



Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE)
Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel



WWW.ONE-VETERANS.ORG

VOL 1 / ISSUE 5 – OCTOBER 2022 – ONE NEWSLETTER

FUCHSIA APPEAL 2022

Well done to the Cork City Branch and to all the other Branches of SAC who supported the first Fuchsia Appeal fundraiser in Cork City on 2nd September 2022. We raised €6,290.

The 2022 Fuchsia Appeal was launched in Millennium Hall, Cork City on 02 September 2022 by the Minister of Defence Simon Coveney and Defence Forces Chief of Staff, Lt-General Sean Clancy, also in attendance was Secretary General of the Dept. of Defence, Ms Jacqui Mc Crum.

The fundraising campaign, which continued throughout the month of September and involved several events across the country, seen ONE members and volunteers sell symbolic fuchsia emblems to raise vital funds for Irish Defence Forces' veterans.

In addition to the Cork City launch, the campaign included several local launches and events across the country, including Athlone, Cavan, Clonmel, Cobh, Dublin, Kells, Limerick, Longford, Navan, Meath, Middleton and more.

ÓGLAIGH NÁISIÚNTA NA HÉIREANN (ONE)

ONE is a registered charity for veterans of the Irish Defence Forces (RCN: 20044268) (CHY13868). The organisation was founded in March 1951 with the aim of supporting former members of the Defence Forces to transition back into civilian life, by providing comradeship, advocating on behalf of veterans, and remembering serving or retired service personnel who have lost their lives in active service or who have passed away.

In pursuit of its aims, ONE provides welfare and support to homeless veterans who have fallen on hard times and those who find it difficult to adjust to civilian life. Over the past 70 years, ONE has developed into an organisation with 4 homes, 15 Veteran Support Centres, and 38 branches across the country, with 1,400 members and over 2,000 subscribers who donate annually.

‘As individuals we stand alone, together as veterans we are ONE’

SCAR:

Support: the needs of Irish veterans by the provision of accommodation to homeless and other veterans in need of such domestic accommodation in its Veterans' Homes and the provision of other advice and support to veterans through its nationwide network of Branches and Veterans Support Centres.

Comradeship:

- To develop a spirit of comradeship among veterans, and between veterans and serving members of Óglaigh Na hÉireann.
- To foster public interest in Óglaigh Na hÉireann.
- To promote social and cultural activities.

Advocacy:

- To advocate with the Department of Defence, Defence Forces, and other elements of national and local government on behalf of veterans.
- To maintain liaison with veterans' organisations of other states.

Remembrance:

- To remember those who served.
- To participate in national and local remembrance ceremonies.

To do all such other things as will assist in achieving the above objects and aims.

COFFEE MORNING



Thank you to all those who supported and facilitated our Coffee Morning in aid of the Fuchsia Appeal on Friday 30th September in most military installations, and to those who are still planning to hold one. These are a great opportunity to meet old and new comrades and to collect some change/donations for our charitable causes.

ONE CHALLENGE 2022



We will be announcing who our winners are for the following categories on the 28th October, in Aiken Bks, Dundalk:

- Top Male
- Top Female
- Top ONE Team
- Top Defence Forces Team
- Top Civilian Team

Photo by Neil O'Malley

HOMES FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

The provision of accommodation and sustenance are achieved through our homes:

- Brú Chostúim Athlone – 5 Bedrooms.
- Brú na Farraiige Cobh – 5 Bedrooms.
- Brú na bhFiann Smithfield, Dublin – 35 Bedrooms.
- Brú Doire Feá Letterkenny – 6 Bedrooms.
- Brú Uí Choileáin Cork City - 6 Bedrooms - being developed with a planned opening in 2023 leading to 57 bedrooms nationwide.

Brú na Bhfiann, Dublin – The Story!

During the winters of 1988/89 a number of people died on the streets of Dublin through hypothermia - among these were ex-servicemen. A small group of ONE members banded together to raise funds for an ex-soldier's home. In 1991 the planning reached a critical stage and with a defined strategy in place, works commenced and were brought to fruition in 1994 when a 20-bedroom home called Brú na Bhfiann – literally translated from Irish as 'Home of the Brave', was opened on Queen Street, Dublin. This home was subsequently replaced in 2005 by the current home which has 35 bedrooms for homeless veterans at North King Street, Smithfield, Dublin.

Brú Doire Feá - Beechwood House, Letterkenny

The Letterkenny home is Beechwood House and is located in the town itself. The home was purchased in 2003 and refurbished during 2004 using funding gained under the Irish Government's housing and anti-poverty strategy, local donations and fundraising. Beechwood House is a 6-bedroom facility.

Brú Chostúim - Custume House, Athlone

The Athlone home is Custume House which has a long history associated with the local Barracks and was for many years, the home of the General Officer Commanding the Western Command. Following a major investment from ONE, which was again funded through the Irish government's housing and anti-poverty strategy, local donations and fundraising, this 5-bedroom facility was officially opened in August 2006.

Brú na Farraiige – Cobh

On October 3rd, 2021, ONE opened its fourth home Brú na Farraiige for homeless veterans in Cobh, Co Cork. A Veteran Support Centre is co-located with the home thus providing a central focal point for the veteran community in the Cobh area.

Our residents contribute on a means basis towards their keep which includes all the facilities that one would expect in a normal home. Most of our residents have had extensive service in the Defence Forces, serving with distinction both at home and in various overseas missions with the United Nations. However, for one reason or another they now find themselves homeless and in need.

VETERAN SUPPORT CENTRES & BRANCHES

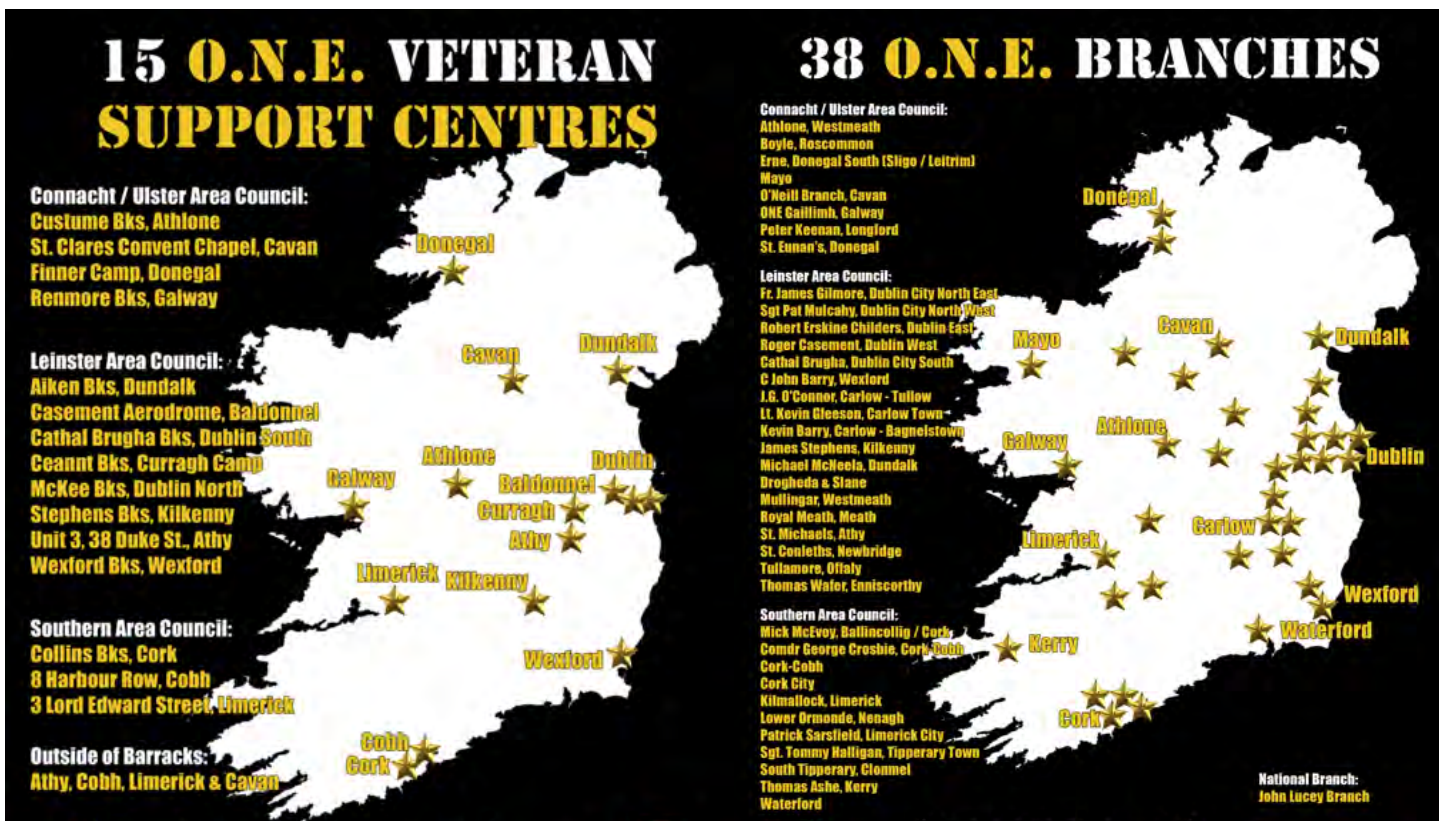
ONE has developed a nationwide network of Veteran's Support Centres (VSC) staffed by volunteer members to provide veterans with information, advice, someone to listen and somewhere to meet with former comrades. It is hoped that by providing early intervention, we can alleviate social stresses and significantly reduce homelessness among veterans.

A VSC is a place of comradeship, support, and information for veterans of the Defence Forces. It is **'A shelter from the storm'** and provides:

- A focal point for veterans, where they can access to seek advice, information, and direction on Welfare issues.
- A place to renew, rebuild or make new friendships with former comrades.
- Providing an initial contact point for welfare matters, assessment of the need and assistance in contacting the relevant service-providers to solve the problem, including the Defence Forces Benevolent Fund in conjunction with the Defence Forces Personnel Support Services (PSS).
- There is no requirement for a veteran to be a member of the ONE to avail themselves of these services. The services are available to ALL veterans of the Defence Forces.

ONE HAS 38 BRANCHES NATIONWIDE

- Where is my nearest Branch of ONE? See Map below.
- **Full Membership** includes Veterans of the Permanent Defence Force (PDF); Veterans and serving personnel of the Reserve Defence Force (RDF/FCA); Ex-service members of An Garda Síochána, Civil Defence and the Irish Red Cross. **Volunteer Membership:** Is open to anyone who wants to support our charitable aims.
- **JOIN HERE:** www.one-veterans.org/one-membership



COUNSELLING

ONE offers a FREE counselling service and is there to listen and to provide veterans with direct access to a designated Veteran Support Team and ONE's Confidential Counselling Service. ONE has male and female counsellors on our team who are available to meet over the phone or in person.

Veteran Support Officers (Counsellors) are located in:

- Head Office in partnership with the Leopardstown Park Hospital Trust.
- Brú na bhFiann in partnership with HSE Dublin North Community Healthcare Area.
- ONE has made applications to the HSE, for funding to recruit two additional counsellors in the Cork/Kerry Community Healthcare Area and the Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare Area.

FREE VETERAN SUPPORT & CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELLING SERVICE



Our team of male and female counsellors are available to meet on the phone or in person.

☎ 086 138 0825 (FREE)



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FUNDRAISING

ONE NEEDS ALL THE HELP IT CAN GET!

Our main fundraising efforts operate under the Fuchsia Appeal. The Fuchsia flower was first used in the inaugural Fuchsia Appeal launch in 2009 and was chosen as the fundraising emblem of the ONE as it is grown throughout Ireland and is commonly known as Deora Dé or God's Tears in the West of Ireland. When seen while serving overseas the Fuchsia is a reminder of home.

The Fuchsia badge is now sold as part of the fundraising initiative and under the emblem is stamped the word '*Cuimhnímis*' – '*Remember Those Who Served*' in remembrance of those who have served and to the many who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving. The Fuchsia emblem is now used as a badge of remembrance and a symbol to honour those currently serving in the Defence Forces.

Other fundraising campaigns include the Charity Donation Scheme, Supporters of ONE, ONE Challenge, Sleeping Flags, and the Golf Classic.

You can donate to our Fuchsia Appeal, by scanning the QR Code or visiting: <https://oneconnect.enthuse.com/cf/33c1/fuchsiaappeal>

Contact ONE

For further information, to join as a member or to make a donation, contact ONE on 01 4850666, send us an email at info@oneconnect.ie, visit our website at www.one-veterans.org or find us on social media:



UPCOMING COURSES / TRAINING

SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING DAY – DATES TBC

We have 11 members registered for the Social Media training day to help branches/VSC members create and manage a Facebook page and more. If anyone is interested, please contact Wayne Fitzgerald.

FREE BOOKKEEPING & PAYROLL COURSES

Big Red Cloud Ltd in collaboration with Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) are offering free training on Payroll and Bookkeeping Courses. These *free* blended courses combine flexible learning and practical skills-based tasks, enabling a learner with little or no prior knowledge to upskill themselves to work in a payroll or accounts department. Visit: <https://bigredcloud.com/training/#courses>

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ONE Annual General Meeting – Sat 22nd October 2022

The ONE AGM will now take place online and will not take too long. Information on the AGM has been sent out to members.

62nd Anniversary of the Niemba Ambush – Sat 5th November 2022

The 62nd Anniversary of the Niemba Ambush ceremonies will commence with a Mass in the Garrison Church, Cathal Brugha Barracks at 12:00 hrs, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at 12.45 hrs approx. There will be light refreshments following the ceremony at the dining complex.

Veterans' Ball – Sat 5th November 2022

The Veterans' Black-Tie Ball will take place in the Crown Plaza Hotel Blanchardstown – Event sold out

RBL Remembrance Sunday Ceremony – Sun 13th November 2022

The Royal British Legion (RBL) will hold their annual Remembrance Sunday Ceremony in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin from 15:00hrs. Because of the attendance of the President of Ireland, Lord Mayor and other senior dignitaries please plan your arrival before 2.30pm. This event is organised by the Royal British Legion, and no ticket is required. It is advised to come early to get a seat.

Online ONE Calendar: <https://teamup.com/ksapnu4n244mmwhsf9> - To add an event contact Wayne.

NEED TO CONTACT US?

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