

Newsletter

KEYS GROUP MILITARY CONNECT STAFF NETWORK



Diane Palmer

Our Keys Group National Clinical Director- Adult Services, Diane Palmer, was appointed as our Lead Armed Forces Champion and a steering group was formed to ensure the organisations upholds the principles of the AF Covenant and implements our pledge.

Updates

Celebrating One Year of Our Armed Forces Covenant in Action



On Thursday 6th November, Diane Palmer hosted our 'Armed Forces Covenant - One Year On from Signing' event at the inspiring National Memorial Arboretum.

We were joined by brilliant speakers from across Keys Group, including Emma Beech, Claire McLoughlin, Robert Arrowsmith and Sip Powers alongside an incredible line-up of guest speakers:

Lt Colonel Mark Davis, MoD (Royal Centre of Defence Medicine)
Kevin Grist, Forces Employment Charity
David Masters, Poppy Factory
Heledd Kendrick, Recruit for Spouses
David Beer, Walking With the Wounded
Tim James OBE, Invictus Games

It was a powerful and insightful day focused on how we can better support veterans, reservists and armed forces families into civilian employment - and a meaningful reminder of our ongoing commitment as signatories of the Armed Forces Covenant.



Walking With the Wounded Walking Home for Christmas Fundraising Event

The **Keys Group** fundraising page is now live for **Walking with the Wounded – Walk Home for Christmas**. You can join **Diane Palmer** and 25 colleagues for the Manchester walk on **3 December at 1pm** or take part in your own local walk as an extended team member on our page.

For details or to get involved, please email **Diane Palmer** at Diane.Palmer@keys-group.co.uk.

If you would like to donate, click here:

<https://walking-home.walkingwiththewounded.org.uk/teams/the-keys-group>



Military Connect Staff Network

In January 2025, we launched our **Military Connect Staff Network** - a space for ex-Armed Forces colleagues to meet, share stories, and exchange ideas. If you'd like to join, please contact **Diane Palmer, National Clinical Director for Adult Services**, at Diane.Palmer@keys-group.co.uk

Supporting our Armed Forces Community

Keys Group is proud to have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, showing our commitment to supporting service personnel, veterans, and military families.

We offer a guaranteed interview to current and former service personnel who meet the role criteria and have veteran-friendly policies and a Veterans Peer Support Network in place.

If you have a military background, let our resourcing team know when applying - and if you know someone from the Armed Forces community who'd be a great fit for Keys Group, please encourage them to apply!



Remembrance at Keys Group



Students and Staff at **Castle Hill School** have been learning all about Remembrance Sunday.

People we support at **The White House** made poppies to remember those who came before us and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Isgoed made Poppy biscuits to represent Remembrance Day.



Woodview was incredibly proud to watch one of their children take part in the memorial parade marking 80 years since the end of World War II. The dedication shown by all of the cadets was remarkable; they had put in hours of practice to perfect their roles in the parade.

Afterwards, he enjoyed a well-earned lunch of his choice. Being part of the cadets continues to have a hugely positive impact on him - he felt genuinely proud of himself and seeing that pride has been a real joy

for everyone at Woodview.

Support Available to Veterans, Reservists and their Families

Op COURAGE: The Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

Op COURAGE is an NHS mental health specialist service designed to help serving personnel due to leave the military, reservists, armed forces veterans and their families.

[Mental health support for veterans, service leavers and reservists - NHS](#)

Veterans' NHS Wales

Veterans' NHS Wales is a specialist mental health service for veterans living in Wales who are experiencing mental health difficulties relating to their military service.

[Veterans' NHS Wales - GOV.UK](#)

Charities



We are working closely with the Recruit for Spouses agency and leading military charities such as The Poppy Factory, The Forces Employment Charity, and Walking With The Wounded, all of whom specialise in supporting veterans into employment.

[Poppy Factory](#)

[Walking with the Wounded](#)

[The Forces Employment Charity](#)

Share your Military Story

If you are a veteran or reservist and would like to learn more, share your story, or join our Staff Networking Group, please contact Diane Palmer, our Associate Clinical Director for Adults and Lead Armed Forces Champion, at Diane.Palmer@keys-group.co.uk.

