

FELIX FUND IMPACT REPORT 2021/2022



THE BOMB DISPOSAL CHARITY FOR THE ENTIRE EOD & SEARCH COMMUNITY

Since 2011 Registered Charity No. 1142494

Felix Fund Impact Report 2021/2022

Felix Fund the bomb disposal charity exists to provide help to any military personnel from across all three services and SO15 (Metropolitan Police Counter Terror Unit) who have conducted or assisted with Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Search duties.

The charity provides welfare support and financial assistance to serving personnel, veterans, and their dependents.

Founded in April 2011 the charity works across the UK.

Message from the Chairman

This past year has seen us all continue to be affected by the pandemic and no doubt the effects of this, Brexit and other world events will influence our lives for some time to come.

Felix Fund has continued to work hard to maintain business as usual as far as possible. In May 2021 we were thrilled to be able to restart our Dashboard training with the reopening of venues. Needless to say, despite the online support we had provided nothing can help as well as a face-to-face experience. This meant we have had to juggle a large increase in demand for places.





The Dashboard training evolved during this year with the introduction of an onsite version at Carver Barracks, Wimbish. These stand-alone two-day workshops will not only act as a reminder for those who have already attended the residential course but also provide a taster containing life relevant information for those who have not been able to attend the weeklong residential course.

By taking the Dashboard training to the regiments and units we are able to reach a far larger number of serving personnel.

In terms of grant making, Felix Fund has raised almost £3 million and provided grants to individuals in excess of £1.8 million since 2011. This is a staggering amount and is testament to the huge amount of donations the charity has received from across all aspects of EOD & Search, keen to help its own, as well as external supporters and business wanting to show their respect to this unique band of men and women.

Beneficiaries rank in their hundreds, but a few stand out in particular during this past year and include:

- O A hand bike for a veteran injured in Iraq
- **O** Equipment for a former Clearance Diver to care for his tracheostomy
- O Help to furnish a new home for a wife and child fleeing domestic abuse
- O Support for the nursery at Carver Barracks, Wimbish

This is a small sample of the help Felix fund has provided.

As co-founder and Chairman of Felix Fund I am proud of the work we have delivered over the years and would like to express my sincere thanks to all who have lent their support since 2011.



Felix Fund has always listened to the communities we support in order to provide the most appropriate assistance. With plans to expand staff numbers in the next year the future is positive for the charity.

We can only continue with your support, from donations, events and community fundraising efforts ensuring Felix Fund is well placed to assist our EOD & Search family in the years ahead.



Thank you.

Karl Frankland

Co-founder and Chairman

Felix Fund - The Bomb Disposal Charity





We ran

residential Dashboard courses enabling **100** individuals to attend



onsite Dashboard courses at Carver Barracks, Wimbish enabling 60+ individuals to attend

How We Have Helped

Having battled through another year dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic, Felix Fund worked hard to continue to maintain a level of business as usual.



"I am a former ECM Operator injured in a suicide bomb attack in Iraq in 2004. Having now retired from elite Paralympic skiing unfortunately I have suffered physically and mentally. Added to this for the past year covid restrictions have found me housebound and my physical and mental wellbeing have suffered further. I am trying to regain my fitness levels and cycling has always been a passion. Specialist hand bikes are very expensive and not many companies produce them, but Felix Fund generously funded the purchase of a new bike for me. This has honestly been life changing and I can't thank them enough."

"My father served in EOD but sadly died some years ago. Felix Fund has always been there for me and my family and the charity supported me once again as I prepared to go away to university. They helped with costs towards kitting out my room in halls as I had no spare funds myself and my mother was not in a financial position to help me. Felix Fund have enabled me to start the next chapter of my life in a safe and comfortable environment."





"Our nursery at Carver Barracks, Wimbish is a vital part of the community for both the young children and their parents. Being a remote location, many children would struggle to attend other schools. Following the Covid pandemic we have struggled financially and were on the brink of closure but knew if we could get to January and the new intake, we would be OK. Felix Fund stepped in and helped support the nursery until the new year improved our finances. We cannot thank Felix Fund enough for allowing this lifeline for the community to continue."

"I was hospitalised earlier this year after falling ill, but a mis diagnosis left me on a ventilator and then needing a tracheostomy so I could breathe when I came off it. After being discharged it became clear I would need to buy certain equipment which was not provided by the NHS to care for my tracheostomy at home. My wife and I were going to sell our car to fund this until Felix Fund stepped in and paid for the items I needed. This now means I can gain a greater quality of life while still ensuring my condition is fully managed."

Key Moments of our Year



Our Strategic Plan

Objectives

In 2021/2022 Felix Fund's objectives were:

To be in a position of 'business as usual' both during and following the Coronavirus Pandemic
To continue to increase awareness of the work of the charity within the wider EOD and Search communities and by Dec 2021 to ensure over 80% of currently serving personnel are aware of the charity
To continue to increase support from the general public nationally
I To review the existing Dashboard program format and consider alternative delivery methods
i To maintain and increase support from across all income streams
To expand the number of individuals we help annually
To mark the 10th Anniversary of Felix Fund
To mark the 10th Anniversary of Felix Fund How we will achieve this We achieved these objectives through:
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Future Plans



To continue to develop the Dashboard program and its variations

- To continue to deliver the residential course at Ashorne Hill 8 courses per year
- To reach out to more veterans and encourage their attendance
- Delivery of the onsite program at Carver Barracks, Wimbish every 6 weeks
- To deliver an onsite program to DATR and DTXG
- To run one Spouses/Partners weekend course during 2022
- To develop a digital, add on for the courses

To reach a state of balanced funding across all income streams

- Trustees to identify potential supporters though their personal and professional networks
- Continue to promote the use of Gift Aid through an awareness campaign
- To continue with the Trust Funding calendar for applications
- To trial contactless giving at events and key locations
- Promote Text Giving, Legacies and Payroll Giving
- To appoint a Fundraising Manager to help increase income and awareness
- To seek opportunities for collaborative working with companies, groups and individuals and diversification of funding sources

To collate and make better use of case studies

- To continue to share the Dashboard videos as far and wide as possible
- Make better use of case studies on the website, social media, and E-newsletter
- To co-ordinate the production of a new general video

To organise and attend a series of events and fundraisers

- Fundraising month at Carver Barracks, Wimbish May 22
- ACS Pacesetters Security Lunch 25 May 22
- Cocktail reception joint event with ABF 16 June 22
- Armed Forces Day 25 June 22
- AT100 at Kineton 9 July 22
- Gala Dinner April 23

Who We Are

Melanie Moughton - CEO Email: melanie@felixfund.org.uk Tel: 07713 752901

Hayley Paintin - Administrative Assistant Email: hayley@felixfund.org.uk

Elaine Fisher - Treasurer



Trustees

Col Karl Frankland late RLC - Chairman

Col Daniel Reyland late RLC

Brig Gareth Collett, CBE late RLC

Cdr Alan Nekrews, QGM RN

WO1 RSM Tom Kowalewski RE

Sgt Kenny Scott RE

Mr David Hunkin OBE

Ambassador

Brig Adam McRae, MBE late RLC



Patrons

Andy Torbet - Underwater Explorer, Deep Sea and Cave Diver, Television Presenter, Author & Film Maker

Adnan Sarwar — Former Royal Engineer (33 EOD), Award-winning Writer, Editor, Film Maker & Television Presenter



Thank You

Felix Fund can only continue to help this unique group of men and women through regular support and donations from you all. We have all had a difficult time over the past two years, but we are proud that Felix Fund has been able to maintain a level of business as usual.

We thank all of you who have supported the charity in 2021/2022, we appreciate you all.

How to Get Involved

Anyone interested in becoming involved with Felix Fund can find information on our website www.felixfund.org.uk or by contacting head office on 07713 752901 or enquiries@felixfund.org.uk

