



Benefits of the national Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club network

None of what follows requires any additional responsibilities for group members or group leaders, and all club members & group leaders they should continue to do what they do now; enjoy their breakfast, banter and networking. The purpose of this document is simply to inform members what is either already in place and working, or is planned for the future.

1. Every group leader has access to the 'ABC Support' group on Facebook, which is a group designed to share information, for the group leaders to post in the own club Facebook groups, to keep their members informed on all manner of things, such as what is happening with regard to the Breakfast Clubs at a national level, news and alerts regarding issues effecting veterans, developments from the NHS, MoD, Armed Forces Covenant, the RBL, and SSAFA, to name but a few.
2. As we develop, affiliated Clubs will have access to the CIC's 'Event Shelter' and will receive benefits such as starter packs, and free public liability insurance to allow them to attend local authority events.
3. Breakfast Clubs in the national network have increasing representation and influence with the Armed Forces Covenant team.
Every club in the network is now listed with the Covenant, and endorsed by them.
4. All Breakfast Clubs belonging to the network will have access to future developments and benefits, designed specifically to benefit Veterans Breakfast Clubs members, and a say in what is delivered and how it is delivered, provided that group leaders pass on the information from national level, which is why this is important!
5. In the future, it is looking more likely that being listed as an endorsed Armed Forces Veteran's Breakfast Club will mean that they will be included in the resettlement plans for all new service leavers, to enable them to find, attend, enjoy the benefits of a validated Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club, and draw on the experience hard won by many AFVBC members.
6. Every individual Breakfast Club connected to the network has a page on the <http://afvbc.net> website. The search function on the website directs veterans to the page of their nearest clubs containing the club information. Each club is also entered on the Veterans Breakfast Club Zee Map, which is another means for veterans to find them.
7. New issues of the 'Sandbag Times', which has in reality become our own online magazine, are mailed to every Group Leader as soon as they are available, which can then be shared into each Breakfast Club's group page.
8. Information on veteran's funerals from 'Veterans Honoured' is posted into every member Breakfast Club, so that members are informed of the passing of brothers and sisters, can see venue, date and timings of funeral arrangements, so they can attend and honour comrades if they wish.
9. Membership of the national network allows information, greetings and announcements to be sent or posted directly by the Founder, Dereck Hardman, and other National Admins, or sent directly via E-mail to Group Leaders. There is a dedicated national team, promoting and expanding the reach of ALL of the breakfast clubs.
10. It allows access to all members to the Breakfast Clubs UK Pressroom, where media, articles and ideas can be published and shared.
11. Lastly, national affiliation to the Breakfast Club network ensures your legacy of being the founding members of an organisation, formed by the efforts of veterans themselves for their fellow veterans, shaped by you, which will go on into the future, benefitting veterans both present and into the future.

The total cost to every member of every club? £0:00.

There is no plan for any Club to pay any subscription, ever!

Each club is in effect independent, so they can set their own rules to suit their own demographic, and if they so wish, are free to raise funds and spend them locally.

The National logo is designed to give the Armed Forces & Veteran's Breakfast Clubs a national identity as a national network; a structure, which in turn enables veterans to identify legitimate Veterans Breakfast Clubs, with all the above benefits, so they can locate them and enjoy the banter, camaraderie and networking.

A national identity also gives EVERYONE involved a sense of belonging, which many of us lost when we left our respective services, and let's face it, is part of the reason we now attend Breakfast Clubs; because we have returned to the tribe and are stronger together!

Nationally networked Clubs do not need to do anything to enjoy the current and future free benefits, and simply put, non-membership will mean no access to any of the above.