



Rates 'too complex'

GOVERNMENT plans to simplify energy tariffs are still too complex to allow consumers to find the cheapest deal, according to a watchdog.

Which? said a survey found just three in 10 people chose correctly when asked to identify the cheapest deal using Ofgem's Tariff Comparison Rate proposal.

The consumer group is recommending tariffs are presented in the style of a petrol forecourt display using single unit prices, claiming 84% picked the cheapest deal using this format.

Two-thirds of people said they preferred the single unit price model.

93-YEAR-OLD BATTLED DRINK DEMONS

WW2 hero John is still helping today's soldiers



A 92-YEAR-OLD who carried out 60 wartime bombing raids is helping young soldiers get back on civvy street.

John Hall, who flew missions over Nazi-occupied Europe in the Second World War, was presented with the Distinguished Flying Cross for valour.

But, like thousands of other ex-service personnel since, another battle began after leaving the forces.

He overcame depression and drink to control his horrific memories.

Now the pensioner, from Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, is mentoring other soldiers to help them face their own demons.

"Most people come out saying they were happy in the army," said John. "But they've forgotten what civilian life is like and they need to learn it all over again."

"We draw out what is wrong and, nine times out of 10, it's trauma."

"They find they can't get a job and nobody wants to know."

"We help them any way we can, usually by talking to them and giving them the confidence they need to move on."

Many are overcoming devastating drink, drugs and mental health problems caused by the trauma of war.

Others have served time in prison or are on the streets.

John uses his own experience

By Marc Meneaud

mmeneaud@sundaypost.com

as an example when talking to soldiers from the Forces for Good group, part of the Forward Assist charity.

As a flight lieutenant, he witnessed the horrors of battle first hand.

He joined some of the first and most dangerous raids in the RAF's famous Lancaster bombers. Many missions were under Wing Commander Guy Gibson, the man hailed a hero for leading the Dambusters.

"One of the hairiest raids was on Nuremberg," said John. "We sent 800 aircraft out — 96 didn't come back."

"You could see aircraft going down in flames and the flashing of guns. It was hell on earth."

His Lancaster was also shot

down over the Channel — leaving John and his crew floating towards the Atlantic for four days.

They were only saved when a naval crew launched a rescue operation.

"Another half hour and we'd have been out into the Atlantic — they'd never have found us," said John, a father-of-one.

But back home, the war was taking its toll.

Wife Gladys and the couple's young daughter Sheila had been sent a telegram declaring John "missing in action" when his bomber ditched.

John said: "Gladys had been out shopping and the woman next door had taken the telegram and just said 'your husband's gone'."

"My wife dropped all her groceries and collapsed."

"She had a nervous breakdown and it took us five years to get the better of it."

After the war he returned home and went back to his old job in a paper mill in Hemel Hempstead before returning to his native north east.

The family lived a happier life after moving into a home in Grindon, Sunderland, where John still lives.

Tony Wright, who set up Forward Assist, said: "John is an inspiration to all of us. He'll be 93 this year and it is amazing he is putting in his time to mentor the younger guys. 'He's respected by everyone.'"

■ For information, visit forward-assist.com

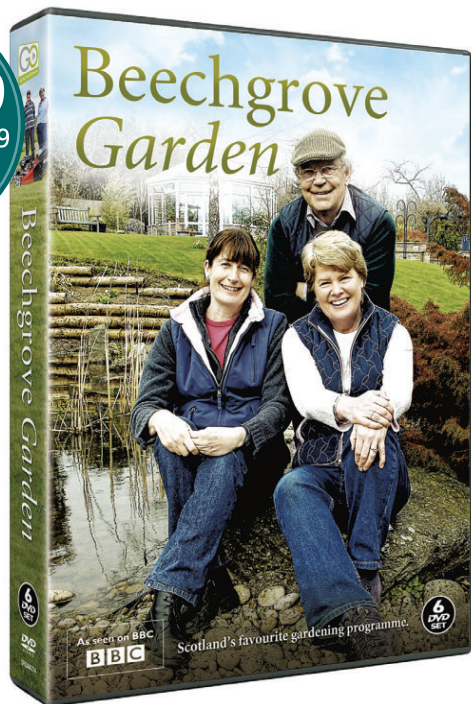
SUNDAY POST offer

BEECHGROVE GARDEN

ONLY
£24.99
Normally £39.99
plus £2.59
p&p

Special Offer on Scotland's favourite gardening programme on DVD.

Beechgrove Garden has been running every year since 1995. A topical series it deals with the challenges that face gardeners in a practical, down to earth, get-your-hands-dirty manner, all set in Scotland's unique conditions. Successes are celebrated but viewers are also able to learn from the failures experienced by the show's gardening team. If a stunning garden can be grown on a 2.5 acre inhospitable sloping side, then anyone can have a go anywhere. This 6 DVD Collection with a running time of over 11 hours is a must for all Scottish gardeners.



Order online at www.duetoffers.com

Call **01522 705353** quoting **SP/D-GROVE** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Post coupon to:

Beechgrove Garden DVD Offers SP/D-GROVE, DUET, Unit 11, Newlin Business Park, Exchange Road, Lincoln, LN6 3AB.

ITEM		
Beechgrove Garden DVD	£24.99	
Post and Packing		£2.59
TOTAL COST OF YOUR ORDER	£	

From time to time, D. C. Thomson & Co., Ltd., its group companies and its partner businesses would like to contact customers to manage their account, for market research purposes and about new products, services and offers we think will be of interest. We'll assume that we can contact you by e-mail, post or telephone unless you tick the relevant box.

No contact from D. C. Thomson & Co., Ltd. or its group companies unless it relates to an existing order ☐ No contact from our partner businesses ☐

1. Please allow 10 days from receipt of order for delivery. 2. This limited offer is subject to availability. 3. We offer a full money back guarantee. If you are unhappy with your purchase, simply return it to us, in the original packaging, for a full refund.

Offer subject to availability, open to UK readers only and closes June 21, 2013. Supplied by Duet.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

I have enclosed a cheque or postal order with my name and address on the back made payable to Duet Marketing for _____

£ _____ or charge my credit card VISA/MASTERCARD/MAESTRO

Card No. _____

Start Date _____/_____/____ Expiry Date _____/_____/_____

Maestro Issue No. _____ Security Code _____

2013

Now John helps other soldiers face their own demons.

