



Our Veterans Forge Information Brief



Our Veterans Forge (OVF) inc. is a Not-for-Profit Organisation and has DGR status with ACNC established in July 2020 by veterans, for veterans. The aim of OVF is to support veterans and first responders experiencing diagnosed mental health issues, such as PTSD, and issues arising from service or transition from service, including loss of identity, meaning, and purpose.

OVF offers various programs including structured recreational knife making and a blacksmithing program all with the option of ongoing membership. The closed group programs have five to six participants per group. The skills are initially taught by fellow veterans in a stepwise fashion to cater for differences in existing skill sets.

OVF provides a safe environment with shared values and experiences to facilitate a sense of belonging and continuity of self. OVF replicates important aspects of military culture. Veterans shared past and continuity of experience is seen to facilitate a new social identity for the veteran.

The program supplies veterans with all required materials for knife making and blacksmithing including personal protective equipment (PPE), steel and other consumables. A free BBQ lunch is provided every few weeks to celebrate the completion of key aspects of the course.

The emphasis on enjoyment and opportunity for the development of skills at the veterans own pace is seen to foster confidence, improve mood, and give a sense of purpose. In addition to these important outcomes, the program fosters and enhances life management skills that will assist veterans who wish to return to work; skills including collaboration, concentration, precision, and the ability to learn by trial and error.

More information can be found on our website or social media.

Regards,

Nigel Danson.

President

Our Veterans Forge Inc

[Mob 0408 628 323](tel:0408628323)

info@ourveteransforge.com.au

www.ourveteransforge.com.au

www.facebook.com/ourveteransforge