

We Still Remember



Date: 25th May 2012

Status: Immediate release

Starts

War Memorials Trust (WMT) and the Imperial War Museums (IWM) are working in partnership, with the financial support of English Heritage (EH), to develop a single integrated web resource to facilitate access to wide ranging data on war memorials in the UK. It is intended that this resource will be interactive and an important tool in encouraging greater public engagement with our war memorial heritage, particularly as we approach the centenary of World War I. It will incorporate condition information which should help WMT operate more efficiently. The project has a working title of 'We Still Remember'.

At present the partners are reviewing an independent IT report outlining the potential future direction of the project. This review consulted the partners and other stakeholders, including some members of the War Memorials Action Group convened by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The We Still Remember partners recognise the importance of making the right decision which works for all partners and are ensuring they get the fundamentals of the project accurate.

The partners hope to have phase I of the project delivered this November which will be the basic building blocks of the project. The focus over the summer and early autumn will be on ensuring they can meet that target. Once the project is up and running the partners will be keen to promote and publicise this resource to encourage engagement. The partners are not, however, at this stage able to give further detail as they do not want to pre-empt the ongoing discussion or activate potential contributors before there is a system with which they can engage.

English Heritage recently released details of the project as part of their Next Steps for England's Heritage (www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/news/next-steps-englands-heritage/). In June War Memorials Trust members and supporters will be contacted as part of its annual Direct Mail appeal to seek their financial support to turn the project into a reality.

This project is important to War Memorials Trust as improved information on war memorials will provide the charity with a better understanding of the war memorials we are seeking to protect. The condition information will help us identify future demand for our advice and grant schemes. To help develop this project War Memorials Trust will be seeking specific funding to help deliver aspects of the work alongside the funding available from English Heritage and the resources available to the project from the Imperial War Museums through the UK National Inventory of War Memorials.

Ends

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