

SPVA to cast its net wider.

The Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) today announced the launch of a series of podcasts which will aim to keep service personnel and veterans up to date with the latest happenings within the Agency and how they may impact on the wider veterans community.

The podcasts will cover a range of issues including Armed Forces Day and Regional Awareness events. They will also provide updates on issues such as the progress of the roll out of the new Veterans Welfare Centres. The podcasts will also feature interviews with key figures within the Agency, informing listeners of the many services SPVA provides for the armed forces and veterans community.

Senior Media Advisor, Laurie Manton said,

“SPVA prides itself on its communication with the Service and Veterans community. We already produce *Veterans WORLD*, a quarterly magazine which raises awareness of the help and advice we can offer, and our recently re-vamped Veterans-UK website provides a wealth of information on topics of interest to veterans and the service community. This series of podcasts will help us to reach an even wider audience in a new and exciting way.”

The first podcast is now available on the Veterans-UK website (<http://www.veterans-uk.info>) and will be syndicated via iTunes and Youtube.com and other social media sites.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. *Veterans-UK* was launched by the Ministry of Defence in April 2007 to provide a focal point for veterans to access services from the many different sources of help available. The *Veterans-UK* helpline, 0800 169 2277 and website www.veterans-uk.info are the main contact points.
2. The *Armed Forces Memorial* is the first national memorial dedicated to the men and women of the United Kingdom Armed Forces (Regular and Reserve) killed on duty or as a result of terrorist action since the Second World War. The Memorial cost £7million to construct and is located at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire. The new memorial

web pages will replace the current website at forcesmemorial.org.uk.

3. The *Service Personnel and Veterans Agency* is an Agency of the Ministry of Defence and provides essential support functions to the Armed Forces and veterans communities. These include Forces pay and HR, issue of all medals, casualty repatriation and compassionate services, pensions, injury/bereavement compensation and veterans welfare support.
4. A *veteran* is anyone who has served in HM Armed Forces, regular or reserve including National Servicemen, former Polish forces under British command and Merchant Mariners who have seen duty in military operations (e.g. the Falklands Conflict). Veterans, who can be aged from 18 to well over 80, along with their families and dependents make up the veterans community and all are entitled to our services.

For Further Information

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