



# The Fusiliers Aid Society

Charity number: 259229

## IMPACT REPORT 2017

### How your support helped Fusiliers in 2017

#### 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 Society also makes grants to support both commemorative and remembrance events, enabling the bereaved families and veterans to attend if they so wish. Grants are made towards travel and accommodation costs, and all requests for assistance are carefully considered.

FAS works closely with other service charities, notably SSAFA, The Royal British Legion, the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) and Help For Heroes to ensure applicants' needs are met. FAS also liaises with other Regiments' Benevolent Funds if relevant, as in cases where applicants have served in more than one Regiment of Corps, the requirement can be shared with other funds.

Our income is derived from investments, 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), and donations.

Fundraising is carried out by individuals and Regiment related Associations and Clubs.

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

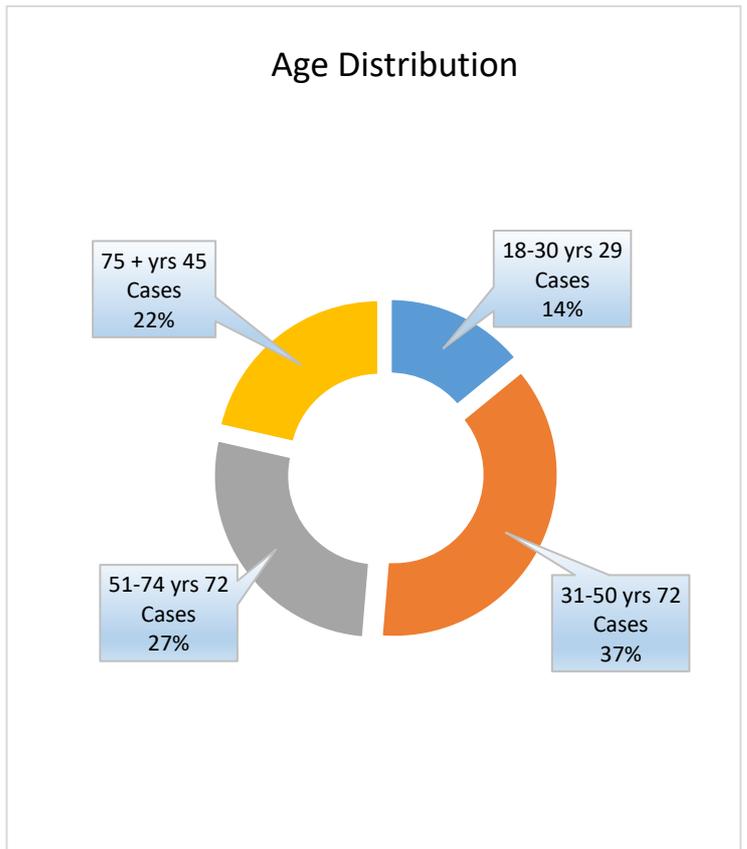
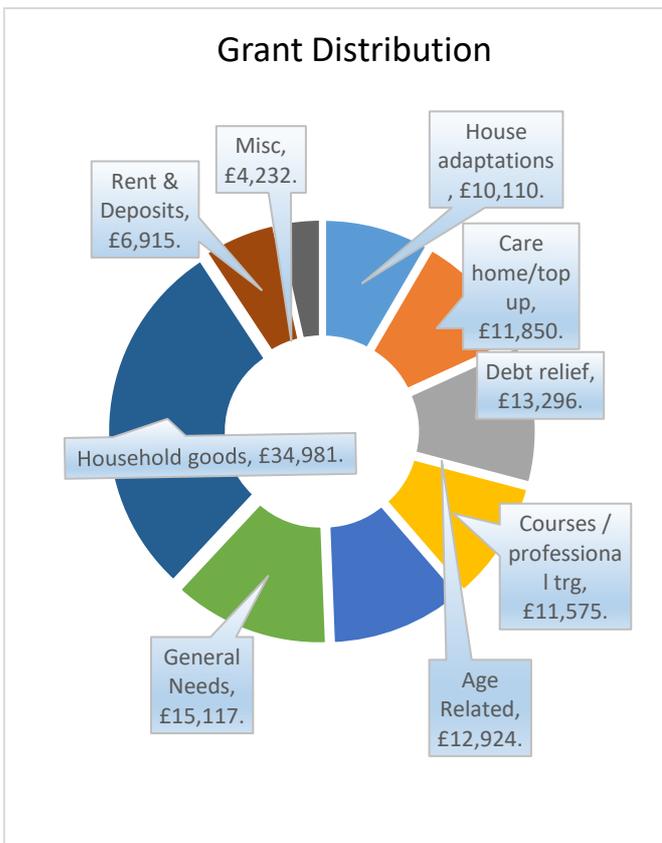
FAS submits accounts annually to the Charities Commission and can be viewed on the Charities Commission website. ([www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission)). Our privacy statement can be viewed here: [www.thefusiliers.org](http://www.thefusiliers.org).

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RHQ RRF, HM Tower of London, EC3N 4AB

## 2017 at a Glance

- 222 individual cases received grants, with over **£121,000** distributed for the benefit of individuals
- **£17,928** distributed to Battalion and Reserve Units welfare funds
- Over **£32,300** distributed to relevant service charities
- **£1,525** distributed to widows and families as Christmas grants
- Over **£65,000** distributed to 74 serving and former members of the Regiment by the ABF The Soldiers Charity.



## 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 by the Regimental Welfare Committee, any resulting grant is paid to and administered by the case working 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, house adaptations and care home fees. With increased longevity it is unlikely that this area of grant giving will decline.

*Ex Fusilier – age 38. Homeless after a breakup, FAS contributed to furnishing his newly acquired council flat.*

Dear Ansoy.

A quick letter to say thankyou 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.

Thank You Again

Yours faithfully,

### 2017 in brief:

- **£1000** to injured ex Fus to furnish his house and allow him to live relatively independently
- **£2000** to serving Cpl to allow him to fly home on sudden death of his brother.
- **£1560** to widow of ex R WARWICK to assist with care home fees.
- **£1000** to ex Sgt for professional fees.
- **£700** for debt relief and food vouchers to ex Fus who had been made redundant.
- **£100** to ex Fus in prison for new glasses and writing paper.
- **£250** to ex Cpl for school uniforms.

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.

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.

Dear Mr Harris,

I cannot begin to thank you enough for the support you have given me in helping to fund my new kitchen. This is going to make life a whole lot simpler and will enable me to be much safer cooking my meals.

I lost my husband 38 years ago. John was so very proud to have served his country in the Armed Forces as a Royal Fusilier and then to join and work for what was then the GPO. I miss him very much and I know that were he with me, he would be so, so delighted with the support from your charity.

Being blind for most of my life and having serious back and mobility problems has meant I have not been able to work for some years. This, in itself, has been psychologically quite challenging and has obviously left me with a limited income to get by.

Without your continued efforts to fund-raise and to listen and care, things would be even more difficult for me. Therefore, please remember and thank your staff each and every day for the joy my new kitchen will bring me. I am eternally grateful.

Dear Mr Harris,

I have heard today via xxxxxxxx of SSAFA, that the regiment has been able to offer support for my mother, Mrs Xxxxxx, who is now happily resident in Xxxxxxx House..

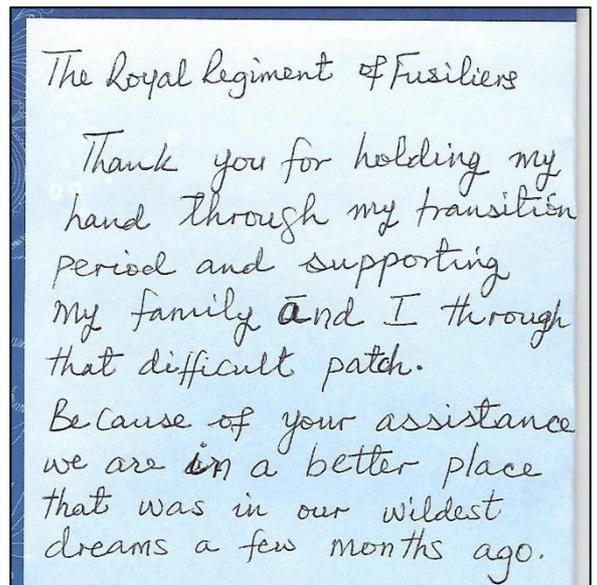
On behalf of my sisters, I would like to offer thanks to all those involved. Since we are all now living on our pensions, this will make a real difference to all of us. It has been a difficult process getting her into this home, but we now know that it was worth all of the effort.

Although my mother is no longer able to understand the circumstances in which she is now being cared for, I know that my late father would be very pleased. He was very proud of his service with the Royal Warwicks, and in carrying the banner at the Albert Hall as Chairman of his British Legion branch.

#### 2017 in brief:

- **£400** to ex Fus to enable purchase of archery equipment to help with PTSD treatment.
- **£500** to ex Fus (22 yrs old) to assist with training course costs.
- **£485** to ex Fus for conversion of his bathroom to a walk in shower.

Ex Fus, recently medically discharged. He was helped with housing and furnishings.



#### 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.

**Further details and how you can help.**

This report is intended to show the nature of our work and the 2017 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.

**How to help.**

Donations are welcome and can be made by several methods. Thank you for your support.

**By cheque:** Fusiliers Aid Society, and send to RHQ RRF.

**By BACS:** Sort code 30-93-23; Account number 01585713.

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