

# Erskine News

Together we can enable members of our ex-Service community to get the best care and support to achieve maximum quality of life.



# TIME TO CARE

If you or someone you know has spent time in our Forces, they deserve some extra special care in return.

At Erskine we have the time to provide the compassion, kindness and care that is needed. We care for our ex-Service men and women, their spouses, widows and widowers.\*

If this applies to you, the difference of a lifetime could be just a quick call away.



To find out more about spending time at Erskine for nursing, residential, respite or dementia care, call us today on:

**0141 814 4538**

or visit us at:  
[www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk)

**ERSKINE**  
Proud to care

Unless the spouse has remarried\*

**ERSKINE**



## Welcome

Hello! My name is Ian Cumming – Erskine's new Chief Executive. I am delighted to welcome you with an update on the work that you are supporting! I've recently worked in the Charity and Commercial Care sectors. I also spent 27 years leading multi-skilled Royal Air Force Regiment teams - keeping them safe from a variety of challenges around the world.

You can imagine then, that I am honoured to join a similarly professional, multi-skilled team of staff, volunteers and supporters. Through your generosity, we help veterans access the support they deserve, when they need us.

Erskine has a strikingly multi-faceted approach. Our four care homes in Scotland are renowned for providing high quality, compassionate care to veterans and their spouses.

We also understand that veterans of any age can encounter numerous challenges, with health and wellbeing issues, accommodation and social isolation affecting their ability to begin the next chapter of their lives

The Personnel Recovery Centre has been based at the Erskine Edinburgh Home since 2009, run by the British Army it provides accommodation for 12 personnel. However, the need for accommodation for



Ian Cumming, Chief Executive

veterans seeking to reintegrate into civilian life is fundamentally important.

Erskine have 44 cottages for veterans and their families with building work underway for five assisted living apartments and in July we "cut the turf" for 24 single living apartments - creating a Veterans Village with a range of accommodation tailored to their needs. We also assist veterans, offering social, recreation and training facilities at our Activity Centre and employment opportunities in partnership with Scotland's Bravest Manufacturing Co.

You can probably tell that I am already very proud of "Team Erskine"! I'm also very proud to have your support, so please, continue to stand at our shoulder, donate when you can and help us to improve the lives of veterans in Scotland. Thank you and enjoy this newsletter.



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 0141 814 4657

 Fundraising Department, Erskine, Bishopton, Renfrewshire, PA7 5PU



## Single Living Accommodation



Last month, with the help of veteran and Erskine resident Peter Knowles, we broke ground at the site of our newest project!

The Ground Breaking signalled the start of work to build 24 apartments on our Bishopton estate. The apartments will be occupied by ex-Servicemen and women of working age with a housing need, where they can continue to engage with people who have shared experiences and backgrounds.

Alongside Peter were Erskine Chief Executive Ian Cumming and a representative from McTaggart Construction who are carrying out the work.

Ian said: “Building apartments for younger veterans is just one of several initiatives we are taking forward to extend our service provision. We envisage a true

**Veterans Village which will support many more veterans, enabling them to access advice, accommodation and employment. Building work began on the 9th July and is expected to be completed by the summer of 2019.”**

Gary Climson of McTaggart Construction said “**We will be working closely with the Erskine Team to provide this high quality development over the coming months and look forward to delivering the completed development.”**



## Garden Grand Opening



With thanks to all of your generous donations and support, the Erskine Centenary Walkway and Garden of Reflection are looking wonderful.

In June we were delighted to welcome our Chairman Robin Crawford and veteran George Collins to officially open the walkway and garden. Rev Graham Morrison gave a very fitting and moving ‘Service of Reflection’ to guests, the majority of which were Erskine supporters who have memorial plaques in the garden as a wonderful lasting memorial to their loved ones.

One added feature to the walkway are the new benches built by the Veterans

Woodwork Group at our Activity Centre. There were lots of lovely comments about the benches and we look forward to placing the next batch of them along the walkway soon.

If you would like to place a memorial plaque in the Garden for a loved one **you can order them through our website [www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk) or contact Erin Leggate on 0141 814 4706.**

Memorial plaques can be purchased for any loved one; they don’t have to have been an Erskine resident or served in the forces.





## Buckle Up!

A great big thank you goes out to Scotmid Co-operative! They have donated three specially-adapted VW Caddy vehicles which will be used across our four homes.

On behalf of all our veterans cared for here at Erskine, we are so grateful and delighted to receive such amazing support from Scotmid.

We have a broad range of outings and activities enabling our veterans to enjoy as rich and full a life as possible. These new vehicles are fully wheelchair accessible and feature bespoke adaptations, specifically designed with the needs of our veterans in mind.

The need for the appropriate transport is really important as our residents are often living with complex health issues and require a high level of support.

Scotmid Co-operative President, Harry Cairney, said: **“Scotmid is delighted to be**

**able to support such an inspiring charity and we hope the introduction of the new specially-adapted VW Caddy vehicles will make a big difference to the lives of the Erskine residents.**

**We believe our new partnership with Erskine is a good fit for our Society and we are delighted to support such a worthy charity.”**



## On yer bike!

Can you believe some of the sunshine we've had these past months? Residents took full advantage of those rare days and got out on their bikes!

The adapted bikes allow residents to feel safe throughout their ride as a member of staff is able to sit beside them and help with the pedalling and steering too. Wheelchair users are also in on the fun as we have bikes that accommodate their chairs.

Having these special bikes to hand allows residents to maintain their existing skills and abilities, thus remaining as independent as possible - one of the cornerstones which Erskine was founded on all those many years ago!

For many Erskine residents the opportunity to cycle provides them with an experience that they may have never accessed before



or which they will not have been able to enjoy for some time due to their health.

You have made this possible through your kind donations. Thank you!

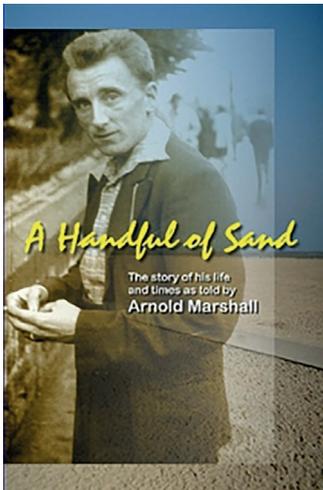


# Sharing History

Many of you will now be familiar with Erskine Edinburgh veteran Elizabeth Glacken after she featured in our summer appeal and shared her wonderful life story with you so we'd like to give you a little update...

After receiving Elizabeth's letter, Erskine supporter Mrs Marshall felt moved to share another life story, not just with Elizabeth, but with all of Erskine's residents.

Mrs Marshall wrote: **"It was nice to read about your life and meeting your husband. My husband was also called John but we all knew him as Arnold; a D-Day veteran. He passed away in 2013 and was almost 93."**



Delighted to receive a reply, Elizabeth started reading her letter straight away and was even more in glee when she found a book along with it.

**"John had such an interesting life that we persuaded him to write his life story for family and friends. I have enclosed a copy for you to read and then make available to all the veterans to read too."**

As you can see John's book "A Handful of Sand" is already being read by Elizabeth and she has said she will then pass it around to other residents as Mrs Marshall requested.

If you missed Elizabeth's story you can find it on our website [www.erskine.org.uk/my-life-story-elizabeth-glacken/](http://www.erskine.org.uk/my-life-story-elizabeth-glacken/)



## Our Dunkirk Hero

In the last issue of Erskine News we shared Glasgow resident Harry Bayne's amazing service story. Harry served with the Black Watch 1st Battalion who strengthened the 51st Highland Division alongside French allies. Unfortunately the Division were stranded in Saint Valery in June 1940, after the evacuation at Dunkirk and Harry was made a Prisoner of War.

Late last year Harry was filmed by North One Television for a Channel 4 programme which aired on July 15th called **"Dunkirk: The Forgotten Heroes"**.

Joined by the only fellow surviving Division members Harry and his comrades shared their experiences of being the last part of the British Expeditionary Force on the front line. In recent declassified files from the National Archives it has been revealed that Churchill ordered the Division to fight on days after Dunkirk, despite a lack of rations, ammunition and manpower.

The programme was greatly received by viewers and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Harry and all the men of the 51st Highland Division for their wonderful efforts, bravery and sacrifice.



## Meet Erskine



Agnes MacLeod has been a resident at Erskine since February this year however in her short time here, as you'll read further on in the Newsletter, she's already made her mark by opening this year's Ideal Home Show!

We chatted with Agnes to find out more about her time in the Army and would love for you to meet her...

**Pupils are finding out their exam results this week and I'm sure there will be lots hoping to get in to nursing and medicine, what made you decide nursing was the way to go for you?**

*"Being from Skye there aren't many job opportunities on the Island. My mother was a midwife working out a hospital in*

*Nottingham so I thought I would go down to join her and start nursing training."*

**Once you finished your training you joined the Army, what can you tell us about your time with the service?**

*"I joined at the end of WW2 in 1945 and was with the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. It was wonderful. I was able to treat servicemen and travel the world! What more could you want? I served for six years, three of which were in Hong Kong but I was in Germany too."*

*One thing I'm extremely proud of is that I nursed the Chelsea Pensioners. They still attend a lot of high profile and televised events so whenever something like Armistice is on TV I look out for them. It's wonderful to see them in their bright red coats."*

*I had many happy days in the Nursing Corps and it was a pleasure to nurse the troops."*

**You served for six years, why did you choose to leave?**

*"That's simple; I married John. Otherwise I wouldn't have left!"*

*He was in the Merchant Navy but that's not how we met. Would you believe we went to Primary School together? I don't think that's very common these days that two people who have known each other that long end up marrying."*

*We have a beautiful family."*

**We've had the pleasure of your company here at Erskine for a few months now, how are you settling in?**

*"Very well! It's a wonderful place, there's always something to be doing."*

*(I've tried to meet with Agnes various times over the last two weeks but she's never been in her room! Once she was doing her exercises with the Physio Team, the next time she was downstairs in the Bunker taking part in whatever activity was on that day and another she was on an outing.)*

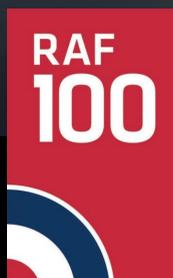
*"I can definitely say that had Erskine not been here and I went to another place it wouldn't have been as good as this."*



## The Erskine Military Ball



Sponsored by:



**Hilton Hotel, Glasgow . Friday 28th September 2018.**

**£100 per ticket with service discount available.**

**[www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk) . 01418144729 . [jennifer.campbell@erskine.org.uk](mailto:jennifer.campbell@erskine.org.uk)**

Scottish Charity No: SC006609

# Creating New Creativity

Luminate, Scotland's creative ageing organisation, is working in partnership with Erskine on a 3-year artist-in-residence programme in our 4 care homes. The programme is part of Unforgotten Forces, a partnership of 15 organisations supporting older veterans in Scotland.

Artists James Winnett and Gill White are spending two days each week collaborating with Erskine residents on a wide range of creative activities; so far these have included filmmaking, sound recording, storytelling, creative writing, poetry reading, model making, sculpture, stone carving, painting and drawing.

For the first few months James and Gill worked out of our Erskine Park Home at Bishopton, which is a purpose built home designed to care for people living with dementia. Residents created art inspired by nature and over the summer months ourselves and Luminate are presenting an outdoor exhibition that shows some of the

activities in action and shares some of the work created by residents. You can find the exhibition located on the cycle path through the woods behind the home.

Director of Care Derek Barron said: **"I am inspired and in awe of the wonderful artwork along our cycle path, created by residents at Erskine Park Home along with our artists in residence."**

Professor Brendan McCormack, Head of the Divisions of Nursing, Occupational Therapy & Arts Therapies at Queen Margaret University, visited the exhibition in early July and tweeted afterwards: **"This is one of the most inspiring arts projects for people living with dementia that I have ever experienced."**

In August, Gill and James will begin working in Erskine's Glasgow Home; we're looking forward to more wonderful creative work!



# Centenary Celebrations

by veterans, family members and 62 - 2nd Glasgow Squadron RAF Air Cadets.

In typical fashion, stories and cake were shared between past, current and future members of the RAF.

You can follow the Baton's journey using #RAFBatonRelay on Twitter and Facebook.

The RAF will be hosting a number of events across the country for you to join in the celebrations.

On the 1st April, one hundred years since the formation of the Royal Air Force, a specially designed baton set off on a journey around the UK and abroad.

The Baton made its way to Scotland in May and was handed over from The Royal British Legion Scotland Riders to our Erskine Glasgow Home where it was welcomed



# Come Dine With Us

In May our veterans were invited to tuck in to a three course meal prepared by students of West College Scotland's Paisley Campus.

Residents from the Bishopton Home filled The Weavers Restaurant at the campus and were overwhelmed by the students' culinary skills.

Thank you to all the students and staff from the college involved in making this such a special lunch outing. We'll be your guests any time!





## Ideal Home Show

Erskine were proud to be the Official Charity Partner of the Ideal Home Show Scotland 2018, one of the biggest events in Scotland, for the sixth consecutive year. The 2018 Erskine show garden celebrated and recognised the pivotal work of Erskine Hospital, and their response to meeting the needs of amputees returning home from the battlefields of WW1. Featuring the original gardens and nightingale ward of Erskine, the Show garden 'Under the White Cross' was named from the motto of the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps and was inspired by Erskine resident Agnes MacLeod. Agnes joined the Army after WW2 having already completed nursing training, and served in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Visitors were engaged through the storyboards around the garden and by the Military volunteers who told of their experiences and chatted about the garden design. Erskine mobilised a mini-army of volunteers to support constructing and breaking down the garden, promoting Erskine, running the plant market and bucket collections to maximise profits and

charity brand exposure. It was a delight to have so many willing and enthusiastic volunteers over the course of the 4 day event and we raised over £9,000 through bucket collections alone! Aside from the incredible amount of money raised for our ex-service men and women we also raised the profile of Erskine as a charity and the work that we do here through promoting Erskine to the 45,000 members of the public and stall holders.

### Save The Date

**Art for Erskine**  
19th - 21st October, Trades Hall of Glasgow

**Halloween Woodland Walk**  
27th October, Erskine Home, Bishopton

**Christmas Cracker**  
8th - 9th November, Glynhill Hotel, Paisley

**Tree of Honour**  
6th December, All Erskine Homes



## Erskine Motorbike Meet

Taking place on the Erskine grounds on Sunday 27th May, we welcomed around 1000 motorbikes / trikes, and over 4000 visitors to Erskine for the annual Erskine Motorbike Meet 2018.

At the inaugural event in 2006, a handful of bikers arrived at Erskine for coffee, nibbles and to spend some time with our veterans. In the 12 years since, the event has grown rapidly and has established itself as an unmissable date in the motorbike enthusiast's calendar. Starting with a parade of 2 & 3 wheeled vehicles and featured lots of family entertainment, fairground rides, live music, displays, shopping and much more. The 2018 Erskine Motorbike Meet event was the biggest yet and raised over £15,000!

## Erskine Car Show



Our 6th annual car show took place on Saturday 28th July returning to Intu Braehead for the second year. We welcomed around 200 cars ranging from the classic Mini to the All American Mustang, and the variety made for a fantastic display with something for everyone. The show was visited by around 1000 attendees who got to enjoy live entertainment from Dixie Lang, Matthew Gibb and world champion dance troop NC Dance.



Exhibitors had the chance to enter our first ever concourse competition sponsored by Angel Wax who donated some of their products to the lucky winners of 'Best Classic Car' and 'Best Modern Car'. The Car Show has grown year on year since it began on the estate in 2013 and this year's show brought in over £6,500 which is a great result of all the hard work from our volunteers and the team on day.

# Their Bravery. Their sacrifice. Your gift to them WILL mean everything

Each and every ex-Service man and woman at Erskine has memories of being in the service for their country. Many remember the happy times of true comradeship, some are unable to erase the horrors from their minds, others quietly remember those less fortunate than themselves and those comrades who were left behind on the battlefields.

Every veteran who turns to Erskine for help deserves the best possible care and our aim is to ensure they receive it. Every veteran who arrives at our door feels safe and supported thanks to the continuing generosity of so many of our supporters.

## Imagine the difference you could make with one final gift.

You are the backbone of our care programme to continue providing a long term future for Erskine and our veterans. Your generosity provides dedicated nursing and dementia care, sensory gardens, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and many social activities that make life fun and enhances their quality of life. Every gift given in kindness, no matter how small, really does make a difference to our veterans' lives and to those of their families.

## In gratitude

Miss Wightman from Edinburgh left us £1,000 which helped Erskine in our

commitment to providing care for those who sacrificed so much for the freedom we enjoy.

Mr Michael O'Donnell from Dunbar left us a generous gift of his home named "Kimberlea House" which was sold with the money being used to help fund the building of the 5 Assisted Living Apartments at the Erskine Home. These will be known as "Kimberlea House" in memory of his kindness and generosity.

These are only a few of the many people who supported Erskine and chose to make the 'ultimate' gift in their Wills. We are grateful to them all for their unwavering support of our ex-Service men and women. These acts of kindness will never be forgotten.

We understand the importance of family being first, but including a gift in your Will is the most valuable way to help Erskine secure the best care for our veterans in the future.

**Just a little can be life-changing** and help Erskine survive to transform the lives of veterans in the future. No act of kindness will ever be wasted. Even a small gift or share of whatever is left of your Estate can make an amazing difference. If this is something you can do, then it would be greatly appreciated.

**Please, when the time is right for you, remember Erskine in your Will.**



## A specified gift in your Will of:

£100 will help provide adapted cutlery to make meal times easier for our veterans.

£1,000 will help provide items for our physiotherapy department which benefits all our veterans. Mobility is crucial and provides them with a sense of achievement, mobility and independence.

£10,000 will help us train Palliative Care Nurses for seriously ill veterans near end of life. Imagine what this will mean to them and their families.

## A share of your Estate could provide:

- Rehabilitation to help vulnerable veterans by providing counselling, training, accommodation and employment.
- Specialist care for our dementia veterans. The many, and complex, symptoms of the illness will be treated by engaging veterans in a wide range of activities that stimulate social, sensory and motor skills. Such activities will include Sonas Therapy, Reminiscence Activity,

Pre-Therapy Communication and a range of social activities all of which will further promote interaction within the home. Each veteran's individual tastes and preferences will be taken into account and their families will be encouraged to assist in their wellbeing. This gives hope and compassion not only to them but their families too.

Without the help of legacies we would not have been able to develop our dementia care in such a unique and innovative way.

## Our support for them must never stop; with your support it never will.

If you require any further information on leaving a gift to Erskine in your Will or would like a copy of our Legacy Brochure or to make a visit to one of the Erskine Homes then please contact Anne McCallum.



**0141 814 4520**



**[anne.mccallum@erskine.org.uk](mailto:anne.mccallum@erskine.org.uk)**

# Our Promise To You

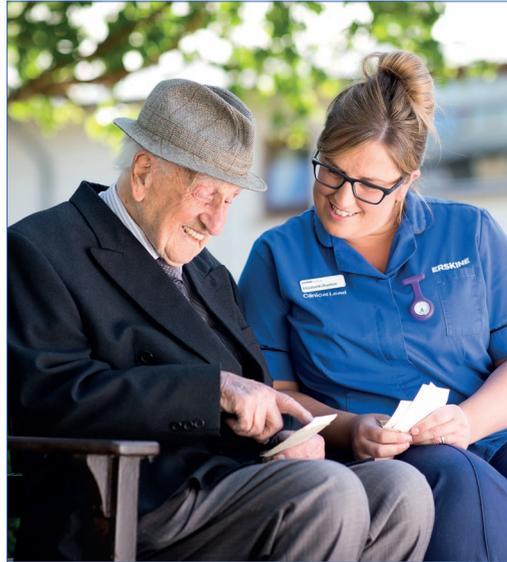
You, our supporters, are at the heart of everything we do. With your help, Erskine is able to offer care and support to veterans and their families when they need us most.

We simply couldn't do it without you, which is why we value your trust so highly. It is also why, when you make the decision to support us, we make this promise to you:

- **We will respect your privacy, we will never share or sell any of your information to other organisations or charities for their use.**
- **We will commit to high standards.**
- **We will be clear, honest and open.**
- **We will share stories of the people you help.**
- **We will be fair and reasonable.**
- **We will be accountable and responsible.**

To find out more about our promise to you and our privacy policy, please read below.

Erskine will never exchange or sell your information to another organisation for their own marketing purposes. As Data Controller, Erskine will collect and use your personal information when you use or access our services, visit our website or help with our income generated activities.



Based on the services you use, or support that you give, we will retain your personal information for a reasonable period of time. For more details on how we use and retain your personal information, your data protection rights, or to contact our Data Protection Officer please refer to our full privacy policy <https://www.erskine.org.uk/cookie-privacy-policies/> or call us to request your own copy.

If you'd like to opt out of our marketing and fundraising communications, simply call our team on **0141 814 4657** to tell us your contact preferences.



# Yes, I want to support veterans at Erskine today

## 1 Your details please:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Postcode:

Phone:

## 2 Please accept my gift of £

## 3 Did you know the taxman can care for veterans too?

If you are a UK taxpayer, let us know and we can increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you.

*giftaid it*

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations to Erskine that I make in the future or have made in the past four years. In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below and insert today's date: I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 I have given.

Please tick  Today's date

## 4 Donation Payment:

I enclose my cheque made payable to Erskine **OR** please debit my Visa/ Mastercard/ Maestro/ CAF Charity Card (delete as applicable)

Card Number

Start Date  Expiry Date  Security Number   
(Last 3 digits on the back of your card)

Signature  Today's Date

5  I do not require acknowledgement of my gift.

Please send me, in confidence, information about leaving a gift to Erskine in my Will.

# Yes, I'd like to make a difference via Direct Debit



**Name:**

**Address:**

I would like to make a regular gift of:

£5  £10  Other £

I would like this gift to be made:

Monthly  Quarterly  Annually

Please start my payments on:

1st  15th  \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert month / year)



## Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit



Please fill in the form and send to: Fundraising Department, Erskine, Bishopton, PA7 5PU

Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To: The Manager	Bank/Building Society
Address	
	Postcode

Service User Number

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Reference

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### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Erskine Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with Erskine and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

--

Branch sort code

--	--	--

Bank/Building Society Account Number

--	--	--	--	--	--

Signature(s)

--

Date

--

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.