



THE AARON LEWIS FOUNDATION

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Foundation Officials

Lt Col (Retd) Steve Fraser MBE

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Ryan Brown

Registered Charity Number: 1151539

17 January 2022

Lakeside Chapter H.O.G

Dear Lorraine & all members of The Lakeside Chapter H.O.G

I write to you all on behalf of everyone here at The Aaron Lewis Foundation (A.L.F) to say an enormous thank you for your continued support and your very generous donation of £2,305.05.

I was very pleased, along with Barry, to have the opportunity to meet you and many of your members last Wednesday when we came along to your Chatter Night and to have the opportunity to thank you all in person. We, along with everyone involved in running The Aaron Lewis Foundation, appreciate your support so very much and being able to tell you that in person was important to me.

As with many charities, the past couple of years have been difficult with regards to fund raising. However, I am pleased and proud to be able to tell you about several of the recipients that have received help from The A.L.F in 2021:

Rob, a retired former Royal Artillery Officer, paralysed from the neck down following an accident, lost his job as a history teacher due to his disabilities. We were told at the time that Rob was bright but his body was broken and could we help him. Rob had wanted to undertake a Masters degree in Medieval history, unable to fund this himself, his Father contributed a third of the cost and The ALF funded the rest which enabled Rob to complete the first year of his degree. This first part of his degree course was back in 2020/2021 This year The ALF have also helped Rob to fund the 2nd year of his degree course. We received these words in a letter sent to The ALF from Rob.....

" Thank you The Aaron Lewis Foundation, very much for your generous and kind donation towards the funding of my online Masters in Medieval History via Birmingham University. I am in my 2nd and final year and have two modules and a dissertation to complete. Without your generous assistance I would have struggled to pay for the course. The success I feel from studying again, despite my disabilities, has really helped me to move on from the accident and to view the future with more confidence".

There is a sailing school in Plymouth (Aaron's regimental home) The Plymouth & Devon Sailing Schools Association. Several years ago The Aaron Lewis Foundation contributed half the cost for a safety boat for the sailing school which enabled them to have the appropriate safety requirements in place to take disabled children and adults, including disabled veterans sailing, this new safety boat was then named The Aaron Lewis. The 'Aaron Lewis' safety boat was in need of a new cover to protect it from the elements and in

2021 The ALF purchased the cover which will keep The Aaron Lewis boat in good condition and ensure that it remains in service for many years to come. on.org.uk

Local young man, David who lives in Leigh-on-Sea, born with several medical complications which resulted in David being paralysed from the neck down. David had had the opportunity to trial an Innowalk walking machine which enabled him to literally be on his feet and walking for the first time. David's Mother had been successfully fund raising and had raised half of the funds needed to purchase the Innowalk for David. She then approached The ALF for assistance to help with funding. Following confirmation from David's Consultants, physiotherapist and his carers that David would benefit enormously from the walking machine The ALF contributed the remaining funds and David now has his Innowalk machine and up dates from his family are that that his mobility has improved and will continue to improve but also that it has contributed a great deal to his mental wellbeing.

Matt, a Royal Marine who sustained injuries in an off-duty accident in the middle east whilst still serving. He had been told that due to the accident happening whilst he was off-duty he was not eligible for compensation. Matt had been trying to retrain in IT but he has struggled due to constant infections and chronic pain. Matt, previously a keen cyclist, was given a hand bike by The Royal Marines Charity several years ago but he had not been able to use it for over a year due to his worsening physical condition. The ALF have been able to provide a large contribution towards Matt's new hybrid replacement bike, which enables him to tackle cycling over the hills where he lives and just get out generally with his children and his dog. The Aaron Lewis Foundation received a thank you letter from Matt in which he writes.....

" I am very grateful for your help because it makes such a huge difference being able to get out and exercise and at the same time having electric assistance when I need it. I was paralysed 4 years ago and I keep getting back, shoulder and wrist pain. I have served in the Royal Marines since 2004 and always had a dedicated fitness regime but after my injury I had found it very difficult to keep it going. With my new bike I can get up the hills without straining myself and I can use the electric when my arms are tired. This new bike has been a huge moral boost! It is absolutely perfect and I am getting out and about spinning up the miles already! Thank you so much for helping me."

In 2021 The ALF also contributed towards a regimental welfare project which was the purchase of a recreational Motorhome for Aaron's Regiment, 29 Commando Regiment, Royal Artillery. The vehicle, owned and managed by the regiment's welfare team enables servicemen/women and their families to enjoy family holidays at a very affordable cost.

All of the above people and organisations have been helped by The Aaron Lewis Foundation during the past year. Without your help this would not have been possible. So once again, thank you all very much for your continued support.

Very best regards,

Mike

(MUSTEE)



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