

Working in the Community



At work in Rawtenstall

Veterans in Communities (VIC) is an ex-services charity based in East Lancashire. Established in September 2012, VIC supports ex-service personnel, their families and members of the uniformed services who have experienced difficulties re-integrating with the community on returning to civilian life.

The armed forces and the emergency services have developed a range of skills and expertise during their service careers, it is these skills and experiences VIC share with the wider community. VIC actively encourages our members to take responsibility and ownership of the projects we undertake.



Dismantling a children's play for High Level in Rochdale

Our members are the lifeblood of VIC and through our activities and community projects they have the opportunity to become accustomed to working within a civilian environment and build up social and professional networks.



Accrington Rotary Club bonfire build

In 2013 and 2014 VIC have worked across Rossendale and Rochdale. We have been involved in a number of projects that have supported the local community and we involve community groups in these activities. Our members have had the opportunity to undertake a number of courses including; dry stone walling, risk assessment, tree cutting and coppicing, marshalling of events and maintaining tools and equipment.



Marshals at a mountain bike event in Rossendale

We have provided marshals at a number of community and sporting events in East Lancashire. The experience and skills gained through a military career enhances the level of discipline and being able to work under pressure that being a marshal involves.

VIC has been able to support other ex-service personnel living in the community unable to do some of the general maintenance around their homes due to age or their disability.



Building a living willow structure in Whitworth



Dismantling a shed for an elderly veteran in Haslingden

To mark the Commemoration of the start of the First World War, VIC have been awarded some funding from the **Heritage Lottery Fund** to clean, maintain WW1 graves at the **Bacup and Stacksteads Cemetery**.

As part of this undertaking, VIC will research those soldiers and working with local schools and the local community remember and record those who did not return from the war.



Renovating a house for a young family affected by cancer