

# FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 13    SPRING 2002

ISSN: 1473-2335





# THE OBJECTIVES OF FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

1. To monitor the condition of war memorials and to take steps to ensure that local authorities and other relevant organisations are alerted to such condition with a view to their undertaking any necessary restoration, essential maintenance, repairs, renovations and cleaning.
2. To liaise with secular and ecclesiastical authorities, regiments and other responsible bodies with a view to their accepting responsibility for, and undertaking repairs to and restoration of, war memorials.
3. To publicise and to educate and inform the public about the spiritual, archaeological, artistic, aesthetic and historical significance of war memorials as part of our national heritage; to encourage support groups and to inspire young people to cherish their local war memorials and the memory of those who sacrificed their lives in the cause of freedom.

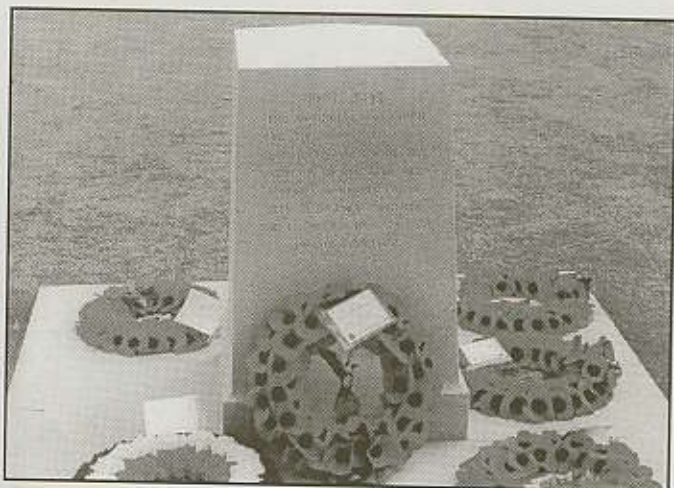
## REGIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Regional Volunteers are members who act as FoWM's eyes and ears locally and inform us of war memorials and rolls of honour in their area that need attention. We very much appreciate RV's assistance in a number of tasks. We may let them know of cases that need local knowledge, or they could relay details of war memorial problems and local contacts to us. We also ask RV's to attend re-dedications on our behalf and perhaps to lay a wreath where appropriate. RV's do as much or as little as they are able and, in effect, act as "reservists" to be called upon when needed, as well as being correspondents when they see fit.

We now have nearly 200 Regional Volunteers countrywide and extend a warm welcome to new RV's who have joined us recently. For a full list of RV's by area and information about becoming a Regional Volunteer, please contact Jane Gaskell at FoWM.

## Kent

RV John Rowe represented FoWM at the unveiling of a new memorial at St Lawrence Cemetery, Ramsgate. The Dunhallow block of Portland stone marks the site of 61 WWII graves which have hitherto been without a memorial.



The Dunhallow block at Ramsgate

Photo by John Rowe

## Staffordshire

RV Ray Cope has been spreading the word about FoWM and its work at local events. Using material readily available from FoWM's office he has designed his own FoWM display which was well received at, amongst others, Foxfield Railway open day. **Jane Gaskell would like to hear from other RV's interested in doing something similar.**



FoWM stand at Foxfield Railway

Photo Ray Cope

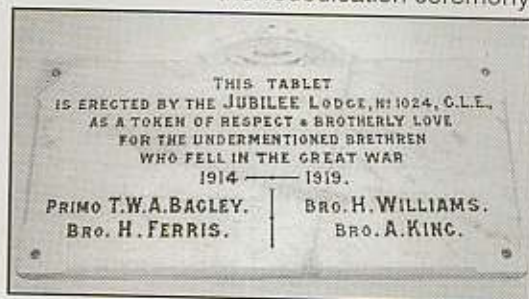
## Wiltshire

Bristol RV Sara Mills is keeping a watchful eye on war memorials in her area and reports that Steeple Ashton war memorial, Wiltshire, has recently benefited from some care and attention.

Steeple Ashton War Memorial  
Photo by Sara Mills



Another RV, Lt Col Howard Hughes RLC, has assisted the Wiltshire Historical Society in relocating a discarded war memorial plaque to the St John Ambulance County HQ in Devizes. The WWI plaque commemorates four members of the Ancient Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes and was rescued from a skip by local stonemason Jim Winchcombe. Wadsworths Brewery sponsored the plaque's restoration and provided refreshments after the rededication ceremony.



The restored plaque in its new location  
Photo courtesy of Rod Priddle, WHMS

## London

RV Neil Bright became interested in WWI via research on his great uncle who died on The Somme in 1916. He is now researching the names on the war memorials at his old school, the former Brockley Secondary (later Brockley County Grammar) in Lewisham and aims both to lay a wreath on each man's grave or relevant battlefield memorial and to produce a booklet about them for the school's old boys society. Neil will lay wreaths for Old Brockleians at Tyne Cot and Thiepval in April and is happy to share the information he has compiled.

Contact Neil by e-mail on:  
grandboko@yahoo.com



## FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS NEWSLETTER

ISSN: 1473-2335

Published QUARTERLY by  
Friends of War Memorials  
4 Lower Belgrave Street  
London SW1W 0LA

Telephone: 020 7259 0403

Fax: 020 7259 0296

e-mail:

fowm@eidonet.co.uk

website:

www.war-memorials.com

Registered Charity Number: 1062255

### Patron

The Countess Mountbatten of Burma  
CBE CD JP DL

### President

Winston S. Churchill

### Vice-Presidents

The Earl Nelson

Josefina de Vasconcellos MBE

Spike Milligan CBE

### Area Patrons

#### England

General Sir Brian Kenny GCB CBE

#### Wales

Major General the Rev R M Llewellyn CB OBE

#### Scotland

Lieutenant General Sir Norman Arthur KCB JP

#### Northern Ireland

The Lord Molyneux of Killead KBE PC

### Trustees

Winston S. Churchill

The Lord Cope of Berkeley

Tony Martin

Val Ross

Peter McCormick

John Peat

Nick Hewitt

Meg Hillier

The Hon. Tim Lewin

J. G. Cluff

### Secretary & Treasurer

Douglas R. Johnston

### Director General

Sir Donald Thompson

### Conservation Officer

### & Newsletter Editor

Maggie Goodall

### Fund-raising & Events Manager

Jane Gaskell

### Membership Secretary

### & Website Manager

Amy Louise Flint

### Charity Manager

Niki Pratt

### Newsletter Design

Peter Kent-Baguley

### FRONT COVER

Streatham War Memorial

Photo by Mr G Farthing

Typeset & Printed by

pf Design & Print Centre

Elland, West Yorkshire, HX5 0AB

Tel / Fax: 01422 310280

## FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 13 SPRING 2002



614 Squadron Memorial at RAF Pengam Moors  
(now Cardiff Airport)

Photo by FoWM member Sgt Miller

### DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Sir Donald Thompson

As you are probably aware, May 4th - 12th is Local History Week and war memorials are an integral part of our local heritage. Friends of War Memorials already has a number of Regional Volunteers and supporters participating in events in their areas, but more volunteers able to co-ordinate a small FoWM display at a Local History Week event would be appreciated. Even if there is not a formal event near you, perhaps you would be willing to distribute FoWM Newsletters or leaflets to your local school, library, doctor's surgery waiting room etc? It all helps to promote FoWM's aims and objectives.

More and more of you are helping throughout the year to co-ordinate FoWM displays at events and it is heartening to see how many organisations generously give FoWM free space - a six foot table is often all that is necessary. If you are willing to arrange a display in your area do let us know as we can provide literature and loan display material. Some supporters have made their own display boards but another helpful suggestion has been to make an appeal on local radio - there are often companies who are upgrading their exhibition material and are willing to donate their surplus boards. Further information about Local History Week events can be found on The Historical Association website: [www.history.org.uk](http://www.history.org.uk).

On a rather different note, we've received wonderful comments about FoWM's Christmas puddings and send our thanks to everyone who bought one and to the Ultimate Plum Pudding Company, which supplied them. The splendid profits on sales will assist FoWM to repair one of a number of war memorials currently stored for us at the Royal Hospital Chelsea by kind permission of the Adjutant, Brigadier Ross. Don't worry if you missed out on the Christmas puddings as we will be selling them again this year! Not only are they delicious eating but they also make excellent Christmas presents!

4

The 2002 London Marathon  
FoWM Maritime News  
The Experience Corps

5

FoWM Donor Reception  
Art Competition  
Fiction

6

Review of FoWM's Grants  
Small Grants Scheme

7

Funding Update  
8 & 9

War Memorials News  
10

Selected Appeals  
11

How you can help FoWM  
Items for sale  
12

Forthcoming Events  
War Memorial of the Month



## NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

### The 2002 Flora London Marathon

Six energetic Friends of War Memorials supporters from diverse backgrounds are running this year's London Marathon to raise funds for FoWM's work with war memorials.

**Sara Doughty**, originally from Lancashire but now London-based, works in the pharmaceutical industry and though she has been running for about 10 years ran her first marathon only last year. Crossing the finish line she immediately decided, despite the aches and blisters, that she wanted to do it again - faster!

**John Wrathmell** is originally from Yorkshire and gained his interest in historic monuments from his parents, an archaeologist and an historic buildings expert. After graduating from Oxford where he read Ancient and Modern History, John moved to London to work for think-tanks studying education policy and is now a researcher for Bristol West MP Valerie Davey. Like Sara, who is also a keen tennis player, John's sporting interests extend beyond running - to cricket, football and rowing.

**Chris Barrow** was in the Physical Training Branch of the Royal Navy, serving on HMS Invincible, HMS Leeds Castle and HMS Lancaster, and twice represented Portsmouth in the Command Field Gun Competition at the Royal Tournament. After leaving the Navy a year ago Chris set up a retail business in Clitheroe, Lancashire with his partner **Cheryl Morris**, selling outdoor clothing and climbing equipment. **Cheryl** grew up in Helensburgh, Scotland where her father was based as Warrant Officer submariner. After taking a degree in Physical Education, she taught sport for Dunbartonshire Council and later spent five years with the Lancashire Constabulary, serving at Accrington and Great Harwood.

**Lt Nick Holmes** is currently serving with the 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers and **L/Cpl Mark Corbet** with the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment.

FoWM is very grateful to John Spurling of the Flora London Marathon Committee who secured our six places and to our six runners for undertaking the 26 mile challenge on its behalf. Staff and volunteers will be out around the course on **April 14th** to cheer them on. **If you would like to sponsor the Friends of War Memorials team, contact Amy Flint at FoWM on telephone 020 7259 0403 or via e-mail: fowm@eidosnet.co.uk**



*Sara Doughty on the finish line of the 2001 London Marathon*



*John Wrathmell*



*Chris Barrow*



*Cheryl Morris  
- all photos courtesy  
of those pictured*

### FoWM Maritime News

FoWM Maritime is delighted to report after four years' hard campaigning that the Under Secretary of State for Defence, Dr Lewis Moonie, has announced greater protection for wrecked military vessels and maritime war graves through application of the 1986 Protection of Military Remains Act. Vessels that meet specific criteria will henceforth be designated as Controlled Sites where diving without a licence will be prohibited, or as Protected Places where diving will be permitted only on a "look but don't touch" basis. Following initial designation of 16 wrecks under UK jurisdiction as Controlled Sites and five in international waters as Protected Places, the MOD will carry out rolling assessment of all other known British military wrecks. The intention is that all such vessels on which lives are known to have been lost will eventually be safeguarded. Though the PMRA had existed for 15 years its provisions had never before been invoked so Dr Moonie's announcement is an important step in making disturbance of and removal of items from such wrecks illegal.

### FoWM and The Experience Corps

The Experience Corps is a new Home Office initiative to encourage people in the 50+ age group to volunteer and so share their skills and experience for the benefit of their community, and to identify and match suitable opportunities to volunteers. The project was launched on January 30th by the Corps' Chair, Baroness Sally Greengross OBE and the Home Secretary the Rt Hon David Blunkett MP. Opportunities in England will be co-ordinated by Experience Corps regional animators and it is hoped that volunteers will be able to assist with practical work to improve the condition of war memorials and their settings, such as horticulture, hard-landscaping, maintenance and research. Friends of War Memorials is helping the Corps to identify suitable sites so if readers know of war memorials in their area that would benefit from the scheme, please contact Maggie Goodall at FoWM with details. **Further information about the Experience Corps is available from [www.experiencecorps.co.uk](http://www.experiencecorps.co.uk)**

Friends of War Memorials is grateful to **DFS Furniture Ltd** for sponsoring production of its Winter 2001 Newsletter and new colour leaflet.

If you or your company would like to sponsor a future Friends of War Memorials leaflet or publication, please contact Sir Donald Thompson on telephone 020 7259 0403



## NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

### FoWM Donor Reception at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea

On November 26th, 2001 Friends of War Memorials held a reception at the State Apartments at Chelsea to thank major donors and supporters for their valuable contributions and to encourage new ones to get involved in FoWM's work. Guests of honour were the Royal Hospital Adjutant, Brigadier Ross, by whose kind permission the reception took place, and a number of Chelsea Pensioners. Following Brigadier Ross's welcome to Chelsea, FoWM's President, Winston S Churchill, outlined the charity's achievements to date and ongoing aims, followed by formal thanks from the Director General, Sir Donald Thompson, to FoWM supporters past and present. The FoWM exhibition and memorials selected from those we have in store at Chelsea were on display to illustrate the continuing threats to war memorials; and FoWM staff and volunteers were on hand to answer questions about the organisation and its activities. The splendid refreshments were kindly sponsored by Langan's Brasserie and Peter Stringfellow, and entertainment was provided by musicians from the Royal College of Music who performed wartime songs. Many thanks to the Gillington family and our colleagues from the Burma Star Association for their kind practical assistance on the night.

Chelsea Pensioners  
Left to right:  
Sgt Geoff Payne,  
In pensioner Frank E J Chambers,  
In pensioner John F Dean



From right to left:  
Winston and Mrs Churchill,  
Sir Donald Thompson



From right to left, David Levy,  
FoWM Treasurer Douglas Johnston and  
Fundraising & Events Manager Jane Gaskell

Help Friends of War Memorials to keep its mailing record up to date:

If you move house or change your e-mail address, please let us know on telephone 020 7259 0403, fax 020 7259 0296 or e-mail: fowm@eidosnet.co.uk

**Crimestoppers:**  
0800 555 111  
Your call is free.

You do not have to give your name.

You may receive a reward.



Retired Sgt Eric Skentelbery shares his family history research with FoWM Charity Manager Niki Pratt

### FoWM Fiction

#### The Memorial Tree

by Sgt Walter Scott RAF (WOP/AG No 630 Sqd)

"No trespassers" the sign proclaims,  
As I pass by it, from the lane,  
Through long grass, rippled by the breeze,  
Forward to the brooding trees.

Footsteps muffled by thick leaf mould,  
Like skeleton hands, the low twigs hold,  
They catch my sleeves, as if in fear,  
That I shall find their secret here.

Now suddenly, a clearing, split  
When a dying, plunging, aircraft hit.  
A brass plate, fastened to a tree,  
On it seven names stare out at me.

I press my fingers to the plate,  
Thinking back to that night of fate,  
That night of flame, and naked fear,  
When a stricken bomber crashed right here.

Now, as I leave this place of death,  
The clearing seems to hold its breath.  
On looking back, did I really see  
Seven figures there, by the great old tree?

Back in the lane, back in the sun,  
Back from the time, when I was young,  
I have just seen what I came to see,  
A brass plate on an old, old tree.

Walter Scott joined the RAF in 1941 and was posted to No. 630 Sqdn at East Kirkby, flying Lancasters in numerous operations over Europe before demob in 1946. This poem is taken from **One Step to Heaven** (ISBN 901284 28 X) one of a series of seven books of airforce poetry compiled by military historian Rod Priddle, priced at £4.25 inc p&p. For a complete list of books in the series or to order copies contact: Wilbeck & Lewbar, 90 Victoria Road, Devizes, SN10 1EU



Reedham Marshes air crash memorial  
Photo by FoWM RV John Rowe  
(See page 9)



## Friends of War Memorials Grants

### Quinquennial Review of FoWM Grants

2002 is an important year for Friends of War Memorials. Not only does it mark the centenary of the end of the South African wars (1899 - 1902) which gave rise to many significant war memorials; but it is also FoWM's 5th Anniversary, FoWM having been registered as a charity in 1997. It therefore seemed a good idea to start the year by taking stock of FoWM's grant-making and related activities and quantifying how many war memorials the organisation has assisted financially (directly or indirectly) to date. Between 1998 and the end of 2001, FoWM awarded grants totalling £18,787 to 115 projects via its Small Grants Scheme, funded courtesy of The Halifax plc. In addition, FoWM made direct grants of £1,725 to 8 projects from its own resources in 2001. Since 1998 FoWM has also channelled £37,285.60 in indirect grants to 11 projects - for example £2,000 was given towards relocation of a memorial at Aleppo, Syria, which commemorates the last engagement of WWI in the Middle East, to remove it from the path of a new motorway. This makes an impressive five year total of £57,797 in grants to 144 war memorial projects of all types: repair, restoration, conservation and the creation of new memorials.

FoWM's recent casework figures (420 new cases and 240 general enquiries in 2000, 368 new cases and 387 general enquiries in 2001) and the steady demand for grant aid seem to indicate not only that FoWM's work to raise awareness of the significance of and need to care for war memorials is bearing fruit via a greater willingness to tackle war memorial problems, but also that FoWM is increasingly the body to which people turn for advice and assistance.



*Memorial at Aleppo, Syria commemorating the last engagement of WWI in the Middle East between the 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade and Turkish forces, October 28th, 1918.*

*Photo courtesy of Col R Martin, British Embassy Damascus*

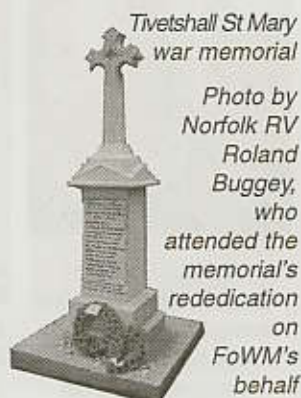


*Liskeard war memorial*

*Photo by Niki Pratt*



*Martock war memorial  
Photo courtesy of J G French*



*Tivetshall St Mary war memorial*

*Photo by Norfolk RV Roland Buggey, who attended the memorial's rededication on FoWM's behalf*

### Friends of War Memorials Small Grants Scheme

Friends of War Memorials is able to give grants of up to £250 per project to assist war memorials of all types, thanks to the generous support of **The Halifax plc** and **The Clothworkers' Foundation**. There are no geographical restrictions or listing requirements and application is via a form available on request from Maggie Goodall at FoWM. Recently completed grant-aided projects include:

Refurbishment of the Glendale war memorial on Tower Hill, Wooler, Northumberland; and repair of Liskeard war memorial, Cornwall.

*RV Janet Brown laid a wreath on behalf of FoWM at the rededication of the Glendale memorial - Photo courtesy of the Northumberland Gazette*



The creation of a memorial stone dedicating a room in the new village hall in **Oaksey**, Wiltshire in memory of all those from the parish who served in war or conflicts; and adding further names to **Kershader** war memorial, Isle of Lewis.

*Kershader war memorial  
Photo courtesy of Mr K MacKay*

New hard-landscaping around the war memorial at **Martock**, Surrey, replacing an overgrown hedge with a new stone kerb; and repair and relettering of the war memorial cross at **Tivetshall St Mary**, Norfolk.

Relocation of figures from an exterior wall to a new memorial structure in the churchyard at St Andrew **Barnt Green**, Birmingham as part of work to create a new west end for the church building.

Restoration and relocation to **RAF Benson** of two private memorials (Cpl Norman Jones and AC/2 Kenneth Howes) rescued from a closed Oxfordshire churchyard by FoWM member Richard Polley.

*Barnt Green war memorial  
Photo courtesy of Mr C Buckett*

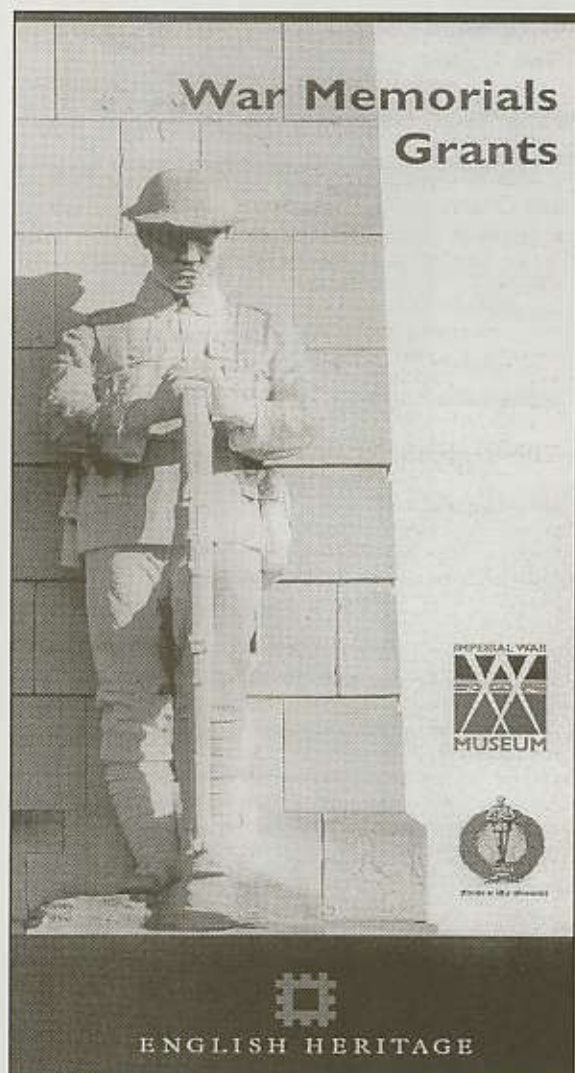




# FUNDING UPDATE

## English Heritage and FoWM War Memorial Grant Scheme:

Since it began in 2000, English Heritage's Grant Scheme for War Memorial Repair and Conservation has awarded £53,767 in grants to 22 projects in England, with further grants forthcoming. English Heritage has now extended the scheme for a further two years (April 2002 to March 2004) and has issued a revised information leaflet to coincide with the relaunch of the grant scheme. It is available both from English Heritage regional offices and from FoWM. The leaflet shows Fenton war memorial, Stoke on Trent, one of the first memorials to receive a grant from the scheme (£5,000 towards replacement of the soldier figure's hands and rifle which had been irreparably smashed by vandals) and another successful project, Barrow on Humber war memorial, East Yorkshire.



English Heritage's New Leaflet

### New Heritage Lottery Fund Grant Scheme

The HLF has launched a new grant scheme, *Your Heritage*, which will award grants between £5,000 and £50,000 to projects that care for, increase understanding of and access to the heritage and benefit the community. Repair and conservation of war memorials can be eligible. For details contact the HLF on Tel: 020 7591 6041 or see its website: [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)

Awards of 50% of eligible project costs up to a maximum grant of £5,000 are available from the scheme which is administered on English Heritage's behalf by Friends of War Memorials. To be eligible a war memorial must be Grade II listed in its own right and situated in a Conservation Area in England. Grants are awarded quarterly on the recommendation of a Grants Advisory Panel. Potential applicants can obtain information, application forms and advice from Maggie Goodall at FoWM and should note that applications cannot be made retrospectively. The latest successful projects are:

#### Iver, Buckinghamshire

£2,035 for repair and conservation of the elaborately decorated war memorial cross in St Peter's churchyard. The cross was designed by William Henry Ward of Bedford Square, London who was articulated to architect Sir Reginald Blomfield and who worked as a draughtsman for Sir Edwin Lutyens

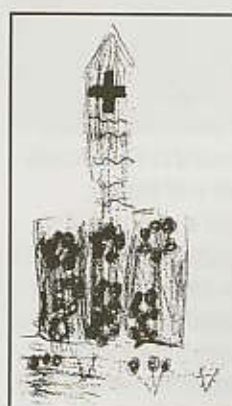
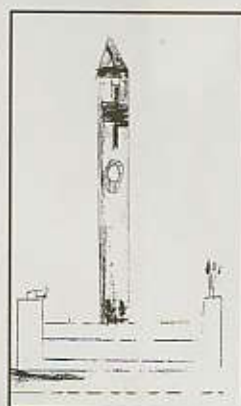


Iver war memorial  
Photo courtesy of Iver Parish Council

#### Histon, Cambridgeshire

Grant aid for repair of Histon and Impington war memorial cross, which was designed by local ex-serviceman and monumental mason Lieutenant F Baccus of Histon

### FoWM - Art Competition



Wymondham war memorial by Polly Seiboth and Thomas Cary both of Browick Road Infant School, Wymondham, Norfolk. (4 - 7 years category)

Don't forget to enter FoWM's art competition. There is no entry fee - just send in your artwork along with an entry form and you could be a winner. Age categories are 4 - 7 years, 8 - 12 years, 13 - 18 years and over 18. The closing date is May 7th 2002 and prizes include art books and materials and a year's free FoWM membership. For details and an entry form contact Amy Flint at FoWM or see the website: [www.war-memorials.com](http://www.war-memorials.com)



## WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

### Firemen Remembered

Some 400 firemen and women died in London alone during WWII. Familiar figures on the Home Front, fire-fighters' wartime experience was as unique and particular as that of other groups involved in the country's defence. They died in places Londoners pass every day - in buildings such as schools, churches and factories and in streets where their fire appliances were hit in raids as they worked. A plaque at Old Palace School, Beckenham commemorates the 13 London and 21 Beckenham firemen and women killed on the night of April 19th, 1941 when a bomb destroyed the school building being used as a sub-firestation - the largest single loss of Fire Brigade personnel in England.

Readers may be familiar with the Blitz Memorial at St Paul's (designed by John Mills in 1991) but less so with the work of *Firemen Remembered*, an organisation set up in 2000 by Fire Brigade historians, veteran wartime fire-fighters and relatives of those killed, to create memorials at sites where members of the Fire Service lost their lives between 1939 and 1945. The group is currently seeking charitable status and in addition to creation of commemorative



plaques is establishing an archive and educational resources.

**Further information is available from:**  
**Stephanie Maltman, Firemen Remembered,**  
 23 Thurlow Park Road, London, SE21 8JP  
 or e-mail: [stephaniemaltman@hotmail.com](mailto:stephaniemaltman@hotmail.com)

### The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Roll of Honour

The 50th Anniversary of the end of WWII in 1995 highlighted the fact that there was no comprehensive list of RNVR members killed between 1939 and 1945. The RNVR Officers' Association HQ building at 38 Hill Street, London, W1 was dedicated as a memorial in 1954 and it was decided to compile a Roll of Honour to be displayed there recording all those volunteers from the Empire and Commonwealth who had given their lives. Naval Volunteer Reserves are commemorated on CWGC-maintained memorials from Chatham in Kent to Halifax, Nova Scotia and Devonport, Auckland and there are RNVR graves in 523 CWGC plots in Britain alone. Now the names of all 6,200 RNVR officers and ratings have been drawn

### Bracondle School, Carrow Hill, Norwich

FoWM RV Colin Richardson is trying to find out what happened to a wall of wooden WWI panels from Bracondle School, which was demolished some years ago.

**If any readers have information, please contact Maggie Goodall at FoWM**



together in the Roll of Honour at Hill Street compiled by Commander Paula Vokes and unveiled by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh.

*RNVR Roll of Honour*

*Photo by Maggie Goodall*

### Memorials by Artists and The Memorial Arts Charity

*Memorials by Artists* is a nationwide service which helps individuals and groups to commission high quality memorials of all types for churchyards, cemeteries, commemorative gardens and other public spaces. It was founded by Harriet Frazer in 1988 after the death of her step-daughter and has overseen the creation of hundreds of memorials in Britain and overseas. Each of these memorials is unique - designed by one of almost a hundred independent artists/makers responding to a specific commission.

Memorials by Artists also runs *The Memorial Arts Charity* which works to promote and organise training in skills such as letter cutting which are associated with memorial-making. The charity also contributes to debate on the meaning of memorials and is planning a long-term exhibition of work on memorial themes in collaboration with the National Trust, following the success of its temporary exhibition at the Trust's Blickling Hall, Norfolk in 1998.

A free leaflet, a *Memorials by Artists* handbook (£6.50) and book *The Art of Remembering* produced to accompany the Blickling exhibition (£10.95 ISBN 85754 377 7) are available from **Memorials by Artists, Snape Priory, Saxmundham, Suffolk, IP17 1SA.**  
**For further information telephone 01728 688934 or see the website: [www.memorialsbyartists.co.uk](http://www.memorialsbyartists.co.uk)**

*New war memorial at Bottesford, Nottinghamshire, commissioned via Memorials by Artists and designed by David Parsley*  
*Photo by Brigadier Charles Smith*





# WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

## In Brief - War Memorials Restored

**Bishop's Stortford** war memorial, Hertfordshire has been cleaned, and the **391st Bombardment Group USSAF** memorial at Matching Green, Essex has been rebuilt after being damaged in a road traffic accident. **Highley** war memorial, Shropshire has been cleaned, repaired and a missing name (Pte William Gibbs of the Machine Gun Corps who died in 1917) added to its Roll of Honour. A WWI plaque originally from **Up Holland** Grammar School, Lancashire has been refurbished and rededicated at St Thomas the Martyr Church, Up Holland. The Railways Heritage Trust has grant-aided stone and metal conservation and repairs to the London and South West Railway war memorial arch at **Waterloo Station**. **Tamworth** war memorial hall, Staffordshire (formerly the waiting room for Tamworth General Hospital) has been reopened after refurbishment. Children from Old Warren School, **Lowestoft**, Suffolk cleaned the town's Royal Naval Patrol Service memorial after vandals pelted it with eggs just before Remembrance Day. A WWI plaque from the former St Ninian's Church, Bechin in Angus which had been in storage since 1963, has been returned to public view at the **Gardner Memorial Church, Brechin**.



Highley war memorial, Shropshire

Photo by Shropshire RV Clive Blakeway

A WWI war memorial in the Pine Woods at **Valley Gardens, Harrogate** formerly obscured by overgrown shrubbery is now clearly visible to passers-by again after the site was cleared by cadets from the Army Foundation College at Pennypot. The memorial records the names of local service people who died as a result of injuries rather than being killed in action. Damage caused to the **Battle of the Standards** memorial at Northallerton in Yorkshire when thieves stole its bronze shield and metal plaque in November 2001 is to be repaired. The stone obelisk marks the battlefield where King David of Scotland's army, invading England following the death of King Henry I, was defeated in 1138 by forces raised by Thurstan, Archbishop of York.

## LEGACIES

Your Will can help protect our memorial heritage. A legacy is the most positive way of contributing without costing you a penny during your lifetime.

To leave a legacy to FoWM:

See your solicitor to arrange for your wishes to be included in your Will. Your solicitor will be able to advise on how to word your Will, either with a fixed sum, or a share of your estate or a gift in kind.

In your Will you need to include FoWM's address and Registered Charity Number.

Your special legacy gift can help FoWM with the perpetual preservation of war memorials to those who lost their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

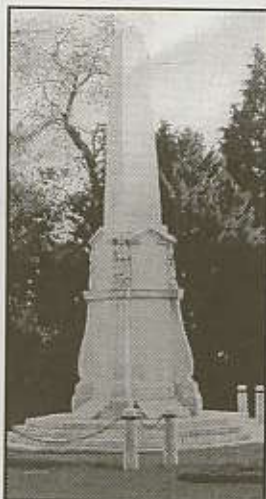
## New War Memorials

A new memorial wall has been built to supplement the existing Norwegian memorial at **North Weald Airfield**. A memorial stone has been unveiled at **Reedham** in Norfolk to commemorate the crews of two 385th Bomb Group USSAF B-17's who died in a mid air collision there in February 1944. The site was investigated by archaeologists from Channel 4's *Time Team* for a programme about the crash and the American airbase at Mildenhall arranged for an honour guard when the memorial was dedicated (see page 5 for picture). Secretary of the **Bargoed** branch of the Royal British Legion (Mid Glamorgan) Ray Thompson, has presented the town's library with three books commemorating the area's war dead.

**Sergeant Kenneth Walter Bramble**, a pilot with 609 Sqdn, The Royal Airforce Volunteer Reserve, killed in July 1941 and buried in Merville Cemetery in northern France, has been remembered on a new memorial in Fromelles, close to where his Spitfire crashed. The memorial was organised by a local historian, Joss Leclercq, who has been trying to trace Sgt Bramble's relatives - so far without success. If any readers can help, please contact Monsieur Leclercq at: Antiq'Air Flandre-Artois, 51 Route de Fromelles, 59249 Aubers, France or by e-mail: JossLeclercq@aol.com



Sgt K W Bramble memorial at Fromelles unveiled  
Photo courtesy of Joss Leclercq



Bishop's Stortford war memorial  
Photo by FoWM RV Neil Lemon

The site of the **Esquelbecq Massacre** (northern France) in which 70 British Soldiers were killed on May 28th, 1940 has been acquired by L'association La Plaine au bois, which has reconstructed the barn in which the massacre took place from photographic evidence to stand as a memorial. A memorial service was held there in November 2001 and the association is commissioning interpretation panels, which explain the site's significance to visitors.



## War Memorials Vandalised

FoWM is sad to report that the West End war memorial in **South Shields** has been so badly vandalised that it is having to be replaced by a completely new memorial; and that the Christ figure at the **Heroes' Shrine, Aldershot**, designed by FoWM Vice President, sculptor Josefina de Vasconcellos, has been vandalised.



West End war memorial, South Shields  
Photo courtesy South Tyneside MBC

## SELECTED APPEALS

*Friends of War Memorials is often approached to help in publicising projects to rescue or restore existing memorials, to create new ones, to assist with research about memorials and those they commemorate, and to make war memorials more accessible to the public. Here we are able to feature a small selection of the appeals that we receive.*

### Advance Laundries Ltd WWII Memorial

Mr Stogden of Pontypridd is trying to trace Advance Laundries WWII memorial plaque which was formerly located at the company's HQ, 19 Noel Street, London, W1. The company was dissolved in 1994 and its premises are now in alternative use. **If anyone knows what happened to the plaque, please contact Maggie Goodall at FoWM.**



Advance Laundries WWII memorial plaque (illustrated in the company magazine, *The Better Way*)

### Travelling Companions

FoWM member Dorrie Lopacka is planning a visit to Washington and Arlington Cemetery and is seeking travelling companions. Dorrie would make all the necessary arrangements for either an individual companion or a small group. **If you are interested in the visit, please contact her care of FoWM or by e-mail: dlopacka@aol.com.**

**Crimestoppers:**  
0800 555 111  
Your call is free.

You do not have  
to give your name.

You may receive  
a reward.

## The Yarmouth Navigator - A Floating Memorial

Yarmouth Navigator MFV 1502 was built in 1943 and carried troops and stores to Sword Beach on D-Day, later returning with the wounded. The "little" ship is now berthed at Dartmouth and the volunteers who work to keep her in sea-going condition are appealing for help to carry out more substantial restoration. Donations, materials and equipment, voluntary engineering expertise and space in a dry dock or on a slip to enable work to the ship's hull are sought. **If you can help, please contact: Lt Cdr JJ McGuire RNR (Retd), 5 Swan Court, Victoria Road, Dartmouth, Devon, TQ6 9EA**



Yarmouth Navigator entering Portsmouth harbour  
Photo by Brian Horton

## War Memorial Information for Schools

FoWM Hampshire RV, Deirdre Nicol, is gathering material on war memorials and related themes to form a talk to offer to 7 to 12 year olds at local schools. Deirdre is looking for short, interesting newspaper cuttings or anecdotes that would appeal to that age group (e.g. relating to children, animals and birds such as the pigeon post, trains, planes and anything ghostly) and photos would be appreciated. **If any readers can help, please contact Jane Gaskell at FoWM.**

## British Air Services Memorial, St Omer

St Omer airfield lies just 21 miles south of Calais and was the home of the Royal Flying Corps on the Western Front from October 1914. At the formation of the Royal Air Force in April 1918 over 4,000 personnel were based there and though the airfield still exists there is no evidence that it was once the largest operational station on the Western Front.

An appeal fund has therefore been set up to raise £20,000 to build a new memorial at St Omer to commemorate all members of the British Air Services who served on the Western Front in WWI. Donations are appreciated. **Contact Gordon Atkin, St Omer Appeal, 12 Springwater Avenue, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0 9RH (cheques payable to: Cross & Cockade St Omer Appeal Fund).**



Artist's impression of  
the St Omer memorial



# HOW YOU CAN HELP FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

To achieve its objectives FoWM needs your practical and/or financial support, for example, by joining as a friend, sending a donation, commercial sponsorship, becoming a Regional Volunteer, joining as a youth group and school fund-raising.

## FOR SALE

### **The Second World War**

by Winston Churchill

published by Pimlico 2002

1033pp with maps - ISBN 0 7126 6702 4

A limited number of copies signed by

FoWM President Winston S Churchill

are available at £25.00



### **For Your Tomorrow:**

#### **British Second World War Memorials**

by Derek Boorman - Published by D Boorman 1995,

173pp, illustrated, £15.00 inc p&p - ISBN: 0 9513654 1X

Proceeds go to FoWM

**Ties** - FoWM colour logo ties have now sold out. If there is sufficient demand, we will re-order. Expressions of interest to Amy Flint at FoWM

**Car Stickers** - FoWM colour logo - £2.50

**T-shirts** - White cotton

with FoWM colour embroidered logo on front LHS £12.50  
last few remaining - one size (large)

**Enamel Lapel Badge** - FoWM colour logo 1 1/8" high  
with safety fastening £3.00

*All prices are inclusive of post and packing.*

*Order by 'phone, fax, post or e-mail from*

*Friends of War Memorials*

*4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, SW1W 0LA*

*Tel: 020 7259 0403 Fax: 020 7259 0296*

*e-mail: fowm@eidosnet.co.uk*

## If you would like to help in another way

perhaps by **corporate giving** ☐

through a **trust fund** ☐

organising a **coffee morning, a special day** ☐

arranging a **sponsored swim, run, walk** ☐

or **other event**, please send us details ☐

### **Please send the whole page to:**

Sir Donald Thompson, Friends of War Memorials

4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, SW1W 0LA

e-mail: fowm@eidosnet.co.uk

web: www.war-memorials.com

**FoWM : Registered Charity Number 1062255**

## OUR HERITAGE IS PRECIOUS HELP US TO SAVE IT

Find enclosed the sum of

£.....

to be used exclusively for the aims of  
*Friends of War Memorials.*

### **Please tick as applicable**

annual membership (£20) ☐

as a life member (£100) ☐

by a single donation ☐

I pay tax so Gift Aid is appropriate ☐

Gift Aid is not appropriate ☐

Please send me legacy details ☐

Please send a Standing Order Form ☐

### **Gift Aid Declaration**

FoWM is grateful for all donations but tax payers may enhance the value of their contribution by 28p in the £ by gifting the tax to us via Gift Aid.

If you would be so kind as to sign the declaration below or tell us in some other way that you agree to Gift Aid, the tax now and in the future will be reclaimed by FoWM.

**I confirm that I pay income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the amount to be reclaimed on my donation.**

I will notify FoWM if I cease to pay tax or wish to countermand this declaration.

Signed.....

Print.....

Date..... (Spring 2002)

### **Your Details**

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

..... Post Code.....

e-mail: .....



# FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FoWM has a lively programme of events planned throughout 2002, including a Regional Volunteer seminar day, stand at the Imperial War Museum Duxford open days, local shows of all types, the SALVO event and English Heritage's *History in Action* weekend. Don't forget FoWM's AGM which this year will coincide with our annual Somme Day commemoration at The Cenotaph.

For a full list of FoWM's forthcoming events, please see the enclosed EVENTS LIST



Bristol RV  
Sara  
Mills's  
FoWM  
display  
stand at a  
local  
Christmas  
Fair in  
December  
Photo by  
Sara Mills

For further  
information about  
FoWM's  
forthcoming events,  
or if you would like  
to help out on the  
roadshow,  
please contact:

Jane Gaskell at  
Friends of War  
Memorials,  
4 Lower Belgrave  
Street,  
London, SW1W 0LA

Tel: 020 7259 0403

Fax: 020 7259 0296

e-mail:  
fowm@eidonet.co.uk

and see our  
website:  
www.war-memorials.com



Visitors at the FoWM stand at Duxford in October

Photos by Sara Mills



## On the Bookshelf

### *A Bitter Truth: Avant-Garde Art & The Great War* by Richard Cork

A carefully argued and splendidly illustrated book bringing together international examples of images resulting from the Great War's profound impact on the painters, sculptors and printmakers who participated in it. Yale University Press, 2001 - 320pp, illustrated ISBN 0-300-05704-4 £44.00

To order: Yale University Press, 23 Pond Street, London, NW3 2PN adding £4.50 for p&p.

### *Remember the Lads:*

#### *Memorials to Bomber Squadrons in Lincolnshire* by Pat Lyon

A pictorial tribute of memorial stones, plaques and stained glass commemorating the airmen and women of WWI who lost their lives in operations from Lincolnshire bases.

Available as an illustrated book (£8.00) or interactive CD Rom (10.95) plus £2.50 p&p from the author: P Lyon, PO Box 92, Boston, Lincs, PE22 8WA.

### *The War Memorials Handbook (Second Edition)*

Guidance on how to approach the conservation of war memorials and how to use the UK National Inventory of War Memorials as an information resource. Available from the Imperial War Museum shop at £4.99 or by mail order (add £1.00 for p&p) on telephone 01223 499353 or from: IWM Duxford Airfield, Cambs., CB2 4QR quoting reference BK9038

### *Britain's Maritime Memorials & Mementoes*

by David Saunders  
Patrick Stephens Ltd, 1996 £17.99

### *Not Just a Name*

by Roger Bullen

The background and service histories of the 50 men commemorated on the WWI memorials of Mersea Island, Essex

Mersea Island Museum Publications, 2000  
244pp, illustrated, ISBN 0-953732-1-5 £9.95 plus £2.50 p&p from the author on telephone 01206 383368 or by e-mail: roger@mersea48.freemove.co.uk

## WAR MEMORIAL OF THE MONTH

Do you have a favourite war memorial (in the UK or overseas)? If so tell us about it and about what makes that war memorial particularly special for you.

*War Memorial of the Month* is a new section in the Friends of War Memorials website. Starting from February 2002, each month we will feature a war memorial nominated by an FoWM member, volunteer or member of the public - and nominated war memorials may also appear in the FoWM Newsletter.

So get in touch and tell FoWM about what war memorials mean to you. Send details of your special war memorial (and a photograph if possible) to FoWM by post or e-mail and check the website: [www.war-memorials.com](http://www.war-memorials.com) to see the current war memorial of the month.

February's memorial was **Swanland**, East Yorkshire, nominated by FoWM Membership Secretary Amy Flint and March's is **Mortimer**, Berkshire, nominated by FoWM Conservation Officer Maggie Goodall.



Swanland -  
Photo by FoWM RV  
Mark Andrew



Mortimer -  
Photo by  
Maggie Goodall



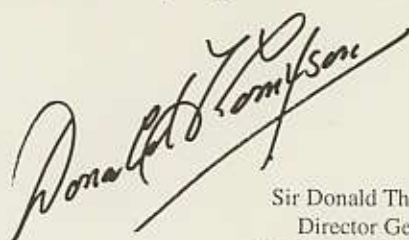
# Spike Milligan 1918 - 2002

We were saddened to hear of the death of our Vice-President,  
Spike Milligan,  
who passed away on Wednesday 27th February 2002.

He was a great pal to Friends of War Memorials; the simple fact that he immediately lent his name to our organisation gave credence and credibility to us, which we could not have found in any other.

Spike Milligan's name nestling on our notepaper amongst Admirals, Field Marshals, Countesses and Knights, delighted our members and us.

He will be sadly missed,  
as will so many of his generation which he and we are pledged to remember.



Sir Donald Thompson  
Director General  
Friends of War Memorials



*Spike Milligan with Sir Donald Thompson  
at the Friends of War Memorials Luncheon, June 2000  
(photo by David Hooper)*