

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 – August 2018



## Editorial

Welcome to Issue No 2 of the VAPP Newsletter. As the country basks in a glorious summer we see our membership growing. Whilst both major political parties are imploding, with every move and comments closely scrutinised and exposed by an avaricious media, our Policy Team and the Party Leader behind the scenes are busy pulling together the party manifesto with policies and innovation that we believe are long overdue and will be welcomed by the British electorate. Fewer articles this month, due to summer holidays.

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We would like to feature **Letters to the Editor** – we want your views, suggestions and local events of note, so please [drop us a line](#).

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## Interim Measures

*by Wendy Watkins*

I was asked to write a few words in my role as Interim Deputy Party Leader for the Newsletter – my first public ‘airing’. Within the Party, I was the first to learn of Robin’s illness; then to share that news with our volunteers was an indication of how much Robin trusted me. I felt honoured, not because he was ex- SAS , but because of the person he is.

With Board approval, Robin then asked me to act on his behalf during his absence, placing trust in me to make decisions with the support of the membership, that will continue to see the Party flourish and be in a strong place for his return. I’d never profess to be able to fill those hero boots, and it’s good to know that he is still very active in the background,

offering guidance and support. His tip was for me to be myself, to continue doing what I do, and I will. With a small team of strong, dedicated volunteers having much to do, working together and supporting each other, we have demonstrated our qualities, we now share that support with Robin and his family.

As Robin was due to start his reduced time with the Party, we strengthened the team at the top by appointing Helen Wemyss as our Party Secretary. Helen has been a Party member since the very beginning, with a strong ethos that matches the Party’s one of Truth.

To make a donation, click [here](#)



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Helen will keep us focussed on doing the right thing always, for the Party and our members.

Damian, our Founder, took up a Non-Exec Director role on the Board, enabling him to contribute, work around his personal commitments, and ensure we strive to maintain our roots. At the time of my appointment, I asked Damian if we were doing what he originally envisaged. I am pleased to say he said, 'Yes'.

If there is one question asked of us by others, it is this: 'Why should I trust the Party and the people behind the scenes doing the work, and become a member?'

For me, trust is a big word, one I hope we have earned over the past months through our actions and communications. We have promised a manifesto in September and we will deliver that.

Behind the scenes, we are ordinary people who may or may not have served in the past, but people nonetheless who have experienced many

different aspects of life within and outside of our country. We know what life is like for families to face hardships, disabilities, discrimination, injustice. We are all likeminded and want what we believe is now right for the people of Britain.

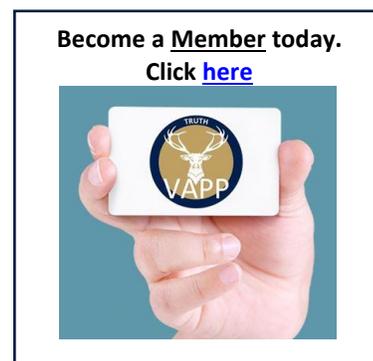
We believe in this Party and have placed our trust in each other. We are neither politicians nor councillors, but a group of people gaining experience, awareness and knowledge through the work undertaken each and every day. There is no salary, everyone commits long personal hours to deliver a new political vision, to bring about change for our children and grandchildren. In the fullness of time, when the Party can support and fund future Party members to take up our roles, we will then be able to sit back and reflect on just how much we contributed towards the changes, and take great pride and satisfaction on our achievements.

As a wise old paratrooper once said, 'I am not in this for

my wealth or health, I am in this because I believe in it'.

To our members out there, thank you for your trust, faith and belief. Your commitment to us through membership will help secure and promote those recruited councillors and politicians to deliver our Party message, to help us deliver a new and positive change for Britain.

To those of you who are still thinking of joining the Party, just consider this. Do you not have trust, faith and belief that there is a better future for our future generations? Do you not want to see change happen for Britain? Don't think twice, the Veteran's and Peoples' Party shall welcome you to our growing numbers.



## Why I joined VAPP

*by Sean Fowler*

After serving six years with the Royal Engineers I started driving lorries. Married for the third time recently, I became involved with the Party quite by chance having spoilt my vote because none of the parties represented me. One day I saw the Veteran’s and Peoples’ Party on Facebook, began to read what they were saying, and it represented in some ways how I felt, so I began to comment. My comments attracted the attention of Party officials and I was asked to become more involved in Party affairs and took on the responsibilities of a Moderators role. Now I’m trying my bit to shape a new political party because I believe the country is in dire need of new leadership and I firmly believe in what this Party intends to do. This will not happen overnight, but I’m helping to start something that will make Britain great again for my children and future generations.

If I can help this start, then I will achieve something worthwhile.

## Support VAPP

To buy merchandise click [here](#).



VAPP Supporters T-shirt

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### HOT TOPIC

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The **Hot Topic** for this issue is ‘Manifesto’ – what is it? As the Party discuss and prepare their manifesto, the following article is by one of the policy drafters - Tony Duignan. It is his thoughts on what a manifesto is about and what it should contain.

If you have any particular subjects in mind that you would like to see here, please [let us know](#).

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## What is a manifesto?

There are several definitions depending upon the source, e.g. political, educational, religious, etc. However, in general it is a public declaration of principles, policies and intentions of a group or individual. Some famous manifestos include: The Bible: The Ten Commandments; Martin Luther’s ‘I have a dream’ speech; and President Kennedy’s ‘Land a man on the moon’ speech.

The publishing of a manifesto serves several purposes: it states intention, as well as creating accountability and responsibility to the electorate/membership.

Politically it generates enthusiasm and excitement by creating an awareness with those whom the authors wish to serve. Their responses can show support for those group ideas, policies and changes necessary and obviously needed. In turn, this is important in making the future changes a reality. The documents should be, but are not always, written in the present tense as though the desired outcomes are already happening. In any

manifesto context there are three important and principle characteristics.

Firstly, they are provocative - interrupting the current political status quo, with challenging language to stretch the existing state of play.

Secondly, they should be grounded, nothing fanciful, but grounded in reality and built upon and around the strengths of those they represent.

Lastly, they are really wanted. Manifestos generate results when they reflect something that is really desired, albeit necessary.

A manifesto should motivate and that motivation begins with desire. In the eyes of VAPP and its membership, a desire for change of political ideology and policies, distinct from those of the current three major political parties.

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## The Veterans' Gateway

*In each issue we will be bringing you information about various organisations that may be of help to some members.*

*In this issue we are highlighting **The Veterans' Gateway**, the first point of contact for veterans seeking support.*

There is a huge network of organisations supporting the Armed Forces community, so finding the right one for your needs can be tricky.

We make it quick and easy by being your first point of contact for whatever support you need, whether you are based in the UK or abroad.

Many of our team are veterans themselves so they understand the issues that people face after leaving the Armed Forces.

They work with people on a one-to-one basis, connecting them with the right support as soon as possible.

### Who is part of Veterans' Gateway?

Veterans' Gateway is made up of a consortium of organisations and Armed Forces charities, including The Royal British Legion, SSAFA (the Armed Forces charity), Poppy Scotland,

Combat Stress and Connect Assist.

Our connection with additional key referral partners and information organisations – both within and outside the Armed Forces sector – means we can get you to the right organisation who can help.

Funded by The Armed Forces Covenant, this is the first time a group of this kind has come together formally to deliver a service to help the Armed Forces community.

[Apply to become a Veterans' Gateway supporter.](#)

### Get in touch

You can speak to one of our team by phone or email. Our number is Freephone in the UK. From overseas we suggest you select the Live Chat option to avoid any costs.

Our team is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to put you in touch with the help you need or direct you to the information you are looking for.

<https://www.veteransgateway.org.uk/>

To speak to an advisor, telephone 0808 8021212.

Text 81212 - Text your details to request a call back.