

CAERPHILLY ARMED FORCES FORUM (CAFF)

Activities / Events and Timeline

2015 / 2016	
April 2015	Planning underway for Caerphilly Armed Forces Day parade and celebrations in Newbridge on 20/06/2015.
09/04/2015	Chair and Assistant Lead Officer (ALO) meet with the Chair of the Federation of Small Businesses to further promote the Defence Discount and Privilege Card scheme.
11/05/2015	Mayor of CCBC (Cllr David Carter) presents a cheque to his designated charities, including the RBL Poppy Appeal, following fund raising during his mayoral year in office.
14/05/2015	Chair attends WG Armed Forces Champions event in Wrexham to present update on work of CAFF as a result of CAFF activity being identified as 'best practice'. Presentation delivered; WG Minister for Public Services and Armed Forces in attendance.
28/05/2015	Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum meeting at CCBC Offices (Penallta House). Agenda, notes and activities and timeline (as at 21/05/2015) circulated. Presentations from 'Hire-A-Hero' and Veterans Welfare Service (Veterans UK).
29/05/2015	WG Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty opens housing development on Newport Road, Bedwas. Two of the units were funded by WG capital funding (£160,000) to provide housing for personnel leaving the Armed Forces. Partnership between WG, CCBC and United Welsh Housing Association.
02/06/2015	'Champion' and ALO attend 21 gun Royal Salute to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Coronation Day at the Pierhead, Cardiff Bay.
03/06/2015	Gwent (ABUHB) Armed Forces Forum meeting at Torfaen CBC Offices (Pontypool). Notes and presentations circulated to CAFF members.
07/06/2015	'Champion' and RBL arrange re-dedication ceremony at the War Memorial at Aberbargoed. Attended by Civic Dignitaries, local Councillor's and soldiers from 203 (Welsh) Fd., Hosp.
11/06/2015	Chair and ALO meet with RBL Information and Advice Officer re Bargoed Library Outreach service.
11/06/2015	Chair and ALO meet with 'Change Step' Peer Mentor re services provided in CCBC and support required.
13/06/2015	'Champion' attends attend the 21 gun Royal Salute to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Official Birthday at the Pierhead, Cardiff Bay.
20/06/2015	Caerphilly Armed Forces Day Parade and celebrations in Newbridge. Supported by Royal Welsh, 203 (Welsh) Fd. Hosp., Cadets, RBL, local school children and of course our public. Very positive feedback received.
23/06/2015	'Champion' and ALO attend the Ministerial launch of the WLGA 'Supporting Service School Children in Education, Wales) guidance at the Senedd, Cardiff Bay.
09/07/2015	'Champion' attends Armed Forces Employer Engagement event in Newport.
10/07/2015	Chair, ALO and CCBC Communications Manager meet with Chief Custodian for CADW South Wales at Caerphilly Castle re feasibility of bid for 14-18 NOW 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red Poppy' installation. Reports being prepared for consideration of CADW and CCBC Management teams. Awaiting response from CADW.
14/07/2015	'Champion', Chair, ALO and CCBC Communications Manager meet with BSM of 217 Bty., 104 Regiment Royal Artillery re charity log pull from Caerphilly to Aberbargoed to take place on 18/07/2015.
22/07/2015	Chair and ALO meet with Adjutant of 203 (Welsh) Fd., Hosp. re mutual update and briefing.
25-26/07/2015	CAFF marquee and military village at Caerphilly Big Cheese event, supported by Royal Welsh, 104Regiment Royal Artillery, REME, Logistics Corps., Army Cadets, RBL, SSAFA, The Poppy Factory, Change Step, DMWS, Hire-A-Hero, CAB and CCBC Armed Forces team exhibiting. Public participation and feedback very positive.
29/07/2015	Chair delivers presentation to Caerphilly County Borough Town and Community Councils on the work of CAFF and Armed Forces community covenant.
August 2015	Chair and Champion met with South Wales Armed Forces Day Committee (at their request) to explore feasibility of hosting event in Caerphilly County Borough.
07/08/2015	Chair and Champion visit SSAFA office at Raglan Barracks, Newport.
03/09/2015	'Fly the Red Ensign' ceremony at CCBC Offices (Penallta House) attended by Mayor, Leader of CCBC and Chair of Caerphilly LSB, MPs, AMs, Chair of CAFF and AF Champion and members of the Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum.
03/09/2015	Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum meeting at CCBC Offices (Penallta House). Agenda, notes and activities and timeline (as at 18/08/2015) circulated. Presentation from 'Change Step'.
08/09/2015	Chair and ALO meet Sgt Steve Perham, 614 Squadron, RAF Reserve, Ty Llewellyn, Cardiff to discuss work place recruitment opportunities.
08/09/2015	Chair and ALO attend MOD Armed Forces Covenant Fund presentation briefing at Reserve Centre, Penallta House, Cardiff.
02/10/2015	Chair and ALO brief Lt. Col. A. S. Tuggey, High Sheriff for Gwent on the work of CAFF.
09/10/2015	Armed Forces Day Committee, Chair, Champion and CCBC staff undertake site visit exploring feasibility of holding AFD 2016 in Caerphilly.

2015 / 2016	
12/10/2015	Chair, Champion and ALO attend SSAFA AGM at Raglan Barracks, Newport.
15/10/2015	Chair and ALO meet with RBL Advice and Information Team Leader re Outreach services.
27/10/2015	South Wales AFD Committee announces that AFD 2016 will be held on 25/06/2016 in Caerphilly.
05/11/2015	Gwent (ABUHB) Armed Forces Forum meeting at Raglan Barracks, Newport. Chair, Champion and ALO attend.
18/11/2015	Chair, Champion and ALO attend WG Armed Forces Champions event held at Army Battle School, Dering Lines, Brecon.
03/12/2015	Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum meeting at CCBC Offices, Penallta House. Agenda, notes and activities and timeline (as at 20/11/2015) circulated.
06/01/2016	Chair, ALO and CCBC Communications Manager meet with Custodian for Caerphilly Castle (CADW) re- bid for 14-18 NOW 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red Poppy' installation. New locations for installation within site being considered by CADW.
08/01/2016	Chair, Champion, ALO and CCBC Communications Manager meet with the High Sheriff of Gwent, Lt. Col. Andrew Tuggy DL, who briefed on the proposed Wales launch of X-Forces organisation initiative, requesting that CCBC consider hosting the event. Launch will be held at CCBC Officers on 11/03/2016. Circulated to CAFF members.
03/02/2016	National Free Swim for Armed Forces (Wales) initiative launched by Leighton Andrews AM (Minister for Public Services, with responsibility for the armed forces community), along with Ken Skates AM (Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism) at Risca Leisure Centre (CCBC) with CCBC Leader and CAFF Armed Forces Champion in attendance. Invite circulated to CAFF members.
11/02/2016	Chair, Champion and ALO meet with Inspire2Work team (Coleg y Cymoedd) re- their support to Service Leavers, Veterans and the wider Forces Communities across Caerphilly and RCT local authority areas. Inspire2Work team to attend next CAFF meeting on 03/03/2016 to brief members.
16/02/2016	CADW and CCBC progressing application for 14-18 NOW 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red Poppy' installation. If successful the installation will be sited at outer East Gate of Caerphilly Castle sometime in 2017.
18/02/2016	Gwent (ABUHB) Armed Forces Forum meeting at Blaenau-Gwent CBC offices, Ebbw Vale. Chair and ALO attend.
03/03/2016	Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum meeting at CCBC Offices (Penallta House). Agenda, Notes and activities and timeline (as at 16/02/2016) circulated.
11/03/2016	Wales launch of X-Forces organisation initiative at CCBC Offices (Penallta House).

2016 / 2017	
28/04/2016	British Legion Surgeries AM at Penallta House by appointment
29/04/2016	ABHB Time to Talk Event to address loneliness
30/04/2016 – 04/09/2016	'War's Hell': The Battle of Mametz Wood in Art
23/05/2016	Cllr Alan Higgs attending Reserve Forces and Cadets association for wales Annual briefing in Cardiff
25/05/2016	British Legion Surgeries AM at Penallta House by appointment
02/06/2016	Caerphilly Armed forces Forum meeting Penallta House 10:30 Ebbw room
02/06/2016	Forces in Mind Trust report launch of mental and related health needs of veterans and family members in Wales The Haydn Ellis Building, Maindy Road, Cardiff University from 13:30 - 16:00
10/06/2016	Royal Gun Salute for HRH Duke Edinburgh
11/06/2016	160 Brigade Musical festival with 21 gun salute Cardiff Bay
20/06/2016	Upper Rhymney Valley Armed Forces Day celebrations Flag raising ceremony 10:00
20/06/2016	Caerphilly Armed Forces Day celebrations Flag raising ceremony 13:30
23/06/2016	British Legion Surgeries AM at Penallta house by appointment
23/06/2016	Careers transition fair 10:00 - 15:00 City Hall Cardiff
24/06/2016	Royal Navy invitation to attend HMS Canon Cardiff bay for Armed forces Champion 16:30 – 21:00
25/06/2016	CAFF Marquee at Armed Forces Day in Caerphilly: In attendance Hire A Hero, SSAFA, Caerphilly Citizen Advice Bureau, Veterans Welfare service, Police and Crime Commissioner, Caerphilly Police, Change Step, Poppy Factory. Muni Project and Remploy
01/07/2016	Service for Battle of the Somme 7:30 Cenotaph Caerphilly
30-31/07/2016	CAFF small stand at Big Cheese in Caerphilly. Provide leaflets to Mandy if you want them displayed
01/09/2016	Caerphilly Armed Forces Forum meeting Penallta house 10:30 Ebbw Room
02/09/2016	Merchant navy Flag raising at Penallta House
24/09/2016	MEMO Concert
09/10/2016	Integrated Serpent Exercise in USA
07/11/2016	Rededication of WW1 memorial plaque at Rhymney Comprehensive school
17/11/2016	Launch of RBL Lifeworks in Wales Pier head Building
18/12/2016	RBL FREE Christmas concert at Abercarn working men's club 12:00
06/02/2017	Royal Gun Salute – Cardiff Castle for Ascension day
10/02/2017	Hire A Hero – Wales Thank You Event; Pontypool. Attended by 'Champion'

2017 / 2018	
22/04/2017	Royal Gun Salute attended by 'Champion'
18/05/2017	Reserve Forces & Cadets Association for Wales AGM, St David's Hotel & Spa, Cardiff attended by 'Champion'
14/06/2017	Commemoration of the 35 th Anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict at the National Assembly for Wales attended by 'Champion'
15/06/2017	Military Fitness Workshop @ Penallta House
19/06/2017	CCBC event for Armed Forces day in Blackwood
24/06/2017	South Wales Armed Forces day
28/09/17	Army briefing, Rodney Parade, Newport
29/09/2017	Dedication service to commemorate named service personnel killed in active duty in the Great War from Deri @ Deri Community Centre & Memorial attended by 'Champion'
02/11/2017	Welsh Government's Armed Forces Covenant Conference @ Ramada Plaza, Ellice Way, Wrexham, LL13 7YH