

ABF

THE SOLDIERS'

CHARITY

# SOLDIERS FOR



ANNUAL REVIEW 2010 / 2011

# 1944

**For over 67 years, we have been the charity of the British Army.**

ABF The Soldiers' Charity began as the Army Benevolent Fund in 1944. The demobilisation of soldiers after the two World Wars had put an enormous strain on Regimental and Corps charitable funds and highlighted the need for a national charity to give practical help to our soldiers and veterans. Our first patron was His Majesty King George VI. Today, we work with veterans from every conflict since the Second World War including recent operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.



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Chairman  
Maj Gen (Retd) Peter Sheppard  
CB CBE

## FOREWORD

In 2010 / 2011, we saw increased Charity activity across the board, from our grants and welfare work to our fundraising and communications efforts. During the year the Charity distributed £7.2m in grant payments to individuals and charities that support soldiers, former soldiers and their families. This is the most we have ever given and demonstrates the vital need to raise yet more money to fulfill our remit.

Some highlights from 2010 / 2011 include the launch of The Soldier Challenge – a new urban adventure race across London, targeting a younger supporter audience with HRH Prince Harry as its Patron. We have also reinstated the British Military Tournament, an event for the whole family, which attracted over 50,000 attendees in December 2010. The Big Curry, our month-long flagship fundraiser, has seen ongoing success as well as our Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch that was honoured by HRH The Prince of Wales being in attendance.

We are delighted that our regional fundraising has also continued to grow. This year the Regions contributed a very impressive £2.7m through public donations, events and Army units. Support from the Army is crucial to our success and is recognised with The Carrington Drum award, won this year by 11 Signal Regiment who raised £101,000 for the Charity.

We had a very important development in the growth of our relationship with Help for Heroes (H4H). We have agreed to use our expertise as grants managers to process individual bids to the H4H Quick Reaction Fund. During the year we dealt with an additional 331 grants, amounting to £640k to benefit those wounded, injured or sick since September 11th, 2001. Not only is this partnership arrangement practical and transparent, it demonstrates very clearly how two charities operating in the same field can collaborate for the good of the soldier.

In February, General The Lord Walker stepped down as Chairman of the Charity, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his five years of chairmanship. As a longstanding trustee, I have taken up the reins for the time-being and, already, I am enormously impressed by the dedication of our many supporters and volunteers. They do so much good work, particularly in the counties, for which I and the Trustees are so grateful. In conclusion, 2010 / 2011 has been a good year with much achieved, but as ever, I am acutely aware of how much there is to be done. I look forward to the challenge, to working together, and to being there for each and every soldier, former soldier and their family who needs our help.

Chairman  
Major General (Retd) Peter Sheppard  
CB CBE

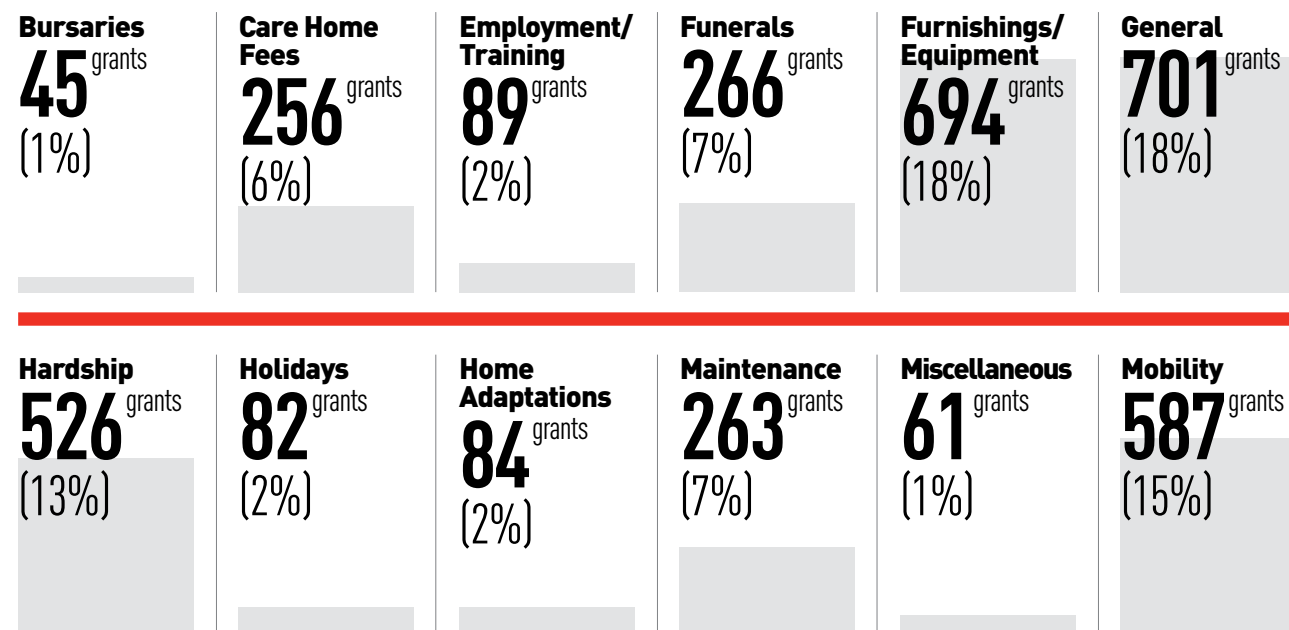
# SUMMARY OF GRANT GIVING ACTIVITIES

## WHERE THE MONEY GOES

TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS: **3,963**

**Annuities**  
**309** grants  
(8%)

(The Charity has additionally made 331 grants to support the current wounded on behalf of Help for Heroes and other organisations)

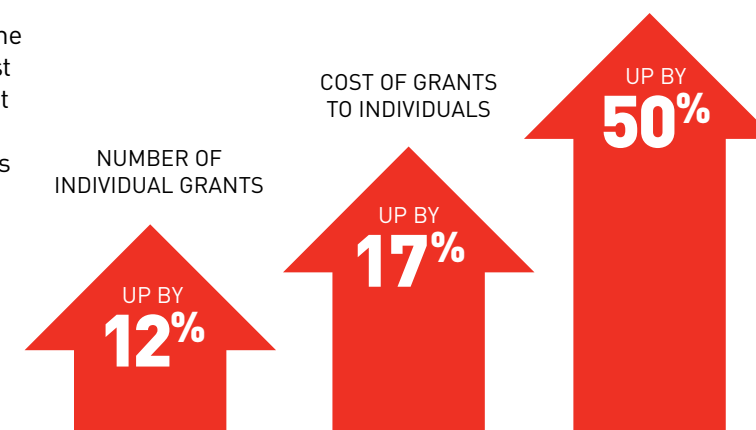


## WELFARE STATISTICS\*

For five consecutive years, our support to individuals and to charities that support the wider Army family has risen. Over the past year, we have supported over 80 specialist charities and some 4000 individuals. Our oldest beneficiary during the year was 104 and our youngest was 18 months old. The average cost per case of grants to individuals was £795.

\*excluding grants made on behalf of other organisations

COST OF GRANTS TO CHARITIES THAT SUPPORT THE WIDER ARMY FAMILY











## ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

The Soldiers' Charity is fortunate enough to have an amazing network of staff, volunteers, fundraisers and their families. Against a backdrop of a difficult economic climate and ongoing operations in Afghanistan, this network has helped deliver another year of fantastic fundraising ensuring that even more money is being raised for our soldiers and their families.

We have raised £4.45m from donations and appeals and £3.31m from legacies. We are exceptionally grateful to the Army who continue to support us by raising £1.4m in total, helped by 11 Signal Regiment who raised £101k and won the Carrington Drum and the Gloucestershire AFC who won the Revision Eyewear Trophy by raising over £10k.

Here's just a few examples of how we and our supporters did it:



### A ROYAL AFFAIR

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was the special guest at our fourth Lord Mayor's Big Curry, which raised over £273k towards The Soldiers' Charity Current Operations Fund. With special thanks to our sponsors: Noon, Cobra, Corney & Barrow, Sodexo, KPMG, Macfarlanes and Sirius Data.

### EXCITING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

We are delighted to have secured the Equiniti Group as our first National Charity of the Year. BAE Systems, Barclays Wealth and Bank of America have all generously pledged support to the charity.

### CURRY FOR A GOOD CAUSE

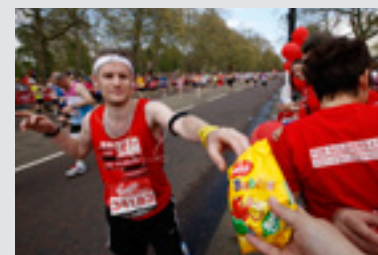
The Big Curry has been a big success, with great support from people like Sue Philp. Sue says, 'Since my daughter Kate has been an ambassador for The Soldiers' Charity during her rehabilitation after injury in Afghanistan, I have learnt about the wonderful work the Charity does. I'm glad that my friends and I have been able to make a contribution to such an outstanding cause.'

### AN AMAZING FEAT

Our Jump Days launched in 2010 / 2011, seeing us team up with the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment Tigers Parachute Display Team. There were 93 thrill-seeking supporters – including our ambassador, triple amputee and winner of The Sun newspaper's prestigious 'Millie' award Cpl Andy Reid – who threw themselves out of a plane from heights of 13,500 feet. Join us as we hope to double this number for 2011/12.

### TEAM SOLDIERS' CHARITY

The biggest race in our events calendar continues to be the Virgin London Marathon. The 2010 event saw Team Soldiers' Charity raise a whopping £150k.



### MOBILISE YOUR SQUAD

Another new event, The Soldier Challenge, saw its Patron Prince Harry and the adventurer Bear Grylls show off their skills on the zip wire at its launch event in November 2010. This new urban rat race across London sold out, with just over 1,000 participants taking part. The Prime Minister, David Cameron, generously gave two supportive and congratulatory messages played to the participants before and after the Challenge, which took place on 26 March 2011. We aim to double the number of participants to 2,000 next year, set to take place on 19 May 2012.

### SUPPORTING SOLDIERS ON THE HOMEFRONT

Since launching the Ideal Homes for Heroes Appeal, in partnership with Ideal Home Show owners Media 10, we have together raised £212k and helped over 200 soldiers, former soldiers and their families with vital home adaptations and other housing needs.



### A SHOW FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

The British Military Tournament (BMT) was a new event for 2010 raising over £320k for the charity. Over 51,000 people attended this unforgettable and breathtaking show which incorporates world famous acts from the old Royal Tournament. The new show is the largest display of military theatre anywhere in the world and show cases the skills and precision of the British Army in a dazzling arena production. BMT 2011 hopes to repeat the success at Earls Court on 2-4 December.



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights for the year to March 2011 included income received and grants payments at record levels, and new collaborative arrangements with Help for Heroes and others to provide immediate and direct support to wounded Army personnel.

Total gross income reported for the year reached a record level of £16.0m, an increase of £3.85m (32%) over the previous year. Legacies were again an important element generating £3.3m (2010: £3.5m), whilst Public Donations and Appeals Income of £4.45m (2010: £4.26m) and Income from the Army of £1.4m (2010: £1.3m) continued to provide strong support for the Charity's grant making activities.

Income from Events and from Other Activities increased significantly in the year and at £5.1m was £3.1m above the previous year, primarily as a result of the very successful British Military Tournament staged at Earls Court in December 2010. A similar event is planned for December 2011.

Across the income streams, income generated by the Regions reached record levels with gross income of £4.5m compared to £4.1m for the previous year.

During the year the Charity entered into collaborative arrangements with Help for Heroes (H4H) and a number of Corporate partners to manage payments to beneficiaries from H4H's Quick Reaction Fund (QRF) and to manage Grants received from H4H and others as part of the Army's Individual Recovery Plans (IRP) programme. The number of QRF and IRP cases handled during the year was 331, with grants made totalling £0.64m.

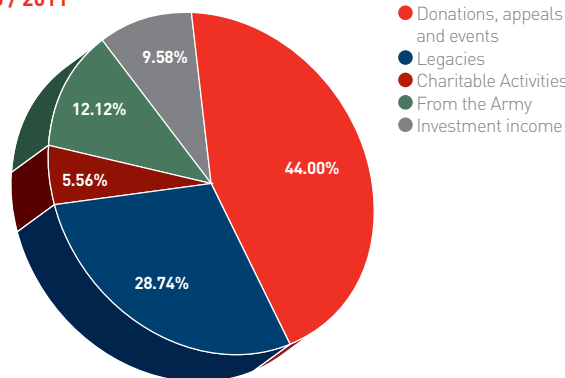
The total number of Grants cases handled during the year, including those for QRF and IRP, was 4,294, an increase of 22% over the previous year and a 78% increase over the past five years. Total spending on Grants for Individuals rose to a record level of £3.8m (prior year £2.7m). With Grants to Other Charities amounting to £3.4m (2010: £2.4m), the total Grants awarded during the year reached £7.2m (2010: £5.1m), an increase of 40%.

The new income category of income from Charitable Activities represents the matching grants from H4H and others for the QRF and IRP programmes.

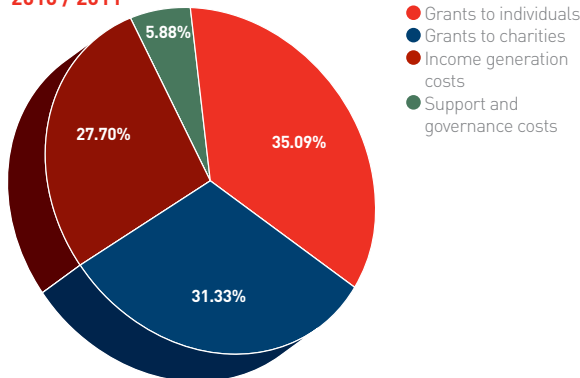
Partly as a result of the significant increase in Grants expenditure, the total expenditure by the Charity in the year to March 2011 increased to £15.3m. Spending on Grants (£7.2m) and the grant making infrastructure (£0.5m) amounted to £7.7m compared to £5.5m in the previous year (Grants £5.1m, infrastructure £0.4m). Costs associated with raising voluntary income, and of managing events and other fundraising activities, amounted to £7.5m, with a significant part of the year-on-year increase relating to new events such as the British Military Tournament and the investment in staff and infrastructure in order to manage the growth in the Charity's grant making and fundraising requirements.

Our Operating Surplus was just over £0.7m compared to £3.2m in the previous year. In addition we recorded unrealised investment gains of £1.6m (2010: unrealised gains of £8.2m).

**Income**  
2010 / 2011



**Expenditure**  
2010 / 2011



# SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS

Summarised Statement of Financial Activity for the year ended 31 March	2011 £	2010 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Donations and Appeals Income	4,451,336	4,256,585
Legacies	3,309,914	3,481,010
From the Army	1,265,506	1,210,589
Edinburgh Military Tattoo	130,000	70,000
Investment income	1,102,974	1,147,506
Income from Charitable Activities	640,070	0
Net income from other donations and events	616,475	428,589
	11,516,275	10,594,279
Cost of generating voluntary income	2,992,681	1,874,325
<b>Net incoming resources before charitable expenditure</b>	<b>8,523,594</b>	<b>8,719,954</b>
<b>Grantmaking costs</b>		
Grants to Regiments and Corps for the benefit of individuals	3,790,441	2,694,284
Grants to other charities	3,384,776	2,434,241
	7,175,217	5,128,525
Support costs	512,586	340,969
	7,687,803	5,469,494
<b>Governance costs</b>	122,067	68,648
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>7,809,870</b>	<b>5,538,142</b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>	<b>713,724</b>	<b>3,181,812</b>
Exchange gains/(losses)	414	(115)
Changes in valuations of investments	1,586,834	8,176,491
Fund balances brought forward	42,813,614	31,455,426
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>45,114,586</b>	<b>42,813,614</b>

Summarised consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31	2011	2010
<b>Net assets</b>		
Tangible assets	223,731	93,479
Investments	39,686,336	38,121,792
Net current assets	5,204,519	4,598,343
	<b>45,114,586</b>	<b>42,813,614</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Endowment	45,996	45,996
Restricted	4,853,718	4,980,888
Unrestricted	40,214,872	37,786,730
	<b>45,114,586</b>	<b>42,813,614</b>

**Trustee's statement** The above figures are summaries which have been extracted from the Annual Accounts. These Summarised Accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information the full Annual Accounts, the Auditor's Report on those accounts and the Trustees' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from: ABF The Soldiers' Charity, Mountbarrow House, 6-20 Elizabeth Street, London SW1W 9RB. The full Annual Accounts have been audited and an unqualified report issued. They were approved by the Trustees on 19 July 2011. The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been submitted to the Charity Commission.

**Major General (Retd) Peter Sheppard CB CBE, Chairman of the Trustees 19 July 2011.**

**Independent Auditor's Statement to the Trustees of ABF The Soldiers' Charity** We have examined the Summarised Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 set out above. **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Auditor** The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Summarised Financial Statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the Summarised Financial Statements with the full Annual Financial Statements and the Trustees' Annual Report. We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

**Opinion** In our opinion the Summarised Financial Statements are consistent with the full Annual Financial Statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of ABF The Soldiers' Charity for the year ended 31 March 2011. **Saffery Champness, Statutory Auditor, London 23 August 2011.**



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THE CHARITY OF THE BRITISH ARMY SINCE 1944