**SERVICE CHILDREN ASKED TO DESIGN VETERANS’ T-SHIRT**

Armed Forces charity Help for Heroes is asking Welsh schoolchildren to design a T-shirt to be worn by its veterans’ team as it climbs the highest peak in South Wales, Pen Y Fan, later this year.

Last year, a five-strong team of veterans representing Wales won the Charity’s national virtual spring games. They had such a great time together, that they’ve stayed in touch and decided they’d like to carry out a further challenge this year.

The team included a ‘ringer’, West Sussex-based, former Royal Marine James Cobby, 30, who is confined to a wheelchair following an accident that resulted in a serious brain injury, but who has been defying doctors’ prognoses ever since. James stepped in to fill the gap left by a last-minute withdrawal and has been regarded as an honorary Welshman ever since.

The group will now climb Pen Y Fan on 15 June, with James using a specially designed off-road wheelchair, and children from the SSCE Cymru (Supporting Service Children in Education) are being invited to design the team’s T-shirt.

One of the organisers, Help for Heroes’ Sport, Activity & Fellowship Lead, Nick Vanderpump, explained: “We decided to open the competition to children of SSCE, because April is the [Month of the Military Child](https://www.sscecymru.co.uk/events/monthofthemilitarychild/default.htm). We’d be looking for the winning design to incorporate the Welsh word for ‘inspire’ – Ysbrydoli – and a particular feature, or features, relating to the climb: that it’s a Help for Heroes team of military veterans; they’re climbing Pen Y Fan; it’s a Welsh team; and they’re now great friends.

“The winning design will be turned into a T-shirt to be worn by the team during the climb and the artist will also receive a T-shirt featuring their own design. If it proves popular, we may even produce more to be sold in our online store.”

The five-strong team taking on Pen Y Fan comprises Cobby, from Shoreham-by Sea; Liam Mountain, from Bridgend; Matt Neve, Swansea; Jason Tamplin, Newport; and Donna Davies, who lives in Hengoed.

◼ Entries to the T-shirt competition, which should be no smaller than A4 in size, should be scanned and emailed to [SAF.Wales@helpforheroes.org.uk](mailto:SAF.Wales@helpforheroes.org.uk) by midday on 22 April**,** or the original posted to Op Ysbrydoli Competition, Help for Heroes, 14 Parkers Close, Downton Business Centre, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 3RB, by the same date.

Social media: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HelpforHeroesOfficial/) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/HelpforHeroes) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/helpforheroes)

**ENDS**

Information for journalists:

About Help for Heroes:

* Help for Heroes believes those who serve our country deserve support when they’re wounded.
* Every day, men and women have to leave their career in the Armed Forces as a result of physical or psychological wounds; their lives changed forever. The Charity helps them, and those still serving, to recover and get on with their lives by providing physical, psychological, financial and welfare support for as long as they need it. It also supports their families, because they, too, can be affected by their loved one’s wounds.
* Help for Heroes relies on the spirit and generosity of the great British public. It has already supported more than 26,500 people and won’t stop until every wounded veteran gets the support they deserve.
* **Help for Heroes is actively recruiting new volunteers**. To register your interest in becoming a Help for Heroes volunteer go to [helpforheroes.org.uk/give-support/volunteer](https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/give-support/volunteer/).

For additional information contact Dave Bowers, Help for Heroes’ press officer (South & Wales), on 0207 337 9820 or at [dave.bowers@helpforheroes.org.uk](mailto:dave.bowers@helpforheroes.org.uk).