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28 October 2016

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SUPPORT TO THE ROYAL MARINES CHARITY

Thank you so very much to you for your fantastic continued support to the Charity through your fundraising initiatives in memory of AI, resulting in a cheque from his memorial fund for £2,000 being sent to us by the Adjutant of 45 Cdo recently. Please pass on too our thanks to all who assisted in any way. Rest assured that the funds you have raised will be well used in his memory to assist those in need.

Last year our grants support to the wounded and sick reached £296,300, while £199,000 was distributed to veterans in need. This year's support looks like equalling if not exceeding that, since the need does not go away.

Recently we provided funds of £12,000 to Cpl Phil Eaglesham, a Marine with Query Fever – a disease contracted in Afghanistan on operational service for which there no known cure, and which is gradually shutting down his nervous system, a little like MND. As such he is wheelchair bound. His ordinary wheelchair could not even cope with the gravel drive at the front of his house, so he was in effect housebound and unable to get out with his 3 children. The Charity has funded a new wheelchair costing just over £12,000 which gets him everywhere, transforming his life. He wrote:

Thank you for supporting the funding of my Trekinetic GTE wheelchair. I must say, it has been amazing and gave my family and I a new lease of life to spend some quality time together. It has also given me a greater sense of independence and enabled me to get about and recover on my journey towards Rio. As always, I could never truly show you how much we appreciate your continued support but hopeful you are able to see the difference you make to families lives that you continue to support.

Phil is a brilliant shot and was selected to represent Ireland at last month's Paralympics. This fulfils the mantra, 'Once a Marine, always a Marine' and sums up the wonderful Commando Mindset, which is to adapt to challenges whatever they are, and overcome them. To be able to achieve support like this though your hard work and generosity is wonderful, and is a lasting tribute. Thank you.

Your every good wish

Jonathern

Chief Executive

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