

# PRESS RELEASE

## Red Devils drop in to launch Woundcare 4 Heroes charity with Patron and Falklands war veteran Simon Weston at Worcester Rugby Club

A new charity, Woundcare 4 Heroes, is being launched at Worcester Rugby Club on Thursday 14th June 2012. Founded by Claire Stephens, Nurse Specialist and former Nursing Officer Captain of QARANC, the charity aims to provide specialist wound care to help rebuild the lives of men and women injured in conflict.

The launch of the charity coincides with the 30th anniversary of the end of the Falklands war. One of the Patrons of Woundcare 4 Heroes and Falklands veteran, Simon Weston, will discuss his 30-year wound care journey via video as part of the launch.

In World War II, approximately 30% of injured service personnel succumbed to their wounds and died before they returned home. However, in recent conflicts, advances in battlefield trauma care have reduced mortality to around 10%.

The level of injuries sustained can demand a lifetime of ongoing, complex wound care once back home. James Fletcher, a soldier who more recently suffered major injury to his lower limbs and face, will be attending the launch. Speak to him at the event about why he feels there is a need for Woundcare 4 Heroes.



Wound care experts, Professor Keith Harding and Lieutenant Colonel Steven Jeffery, will talk about the challenges of managing increasingly major and traumatic wounds arising in conflict. The launch will outline the aims of the charity, namely:

- To coordinate and provide specialised, continued wound care services for people injured in the service of their country closer to home
- To promote the education of healthcare professionals in healing complex wounds
- To support those patients and carers living with a wound.

To complete the launch, the world famous Red Devils parachute team will be performing a jump into the club to hand over the Woundcare 4 Heroes launch banner!

Please join us at this exciting event, where you will have the opportunity to:

- Hear Simon Weston's views on his ongoing woundcare needs
- Meet and talk with James Fletcher and Claire Stephens
- Witness an air display and meet the world famous Red Devils
- Meet the Woundcare 4 Heroes team.