

PRESS RELEASE

6th February 2024

Citizens Advice Helps Dorset Resident Receive Posthumous Christmas Island Medal

A Dorset resident was delighted when she received a posthumous Christmas Island Medal for her late husband following a visit to the Citizens Advice Bus.

Joan Barrett, 84, of West Moors, visited the Citizens Advice in East Dorset & Purbeck bus for general advice.

Tracey Brightman, Outreach Adviser, Citizens Advice in East Dorset & Purbeck, said: “Joan initially came to us for general help and we got chatting about her late husband and how he’d served on Christmas Island. I had heard how Christmas Island medals have been awarded to veterans and how people can apply posthumously, so helped Joan with the application.”

Joan Barrett said: “I can’t thank Tracey enough for helping me. I’m really proud to now have this medal. I will definitely wear it to the West Moors Armistice Parade this year with pride!”

Joan’s late husband, Reginald Barrett, served with the Royal Engineers as part of his National Service in 1955-1957 and was posted to Christmas Island.

This is the first medal to be issued by King Charles. The Nuclear Test Medal was announced by the Prime Minister in November 2022 to recognise the significant contribution of military, civilian and overseas staff and personnel who participated in nuclear testing programmes in the 1950s and 1960s.

The Advice Bus visits different locations across East Dorset & Purbeck offering free advice and support on a range of different issues. No appointment is necessary. Visit www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/advice-bus for dates and times. Alternatively call the Dorset Adviceline on 0800 144 8848.

Picture: Citizens Advice Helps Dorset Resident Apply for Christmas Island Medal

Left to right: Tracey Brightman, Outreach Adviser, Citizens Advice in East Dorset & Purbeck with Joan Barrett, holding her Christmas Island medal outside the Advice Bus at West Moors.

For more information contact: Sian Smith, Comms Officer,
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About Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck

Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck have offices in Wareham and Wimborne with outreaches throughout East Dorset and Purbeck.

Citizens Advice in East Dorset & Purbeck is able to offer free advice and support on a range of different issues include, debt, benefits, employment, housing and relationships. Call the Dorset Adviceline on 0800 144 8848 or visit www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk

Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck is a registered charity, charity number: 1068414.