

How to refer:

Referrals are welcomed from an appropriate medical practitioner (e.g. GP/physio) for patients with musculoskeletal problems who have served in HM Armed Forces - regular, reserve or veteran.

Please note that this is not a walk-in clinic.

Please complete a Chavasse Clinic Referral form and contact our appointments team at the Booking Hub, RSCH with the referral to the Chavasse Clinic.



Fax referrals to:

01273 664751



Or email referrals to:

bsu-tr.outpatientbookings@nhs.net



Email GP queries to:

bsuh.outpatients.bookingcentre@nhs.net



ARMY



ROYAL AIR FORCE

The Chavasse Clinic

Royal Sussex County Hospital

Eastern Road

Brighton

BN2 5BE

NHS

Brighton and Sussex
University Hospitals
NHS Trust

Chavasse Clinic



What is the Chavasse Clinic?

A specialist musculoskeletal clinic for Service Personnel (Regular or Reserve) and Veterans.

Clinic dates:

This clinic is held monthly within the Fracture Clinic at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Eastern Road, Brighton, BN2 5BE.

Sessions currently run on a Thursday morning and pre-booked appointments are available between 08:30-13:00.

We are looking to expand our session times and dates within the near future and further details of this will be made available at the time.



Legacy behind the clinic

In Spring of 2014, the BOA published a report that they had commissioned Professor Tim Briggs to write with regards to the Service Personnel and Musculoskeletal problems. This report built upon Prof Briggs previous work on "Getting It Right First Time", and was dedicated to the memory of Captain Noel Godfrey Chavasse VC and Bar.

Noel Chavasse qualified in medicine from the University of Liverpool in 1912 and worked for Sir Robert Jones, the founder of the British Orthopaedic Association (BOA) as his houseman.

He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) in 1913 and was attached to the 10th Battalion of The Kings (Liverpool Regiment), the Liverpool Scottish, a Territorial battalion.

During World War I (WWI) Chavasse was promoted to Captain and remained attached to the 1st/10th (Scottish Battalion) of The Kings (Liverpool Regiment). He saw action in Belgium in June 1915 where he was awarded the Military Cross (MC) and mentioned in Despatches.

In 1916 Noel was awarded his first Victoria Cross whilst rescuing men from no-man's land during the battle of Guillemont despite being injured himself.

His second Victoria Cross was awarded during the Allied offensive of Passchendaele in 1917 where he was again wounded but refused to leave his post and continued to care for his men. He died two days later of his injuries on the 4th August 1917.

Chavasse's headstone is in a small cemetery in Brandhoek New Military Cemetery Vlamertinge and is the only one on the Western Front carved with two Victoria Crosses.



How did the clinic start?

As a serving officer in the RAMC and an orthopaedic surgeon who had trained at the prestigious Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Oswestry, Lt Col Benjamin Caesar, a Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeon at BSUH, was inspired by this story of selfless commitment and sacrifice. He felt compelled to follow in Noel Chavasse's example and set up the Chavasse Clinic to run on his days off in spare rooms in fracture clinic at the Royal Sussex County Hospital in 2016.

With support from the Sussex Armed Forces Network, the clinic proved to be a success and popular with not only the Veteran population, but also the Regulars and Reservists who attended. This was recognised by the Trauma and Orthopaedic Directorate, who formally recognised this clinic as part of Lt Col Caesar's work and has continued to support the clinic as it develops and grows.

The plans for the future are to increase the number of clinics each month, and Lt Col Caesar will be joined in this venture by Sqn Ldr Tom Crompton, a fellow orthopaedic consultant working at BSUH and RAF Reservist with 4626 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. This will allow the clinic to run uninterrupted during periods of deployment, such as Lt Col Caesar recent work with the UN in South Sudan.