

afvbc

ARMED FORCES & VETERANS
BREAKFAST CLUBS

Redditch

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The Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Clubs are groups of all arms, serving and veterans of His Majesties Armed Forces and his allies, who meet regularly to break bread together in a safe, social, informal environment, to allow them to 'return to the tribe'

They're FREE

No subscriptions or fees. Buy your own breakfast, meet old comrades and new friends, and indulge in some good old military banter

Our Breakfast Club meets

First Sat of every Month-10am to Midday

Meeting at

Redditch Cricket, Hockey & Rugby Club

Bromsgrove Road

Redditch B97 4SP



Redditch Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club

Club contact details

Email redditchafvbc@gmail.com



No one knows what is best for Armed Forces Veterans better than the Veterans themselves!

Everyone talks about service personnel 'returning' to civilian life: for the majority this is a misnomer: they are entering civilian life for the **FIRST TIME**.

The vast majority of new leavers have only ever been to school, or in the Armed Forces. They have no experience of being an adult civilian. For many, they begin their civilian life at the same level as a school leaver, when it comes to finding their feet in society. It is an alien world with a whole new code of ethics, especially with their military 'conditioning' often during late adolescence, and during their entire military career.

No wonder they often find it difficult to fit in

No wonder they sometimes find it hard to relate to those around them.

No wonder so many feel isolated.

We recognise this in the Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Clubs, and veterans themselves have been starting these clubs all over the UK, and abroad, which gives veterans a renewed feeling of 'belonging', which even older veterans feel when they attend.

There are no subs or joining fees. All any veteran or service personnel will ever have to pay for is their own breakfast, and even then, clubs tend to ensure that the cost of breakfast for WWII veterans, and those who are suffering hardship, is taken care of.

We have a few fundamental principles to protect members from any kind of discrimination (based on our National Constitution), but generally, clubs tailor themselves to suit their own demographic. Each club has its own team of admins, and we have a team of 'National Administrators' supporting them, providing them with information beneficial to members and clubs.



The National, trademarked logo is designed to give the Armed Forces & Veteran's Breakfast Clubs organisation a national identity; it signposts the clubs affiliated to the national network with all the benefits that this affords, enabling veterans to locate & identify legitimate 'Armed Forces & Veteran's Breakfast Clubs'.

Involvement ends isolation, giving veterans particularly a sense of belonging, which many lost when they left their respective services, and those attending AFVBC's are stronger together, because they 'return to the tribe'!

The network is not affiliated to any charities, because veterans should attend without thinking they may be shamed or brow-beaten into standing in a supermarket with a collection bucket, or making donations, and instead AFVBC's increasingly represent the 'customer base' for the 3000+ military charities already in existence. Military Charities are of course welcome to attend Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Clubs, but not to collect money... to allow them to have tangible access to veterans, often too proud to ask for help, and to **spend** money!

The Breakfast Clubs proliferated organically at an astonishing rate, and spread into Europe and further. The uptake has been phenomenal, both here and overseas (Germany, France, Spain, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Australia, New Zealand and more), with an average of more than one a week starting since then.

We have seen first-hand the huge positive impact the Breakfast Clubs are having on the lives of so many veterans and their families. It is truly staggering, and it has driven us to work very hard on them since this began. The mutual support they afford, and the connections they are making, even outside of the clubs is incredible.

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