



IMPACT REPORT | 2018

SUPPORTING NAVAL SERVICE OFFICERS THROUGH LIFE

Officers within the Naval Service are often the people who are looked to for leadership, guidance, inspiration and help. But who's there for them when things get tough – financially or personally?

WE ARE.

The Royal Navy Officers' Charity (RNOC) is the only charity dedicated to supporting serving and former Officers of the Naval Service and their families – at every stage of their lives and careers.



FIRST ESTABLISHED IN 1739...

...Under the name of The Amicable Navy Society, our objectives were to 'afford relief to distressed Officers of the Royal Navy, their widows, orphans, mothers and sisters'. Society membership cost one Guinea per annum, with life membership available for 10 Guineas. While it is no longer possible to join the society, the objectives, albeit widened and modernised, remain.

TODAY RNOC EXISTS TO:



Provide relief to persons in need (whether or not members of the society) being Officers and former Officers of the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines and Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service and Officers and former Officers on their Reserve Lists, together with their spouses or former spouses, widows, widowers, families and dependants.



Every year, we provide one-off grants and long-term financial support. We treat every case received on its merits, then where appropriate we provide funding to meet the person's specific needs and situation. This flexible, individual approach transforms lives.



HM THE QUEEN, PATRON

Official Portrait of HM The Queen © www.royalimages.co.uk

Please convey my warm thanks to the President and the Board of Trustees of the Royal Navy Officers' Charity for their loyal greetings.

As your Patron, I was most interested to hear of how you

have continued to support families in both the United Kingdom and around the world during the past year. I much value your continued support and, in return, send my best wishes to all those associated with the Charity.



ADMIRAL SIR MARK STANHOPE GCB OBE DL, PRESIDENT

The Royal Navy Officers' Charity continues to make a real impact on many lives through its benevolence, which is available to all those in the serving and retired Officer community as well as their families. We enable many people to live independently in their own homes through grants and offer

assistance in many other practical ways. Membership of our sister organisation, the Association of Royal Navy Officers (ARNO), is flourishing and provides a range of benefits, rewards and social events. It is a privilege to be President of such vital and focused organisations.



SURGEON COMMODORE JIM SYKES FFOM ROYAL NAVY, CHAIRMAN

It is an honour to be the Chairman of a charity that on a daily basis offers support and benevolence to so many in the Naval Service. RNOC also provides a lifeline to family members and dependents, and meets a wide range of requests for help, continuing a tradition which dates back almost 300 years. Responses to requests

for help, which exceeded 200 in 2018, are always met in a timely and sensitive manner and the RNOC also provides support through regular annuities. We work alongside other like-minded charities in the sector to ensure we are offering the best possible support to our beneficiaries.



COMMANDER MICHAEL GOLDTHORPE BEM ROYAL NAVY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

At the heart of the RNOC's work is benevolence and I'm proud that 2018 has been another record year for both the number of applications received and total amount given in the form of grants and annuities. We have seen a rise in requests to assist with independent living, which

we have been glad to meet, as well as a range of specific requests for practical help. Together with ARNO we reinforce the sense of belonging for both serving and retired personnel and their families; working alongside each other to provide relevant, timely and ongoing support.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Paul Bennett

TRUSTEES

Wayland Austin, Funmi Chirnside, Mark Fox, Bob Grainger, Graham Hockley, Ben Hughes, Eunice Marland, Annette Picton, Martin Poll

WE ARE THERE FOR THOSE SERVING...

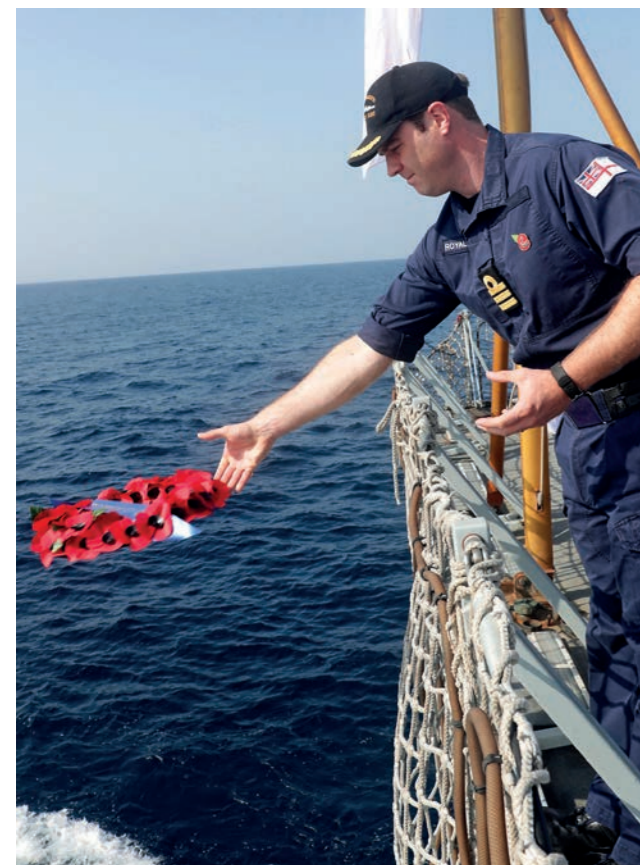
An increasing number of serving personnel and their families come to us for practical support and we are always there to help. From assisting with bills and mortgage payments to reducing debt, our responsive grants help with day-to-day living in time of need.

“The RNOC provides outstanding, agile and highly valued support – both financial and tangible – to a significant number of Officers who, for a range of reasons, find themselves in times of hardship. It is good to know that there is someone looking out for us all if we ever need it and their support reinforces life-long friendships between Officers.”
Rear Admiral Mike Bath, NAVSEC



THE SMALL THINGS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

SUPPORTING THE OFFICER FAMILY



WE ARE THERE FOR THE RETIRED...

A high proportion of RNOC cases involve retired Officers, a number of whom hold wartime or National Service commissions and, together with their widows, might be on low incomes. We help them, and their dependents, with everyday expenses and take away financial worries that cause unnecessary stress. Sometimes just knowing that they can rely on our support provides the comfort and reassurance that they are not struggling alone.

“Last year’s generosity meant that we have had more than a year without anxiety, we had forgotten how that felt! Your support enables four periods of respite care in a very nice care home nearby and we are so grateful for the special chair which you are providing. Bless you for all you do on behalf of others.”



THE GIFT OF DIGITAL HEARING

“I am writing to thank you for your kind and generous contribution toward a new set of hearing aids. Having been medically discharged from the Royal Navy last year I have struggled to adjust in some respects to civilian life, although I have been lucky enough to find employment with the Marine Management Organisation. In my new role I am involved in a lot of meetings, phone calls, presentations and other stakeholder engagement; I found that the hearing aids I had were not meeting my requirements, which was upsetting, frustrating and isolating.

Your funding has meant that I have been able to get fantastic new digital hearing aids, which are already significantly improving the quality of my work and home life. My future civilian aspirations lie in promotion within my current organisation, or the Merchant Navy or in pursuing my own business interests. The new hearing aids are giving me the physical capability, and the confidence, to explore my options in a much more positive way.” Amy Willcocks (left and below).

“I received your most welcome letter this morning and once again I am writing to thank you and the Grants Committee Members for their kindness and generosity afforded to me by allowing my grant to continue for a further year. I am deeply indebted to all the people concerned in making this decision and eternally grateful. The difference this grant makes to my well-being and peace of mind is incalculable.”

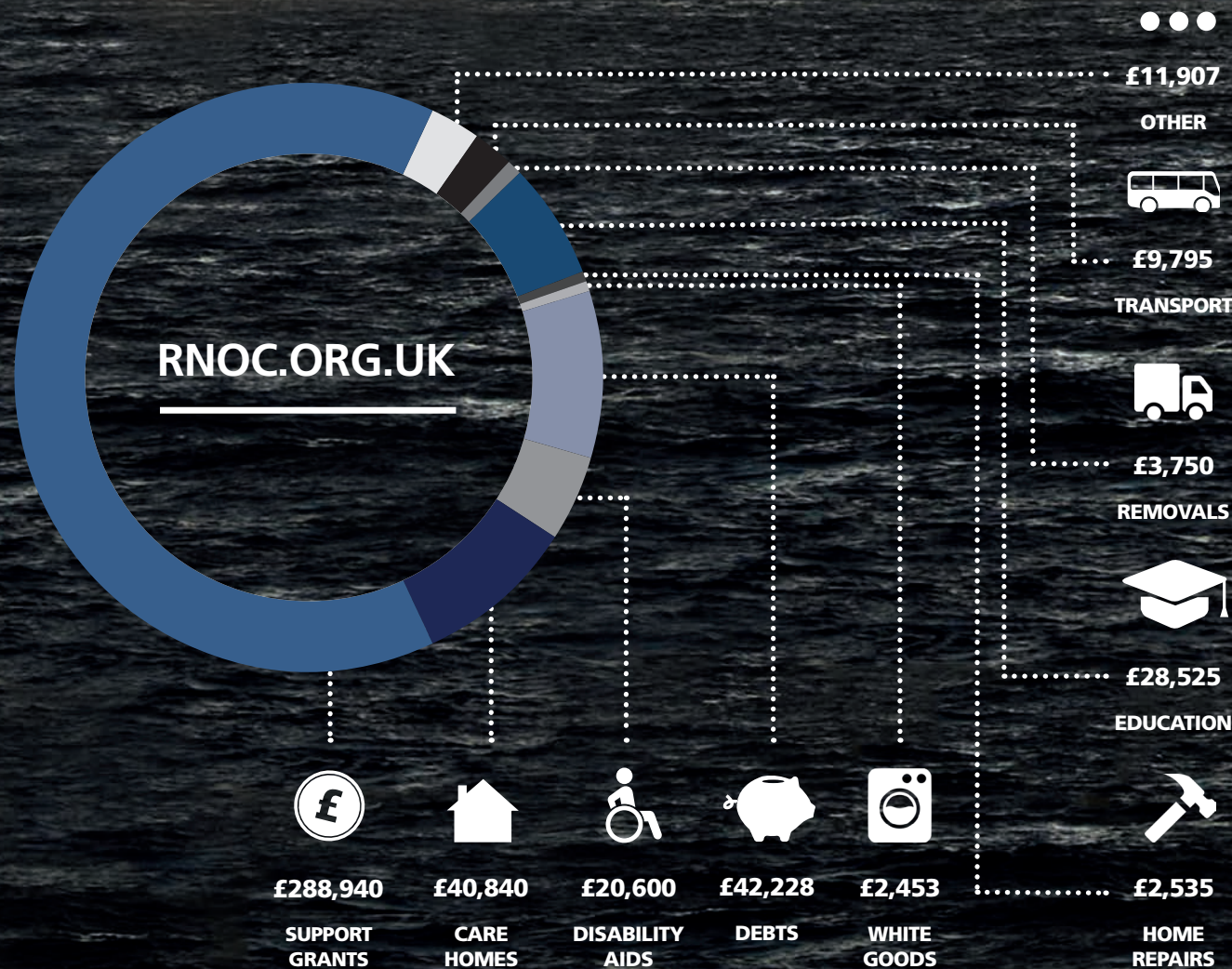


“This grant is a lifeline to me and gives me another year with less financial worry. It will also allow me to stay in my house and be in the village where I have many good friends and kind neighbours. I do appreciate your support, kindness and generosity.”

DIVERSE RANGE OF GRANTS MADE IN 2018

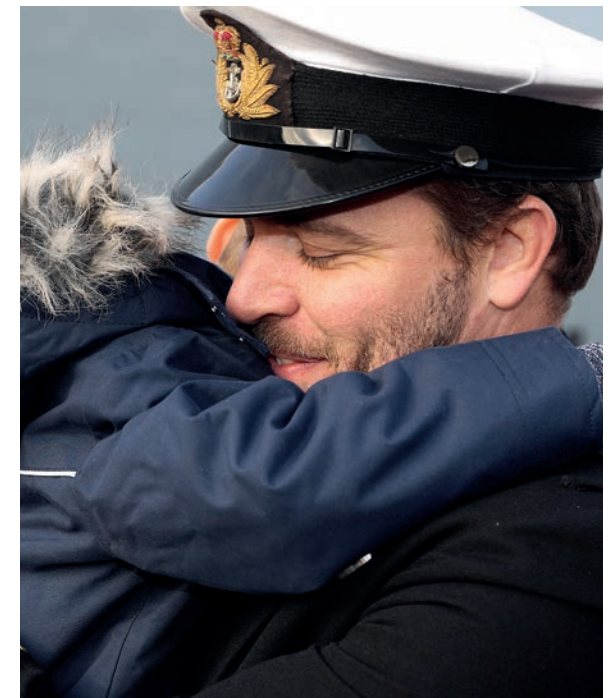
We awarded a record amount of grants over the past year totalling almost £430,000.

To reflect our diverse range of beneficiaries, the grants we provide support an equally wide range of needs including: the cost of nursing and care home fees, mobility aids, education, household adaptations and repairs, repaying debts, replacement of white goods, end of life care and funeral arrangements.



EXAMPLES OF HOW OUR GRANTS WERE USED:

- We have funded home adaptations, such as walk-in showers, and enabled many recipients to stay living independently for longer.
- Our one-off payments help with day-to-day practicalities of reducing debts, buying white goods and paying fuel bills.
- The rise of dementia and Alzheimer's sufferers has seen an increase in care home support which we are glad to provide.
- Our grants enable families to support their children through education.
- Assistance with equipment to help with training and transition.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There is always more we can and want to do in support of the Royal Navy Officer Family.

Currently The Royal Navy Officers' Charity receives all of its income from investments and a small number of donations and legacies. We are not funded by any other charity and do not receive any government funding. By giving to the Royal Navy Officers' Charity, you can help us support those who need it most. If you'd like to be part of our life-changing work, you can leave a legacy or make a secure online donation through the website.

LOOKING AHEAD

We want to maximise our reach by engaging with more people. Working alongside our partner organisation ARNO and other charities, we will continue to promote and raise awareness of our support services. We also use social media and regular e-newsletters to publicise our charity, while our website offers a range of advice and help available from the RNOC and other organisations.

For further information visit rnoc.org.uk

Help us help the Royal Navy Officer family – all donations, large or small, are most welcome and will have a lasting impact.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Trustees of the RNOC are extremely grateful to all of our supporters. We would particularly like to thank the following organisations for their help and assistance. In addition, an extra special thanks to the many SSAFA and Officers' Association caseworkers who, on behalf of our beneficiaries, compile and facilitate the many applications for assistance. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

- Armed Forces Covenant
- Cazenove Capital Management
- Child & Co
- Greenwich Hospital
- MindWorks Marketing
- SAIL
- The RN&RM Children's Fund
- RMA – The Royal Marines Charity
- The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity

SUPPORTED BY



The Royal Navy Officers' Charity is a charity registered in England and Wales (no. 207405). Registered office as below. Disclaimer: The information used in this report is taken from the fully audited Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December. Copies are available upon request. Designed and produced by MindWorks Marketing REF: 31109

FIND OUT MORE

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