

Supporting Servicemen and women in recovery

Private Bruce Falkenberg in the HighGround garden, Headley Court (photo courtesy of Charlie Hopkinson)

This financial year, Annington has supported a number of charities dedicated to assisting members of the Armed Forces recovering from injuries, helping them to move beyond their disabilities and rediscover their appetite for life.

Ripple Pond

Ripple Pond exists to support all family members of Servicemen and women, past and present, injured during their service in the Armed Forces. Across the country, Ripple Pond has set up self-help networking groups which are self-supporting and self-motivating.

“I write to express in the strongest terms my support for Mrs Julia Molony and the work she is doing with Ripple Pond. It would be difficult to overstate the importance of this project.” General Sir Richard Shirreff KBC CBE (June 2013).

Annington’s donation has helped Ripple Pond spread the word to a wider audience and reach even more families in need of support throughout the UK.

HighGround

The transition from military to civilian life affects each individual in different ways. Many people, even decades after leaving the safety, camaraderie and routine of the Forces, still don’t consider themselves to be ‘a civilian’.

Forces people are often outdoor people, and HighGround’s vision is that those leaving the Services should have the opportunity to gain new outdoor experiences and career skills in a safe, supportive environment. The charity provides Horticultural Therapists based at Headley Court, Surrey to deliver therapeutic programmes for still-serving personnel who are recovering from Service-related health issues. Their work supports the mainstream treatment processes involved with each individual recovery plan. A donation by

Annington this year ensured HighGround had the necessary funding to move into its own office space.

Toe In The Water

Based in Gosport, Toe in the Water uses the medium of competitive sailing to re-inspire Service men and women who have sustained traumatic injuries or been injured in training, helping them to move beyond their disability and rediscover their appetite for life. Yacht racing is a physically and mentally challenging sport that provides a unique opportunity for injured Service personnel to compete with, and against, their able-bodied contemporaries.

A donation by Annington enabled the Toe in the Water team to enter the Annual Fastnet Race held in Cowes in 2013, and race against able-bodied teams.

Helping members of the Armed Forces rediscover their appetite for life



L-R: Elizabeth Filkin (Annington Chairman), Guardsman Paddy Gallagher of The Irish Guards & Andrew Chadd