



THE WARRIOR

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East Sussex Veterans' Hub Bulletin for the Armed Forces Community in East Sussex

NEW PHASE BEGINS FOR ESVH

In December 2024, ESVH had an opportunity to move to new premises that offer the potential to provide what could be the county's very own Veterans Centre, Plus!

There were challenges, and a great amount of work to be done, negotiations, documentation, finance, some degree of flexible planning and of course the heavy lifting and shifting. Then there was the physical move to Robertson Street with the new front of house facility, the Stand Easy Coffee Stop, managed by veterans for veterans and the public. A completely new environment!

The resilience of a few veteran full time volunteer 'frontliners' made it happen. They achieved a tremendous amount over the period May-July. Doug, Michael, Paul, and Tony made up 'The Team'. Others assisted from time to time and thanks go out to them as well.

Now ESVH is addressing reorganisation and the intention is to return to a full operational programme before the new year. From mid August the Stand Easy will be open and fully functional and the 99/100 Group will recommence early August, meeting every other Saturday mornings. One to one appointments and individual support is ongoing and any veteran with challenges is encouraged to engage with ESVH, as together most difficulties can be addressed in a positive manner.



Anyone is invited to visit the Stand Easy Coffee Stop, if only to check what is going on. All who cross the threshold and enjoy a cuppa selected from the range of Lavazza coffees, and a sticky bun or savoury will be supporting veterans and the ESVH. The café has a slogan which says 'Managed by Veterans for Veterans and the Community', so everyone....come and join us!

The CEO and Trustees wish to record their thanks to The Team and those involved in this quantum leap for ESVH, giving up a lot of their time and energy, as volunteers, creating a new phase for ESVH with the object to provide veterans and families with an established single point of contact locally, providing support, services, information, advice and guidance.



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Registered with Charity Commission 1183583**



VETERANS CREATING NEW FUTURES

ESVH has addressed the challenges faced by homeless veterans in East Sussex for several years, especially those with poor mental or physical health, addiction issues, and involvement with the criminal justice system.

The provision of a high profile veterans' café, 'The Stand Easy Coffee Stop', with Hub offices above is now providing a focal point for the military community and other organisations and agencies in East Sussex today!

While the Hub will serve as a central point of contact for information, advice and guidance, it will also deliver individual non-clinical support through a comprehensive education and support programme for veterans.

ESVH aims to prepare veterans to achieve a meaningful life in any community, providing full well-being and coping training along with lifestyle and 'return to work' support. All pathways will include engagement with leading statutory and/or third-sector professionals or agencies as appropriate.

ESVH is working in partnership with a property management company, Daisy's Property Management Limited, who have given tremendous support and encouragement during the recent move to 45 Robertson Street, Hastings.

The Hub on the first floor now houses educational classrooms, meeting rooms, and activity spaces for model-making, a flight simulator, and counselling rooms for use by any organisation involved with the military community.

Now ESVH is ready for the next stage, subject to further funding from the Armed Forces Covenant, which could take up to 24 months to achieve. It is the provision of supported accommodation for homeless veterans.

It is envisaged that accommodation will be developed to provide bedsits and flats where veterans may stay for periods up to 24 months, whilst in recovery.

Currently, street homeless veterans in East Sussex are processed through local authorities,

who do not have sufficient housing stock to meet demand, so veterans may be rejected or placed in temporary accommodation. The latter has proved unsuitable for those with complex needs. Many are limited to 56 days to make their case for continued support or consideration for social housing. This has proved to be challenging for many veterans.

ESVH's project will provide veteran-orientated dedicated accommodation that provides 'wrap-around' care in a psychologically informed environment with access to external agencies such as Op Courage, Op Community, H4H, Op Nova. Local authorities, GPs, Police, Probation Service and such. It will also link to Op Fortitude by providing an accommodation facility in East Sussex.

The non-clinical support programme will provide external agencies with a central location in East Sussex from which to hold face to face interventions and presentations as part of individual recovery pathways.

Our Partners

Daisy's Property Management Ltd (DPM) has over 100 commercial and residential properties across South London, Kent and now Sussex (Hastings & Bexhill).

They take social responsibilities seriously. This is demonstrated through their work with organisations such as the YMCA, one of the largest providers of safe, supported housing for young people in England and Wales. DPM have also worked with NGOs in developing countries.

DPM will collaborate with ESVH to provide the relevant recreational and housing facilities that meet the needs of and cost to the charity.



The Armed Forces Covenant Fund has awarded ESVH a development grant to achieve planning permission for this project .



**IF THE
FLAG IS
FLYING
WE'RE
OPEN!**

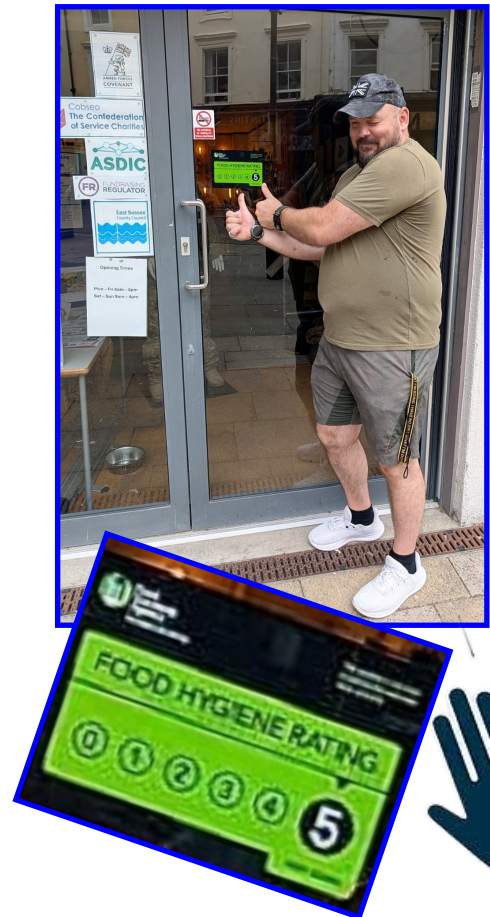
**WHY NOT JOIN US?
ALL ARE WELCOME
PETS NO PROBLEM**



STAND EASY COFFEE STOP



Managed by Veterans for the Community
at
45 Robertson Street, Hastings TN34 1HL

**High 5 for food hygiene,
first time!
Thanks to Michael & Sue**

To sustain this facility will require significant income, especially for a small charity relying on volunteers and their goodwill. This will be challenging but worth it and essential for effective direct support for the military community in East Sussex.

ESVH's philosophy is to cover costs, and keep prices as low as possible. Local research shows the Stand Easy's prices are right!

It is recognised that the 'Stand Easy' is a place for veterans and the blue light community, some facing challenges, others just passing by or visiting Hastings. ESVH also wants to attract the broader community, where they can show support for veterans and enjoy a special ambience the 'Stand Easy'



If you would like to support ESVH on it's journey to become the Veterans Centre for East Sussex, kindly make a donation using the QR Code here or visit

www.eastsussexveteranshub.co.uk

Alternatively pop in and enjoy our cuisine, proceeds of which will go to ESVH, services and the 'Stand Easy' Coffee Stop.



Your support will sustain and improve our services to veterans from HM Forces and Blue Light Services in East Sussex



MAKING IT HAPPEN A BIG THANK YOU FROM ESVH TO



**Daisy's Property
Management**



MATILDA'S
HOUSE CLEARANCES & REMOVALS

Gaby Hardwicke
SOLICITORS



Also, everyone who contributed to a
successful move during May– July 2025.

Skydive In Support of Veterans 20 September 2025

Debbie, who for the past two years has supported residents of HM Prison for Project ADDER, has signed up to make a sky dive to raise funds for ESVH veterans.

On 20th September Debbie will take off from Headcorn airfield and 'enjoy' a new life experience, jumping from thousands of feet and seeing the world from a different viewpoint!



Debbie has kindly covered the cost of this venture, to ensure that all proceeds go to ESVH and directly support local veterans.

She said 'If you know anything about ESVH and their amazing team at the Hub, you'll know how much they do for those who have served — and how much they deserve our support.'

If you would like to sponsor Debbie please make a donation via ESVH QR code (opposite) or visit ESVH website at www.eastsussexveteranshub.co.uk

Please annotate any contribution 'Skydive'

Thank you Debbie and good luck!

**Veterans from East Sussex
Invite You
to join them in a
commemoration of
the end of World War II,
80 years ago,
on VJ Day, 15th August 2025**



**This special day is chosen to
Officially open the
'Stand Easy Coffee Stop'
for everyone in the
Community,
Managed by Veterans,
at 45 Robertson Street,
Hastings**

**Should you miss this event
pop in anyway!**

Remembrance Service

**The War memorial,
Alexandra Park,
Hastings
on
Sunday the
17th August 2025
at 2 pm
All welcome.**
For further details from:
hub@eastsussexveteranshub.co.uk

**Other
Events
of Interest**

