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## LIFE BEYOND THE MILITARY – OUTDOORS

WINTER 2022

### WELCOME TO OUR WINTER NEWSLETTER

#### Where to start..?!

I'm not one for looking back but since I last sat down to tell our Friends about what has been happening at HighGround we have been on Countryfile, signed the Armed Forces Covenant and made a new film – read on to find out more and a huge Thank-you from all of us at Team HighGround for your continued interest and support.

**Anna BC**  
**Founder and Executive Director**



Adam and Anna filming for Countryfile at Bicton.

### FRIENDS OF HIGHGROUND

FHG is the voluntary arm of HighGround which supports and promotes the work of the Charity with fundraising and community awareness initiatives, both locally and nationally.

Philip's wonderfully generous Christmas card initiative raised over £700 for us and our efforts to build a regional network of Friends to help us raise awareness and precious funds will be bolstered by the new film which Topsoil so generously supported.

We thank Tim, Andy, Paul, Jamie and Bramble for being in it and Mauricio and Alex at Thread Films for doing such a brilliant job. You can watch it [here](#).

We also thank Lloyds Patriotic Fund for their generous support of our work at DMRC Stanford Hall, and in October we had a reception at Bicton to thank everyone who had helped us to deliver the Rural Experience Weeks programme funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund which helped improve the mental health and wellbeing of over 30 veterans.

Our new donation portal [Localgiving](#) is working well and as we all creep our way forwards into 2022 with cautious optimism, here's to a productive and successful year of fundraising for all charities.



Philip's christmas cards raise over £700.



Accepting a cheque from Topsoil at the Cricket Pavilion at Ascott Estate.



We thank Lloyds Patriotic Fund for their generous support.

BECOME A FRIEND OF HIGHGROUND

### STANFORD HALL

Andy and Jane continue to be very busy; you can see their year in pictures [here](#).

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### RURAL WEEKS

Funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust enabled us to develop our Rural Weeks model to focus less on employment and more on wellbeing, and the event at Bicton in October gave us the opportunity to recognise the AFCFT and thank everyone who had helped us with this important work which has been so well received by our referral partners and the veterans they serve.

We plan to run more of these Rural Experience Weeks alongside our Rural Weeks in 2022 and fundraising to support both programmes is ongoing.



Tim presents Jane with her Rural Experience Weeks shield in the walled garden at Bicton.

It was a perfect autumn day when Adam Henson and his film crew came to Bicton to interview some of the serving personnel and veterans who joined us for Rural Week 35 as he sought to find out more about their interest in the land-based sector once their military careers are behind them, and we were very proud that the film was shown during the Remembrance Sunday edition of Countryfile.

Tim has been very busy since he joined Team HighGround full time as our first Rural Employment Manager in September, and we attended the BFRS careers fair at Catterick Garrison in November to discuss our plans to promote land-based employment within the military community in 2022 – watch this space for more news..!



Adam and his film crew with us at Bicton Farm after filming.



Tim and Anna at BFRS careers fair Catterick Garrison. Nov 2021.

A record 18 service leavers and veterans attended our final Virtual Rural Week of 2021 and we are so grateful to all the people who have helped us to deliver our programme this year which is giving service leavers and veterans a precious insight into the land-based sector and helping them to work out where they might fit into it.

[Bali](#), [Tilhill](#), [Bowler Oakfield](#), [Hi-line](#), [Forestry England](#), [Dorset Wildlife Trust](#), [Velcourt](#), [Langore Tree Services](#)

[READ MORE](#)



Ruth Ritson. Our Book keeper.

### GETTING TO KNOW TEAM HIGHGROUND

Each quarter we introduce you to a member of Team HighGround and this time it's Ruth's turn!

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### HORSEFERRY ROAD

30th November was a very special day as Air Cdre Dave Tait witnessed our Chairman Ian Elliott signing the Armed Forces Covenant at a reception at the Cavalry & Guards Club in London.

Big thanks to Alix and her team for making it all work and thank-you to our funders and supporters who joined us for tea and muffins – it was fantastic to catch up with so many people after the months of uncertainty and isolation. You can see pics from the event [here](#).

The Development Board met at Bicton in October and we are so grateful to them all for their time, wisdom and contacts as Tim builds his networks throughout the UK as we continue to provide support for Life beyond the military – Outdoors.



HighGround Chairman Ian Elliott and Air Cdre Dave Tait signing the Military Covenant at Cavalry & Guards Club. 30 Nov 2021.

GET IN TOUCH

DONATE NOW

### GDPR AND OUR STANDARDS

GDPR came into effect on 25th May 2018. We had an extremely busy run up to this date, but our small team were able to pull out all the stops and get things in place in time. As a charity we take GDPR and the security of your information very seriously. To this end, we have ensured that all of our data processors comply rigorously to keep everything secure. You can read about our Standards [here](#).

Thank you for reading and please do share this email with anybody you think may be interested in supporting HighGround or who may be in need of our support.



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