

FLEETWOOD TOWN COUNCIL  
ARMED FORCES CHAMPION



# NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY

01 AUGUST 2025

Welcome to the first edition of the Fleetwood Armed Forces Champion Newsletter, your go-to source for updates, insights, and information. We are dedicated to transform unity through a structure that drives efficiency, sustainability, and growth.

**SHARING INFORMATION:  
THE FUTURE OF THE  
LOCAL ARMED FORCES  
COMMUNITY**

Sustainability within our local Armed Forces Community isn't just about preserving resources, it's about strengthening connections, encouraging collaboration and building a future where veterans, service personnel and their families are supported not only today but for generations to come.



To truly be sustainable we must think beyond the present. Our actions today should inspire and support the younger generation, those who may one day serve or those who will lead our communities forward. Education, mentoring, youth engagement and legacy building must be at the heart of everything we do.





## Community News

I am absolutely thrilled to share with you the latest developments in our ongoing mission to make a positive and lasting impact within our Armed Forces Community here in Fleetwood.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to every single one of you in the veterans community who continues to give your time, energy and care by organising events, activities and support groups. Your efforts are creating a culture of positivity, awareness, resilience and that deserves to be celebrated.

And of course, this newsletter wouldn't be complete without a thank you to everyone supporting behind the scenes, including those who prefer not to be mentioned by name. Your quiet dedication is just as powerful, we see you and we appreciate you.

Finally I hope this monthly newsletter brings a little insight, a little encouragement and a little positivity to you, wherever you may be in your journey.



## Armed Forces Champion's Volunteer Recognition

This month's volunteer is Joe Parkinson who is the Chair of the Duke of Lancaster's Association, Fleetwood Branch.

It's wonderful to recognise Joe for his volunteer work this month. His selflessness and dedication to helping others are truly inspiring.

Let's take a moment to appreciate his efforts and encourage others to follow in his footsteps.

Joe, thank you.



## Event News

Join us for our upcoming meeting's and Celebrations: help make a difference in our community. Here are the details:

- Date: 04 AUG 2025
- Time: 7pm (RBL Meeting)
- Location: United Reform Church, FY7 7BW
- Date: 15 AUG 2025
- Time: 11am (80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VJ Day)
- Location: Fylde Memorial Arboretum, FY2 0LZ
- Date: 17 AUG 2025
- Time: 11am (Veteran's Association Meeting)
- Location: Comrades
- Date: 23 AUG 2025
- Time: 10am - 4pm (VJ Day Celebrations)
- Location: Fleetwood Memorial Park



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## Armed Forces Representatives Profile Highlights



**Cllr Jimilai  
Kuruvakadua**

Fleetwood Town Council  
Armed Forces Champion



**David Morris**

Duke of Lancaster's  
Association, Fleetwood Branch  
President



**Paul Roberts**

Remembrance Sunday  
Committee Chair



**Gary Smith**

Fleetwood Armed Forces  
Community Parade  
Marshall



**Martin Poole**

Fleetwood Freemasons  
Armed Forces Rep



**Tony Codling**

Fleetwood Town Community  
Trust Armed Forces Project  
Coordinator



## A Few Notes To Remember

Next month's Newsletter, I will be sharing loads of information about updates from local businesses and charitable organisations who supports our Armed Forces Community.

If you are an organisation that has more information that will support our local veterans please don't hesitate to get in touch.

[Jimilai.kuruvakadua@fleetwo.odtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:Jimilai.kuruvakadua@fleetwo.odtowncouncil.org.uk)

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# TOPIC'S FOR THIS MONTH



## MENSSHED FLEETWOOD

I would like to extend my thanks to the Mensshed Fleetwood for their incredible act of kindness: they continue to support our local veterans and the wider armed forces community. Their weekly Veteran's Breakfast held every Wednesday at St David's Church on Larkholme Lane is more than a meal; it brings everyone together. Their efforts and commitment is truly making a difference.

## KEY TOPIC'S

### VETERAN'S ID CARD

An HM Forces Veterans Id card is a proof that you have served in the UK Armed Forces. You can apply online via <https://www.gov.uk/veteran-card>

CONTACT THE VETERANS UK HELPLINE IF YOU CANNOT APPLY ONLINE.

THEY'LL SEND YOU A FORM THAT YOU CAN RETURN BY POST. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH OR WELSH.

VETERANS UK HELPLINE  
VETERANS-UK@MOD.GOV.UK  
TELEPHONE: 0808 1914 218  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 8AM TO 4PM

### SUPPORT FOR OUR HOMELESS VETERAN'S

Locally we have representatives who give their time to support veterans, this could vary from donations of clothing, furniture's, hospital visits, welfare checks and regular referrals to local agencies.

Please do reach out to your local representatives for support

### LOCAL BUSINESS SHOUT OUT

Dolly's Ice Cream & Snack Kiosks

Niceone Ices

Bonney's Total Decor

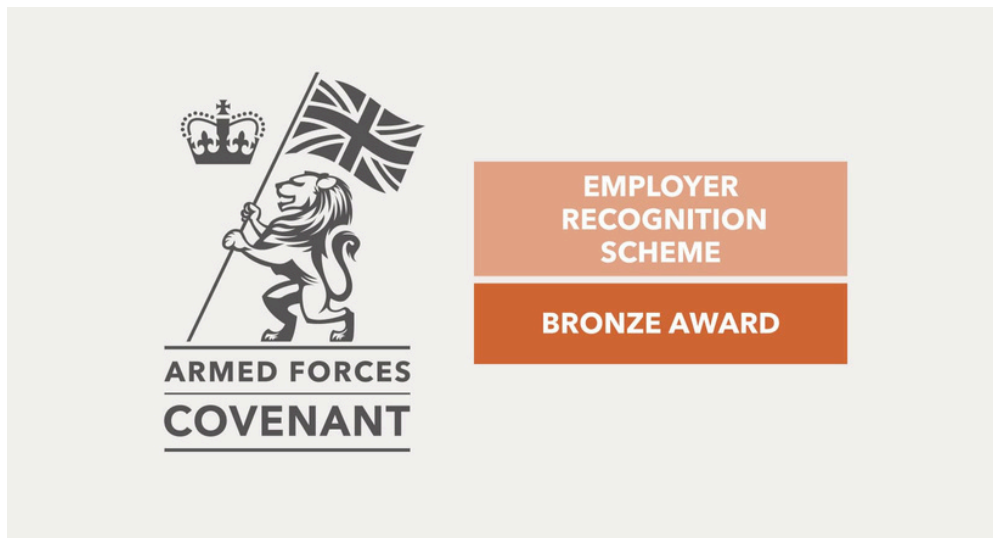
Apocalyptic Grill

Thank you for always supporting our Armed Forces Community.









We are proud to share that Fleetwood Town Council has signed the Armed Forces Covenant and have gained a bronze award back in 2024.

We will continue to support our local Armed Forces Community.

Bronze award holders are self-nominated by employers who pledge to support the armed forces, including existing or prospective employees who are members of the community: must have signed the Armed Forces Covenant promote being armed forces-friendly and are open to employing reservists, armed forces veterans (including the wounded, injured and sick), cadet instructors and military spouses/partners receive an electronic certificate and logos to display on their website, stationery and other collateral.



Huge Congratulations to Adam Diver who has joined the Board of Directors (Voluntary) at Healthier Heroes CIC. For more information about Healthier Heroes CIC and what support they provide for our Armed Forces Community, visit their website on <http://www.healthierheroes.co.uk/>