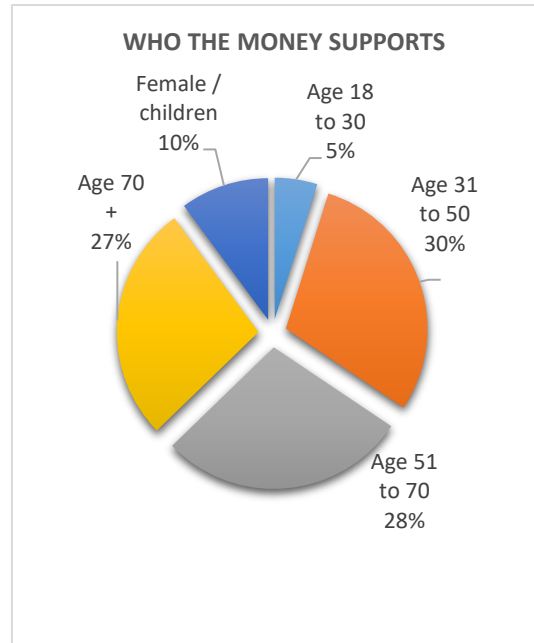
The majority of our casework is conducted by SSAFA or RBL. However, cases can also be submitted by a Unit Welfare Officer, or the chain of command. Occasionally other agencies, such as The Officers Association or Veterans Aid submit cases to us.

Once cases have been considered, any resulting grant is administered by the caseworking organisation. Grants are only paid to individuals in exceptional circumstances.

The breakdown of the distribution of grants by age and need are in the accompanying charts. In general, the younger age groups need help with housing costs and debt relief, whilst the old generation need assistance with mobility aids and care home fees. With increased longevity it is unlikely that this area of grant giving will decline.

We have seen many requests for help to cover funeral costs for relatives, but FAS is not permitted under its objects to contribute to funeral expenses. Where suitable, and if there is evidence of hardship, FAS may make a discretionary general needs grant.

As central government attempts to cut its welfare budget, as well as its funding to Councils, forces related charities are seeing increased demand for funding that would otherwise have been provided centrally.



Ex Fusilier – 39. He had to move house after he separated from his partner. FAS granted £870 to help with furnishing his new accommodation.

I would just like to thank you for financial help when I went to SSAFA for advice, this donation I received is greatly received by myself and my children.

I can't thank you enough for helping me with my case when I fell upon hard times.

This letter is the absolute least I can do to show my appreciation.

If there is anything I can do to help the organisation please don't hesitate to contact me.

FAS is often asked to provide white goods (washing machines, fridges, cookers etc.) and brown goods (carpets, curtains, furniture etc.) to applicants. Marital (and cohabitation) breakdown mean that we see single households become two, with all the complications that can bring. Often there are children involved.

Working with other Charities.

FAS works in conjunction with other service charities to deliver benevolence. SSAFA and RBL do the bulk of our casework, but where an applicant's needs are more complex or expensive, The Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) can be approached for assistance, support and advice.

In 2016, The ABF granted in excess of £61,000 to 77 cases. Often, these grants are in addition to a FAS grant, and occasionally, the ABF will help where FAS is unable to. Close liaison ensures that needs are met where possible. FAS makes an annual grant to the ABF (2016 - £17,000) to help them help our veterans.

Ex Fusilier – age 41. FAS granted £950 to help furnish a flat.

A quick letter to say thank you for your kindness and help during my recent hard times. It's nice to know the fusilier family is true to its word and always sticks together.

I'm now in touch with Combat Stress and awaiting dates to start treatment, to get the help I need and get back to some sense of normality.

The money you kindly give has been very welcome. It helped me get my flat furnished, so for that I'm truly grateful.

Ex Fusilier – age 44. Granted £300 to buy special bike for 10 year old with cerebral palsy.

Dear SSAFA, Royal Regiment Of Fusiliers and The Royal Irish Regiment and the Unit Union

My name is C, I'm 10 years old and have Cerebral Palsy. My Mom and Dad found out about SSAFA and all the wonderful work you do and asked if you could help get me a Piggyback ride along so me and my Dad can go bike riding and so can Mom and my brother Rhys.. The bike came and my Dad got it ready and surprised me then after I got over the shock me and Dad went on our bike ride we went for miles and miles (Dad said we went just under 10 miles) and I managed to peddle some of the way to.....

I really really really love it and wanted to just say a great big THANK YOU for every body that helped get me the best present ever. Could you also thank Derek from SSAFA who was really helpful with all the forms and getting me my bike so very quickly....

Here is a picture of my bike and a quick video of me and Dad riding

*Thank you all again so very much
C*



In brief:

- £1000 to ex widow of KIA Fusilier enabling a family visit to take place. ABF also supported with £1000.
- £1080 to ex Fusilier (aged 92) for top up fees for his care home.
- £500 to ex Fusilier for travel and accommodation for PTSD course.
- £2000 to serving Fusilier for travel and accommodation to his home country following the unexpected death of a brother.
- £1500 to ex Fusilier for accommodation whilst attending a career course.
- £950 to ex Fusilier to enable him to regain his HGV licence.
- £500 to recently discharged Fusilier for training course.

Serving Fusilier – age 23. Granted £813 for flight from Canada (where Battalion was on exercise) to UK for Grandmothers funeral.

Thank you so much for paying for my flight to my Nan's funeral. As the MoD wouldn't pay, and I couldn't afford it, it was a huge comfort for me to be able to be there to say goodbye.

FAS also makes annual grants to organisations directly supporting our 'family'. In 2016, a grant was made to Northumbria ACF to enable a party of cadets to research the EOKA campaign (in which the Regiment was involved) whilst on annual camp in Cyprus, and enable them to study the campaign and pay their respects to the fallen. Cpl J Warren age 25 and Sgt F Coleman age 40, both from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, were killed in action in May 1956.

Ex Fusilier – age 62. Granted £600 to enable him to go bankrupt.

My wife and I would like to thank you for all the help you at the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers gave to us when we were in desperate need for help to proceed with bankruptcy.

I did not know when I joined the army all those years ago, that the Fusiliers would come to help me and my family all those years later with the cost of our bankruptcy, we do not know any way to thank the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers for all the help they have given to me and my family.

Again, all we can say is thank you so very much for all your help, if there is anything we can do to return the favour do not hesitate to contact us, again thank you all at the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and the British Legion (we really cannot thank you enough).

Further details and how you can help.

This report is intended to show the nature of our work and the 2016 figures are not yet audited. It does not replace the annual trustees report and accounts which are normally available from July.

We can foresee that the potential demand on FAS resources will be immense in the coming years. If you are considering raising funds for a charity, please consider FAS as one of your chosen charities. If you are updating our will, please consider adding FAS as beneficiary in your will.

Further information on this, or any other aspect of FAS, can be obtained from RHQ RRF.

Widow of ex R WARWICK - £500 granted as a General Needs grant following the death of her husband.

You cannot know what an enormous weight this has taken from my shoulders and I will try and put back via charity work of some kind some help to others who are in some kind of need.

I appreciate this so much and actually had a decent nights sleep at last thanks to your kind action.

Once again my thanks and appreciation.



Northumbria cadets pay their respects in Cyprus