

Cornwall Armed Forces Day

County Hall 22nd June 2026

Around 50 people gathered on the lawn at County Hall to be welcomed by Cllr Rob Nolan Chairman of Cornwall Council, Lord Lieutenant Edward Bolitho and High Sheriff Harriett Hills.

Together with various Forces luminaries looking resplendent in their uniforms despite the heat of the day.

A rendition of The Poppy Red by the Military Wives Choir opened proceedings, speeches ensued before everyone gathered in The Long Gallery to hear an explanation of Armed Forces week by Cllr Martyn Alvey, Chair of Cornwall Armed Forces Covenant Board and Jon Beale of Wessex RFCA. This was followed by covenant signing by Cornwall Council – Redruth Town Council - Saltash Town Council – National Coastwatch Institution and presentation of a Bronze Award to Falmouth Town Council.

Two startling statistics came to light: firstly the number of Service personnel, 30,000, associated living within Cornwall and secondly the number associated in the SouthWest, 250,000. If one adds family, relatives etc one can gather we have a big commitment to ensure service personnel and their dependents receive the support of our towns and administrations whilst on active service or as retirees.

In my interview I remarked:

Saltash has long been involved with all the armed forces for many decades even centuries and by signing this covenant confirms my Councils commitment of ensuring serving personnel, their families, relatives and friends have the reassurance of our unwavering support.

Our Town processions though Fore Street and commemorations at Remembrance Day serve as a physical reminder to all our residents and service personnel – past, present and future – of our appreciation of their service and sacrifice to our Country.

We have a Peace Garden recently refurbished with flowers and decorated pebbles signifying personal losses, an active Royal British Legion and a veterans Association frequently visited by our Councillors.

