

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charity sees how grants help Army veterans during visit to The Royal Star & Garter Homes

ABF The Soldiers' Charity has visited The Royal Star & Garter Homes in Surbiton to see how its grants help the Army veterans who live there.

ABF The Soldiers' Charity Chair of the Grants Committee Major General Malcolm Wood, Director of Grants and Welfare Colonel Barney Haugh, and Executive Officer Grants Catriona Spiller, were shown around by The Royal Star & Garter Homes' Chairman Major General Tim Tyler, Chief Executive Andy Cole, and Director of Care & Service Development Pauline Shaw, on Thursday 4 October.

ABF The Soldiers' Charity has a proud history supporting The Royal Star & Garter Homes. Its latest grant of £60,000 was awarded to help fund physiotherapy care, speech and language therapy, outings and other benevolent activities to Army residents living at the Homes in Solihull and Surbiton. Of the veterans the Charity cares for, 52% are ex-Army and the invaluable support offered by ABF The Soldiers' Charity make a significant contribution to the life-enhancing therapies and activities available to the residents.



Earlier this year ABF The Soldiers' Charity also awarded a grant of £102,400 to fit out eight bedrooms at the new Royal Star & Garter Home in High Wycombe.

During the visit guests were shown around the award-winning home, which cares for veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia. They visited the specialist dementia care area and the physiotherapy room, where they saw some of the equipment used by residents, and met Army veteran Stephen Vause, who was severely disabled following a bomb blast in Iraq in 2007.

After the tour, Major General Wood said: *"I can honestly say these are the most impressive facilities I have ever seen in terms of the quality of care, the compassion of the staff and the atmosphere, it's just hugely impressive. It's great work and I'm sure ABF The Soldiers' Charity will continue to want to support The Royal Star & Garter Homes in what they deliver."*



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**The Royal Star
& Garter Homes**
Caring for the nation's military family since 1916

Andy Cole, Chief Executive of The Royal Star & Garter Homes, commented: *"We were delighted to show our guests from ABF The Soldiers' Charity around the Surbiton Home so they could see how they help us support all of our Army residents. With ABF's most recent support, eight bedrooms in our new High Wycombe Home will also be fully furnished. We are extremely grateful for the strong partnership we have with the charity."*

To see the video of the ABF The Soldiers' Charity visit go to <https://youtu.be/CwN4gWrmLWs>

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Caption: Guests from ABF The Soldiers' Charity at the Surbiton Home with representatives from The Royal Star & Garter Homes. They are (l-r):
The Royal Star & Garter Homes' Chief Executive, Andy Cole
ABF The Soldiers' Charity's Executive Officer Grants Catriona Spiller
ABF The Soldiers' Charity's Chair of Grants Committee Major General Malcolm Wood
The Royal Star & Garter Homes' Director of Care Pauline Shaw
The Royal Star & Garter Homes' Chairman Major General Tim Tyler
ABF The Soldiers' Charity's Director of Grants and Welfare Colonel Barney Haugh

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About The Royal Star & Garter Homes:

The Charity provides award-winning care for veterans and their partners who live with disability or dementia.

The Royal Star & Garter Homes is a charity founded in 1916 to care for the severely injured young men returning from the battlegrounds of the First World War. Today we provide specialist care to the whole military family in our friendly, state-of-the-art Homes. Disabled ex-Servicemen and women, and their spouses, can all benefit from our pioneering approach to nursing, dementia and therapeutic care.

We are in the process of building new Homes around the country to provide specialist nursing care for disabled ex-Service people in the best modern surroundings, including dementia care facilities to address this growing need. The Charity has award-winning Homes in Solihull, West Midlands, and Surbiton, Surrey, which also enables the Charity to offer interim care for young disabled Service personnel. Following the successes of the first two Homes, a third Home in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, is being built, with a planned opening in 2018.

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**The Royal Star
& Garter Homes**
Caring for the nation's military family since 1916

We are proud to have enjoyed Royal patronage since our foundation, including that of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II from 1953 to the present day.

Twitter: @starandgarter

Facebook: facebook.com/starandgarter

Website: www.starandgarter.org



The Royal Star & Garter Homes is a member of the National Care Forum – the leading voice for not-for-profit care providers. A national perspective may be available from info@nationalcareforum.org.uk or by contacting 02476243619. More details on NCF available at www.nationalcareforum.org.uk.

