



BSAP TRUST

Registered Charity 297183

11 Melbourne Rise, Bickton Heath, Shrewsbury, SY3 5DA.

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Trust made grants during the year totalling £5629 to a total of 5 beneficiaries.

A donation of £143 was received following a collection at Hugh Philip's funeral.

A highlight of the year was undoubtedly the splendid effort by 6650 Peter Combes in completing the London2Brighton endurance run to raise funds for the Trust. Setting off from Richmond Park he arrived at Brighton Racecourse, a distance of 100 kilometres, some 20 hours and 59 minutes later, an average speed of 4.77 kph. His efforts raised just short of £2000 for the Trust. In recognition of his efforts he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the UK Branch.

It may be that the increase in the number and value of grants made during the year is a portent of increased demands to come and the Trustees must consider taking measures to ensure Trust funds remain at a sufficient level to meet those demands. Interest rates on cash investments remain at an all time low and there does not seem to be a prospect of any meaningful increase in the near future.

The accounts show some cash was moved from the Santander savings account and invested in a Sanlam investment account which is already showing a good return but more must be done. Historically surplus funds in the Association account were transferred to the Trust and the Association allowed members who wished to do so to pay their annual membership subscriptions to the Trust instead of the Association. This dispensation was withdrawn some 4 years ago because Association funds were becoming depleted. This has meant however that only those members who donate to the Trust, some 70 or so out of a total membership of over 700, are actually maintaining the Trust whose purpose is to benefit all members of the UK Branch of the Association.

Thanks to an increase in membership as a result of the ongoing recruiting exercise, Bertie's diligence in chasing subscription defaulters and an increase in sales of stock, Association funds have increased to a point where it is now possible to resume the historical practice of transferring excess Association funds to the Trust. This means that all members who pay subscriptions will know that part of their annual subscription will go to supporting the Trust. The executive committee will decide on the amount after reviewing the annual accounts.

I recently learned of a case of a member who had developed post traumatic stress syndrome as a result of his experiences in the Bush war. His mental health had deteriorated markedly. This member was helped by being able to talk about his experiences with another member who had similar experiences. I am sure there must be others out there suffering similarly from the effects of the horrific events that took place during that war but feel unable to talk about it to others for fear of being thought weak. The Association's primary object is to provide benevolence to its members. Benevolence is not confined to monetary grants but includes such things as maintaining contact with colleagues, member's widows and as in the example above, just talking about shared experiences.

I therefore urge you all, as I do every year, to please contact the Almoner if you become aware of a member you feel would benefit from the benevolence the Association and Trust can provide.

Trustees: Alan Toms, Fred Punter, James Harris, **Trustee Co-ordinator:** Tony Granger
Patron of the Trust: Field Marshal The Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE DL



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Finally my thanks to my fellow Trustees, Jim Harris and Fred Punter, Trustee Co-ordinator, Tony Granger and Patron Lord Walker for their efforts in administering and maintaining the Trust.

Alan Toms
Chairman of Trustees.

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