

## **OTHER USEFUL ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **Welfare and Ex-Service Organizations**

A number of Welfare and Ex-Services organizations exist which can provide a range of assistance to ex-Service personnel. Your interviewing officer will assist you on how to get in touch with these organizations now or at any time post-discharge, should the need arise. A brief summary of some of the main organizations and what they can offer is below (there are others which your interviewing officer can explore with you if necessary).

#### **The Royal British Legion (TRBL)**

UK's largest ex-Service organization with 3,200 branches throughout UK. Any Service person facing discharge and post-discharge can contact the Legion for help and advice:

- -Advice relating to war pensions.
- -Assistance for retraining for civilian jobs.
- -Assistance for start up of your own business, including small business loans.
- -Ex-Service retraining programme under the direction of Tidworth College and Training Centre

Tel: **08457 725 725**

#### **The Naval Families Federation**

The NFF is located within the three NPFS Main Area Offices and provides:  
An information service in the UK and for those overseas which is the RN/RM equivalent to the Citizens Advice Bureau.  
Fact Sheets on matters of general interest and sends them, along with leaflets and brochures on numerous subjects.  
Free, confidential and impartial advice on military or civilian problems. It will help all personnel, including those who are not married.

#### **The contact details are:**

Castaway House  
311 Twyford Avenue  
Portsmouth  
Hampshire  
PO2 8RN

Tel: 023 9265 4374

#### **The Regular Forces Employment Association (RFEA)**

The RFEA has been helping Service leavers and ex-Service personnel secure worthwhile employment in the civilian world since 1885. From its nationwide network of 30 offices, situated in towns & cities where people want to live and work, the RFEA provides job-finding advice and support, liaising closely with the three Services, ex-Service charities and other organizations on housing, welfare matters and retraining. In its charitable role, the RFEA also provides job-finding assistance to ex-Service personnel who have at any time been in the ranks or rates. This service is provided as often as they wish, up to retirement age. The RFEA's team of Employment Consultants, themselves all ex-Servicemen and women, with further proven experience of trade, industry or commerce, maintain close and regular contact with local employers.

The principal benefits of RFEA are:

- a responsive counselling and job-finding service
- local job market advice and known employers
- personal assistance from an Employment Consultant

- continued support until retirement age.

See the website for a list of phone numbers and e-mail addresses or call for a list of phone numbers and e-mail addresses from the Head Office, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Mount Barrow House, 6-20 Elizabeth Street, London, SW1W 9RB on 0845 8737165

**To contact the RFEA go to [www.rfea.org.uk](http://www.rfea.org.uk)**

#### **The Officers Association**

The Officers Association Employment Department assists unemployed ex-officers throughout the UK to find suitable employment. The assistance includes career and job search advice, contacts, and a highly professional job finding service. The OA also has a Benevolence Department for grants and advice accessed through Service welfare branches and Corps and Regimental Secretaries. It should, be noted, however, that OA services are only available to officers and ex-officers, and their families, who have held the Queen's Commission and those who are medically discharged from Officer Cadet training.

The Officers' Association,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Mountbarrow House  
6-20 Elizabeth Street  
London  
SW1W 9RB  
Tel: 0845 8737145  
Fax: 0845 8737154  
Email: [reg@oaed.org.uk](mailto:reg@oaed.org.uk)

#### **The White Ensign Association**

The White Ensign Association is a long established Naval Charity helping all members (able seaman to Admiral) of the Naval Service including the Reserves with all aspects of resettlement. The Association operates from its Headquarters on board HMS BELFAST in the pool of London and the staff regularly visits all Naval Establishments. The service is entirely free and confidential.

The White Ensign Association  
HMS BELFAST  
Tooley Street  
London  
SE1 2JH  
Tel: 020 7407 8658  
Fax: 020 7357 6298  
E-mail: [office@whiteensign.co.uk](mailto:office@whiteensign.co.uk)  
Website: [www.whiteensign.co.uk](http://www.whiteensign.co.uk)

#### **The Veterans' Agency contact details are:**

Helpline: 0800 169 2277 (free)  
Textphone: 0800 169 3458  
Tel (Overseas): +44 1253 866043  
Internet: [www.veterans-uk.info](http://www.veterans-uk.info)  
E-mail: [veterans.help@spva.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:veterans.help@spva.gsi.gov.uk)

#### **Emergency Advice**

**Emergency advice 24 hours a day for anyone in housing difficulty is provided by Shelterline - telephone no: 0808 800 4444**

In addition your local Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) will be able to provide specialist housing advice through the National Homelessness Advice Service Association (run by Shelter). Call the National Association of CABx on 020 7833 2181 to find where your nearest CAB is or visit the website at [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk).

**SPACES** 01748 833797 [www.spaces.org.uk](http://www.spaces.org.uk)

**RN Benevolent Trust** 02392 690112

**Seafarers UK** 020 7932 0000

**RAF Association** – 0116 2665224

**RAF Benevolent Fund** – 0800 1692942

**Army Corps & Regimental Associations** – details can be found via SSAFA contact

**Army Benevolent Fund** – should only be approached via Regimental Associations or SSAFA

**REMPLOY** – specialist help in employment for registered disabled clients [www.remploy.co.uk](http://www.remploy.co.uk)

**BLESMA** – 020 8590 1124 [www.blesma.org](http://www.blesma.org)

**Combat Stress** – 01372 841600 [www.combatstress.com](http://www.combatstress.com)

**St Dunstons** – 020 7723 5021 [www.st-dunstans.org.uk](http://www.st-dunstans.org.uk)

**Shaw Trust** – 01225 716300

**Financial Services Association** - 0300 500 5000 [www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk](http://www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk)

### **Other services**

**You may need help or advice about a range of more specialist health issues:**

**Drugs:** The National Drugs Helpline on 0800 77 6600 provides free and confidential advice and information on any drug issue 24 hours a day. There is also a website, see [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

**Alcohol:** The Government-sponsored Drinkline, run by Alcohol Concern on 020 7264 0510 provides free and confidential advice and information on any alcohol issue 24 hours a day.