



TOGETHER WE STAND

35£



TOGETHER WE STAND

This year is the 10th anniversary of Private Conrad Lewis becoming the 353rd soldier to be killed in Afghanistan. It's a landmark anniversary that comes after a year like no other. A year that has tested every one of us. But it has also been a year that has proved our resilience and, in many ways, has helped communities unite like never before.

More than ever, we have supported each other and come together - stood together - in every way we could. From checking in on neighbours, helping strangers, cheering on the NHS and being there for our loved ones near and far. The spirit of determination and togetherness that has united us over the past year is exactly the same 'Get Busy Living' attitude that brought this charity to life, in memory of Conrad.

Tonight we stand together, but 353 is not standing still. We continue to donate equipment, provide access to training, fund projects in the UK and Afghanistan, and most importantly, support mental wellbeing for the military community and their families. All with your help.

We don't do this alone. This is only possible together.

Thank you all.



WELCOME

Welcome to the 353 Ball. Welcome friends old and new, friends of friends and family of friends of friends! Thank you for joining us to stand together on this night. This year we are able to share our stories and celebrate our achievements with more people (and pets) than ever, thanks to the unique format of this ball.

Let's make this anniversary the biggest ball yet, reaching more people, raising more money and glasses than ever before. Tonight, as we gather, your sofa can be the stage, your dining room the dance floor – together we will celebrate, remember and stand in support of the military community and their families.

Thank you for your continued help fundraising. This night is cherished every year, but being together tonight, more than ever, reminds us of the passion and unwavering support we receive.

LONG TERM LEGACY PROJECT - NOWZAD VETERINARY CLINIC KABUL

The generosity of all our supporters has enabled us to continue to fund the Nowzad Graduate Veterinary Training Programme at Conrad's Clinic in Kabul. This year we also stepped in to cover the wages of the entire Nowzad team based in Kabul, including the veterinarians when they were impacted by the pandemic.

Nowzad's long term goal is to open a network of shelters across Afghanistan with a firm belief that promoting animal welfare will help heal the scars caused by over four decades of conflict. There are now a number of female Nowzad veterinarians, which is a ground-breaking accomplishment in an area where girls weren't allowed to be educated under the Taliban.

Nowzad are also implementing a program to reduce the number of strays on the streets and local Afghan people can adopt from our welfare centre, with the cost of healthcare covered for their lifetime. Keeping pets was forbidden under the Taliban and reintroducing them to people's homes can only be a good thing.



THE 353 WELLBEING FUND AND SUPPORT OUR PARAS

There is a bond that lasts forever, a togetherness, that comes with serving in the military. And as many of you will know, the effects of being involved in conflict don't end once servicemen and women return home. The 353 Wellbeing Fund has helped a number of vulnerable Airborne personnel over the past two years and will continue to do so with a 3-year commitment of over £100,000 so 'Support Our Paras' can help those suffering from their service.

WHO WE SUPPORT



nowzad dogs



353 DIARY

'The Diary of My Afghanistan Tour' is the personal diary of Chris Burtenshaw, who served alongside Conrad Lewis and Lewis Hendry in Afghanistan. It is a diary that tells of life on the frontline. The ups, the downs and the heartbreak - to help those of us at home understand what life is like for the brave men and women of the armed forces.

To buy a copy, visit www.353.org.uk/shop/



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark the calendar for these events where we'll get together virtually and, lockdown permitting, in person.

MARCH 13TH 2021
Rugby 4 Heroes 6 Nations after party with Thom Kirkpatrick

MAY 8TH 2021
Rugby 4 Heroes Beer and Gin Festival

JULY 17TH 2021
Conrad's Ride and Festival 2021

Forces Barbarians - 'The Fubars' support 353 and have proposed events running throughout the country and throughout the year - Covid willing - check them out at: <http://www.fubars.co.uk>



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

For obvious reasons we haven't been able to run any fundraising events over the past year. But thanks to all your generous donations, we have still been able to help others, together.

This year a special thank you goes to the following:



RUGBY 4 HEROES

M&E Roofing and General Building



H J Scott and Co



CHAPTER

Together these donations have enabled us to keep giving to the many different and wonderful causes we support, up to the amazing amount of:

£49,705



NO ONE TRULY DIES, UNTIL
THE RIPPLES THEY CAUSE IN
THE WORLD FADE AWAY.

To seven remarkable people, together we stand and salute you.

At 353, we have not been immune to the impact that the pandemic has had on our fundraising abilities. But we have stood together with the causes and projects we support as well as our charity partners.

This is a letter from Gen John Lorimer, the Colonel Commandant and Chairman of The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces Charity. It captures many of the issues that our charity community have faced and is a brilliant tribute to the resolve, spirit and determination of military people and the charities that support them. We can still achieve wonderful things when we stand together.

As we near the end of our first year since amalgamation as The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces Charity (PRAFC), I am writing to you as Chairman to update you on our progress. In one of the strangest years in living memory, in which many charities have publicly struggled from the effects of lockdown and severe restrictions on event fundraising, as well as staffing and operations, I am happy to report that, although no organisation goes untouched by this global pandemic, our Charity trading as Support our Paras is in robust health and continues to meet our obligations to our beneficiaries and progress our charitable objects.

This is both a tribute to the hard work of our Trustees and staff, but also the strong and prudent financial management and foresight of our predecessors, which have protected us from the worst effects of the crisis. We are fortunate to have very active Committees, who formulate and monitor our policies, governance and financial stability. Our wheels are very firmly on and turning smoothly.



The new Board of Trustees and its advisers met in January to discuss strategy and key issues, and our first Board meeting was held in February with excellent signs that trustees from the two antecedent charities were meshing seamlessly, in pursuit of one common mission. Then came national lockdown in March and we entered a brave new world of working from home, social distancing, and meetings by Zoom, Skype and WhatsApp.

In our best traditions, we have adapted and overcome. Almost all our managed and third-party fundraising events - from our own PARAS'10 races to the Wigley Group Golf Dinner, the Moneycorp Trading Day and The Rayleigh Club Golf Day – have been cancelled. The many personal challenge events, in which supporters take part in the spring and summer, went the same way.

Only the 353 Annual Ball in February survived and it produced a magnificent donation, for which we are extremely grateful.

But we have responded with Virtual online events: the BMF At Home Challenge; the national #twopointsix Challenge; and two highly successful Virtual PARAS'10 events to replace Colchester and Catterick. These have not only raised much-needed revenue, but have also provided a focus, a sense of belonging and exercise support for mental health for many who have felt isolated.

We have also adapted our Regimental events to this new circumstance. Commemorations from Normandy to Arnhem, to the National Memorial Arboretum and to the St Lawrence Jewry Remembrance Service have been broadcast online and staunch efforts have been made to mark the passing of some of our notable veterans, despite restrictions on funeral attendance. Even the Regiment's annual Officers' Dinner has been conducted over Zoom, and very successfully too.

We have a diversified income portfolio, such that downward swings have been partly compensated by well-oiled roundabouts. Our investments predictably took a fall as global markets plunged, but with growing optimism surrounding new vaccines, we are seeing recovery. Our retail subsidiary ABP has traded exceptionally online. But above all, we have been braced by 'our own doing it for our own' – members of our broad Airborne family, both serving and retired, coming together at a time of need. The serving Parachute Regiment's One Day's Pay Scheme has remained

resilient; PRA branches and individuals have made generous donations, as has the British Airborne Forces Club. We have also considerably benefited from legacies left in gratitude, particularly to the Airborne Forces Security Fund, which supported veterans from our foundation onwards.

There have been strong individual efforts within the Regiment (socially distanced of course), which prove that, although no one saw this virus coming, we live up to the Parachute Regiment motto of 'Ready for Anything'. Notably these include: CSgt Fox's 100 mile Centurion run in a single day; a distanced and multi-national PARAS'10 in Kabul; virtual runs to Mt Longdon by B Coy 3 PARA and Kabul to Colchester by 2 PARA; and the comrades of Eddy Edwards, wounded in Afghanistan, getting him to the top of Mt Snowdon.

Most importantly, we have kept our welfare support going. Coronavirus has impacted employment, homelessness, personal debt and mental health and has strained many family relationships to the point of breakdown. We have supported all eligible cases brought to us. In a year when our military charity trade association, Cobseo, has predicted a surge in welfare need and demand, we are still awaiting the full impact once government support measures are reduced, as surely they will be. The challenge is not over. But we also responded to immediate and urgent survival need with food hampers for those shielding, isolating, disabled or without family support during lockdown. As Christmas nears, we continue the Security Fund tradition of sending hampers to veterans in need and in distress, and we have had strong support from public donations for this popular appeal.

Despite our reassuring resilience, we are not complacent. We remain vigilant to all risks. We cautiously forecast a surplus for this year, which few charities can claim. We have cut our expenditure cloth according to this uncertain age, and done what we can to innovate and replace lost income.

A year on since the merger of our two former charities, I can firmly state that we are 'ad Unum Omnes' – one charity for all. We look forward to 2021 as a year of recovery and replenishment, but the challenges will continue. We ask that you continue to support us in our mission to sustain our Airborne family. Together, we drive on.





LOT 1
Limited edition Resin sculpture of Ayrton Senna by Paul Oz
Only 161 ever made RRP £4,000 - reserve of £3,000

This remarkable sculpture is the outcome of an incredibly detailed project which took over 12 months to complete. Paul has immortalised the great Ayrton Senna as if sweeping from Eau Rouge into Radillon at Spa. Ayrton said in 1993, "If you take away Eau Rouge, you take away the reason why I do this", which is why Paul selected this particular pose. Limited to 161 pieces representing Ayrton's race start tally. Solid resin, 2kg 35cm long, painted bronze. With a numbered plaque and in a Paul Oz presentation box. Authorised by the Instituto Ayrton Senna, this sculpture is a truly unique item.



LOT 2
**Paul Oz - signed and hand
embellished Rolex print**

A brilliant, unique piece from explosive British portrait artist Paul Oz. Famous for his works for Formula 1, Star Trek and Bruno Mars.



LOT 3
Signed Nile Rodgers lyrics

This is one to put a smile on your face anytime anywhere – lyrics to Everybody Dance signed by Nile Rodgers himself.



LOT 4
SAS Single Malt Scotch Whisky

A bottle of the strong stuff from the elite force.



LOT 5
Bottle of 15 PARA Whisky from 1987

A rare bottle of The 15 Para Blend, created for The 15th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

LOT 6
SAS Decanter

A special place to store your spirits from the special forces.



LOT 7
SAS Decanter and two glasses

Original SAS decanter and glasses set.





LOT 8
Signed photos of Andy Cole
and Dwight Yorke

Become the proud owner of signed images from this telepathic, treble-winning Manchester United strike partnership.



LOT 9
Signed James Anderson Shirt

Bring home a shirt signed by the all-time leading wicket-taker among fast bowlers. Jimmy also happens to hold the record of most wickets for England in both Test and One-Day Internationals.



LOT 10
Signed Ellie Simmonds
Paralympic shirt

Record-breaking winner of 5 Paralympic Gold Medals - her first aged just 13.



LOT 11
Stella McCartney Team GB Paralympic hoodie (Size 2XL)

As worn by Team GB athletes and created by the renowned fashion designer, Stella McCartney.



LOT 12
Signed photo of Mark Cueto MBE

Get your hands on a signed picture of rugby great Mark Cueto - capped 55 times for England.



LOT 13
Signed British & Irish Lions Shirt - 2017

The perfect souvenir for any rugby fan - a signed shirt from the eventful British and Irish Lions Tour to New Zealand in 2017.

LOT 14
Welsh Rugby legends image
Printed signatures of Phil Bennett, JPR Williams, Gareth Edwards, John Dames, and Barry John

A brilliant souvenir piece featuring these giants of the Welsh game.





LOT 15
Silence Electric Scooter - S01 in black

Be one of the first in the UK to own this remarkable all-electric smart scooter. Featuring 79 miles of range, acceleration from 0-30mph in 3.9 seconds with a top speed of 62mph and great storage capacity this is the perfect scooter for nipping from A to B with zero tailpipe emissions. The battery is removable and charges from empty to full in just 5 hours. This next generation package is completed by 353 branding.



LOT 16
Silence Electric Scooter - S02 LS

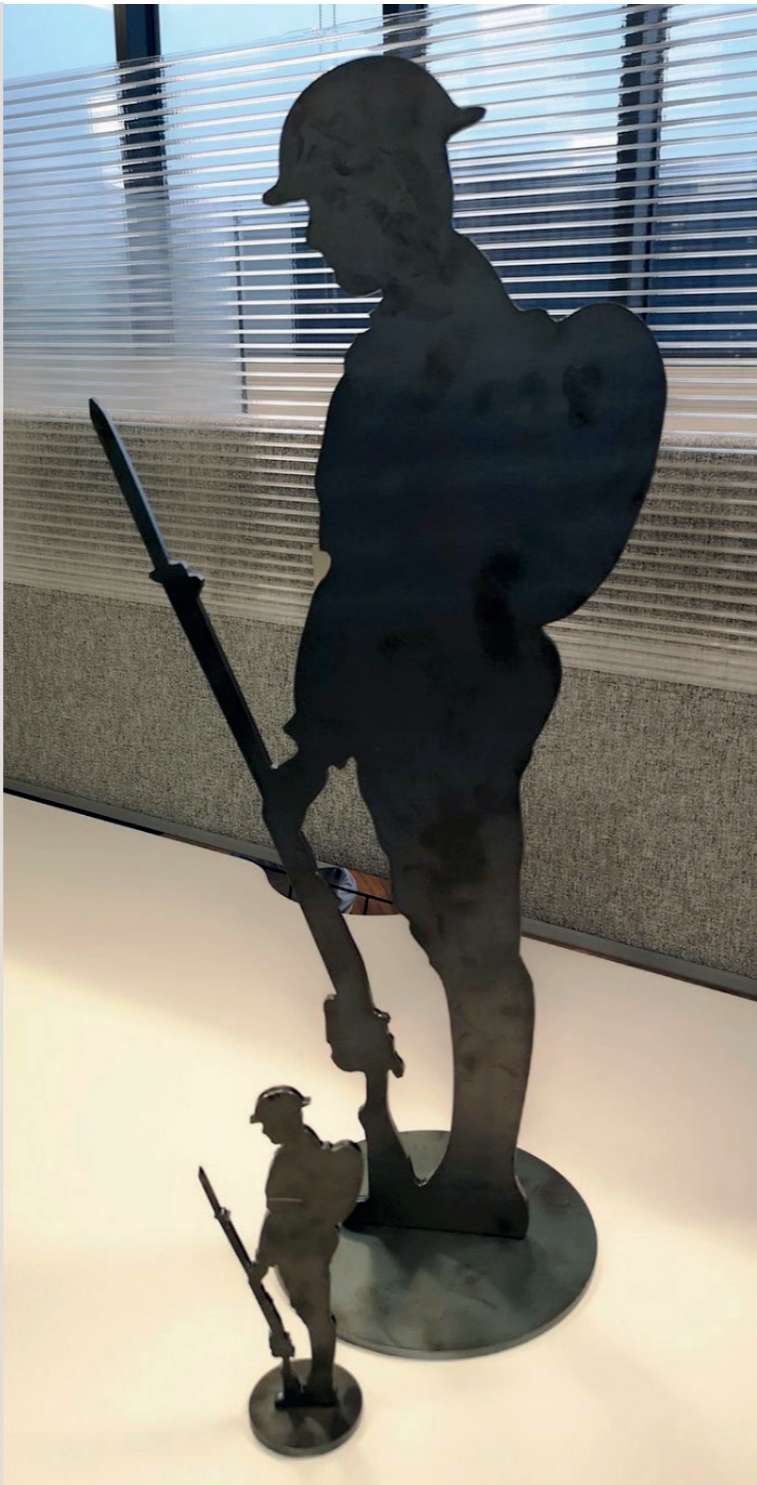
This cutting-edge all-electric scooter with a top speed of 31mph and a 34 mile range is the perfect transport for getting around town. Produced by the biggest scooter manufacturer in Spain, it features a digital dashboard, Kinetic Energy Recovery System and offers 4G/5G connectivity.

LOT 17
6ft Tommy - Steel

This is a real statement piece that would look cracking in a garden or at a club ground.

LOT 18
2ft Tommy - Steel

A smaller silhouette statue, perfect for the sideboard or mantelpiece, also finished in steel.



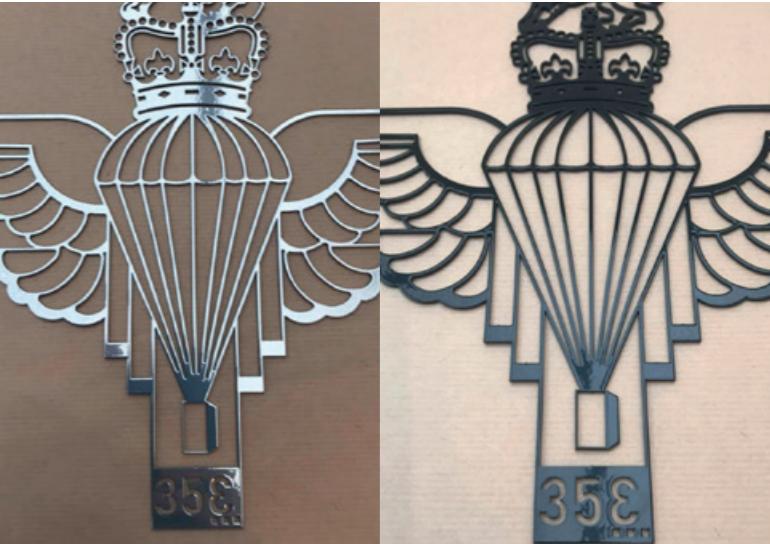
LOT 19
His and Hers Fossil Sports Watches

Keep track of your general health, your workouts and, of course, the time, with these stylish sports watches. Both of these swimproof watches feature 24hr+ battery life, allow you to see calendar alerts and notifications, and come with sporty silicone wristbands.



LOT 20 / LOT 21
Parachute Regiment Cap Badge with 353 Logo - Steel

Become the proud owner of this unique Cap Badge. Will look great on display or on your beret! Two available, one matt and one polished.



LOT 22
Kirsty Chapman Remembrance -
Original Painting for Framing

A lovely unique work by Kirsty Chapman, ready to be framed.



LOT 23
Mortars in Action -
Silver Framed
Signed Ltd Edition

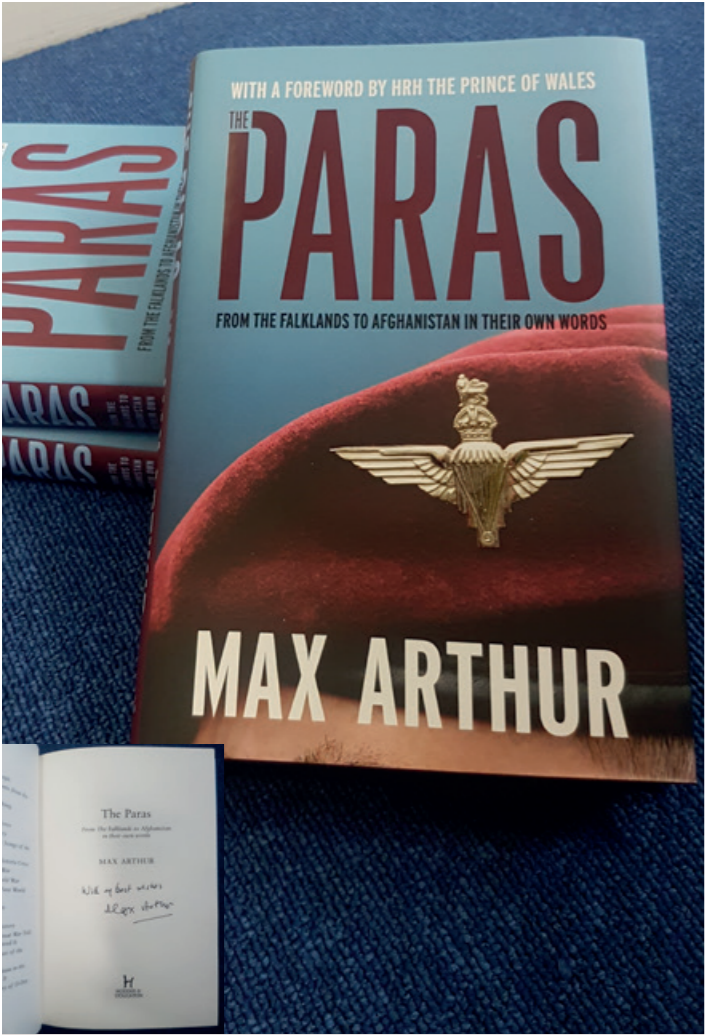
A beautiful piece of work
with real presence.



LOT 24
Shaun Cassidy
Original Painting
for Framing

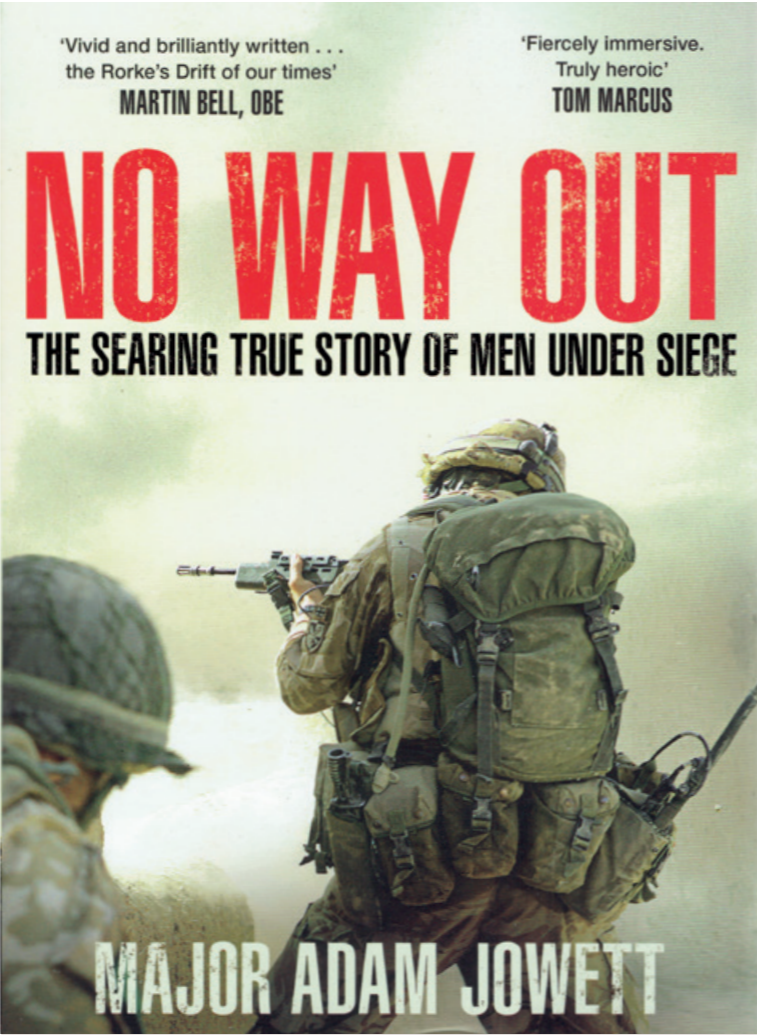
Brighten up any wall with
this original painting by
Shaun Cassidy.





LOT 25
The Paras by Max Arthur -
Signed Copy

A visceral first-person narrative makes The Paras stand apart from conventional regimental histories as one of the most remarkable accounts of conflict ever published. Signed by the author.



LOT 26
No Way Out - the best-selling
story of Mus'a Qaleh company
trapped by the Taliban.

Can be signed and dedicated personally to the buyer by the author.

LOT 27
His n Hers Support our Paras
Boxers/Bralette/Briefs

Start supporting our Paras, in all the right places,
with this super comfortable underwear set.



35€
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