

PATRON: HRH The Prince of Wales KG KT GCB OM AK QSO PC ADC
PRESIDENT: General Sir Reddy Watt KCB KCVO CBE
Head Office: Tyrwhitt House, Oaklawn Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 0BX
Tel: 01372 587100 Fax: 01372 587101
Email: contactus@combatstress.org.uk
Website: www.combatstress.org.uk



Ref: JD/67986

04 January 2012

Julian Palmer
Towergate Charitable Foundation
Towergate House,
Eclipse Park,
Sittingbourne Road,
Maidstone,
Kent,
ME14 3EN

Dear Mr Palmer

The Enemy Within Appeal

On behalf of all our Veterans and staff at Combat Stress I would like to express my thanks to you and all your colleagues at the Towergate Charitable Foundation for your generous donation of £1,360. I would also like to express my personal apologies that you had to send out a replacement cheque. As you might imagine, we operate a secure post opening process with two people opening and accounting for all funds. Around the date you mention, we have no record of your cheque. Having conferred with your colleague, I can now confirm that the cheque has now been banked by Combat Stress, not into the account for the Chelsea Pensioners which is a different charitable organisation. I have enclosed a copy of your original letter in order to illustrate the confusion.

Combat Stress is the UK's leading military charity specialising in the treatment of Veterans with chronic mental health disorders. We aim to make sure that Veterans and their families are never far from help. On the 10th October we launched the second phase of The Enemy Within Appeal, a national campaign to raise awareness of the hidden wounds of combat, address the stigma that surrounds Veterans' mental health and to encourage those who are suffering to seek help sooner.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, like you, Combat Stress will continue to deliver dedicated treatment and support to ex-Service men and women with conditions such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety disorders.

The desperate need for our services is encapsulated in the words of one of our Veterans:

"I went to see a counsellor at my GP's surgery – she found out about Combat Stress. When one of their Welfare Officers came to visit I was so, so relieved. At last I could talk to someone who'd been in the Forces and who was in a position to help me...I think the staff there are just fantastic...I just want to get some normality back into my life."

Once again, many thanks for your support.

Best wishes.

Your sincere
Jess Dallyn

Jessica Dallyn
The Enemy Within Appeal Director
Direct Line: 01372 587155
Email: jessica.dallyn@combatstress.org.uk

CC: Rod Breeze



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Charity Registration No 206002
Scotland No SC038828

