

# WESSEX CARE HONOURS WORLD WAR 2 SALISBURY VETERANS

World War 2 Veterans medals were presented to five residents from Wessex Care's residential homes to say thank you for the service they have given to their country.

The presentations were made by Wessex Care's operations manager, Tony Boughton (Ex QARNNS) to Mr Stephen Jerred, who served for 22 years in the Army as a Private in Royal Berkshire's, Mrs Molly Snelgar, who served from 1943-1945, in the Nursing Yeomanry, Mrs Florence Scott, who served from 1942 in the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) as a plane spotter, Miss Dorothy Gower, who served in the ATS-D Company, at Farnborough and Mr Leonard Gilbert, who served in the Royal Marines.

The presentations were made at The Coach & Horses in Salisbury with friends and families and also served to highlight the increasing number of war heroes now being cared for in nursing homes.

The HM Armed Forces Veterans' Badge was launched in May 2004 with the initial intention that it would be made available to all First World War veterans and the Second World War veterans who, under the Heroes Return scheme, travelled back to the battlefronts they had fought on. Because the badge has been so popular, eligibility has been rapidly increased to include those who served in the Armed Forces or Merchant Navy, who served in armed conflicts, at any time up to and including 31 December 1969.

The badge is an enamelled, engraved, and pinned, lapel badge featuring the words "HM Armed Forces – Veteran", which encompass the Tri-Service, Anchor, Crossed Swords and Eagle motif. Its symbolism is intended to unite all veterans in recognising the commonality of their service, to encourage a sense of unity and community between surviving veterans and to ignite public recognition of our veterans and their continuing contribution to society.

There are 10 million veterans living, working and contributing across every walk of life in the United Kingdom. The HM Armed Forces Veteran's Badge and UK Merchant Seafarers Veteran's Badge are marks of the nations respect and gratitude.



*From left to right – Front row - Florence Scott, Dorothy Gower, Stephen Jerred, Molly Snelgar, Leonard Gilbert. Rear row - Tony Boughton, Jodie Airey, (Wessex Care), Bob Lucas (Honorary Naval Chaplain).*