

The Forces' Motorsport Charity

# MISSION MOTORSPORT

RACE | RETRAIN | RECOVER



CHRIS LEECH -MM Beneficiary

Chris Leech, a Former RAF Sgt and dog handler left the RAF Police after 12 years of service. Today he is a veteran peer support worker for All Call Signs helping other veterans in need.

*"I have been fortunate to be a beneficiary of Mission Motorsport for the last couple of years. I left the RAF in 2006 after 12 years as a member of the RAF Police, a major part of this a Dog Handler. Whilst I didn't do an active tour I didn't leave unscathed.*

*"I was struggling in the Civilian world and felt lost as my physical and mental health took a turn for the worse. I had shut myself away and withdrawn from contact outside a very tight circle of friends and family. My wife had seen that I had shown a spark of interest in Mission Motorsport and virtually had to force me out of the door to attend my first event.*

*"The event was their monthly Veterans get together at Bicester heritage. Getting there going to be a problem as my driving license was suspended at the time whilst I underwent a battery of medical assessments and tests. I didn't have to worry as Mission Motorsport put my mind at ease and offered me a range of solutions to get me there.*

*"I knew I had made the right choice when I was picked up from the train station by an effervescent ex Army Officer wearing the most fantastic red" trousers in his rally going Porsche 944. I was made to feel*



*immediately welcome by all the staff of Mission Motorsport and they also had specialists from numerous Veterans charities and Veterans UK to help us out with filling in forms and discovering what help there was out there. From this I found I was eligible for a War Pension and have an ongoing claim for PIP, this is helping with my financial situation.*

*The way Mission Motorsport do things is very sneaky, they use our shared love of motorsport, fast cars etc to draw you in, get you talking and then help you on your road to recovery. I can honestly say if it wasn't for them I would not be here writing this.*

*Since they have taken me under their wing I have had some truly amazing experiences from being pit crew at a race in Spa, Belgium to rocketing around Goodwood in a Porsche 959s that was my dream car and worth over £1,000,000. Every step of the way the team at Mission have been there encouraging me, looking out for me and being ever patient. From James and Adam at the Head of the Charity and moving through the entire Team I have never had anything but positive interactions and always felt welcome.*

*None of the team carry their previous ranks and will willingly join in the inter service ribbing which is an important part of relaxing in and around other Veterans. This is never more evident than during the annual Race of Remembrance in November. It is such an amazing event that bring the whole Mission family together and allows us to deal with the 11<sup>th</sup> in a way that works for us individually whilst keeping us busy with some awesome race cars.*

*Without the help of Mission I would not be working and they have again been very supportive. Their massive network of contacts, friends and businesses has helped them launch Mission Automotive which is a superb thing that will help them improve the lives of many Veterans and help utilise the skills we earned whilst in Service.*

*Thank you all at Mission Motorsport from my family and I for helping us when all seemed lost."*