

PING!



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EX-SERVICE DROP-IN CENTRES

MAY 2018 | ISSUE 02/18



HOME SWEET HOME!

After an 18 month long search to find the best way to run ASDIC as an entity, ASDIC has finally found a home. Instead of having to become stand-alone charity or CIC, with all the attendant costs and resource implications, ASDIC is now a project within Veterans Outreach Support (VOS). This move was finally approved by the VOS Board on 22 March and in so doing they have kindly agreed to take us under their wing as a charity and manage ASDIC within a restricted fund.

We are of course delighted that VOS has been able to come to our assistance in this way. Essentially it means that the Steering Committee can continue to conduct ASDIC's everyday business through the General Secretary (Malcolm Farrow), confident that VOS will provide any backing or administrative support required under its charitable umbrella, and be responsible for ASDIC's corporate governance. With the roles and responsibilities agreed and the Constitution signed, we can now move forward and give Drop-Ins the recognition, voice and support they deserve.

NEW JOINERS

We are delighted that ASDIC membership continues to grow. Welcome to the following new joiners since the first PING! issue 01. Total number of members is now 25:

1. Aldershot Armed Forces Drop In (Hampshire)
2. Bolton Armed Forces Centre 4 Veterans
3. Change Step Wales (Several Centres throughout Wales)
4. Herefordshire Veterans Support Group (Hereford)
5. Heyford and Bicester Veterans Group (Bicester)
6. Hope Springs Recovery Centre (Chesterfield)
- 7.. Surrey Armed Forces Drop In (Woking)
- 8.. Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth and Isle of Wight)
9. Veterans Support Association (West Molesey, Surrey)

ASDIC CONFERENCE 2018

The date for the 2018 conference is set for Tuesday 13 November at the Northern Design Centre in Gateshead. The programme will follow the general pattern of Conference 2017; short presentations by both Drop-Ins and by Delivery Partners, perhaps with a suitable keynote speaker. Drop-Ins will be invited to bring display stands and leaflets to promote their services. Travel and subsistence for Drop-Ins attending will be covered as before. More details will be promulgated during the coming months as planning develops...save the date in your diary!

RM SUPPORT NETWORK



With numerous registered Service Charities to choose from, finding the right organisation to help can be quite a daunting task. For members of the Royal Marine family, the starting point is to contact the Royal Marines Support Network (RMSN). The RMSN is an integral part of the Royal Marines Association UK wide and provides a bespoke response for all veterans' welfare needs.

They can ensure that if they can't fix the problem, they will almost certainly find someone who can! More information at www.royalmarinesassociation.org.uk

JOINED UP - YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY AND ASDIC

Building and maintaining relationships is the key to the success of ASDIC. Our aim is to share resources and information to allow this to happen, avoid duplication and help to raise standards. As the result of the Covenant Fund initiative (now the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust) to encourage the setting up of Drop-Ins with Local Authorities UK wide, anyone working with their Local Authority to start or develop a Drop-In will be introduced to ASDIC. We will therefore be in a position to help from the start, putting them in touch with adjacent Drop-Ins and appropriate services they may not have considered, so helping them to learn from the experience of existing Drop-Ins and plug any gaps. Having set off on the right foot, they will then be able to join ASDIC in their own right, reap the ongoing benefits and make their own contribution as a member. ASDIC is there to add value...The sum of us all can be greater than our individual parts alone.

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee (SCT) is the think tank behind ASDIC and oversees what we do. The General Secretary then makes sure things are done. It is also the place to consider any ideas Drop-Ins may have, so please get in touch with one of the SCT members listed below or the ASDIC General Secretary to contribute to the Agenda.

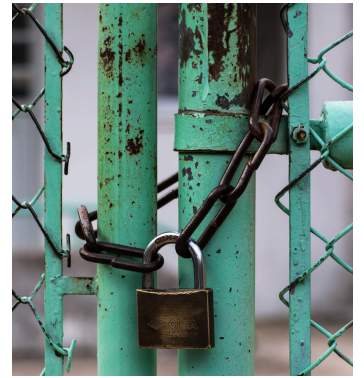
The next meeting is planned for Tuesday 5 June.

POINTS OF CONTACT

Armed Forces Community Hub Gavin Jones	gavin.jones@armedforcessupporthub.org
Armed Forces Drop Ins Roger and Lucy Nield	roger@smpl.org.uk
Change Step Wales Simon Frith	ask@change-step.co.uk
Combat Stress Adrienne Coward	adrienne.coward@combatstress.org.uk
First Light Trust Dorinda Wolfe Murray	dwm@firstlighttrust.co.uk
Forward Assist Tony Wright	tony@forward-assist.com
Greenwich Hospital Shakeeth Bagus	shakeethbagus@grenhosp.org.uk
Help for Heroes TBC	TBC
MAON Mark Axler	mark.axler@maon.co.uk
NHS Richard Swarbrick	richard.swarbrick@nhs.net
SSAFA Christine Cribb	Christine.Cribb@ssafa.org.uk
Stoll Mary O'Neil	Mary.O'Neil@stoll.org.uk
Surrey Health Veterans and Families Listening Project (SHV&F-LP) Deborah and Roy Sellstrom	surreyheath.veterans@yahoo.com
The Royal British Legion Colin Gordon	cgordon@britishlegion.org.uk
Veterans Outreach Support Jon Watson	jon.watson@vosuk.org

GDPR GUIDANCE

No doubt you have all been battling to decipher the changes which came into force on the 25 May relating to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The Information Commissioners (ICO) website is a good place to look for step by step guides and checklists. A privacy policy is key, so you can demonstrate how, what, who, when and why you need their personal information relating to a legitimate interest for direct marketing or to consent, which is needed under Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR). The ASDIC Privacy policy is to be found on the website. Please get in touch if we can help...GDPR is a great example of an issue that affects us all and where we can share information and experience.



ASDIC WEBSITE

The ASDIC website www.asdic.org.uk went live on 21 May. It is sure to have a few gremlins in it so have a good look and let us know what you think. A key aim is to make it easy for members to promote their Drop-In and to see the other Drop-Ins at a glance, with their details just a click away. If you have not yet given us your details or they need updating, contact Sarah – we need information in a certain format for consistency (opening times, point of contact etc). In due course there will be a separate page for Associate members, ie supporting agencies and charities who attend or work with Drop-Ins to give specialist help (Delivery Partners), so make sure you list the ones who work with you so they can be included too.

ASDIC TEAM

Peter Mosse. Chairman

Peter.Mosse@asdic.org.uk

Malcolm Farrow. General Secretary

Malcolm.Farrow@asdic.org.uk

Sarah Clewes. Communications Manager

Sarah.Clewes@asdic.org.uk

We look forward to hearing your news.

Now that Spring has sprung and summer is upon us I have started getting out on the road visiting Drop-Ins around the country. This is proving to be a very fruitful and useful activity and my grateful thanks to those I have been to see for your hospitality. Thank you all for the outstanding work you do and I look forward to visiting more of you as time and space allows.

With my best wishes

Handwritten signature of Malcolm Farrow.

General Secretary.