

In celebration of



By **Rachelle Foster**
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THE Band of the Welsh Guards made a special appearance at Armed Forces Day celebrations on Sunday.

Complete with bearskins, despite sweltering conditions, the band were a colourful addition to events at Blind Veterans UK in Ovingdean.

The event ran without a hitch and crowd flocked to enjoy stalls, a dog show, activities for all ages and a performance from the Salvation Army Band.

Lesley Garven, manager of the Blind Veterans UK Brighton Centre, said: "Armed Forces Day is always a wonderful chance for us to come together as a community and support the valuable work of service men and women, past and present."

"This year's event was fantastic and the weather was absolutely amazing."

"We were treated to performances from the Salvation Army Band and a special appearance from the Band of the Welsh Guard."

National Armed Forces Day was on Saturday.

Charities, veterans, cadets, reservists, service families and the UK Armed Forces came together to appreciate the sacrifices made by troops and their families.

Blind Veterans UK held the Sunday commemorations at its rehabilitation and training centre at Ovingdean.

Ms Garven said: "The local Cadets Tri-Service KitKat Challenge was definitely a highlight with the Air Training Corps coming out on top this year."

"I want to thank all the staff and volunteers as well as all the other organisations that made the day possible."

"We hope to welcome everyone



Young and old enjoyed the day at Ovingdean. Entertainment included the Band of the Welsh Guards, below

back to our centre next year."

Another event will be held on Saturday as part of Blind Veteran UK's ultra challenge series.

The day will consist of a 100k walk from London to Brighton, starting at the Hammersmith and Fulham Rugby Club on Saturday morning, crossing the North and South Downs, and finishing by Brighton beach on Sunday morning.

People walking on the day are raising money for Blind Veterans UK and will be challenged both physically and mentally.

Find out more about the event on 020 7616 7959 or email 100Kchallenge@blindveterans.org.uk.



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