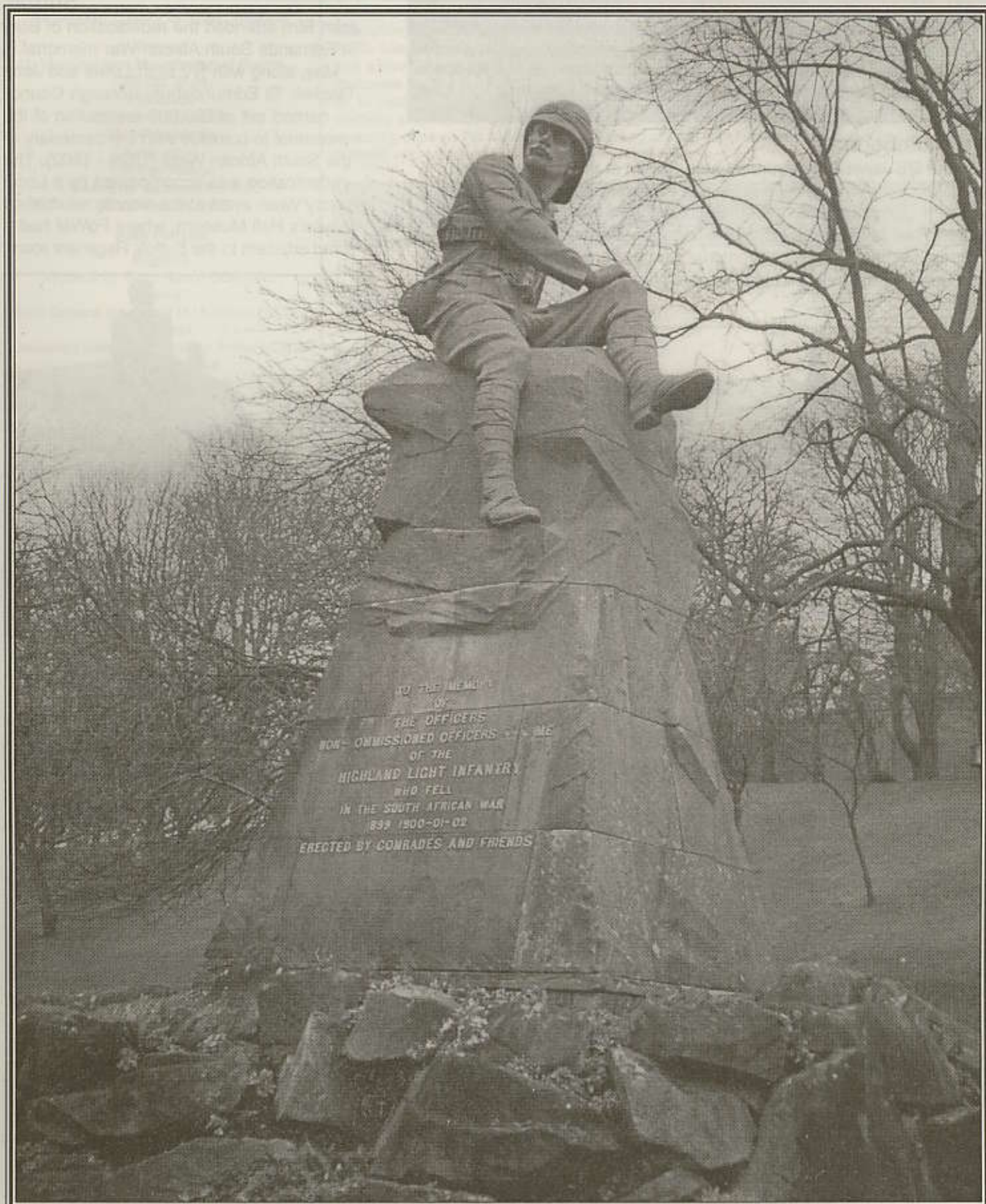


FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS



NEWSLETTER NUMBER 15 AUTUMN 2002

ISSN: 1473-2335



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 RVs 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 RVs to attend re-dedications on our behalf and perhaps to lay a wreath where appropriate. RVs 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 RVs who have joined us recently.

For a full list of RVs by area and to find out about becoming a Regional Volunteer, please contact Jane Gaskell at FoWM. We are always delighted to welcome new RVs in any area but would be particularly pleased to hear from potential volunteers in North Wales and Scotland.

Northumberland

In June RV Janet Brown represented FoWM at the dedication and opening of the new pavilion in **Pelton Fell** war memorial park, County Durham. Janet also attended the dedication of a new memorial at the former **RAF Milfield** airfield, Northumberland (now occupied by the Borders Gliding Club). The memorial was designed by Peter Fairness and unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Sir John Riddell.



The RAF Milfield memorial unveiled

Photo by Janet Brown

Bristol

A bronze and oak war memorial from the redundant Calvinistic Methodist Church, **Gelli**, Rhondda has been passed to FoWM for rehoming by RV Robert Mills. FoWM's Welsh Patron, Major General the Rev'd Morgan Llewellyn, is now working to secure a suitable new location for the memorial in the Rhondda area.

Gelli Calvinistic Methodist Church War Memorial.

Photo by Maggie Goodall



Cambridgeshire

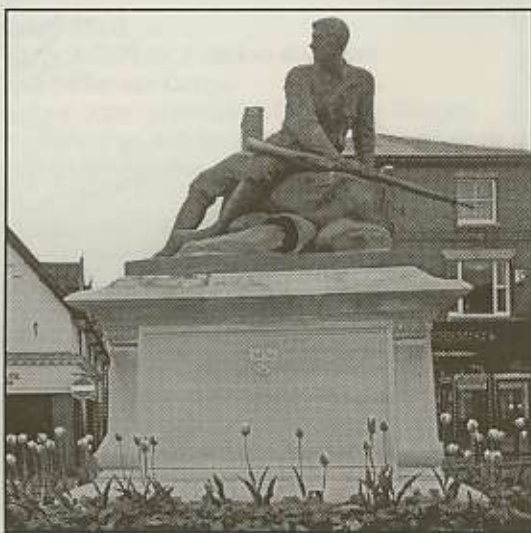
RV Brian Krill has been successful in securing the addition of a missing name to **Swaffham** war memorial, Norfolk. Private Robert James Alfred Davis was killed by a sniper at the Battle of La Basse in France on October 3rd, 1914, but his name was accidentally omitted from Swaffham's war memorial. The omission will now be corrected and the memorial rededicated at a special service in September.

North Yorkshire

RV Eric Forster represented FoWM at a service to commemorate the Leeds Pals who died in the first wave of the attack in the Battle of the Somme on July 1st, 1916. A thousand Pals went over the top that morning, but only fifty answered roll call the same evening. The service took place at the memorial cairn that stands on the site of the Pals training camp at **Breary Banks**, Colsterdale.

Suffolk

John Bird attended the rededication of Bury St Edmunds South African War memorial in May, along with RV Bryn Lewis and Jane Gaskell. St Edmundsbury Borough Council carried out at £20,000 restoration of the memorial to coincide with the centenary of the South African Wars (1899 - 1902). The rededication was accompanied by a Local History Week event at the recently refurbished Moyse's Hall Museum, where FoWM had a stand adjacent to the Suffolk Regiment room.



Bury St Edmunds South African War Memorial after restoration

Photo by Jane Gaskell



Bryn Lewis with the FoWM stand at Moyse's Hall Museum

Photo by Jane Gaskell

Looking for a Speaker?

Janet Brown offers an illustrated talk on war memorials of Northumberland, suitable for local or military history or other interest groups. For details, please contact Jane Gaskell at FoWM.

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FRONT COVER

Highland Light Infantry South African
War Memorial, Kelvingrove Park,
Glasgow, 1906 by Birnie Rhind
Photo by Maggie Goodall

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FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 15 AUTUMN 2002

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.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Maggie Goodall

Erratum: In Roland Buggie's article on War Memorials in The Falklands (Newsletter No 14, page 6) the number killed in 1982 should have read 255, not 225 as printed.

Enclosures with this issue:

- The Ultimate Plum Pudding Company - Christmas Puddings order form.
- FoWM Special Whiskies - an ideal accompaniment for the Christmas Pudding?
- Regional Volunteers list by area, as at the end of July 2002.
- Many parish magazine editors are now including brief articles about FoWM. If yours would like a short article, for example to coincide with Remembrance Day, please do pass on the sample text enclosed. (Printed on the reverse are David Graves' article about FoWM and the editorial from the Daily Telegraph, July 4th).



South African War Memorial,
Duncombe Place, York

Photo by Maggie Goodall

Friends of War Memorials Christmas Cards

We still have some of last
year's Christmas cards
available at
the special price of
£1.50 per pack of
5 cards (inc p&p).

Chose from a celtic war
memorial cross and
trees in black and white,
or a winter landscape with
war memorial cross in
colour, both designed by
FoWM's Amy Flint.

To order and for
information about this
year's designs, contact
Amy Flint at FoWM.

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Sir Donald Thompson

An outstanding recent event - tinged with sadness - is the influx of donations and new members following two items in the *Daily Telegraph* about FoWM and its work to rescue and protect war memorials. Around 300 people contacted FoWM as a result of an article and editorial which appeared on July 4th and we have received generous donations amounting to some £12,000. The sadness is the tragic death in a diving accident of David Graves, the journalist who wrote the article. FoWM has conveyed its sympathies to Mr Graves' widow and family.

FoWM's Somme Day commemoration at The Cenotaph on July 1st was again a brave show, with some 60 FoWM members and guests in salute to those who gave their lives on that day in 1916. Next year, we hope that participants will each bring a sprig of laurel so they may join the wreath layers. The ceremony at The Cenotaph was followed by a very successful AGM and, acting on suggestions made at the AGM, we hope next year to provide tea after the meeting so members will have a chance to meet each other informally. FoWM continues to go from strength to strength. A sincere thank you for all your support and encouragement.

New Vice-Presidents for FoWM

FoWM is delighted to report that two new Vice-Presidents have joined us recently. Mrs Sara Jones is the widow of Colonel 'H' Jones, who won the VC but was killed during the Battle for Goose Green in the Falklands campaign of 1982. Simon Weston OBE is a Falklands veteran, injured in the Argentinian attack on the Sir Galahad. It is very appropriate that they should join us in the year which marks both the 20th Anniversary of the Falklands War and the 5th anniversary of FoWM's registration as a charity.



Simon Weston
OBE

Photo courtesy of
Simon Weston

We are very
grateful to
DFS Furniture
for their
sponsorship
of this
newsletter

www.dfs.co.uk

Marathon Update

We continue to receive sponsorship and donations as a result of four energetic FoWM supporters running the London Marathon in April. Chris Barrow and Cheryl Morris presented a cheque for £1004 to Sir Donald Thompson in May, and GSK have pledged £500 in addition to the sponsorship Sara Doughty has already raised. Thank you again to John Spurling OBE for his help in securing places in the Marathon for FoWM's runners.

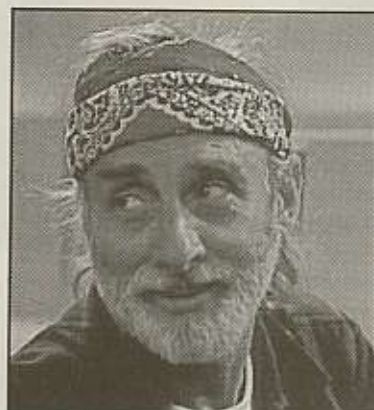


Cheryl Morris and Chris Barrow on the finish line.
John Wrathmell strides out on Tower Bridge



Remembering Spike

Maggie Goodall represented FoWM at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Spike Milligan KBE, held at St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square on June 24th. Along with readings by Stephen Fry, Eddie Izzard, Peter O'Toole and Joanna Lumley, the service included a recording of Spike's fellow-Goon the late Harry Secombe singing *Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*, and a personal tribute by Eric Sykes who recalled his collaboration with Spike: "We were very close. It was a small office." Spike Milligan was a staunch supporter and Vice President of FoWM and has been missed since his death in February, aged 83.



Spike
Milligan

Photo
courtesy of
David
Hooper

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

FoWM's 2002 Somme Day Commemoration and AGM

At 11.30 am on Monday July 1st, 60 FoWM members and guests assembled in Whitehall to remember those who died on the first day of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. After the Last Post and Reveille had been sounded by bugler Ian Hook, Keeper of the Essex Regimental Museum, FoWM's President, Winston S Churchill and England Patron, General Sir Brian Kenny laid laurel wreaths at The Cenotaph. We were delighted that WWI veteran, Mr Fred Bunday, was able to join us for the ceremony and to lay a wreath, accompanied by Amelia Stephens, grand-daughter of Leicestershire Regional Volunteer, Chris Stephens. Amelia was given special permission by her head teacher to attend the ceremony and has written a report on it to share with her classmates. The wreath laying was followed by prayers, conducted by Brother Nigel Cave, while Chelsea Pensioners Kenneth Mee and Martin McLane stood sentinel at The Cenotaph. It was wonderful to see so many people on the morning, and we are grateful to the Metropolitan Police who stopped traffic in Whitehall for the Minute's Silence. Unfortunately, Taff Gillingham and Khaki Chums were unable to join us as planned, due to rail-service disruption caused by an earlier accident.



Winston S Churchill
and
WWI veteran
Mr Fred Bunday

*Photo by
Maggie Goodall*

General
Sir Brian Kenny
and Chelsea Pensioner
Martin McLane

*Photo by
Maggie Goodall*



LEGACIES

Legacies are an important way for charities to receive funds. Did you know that only 13% of wills include a charitable bequest, yet that 13% produces an amazing £1.5 billion in funding each year?

For many of the more established charities, legacies form an important aspect of regular fundraising. As Friends of War Memorials is still a relatively young charity, we have yet to receive regular legacies - on the one hand we are delighted to report this fact, but it should be remembered that all legacies have the advantage of relief from Inheritance Tax, and enable donors to plan their giving.

Please consider remembering war memorials in your will. All you need to do is advise your solicitor of the amount you wish to give, FoWM's name and its registered charity number. For further information, contact FoWM Charity Manager, Niki Pratt.



Regional Volunteer
Chris Stephens,
Amelia Stephens and
Mr Fred Bunday

*Photo by
Maggie Goodall*

Chelsea Pensioners
Martin McLane (L)
and
Kenneth Mee (R)
stand sentinel at
The Cenotaph

*Photo by
Maggie Goodall*



Following the Somme Day ceremony at The Cenotaph, The Friends of War Memorials AGM was held at the Victoria Park Plaza. The meeting was preceded by a fascinating illustrated talk by David Crellin of the Victorian Society on the war memorial work of architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. Appropriately for the day, David focused on the concept, design and creation of The Cenotaph, relating and comparing it to other Lutyens memorials, such as the All India arch in Delhi (1917-1931) and the Memorial to the Missing at Thiepval on The Somme (1927-1932). Members then heard reviews of FoWM's structure, finances and progress from the Director General, Sir Donald Thompson and Treasurer, Douglas Johnson. They were pleased to report that the charity is on a sound financial footing and successfully pursuing its objectives, with the assistance and support of its members, Regional Volunteers and others. Amy Flint, Jane Gaskell and Maggie Goodall gave their annual reports on FoWM's membership, fund-raising, events and other publicity, conservation and publications, and looked forward to future progress. FoWM's Trustees also expressed special thanks to Charity Manager, Niki Pratt and office volunteer, Martin Shorthouse for their valuable work.

The AGM concluded with a question session, which produced both updates on members' activities in support of FoWM and many helpful suggestions. As a result, a list of Regional Volunteers by area will be circulated with the Autumn 2002 mailing and at next year's AGM name badges and an opportunity to meet informally after the business of the meeting has been concluded will be provided. (Copies of AGM papers and of FoWM's report and accounts are available on request from Niki Pratt at FoWM - please enclose A4 sized s.a.e.)



Ian Hook sounds the Last Post
Photo by Maggie Goodall

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

Chindits and Camels, Guards and Ghurkas - The War Memorials of Westminster

The sun shone brightly for FoWM's guided walk around the war memorials of Westminster, on June 27th. Led by Blue Badge Guide Sarah Fordham, the walk began on the Embankment to see the Belgian Gratitude and Camel Corps memorials (and the unexpected bonus of a herd of London Cow Parade fibreglass bovines grazing in Embankment Gardens). The walk then moved on to visit, among others, the Tank Crew, Ghurka, RAF, Chindit and Fleet Air Arm memorials around the MOD, and the Guards and Royal Artillery South African memorials at Horse Guards. The Canada memorial in Green Park provided a stylistic contrast to both the earlier monuments and London's newest war memorial, the Commonwealth Gates on Constitution Hill, before the walk concluded at Hyde Park Corner with the Machine Gun Corps and Royal Artillery WWI memorials. The walk emphasised the number and immense variety of war memorial designs within just one area of London and Sarah's entertaining and detailed commentary and anecdotes fascinated the group.



Sarah Fordham recounts the exploits of the Imperial Camel Corps

Photo by Maggie Goodall



The group considers the symbolism of the Guards memorial - Photo by Maggie Goodall

Local History Week May 5th - 12th

FoWM received much interest and support from organisers of Local History Week events countrywide. We are also grateful to everyone (too numerous to list here) who helped by distributing FoWM literature or co-ordinating a display at events where we had been offered space. For example, the **Forest of Dean History Society** event, to which RVs Brian and Hilda Kemp took an FoWM display and where Brian was interviewed by the local press and radio; and **Great Barr Primary School History Roadshow**, where RV Dorrie Lopacka co-ordinated an FoWM exhibition, and was very impressed by the children's interest in war memorials.

FoWM Fiction *War Memorials* by Diana Good

We, grown old, remember them each year
in chiselled names on war memorial stone
On village green they knew and played upon
in rural innocence of cosmic fear -
Or urban dirt-grimed monuments forlorn
passed daily without a troubled thought
of what they stand for, or how dearly bought
with unbroken minds and bodies bloody torn.

The Unknown Soldier, lying in his tomb,
a still reminder of war's wasteful price,
holds past and present in his sacrifice.
(but not, God's mercy) that still yet to come.
While he, the victim of unlooked-for-fame,
in stately loneliness, yet waits a name...

Boring but important!

If you are a tax payer, please take a moment to read about Gift Aid

As you know, all donations received by Friends of War Memorials can potentially be augmented by Gift Aid, an incentive from the Government which increases donations by 28 pence in the pound. The average monthly repayment for FoWM from the Inland Revenue is £650. All you have to do is sign the Gift Aid declaration included in our membership/donation form, and we here in the office will do the rest. Even if you haven't used the form, you need only telephone us and advise us that your donation is eligible for Gift Aid purposes.

Higher rate tax payers may be entitled to higher rate relief for payments made under Gift Aid. In your tax return, question 15 asks *Do you want to claim any of the following reliefs?* All you need to do is complete box 15.5 and advise the Inland Revenue of the total amount of payments you made to charity in the tax year (not just to Friends of War Memorials). The Inland Revenue will then calculate any relief due to you.

Here is a further opportunity for charitable giving: we have recently been advised by HM Treasury that the recent Budget allows higher rate payers to nominate a charity to receive any tax repayment due. So if you are feeling extra-generous, may we suggest that you nominate FoWM to receive that tax repayment?

If you have any queries about Gift Aid and donations, please contact Niki Pratt, FoWM's Charity Manager, or your financial adviser.

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

British War Memorials in South Africa -

A special report by Alastair Cowan

One of the most decorated WWI aces was Flt Lt Beauchamp-Proctor VC DSO MC&bar DFC whose memorial is in Mafeking cemetery, but which is threatened by dead trees that could be blown down at any time. There is no money to fell them safely.

Responsibility for the maintenance of British military cemeteries in South Africa was delegated many years ago to the predecessors of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) to whom the Ministry of Defence gives a meagre £15,000 per annum. The predictable result in a country with other more pressing problems is a deteriorating situation that would shock those more used to the immaculate CWGC cemeteries in France and elsewhere. (The CWGC is concerned only with WWI and WWII.) Most of the 300 or so burial sites of the 25,000 who died in the Boer War are away from the most visited and generally well-kept tourist areas. To this number should be added memorials to those killed in the Zulu and Frontier Wars.

Such memorials are considered by the MOD to be the responsibility of those who erected them and their successors, mainly regiments and families, but there are signs that this may change for South Africa at least. Many of the regiments have either been amalgamated more than once or have long since ceased to exist and, as many of their memorials are located beside others in military cemeteries, it hardly makes sense to maintain one and ignore the other. For many of those soldiers who died and were buried on the veldt where they fell, these memorials are their only commemoration.

My own former regiment, the Manchesters, together with the King's with whom they are now amalgamated, raised £6,000 to restore their two memorials at Ladysmith and provide sufficient funds for future maintenance. The work was supervised by Ladysmith Historical Society, which is typical of the volunteer element that ensures that work commissioned from the UK is carried out properly in South Africa. This kind of private initiative is more than welcome, but something more is needed to tackle the overall problem.

Surveys covering more than 80% of the burial sites have been carried out and passed on to the MOD. The result is an internal report recommending the expenditure of £150,000 on the sites over 5 years. This has been agreed by the Minister, Dr Lewis Moonie, but the project must compete with others for funding priority. The immediate prospects therefore are not encouraging and it hardly does this country credit that, by comparison, the South African government provides £650,000 per annum to the CWGC for

Alastair Cowan is FoWM's adviser on British war memorials of all dates and types in South Africa

its WWI and WWII dead.

Rather than depend on the vicissitudes of UK government policy, the answer for British war memorials in South Africa may lie in the formation of a charitable trust, which could make some immediate impact, albeit on a smaller scale than first anticipated. Such a trust could work in co-operation with SAHRA, but with funds for individual restoration projects channelled through volunteer groups, whilst we continue to campaign for a firm government commitment along the lines already suggested by the MOD.



Rededication of the restored Manchester Regiment memorial, Caesar's Camp, Ladysmith on the 100th anniversary of the lifting of the siege.



The Duke of Wellington's Regiment memorial at Winburg. Where there is already neglect, deterioration and vandalism soon follow.

Damaged memorial at Harts Hill, Natal to Queen Victoria's "brave Irish" the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Scrub clearance, improved access and better signage would reduce incidences of vandalism at the memorial



The King's Regiment memorial at Geluk where 16 men are buried within an enclosure whose wire fence is so badly rusted that cattle graze over the graves. £100 would be sufficient to build a new wall

Friends of War Memorials Grants

Friends of War Memorials Small Grants Scheme

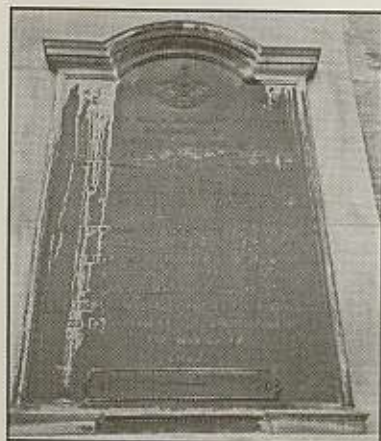
is able to give grants of up to £250 per project to assist war memorials of all dates and types, thanks to the generous support of

The Halifax plc, The Clothworkers Foundation and The Dulverton Trust.

The Small Grants Scheme is primarily targeted towards the conservation and repair of existing war memorials, but related work such as landscaping, and the creation of new memorials are also eligible. There are no listing requirements or geographical restrictions and grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Maggie Goodall at FoWM for more information, to request an application form or to discuss a potential application.

In the 2002 calendar year to date, FoWM has made offers or awards totalling £4,200 to 22 projects. Grant aided projects carried out recently include:

Professional cleaning and conservation of the bronze WWI **Sherwood Foresters** memorial plaque on the tower wall at St Peter's Church, Nottingham. The plaque had suffered from the effects of weathering and its restoration completes the final phase of work to the church tower. Cleaning and repair of the war memorial cross in **Elsham** churchyard, Lincs.



The Sherwood Foresters memorial, Nottingham, before restoration.

Photo by Maggie Goodall

Replacement of outdated bowling facilities at **Pelton Fell** war memorial park, County Durham, with new pavilion (see newsletter No 13, page 8)



The new pavilion at Pelton Fell

Photo by Maggie Goodall

LEGACIES

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Please consider remembering war memorials in your will. All you need to do is advise your solicitor of the amount you wish to give, FoWM's name and its registered charity number. For further information, contact FoWM Charity Manager, Niki Pratt.

The purchase and conversion of **Horncastle** war memorial hospital, Lincolnshire, to community use. The Grade II listed hospital was built as a public dispensary in 1886 to the designs of Bellamy and Hardy of Lincoln and was converted for cottage hospital use in 1924 as a WWI war memorial. When the building closed in 1999, local people formed a committee to save it by purchasing and converting it to a new use. Led by Councillor Bill Aron the committee raised £270,000 and John Roberts Architects Ltd refurbished the building for use as a surgery, health centre, day nursery, meeting place and offices. The new War Memorial Centre was officially opened by Lt Col John Dymoke and Mrs Susan Dymoke on June 3rd. Lincolnshire Regional Volunteer, David Hooper, represented FoWM at the opening ceremony.



The Horncastle war memorial hospital prior to conversion
Photo by Cllr Bill Aron



Mrs Susan Dymoke opens the new War Memorial Centre
Photo by David Hooper

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 over £59,000 in grants to over 20 projects, with further grants forthcoming. English Heritage has now extended the scheme for a further two years (April 2002 to March 2004). The forms in 2000-2002 application packs are still valid, but a revised and updated information leaflet has been issued to coincide with the grant scheme's relaunch. Supplementary guidance in the form of a model war memorial condition survey checklist is also now available to assist applicants in preparing their grant application.

Awards of 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of £10,000 are available from the grant scheme, which is administered on English Heritage's behalf by Friends of War Memorials. To be eligible a war memorial must be freestanding, 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, which will next meet on September 17th and December 11th, 2002. Information leaflets and application packs are available from English Heritage regional offices and from FoWM - please contact Maggie Goodall for further details, advice or to discuss a potential application.

The latest successful projects are:
Bilton in Ainsty, North Yorkshire, £1,350 for the professional investigative cleaning, relettering and repair of the Bilton and Bickerton WWI war memorial in St Helen's Churchyard, built in 1920.



Bilton and Bickerton war memorial

Photo courtesy of Mr C Jones

Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire
 £1,625 for repairs to and conservation of the roadside WWI war memorial with its square base, supporting column and tabernacle top.



Heritage Lottery Fund

Heritage Lottery Fund Update

In addition to the grant schemes specifically directed towards war memorials (such as Friends of War Memorials Small Grants Scheme and English Heritage's Grant for War Memorial Repair and Conservation), other grant-making bodies also run schemes for which war memorials can be eligible. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is one such body, whose *Awards for All*, *Local Heritage Initiative* and *Your Heritage* grant schemes are all particularly relevant.

Awards for All

In partnership with other National Lottery distributors the HLF makes grants of between £500 and £5,000 through Awards for All to small community groups countrywide (usually groups with an annual income of less than £15,000). Awards for All aims to broaden understanding and appreciation of a place's heritage by helping local groups to introduce people to or extend their experience of this heritage. This scheme also encourages peoples' participation in practical activities such as maintaining, recording and interpreting their local heritage. Grants of up to 100% of project costs are available and applications are usually processed within 12 weeks. For more information telephone 0845 6002040 or visit the website: www.awardsforall.org.uk

The Local Heritage Initiative

The HLF funds the Countryside Agency's Local Heritage Initiative (LHI) grant scheme for rural areas. Grants of between £3,000 and £25,000 are made to local community groups and the scheme can fund up to 95% of a project's cash costs. LHI regional advisers can offer guidance on projects, which must be started, supported and implemented by local people. The scheme is designed to help investigate, explain and care for local landscapes, landmarks, traditions and culture. Applications for projects that aim to conserve a war memorial but at the same time involve local people in researching its history, connections and significance are more likely to be successful. For more information telephone 0870 9000401 or visit the website: www.lhi.org.uk (At present, the LHI applies only in England, call the number above for updates on Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.)

Your Heritage

This is a simple and quick application process for HLF grants of between £5,000 and £50,000, funding up to 90% of a project's costs. The scheme is designed to support projects that protect sites and objects of historic importance, increase understanding and enjoyment of heritage and improve access to and involvement with heritage. For more information telephone 020 75916042 or 6043 / 6044 / 6045 or look on the website: www.hlf.org.uk



Castle Camps war memorial

Photo courtesy of Ms M J Furner

WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

Commonwealth War Graves Commission 85th Anniversary

The CWGC celebrated its 85th anniversary on May 21st with a reception at St James's Palace, in the presence of The Duke of Kent and with the Secretary of State, Dr Geoff Hoon and a number of Commonwealth High Commissioners in attendance. Dr Hoon, who is also Chairman of the CWGC said: *"It was the original aim of Major General Sir Fabian Ware . . . that every man or woman who has lost their life should be remembered . . . on a headstone or memorial and that there should be no distinction on account of rank, race or creed. It was, and is, a worthy cause."*

Falklands Update

On June 16th the annual Falklands Service of Remembrance took place at the Falklands Memorial Chapel, Pangbourne, Berkshire. This year, the 20th anniversary of the Falklands War, the service included blessing the site of a new memorial cairn. The **Stone From Home** project invites anyone who wishes to bring a stone to the chapel in memory of the British servicemen killed in 1982. Students from Pangbourne College will build the stones into a memorial cairn later this year. Among the first stones presented were one from the grounds of Government House, Port Stanley, sent by the Governor of the Falklands Islands on behalf of The Queen and one from Kingswear Beach, Devon sent by Colonel 'H' Jones' widow, Sara. The tradition of constructing memorial cairns from random stones is an ancient one, but particularly appropriate for a Falklands memorial as after the fighting ended in 1982, servicemen built memorials to their comrades from rough stones found on the battlefield. These still stand today. *For more information, see the South Atlantic Medal Association website: www.sama82.org.uk*

New War Memorials

The new Pipers memorial at Longueval on The Somme, designed by sculptor Andy de Comyn, was unveiled on July 20th. **Andy de Comyn will be talking about the design and creation of the memorial at FoWM's war memorial study day on October 10th - see page 16 for details.** New plaques have been added to the Loughton war memorial, Essex, to record the names of those who were killed in WWII. Construction of the new **Commonwealth Gates** on Constitution Hill was completed in May and the memorial will be officially dedicated in November. A new granite obelisk has been erected in **Dudley**, West Midlands to commemorate all local people who have died in war and conflict. A bronze

STANDING ORDERS

Joining Friends of War Memorials or renewing your existing membership?

Why not consider paying your subscription by standing order?

It's easy and convenient for you and also helps FoWM to keep its administration costs down.

Contact Membership Secretary, Amy Flint, at FoWM for a standing order form.

sculpture of a pilot by Kate Denton and stone plaques by Burlite Ltd were unveiled at **West Malling** airfield, Kent in June to commemorate the Spitfire pilots (including **Dam Buster** Guy Gibson) and others who served there in WWII.



New memorial at West Malling, Kent

Photo courtesy of Gordon Newton, Burlite Ltd

Conscientious objectors imprisoned at **Richmond Castle** in WWII are remembered in a new garden created by designer Neil Swanson as part of English Heritage's Contemporary Heritage Gardens project. City Gate Church in Brighton and church and community leaders from South Africa have been working together to research and commemorate the loss of 670 men in the sinking of the troop ship **SS Mendi** on February 21st, 1917. The ship was carrying the South African Native Labour Contingent, including Chief Hendry Bokleni of Mampondomiseni and his warriors, to assist with trench digging and stretcher bearing in France, when it was accidentally sunk by an allied vessel. The group has held services of reconciliation in the UK and has agreed to erect matching memorial stones overlooking the Channel and in the Eastern Cape. A new memorial stone has been unveiled at **Coldstream** to commemorate Flt Lt Richard Hillary and Sgt Wilfred Fison of the RAFVR who died in a crash there in 1943. A new plaque to veterans of the **Suez Campaign** (1947-1954) will be unveiled at Larkhill Garrison Church in December.



The new obelisk at Dudley

Photo by Regional Volunteer Dorrie Lopacka

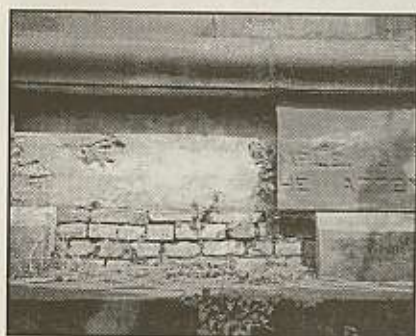


Baroness Flather officiates at the Commonwealth Gates topping-out ceremony
Photo courtesy of The Commonwealth Gates Trust

WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

War Memorials Restored

In May this year **Nottingham** celebrated its Arboretum's 150th anniversary, which coincided with a £1 million Heritage Lottery Fund grant for restoration of the park's landscape and buildings. Among these is the Bell Temple, a Chinese-style pavilion originally built to house a temple bell brought to Nottingham after the Opium Wars (1839-42 & 1856-60). The structure also serves as a Crimean War memorial, with canons placed at each corner of its square plinth, two replicas and two captured at Sevastopol. After years of neglect and as a result of the HLF grant, by Autumn 2002 the Chinese Bell Temple *will once again be a splendid commemorative feature standing at the Arboretum's highest point*, says Roger Greenwood of Landscape Design Associates, who has overseen the work.



The Bell Temple's damaged plinth prior to restoration

Photo by Maggie Goodall

Work in progress to restore the Bell Temple

Photo by Maggie Goodall



FoWM's new Regional Volunteer for Fife, James Jamieson has been instrumental in arranging cleaning and rewaxing of a bronze memorial plaque to **Cpl Thomas Peck Hunter VC** at Stenhouse Street West, Edinburgh. The plaque is a focal point on the front of a block of five cottages, built in Cpl Peck's memory for the use of ex-servicepeople in need of accommodation.

Bronze plaque commemorating Cpl Thomas Peck Hunter VC, Edinburgh

Photo by James Jamieson



Dodworth war memorial

Photo by Bert Mincher

Drummers from the Duke of Wellington's Regiment at Dodworth

Photo courtesy of local press



Caring for War Memorials

Flt Lt Spike Elliott of OC141 Boston Squadron ATC is leading ATC cadets aged 13-18 years in a project to care for an obelisk, set up in a remote spot at **Sibsey**, Lincolnshire to commemorate the crew of a Lancaster bomber killed in a crash in 1944. The cadets plan to carry out an annual inspection and routine maintenance of the memorial, and to mount an honour guard at the Bomber Command Association parade there each October. The Exmouth 531st Tribute Fund has built a war memorial wall in **Exmouth**, Devon, to commemorate the two U.S. regiments based there prior to D-Day, and all Allied Forces. The fund holds a D-Day parade and organises a summer fete each year to raise funds to maintain the memorial.

The start of a campaign to raise funds for the restoration of **Dodworth** war memorial, Barnsley was marked by a march-past of drummers from the Duke of Wellington's Regiment who were in Barnsley to commemorate the regiment's 300th anniversary. The Grade II listed war memorial with its sculpture of a WWI soldier is expected to cost some £40,000 to restore. The memorial plaque to the "combat camera" units of WWII, the Army Film and Photographic Unit and RAF Film Production Unit, has been rededicated after enhancement of its setting at **Pinewood Studios** in Surrey.



Allied wreaths at the Exmouth memorial during the 2001 D-Day parade

Photo courtesy of Lionel Howell

WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

Cyclops Workmen Honoured

Walsall NHS Trust has commissioned a new granite plaque for its Pleck Road premises to replace a damaged memorial commemorating workmen from the Cyclops factory killed in WWI. The Hospital's Sterilization and Disinfectant unit was built on the former factory site in 1989, but the memorial plaque was retained. When the stone became damaged, the NHS Trust contacted the UK National Inventory of War Memorials for assistance in tracing its original Roll of Honour before commissioning the replacement plaque, which will be dedicated by the Hospital Chaplain on November 11th.



Replacement plaque commemorating workmen of the Cyclops factory, Walsall

Photo courtesy of Derek Penrose, Walsall NHS Trust

Wreath Laying at Ducey St Marguerite

On June 28th, members of the Tyneside Scottish and locals took part in a ceremonial procession and wreath-laying at the 1st Tyneside Scottish memorial at Ducey St Marguerite, Normandy. On July 1st, 1944 the Battalion was involved in a fierce battle with German Panzers near Rauray and suffered heavy casualties. The memorial to those lost in this encounter was erected in 1979 and has been tended by local people ever since.



Rauray veterans Sapper Bill Hudson (L) and Sgt Sam Swaddle (R) at the 1st Tyneside Scottish memorial

Photo by Kevin Baverstock, whose father also fought at Rauray and whose book about the battle "Breaking the Panzers" was published by Sutton Publishing in July

No Fitter End Than This?

Tickets are now available for FoWM's war memorials study day to be held in London on **Thursday October 10th** 10.30am to 5.00pm.

The morning session focuses on the war memorial movement, FoWM, the UK National Inventory of War Memorials, grant funding and war memorials as public sculpture.

The afternoon session concentrates on case studies: commissioning and designing new memorials, and caring for existing memorials.

Speakers include Jo Darke of the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association, sculptor Andy de Comyn, stone carver Tim Crawley (Fairhaven of Anglesey Abbey) and Harriet Frazer of Memorials by Artists. Details and tickets priced at £40 (including refreshments and lunch) available from Maggie Goodall at FoWM

Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111
Your call is free.

You do not have to give your name.

You may receive a reward.

More New Memorials

Seven aircrew killed when their Lancaster crashed in Leicestershire en route to RAF Market Harborough in 1945 have been commemorated on a new plaque at **Foxton** village hall. A war memorial garden has opened at Thiepval Barracks, **Lisburn** to remember 20 officers and soldiers of 321 Squadron RLC who have died on bomb disposal duties in Northern Ireland. The garden includes a specially commissioned mural of Belfast by artist Kelvin Hunter. A new plaque has been erected at **Horsforth** Museum to record the adoption of HMS Aubretia by people of the town in Navy Week 1941, and the ship's role in recovering an Enigma coding machine from German submarine U110 in May of that year. A campaign has been launched to create a memorial to the endeavours of **Canterbury** civilians who saved many of the city's landmark buildings from incendiary bombs in the air raids of 1942. A new D-Day memorial was unveiled in **Bedford, Virginia, USA**, in May. The town was chosen as the site of the 44ft tall granite arch and bronze sculpture of a soldier struggling to help a wounded comrade, as the role of its 116th Infantry regiment at Omaha Beach meant that the tiny town suffered the highest death toll per capita of any in the USA.

D-Day memorial, Bedford, Virginia, USA

Photo courtesy of The Sunday Telegraph



Historian in Court

An aviation historian appeared at Hove Crown Court in June on charges of plundering the grave site of a WWII pilot. Andrew Saunders of Hastings admitted digging up the remains of Flying Officer George Kosh and his wrecked Hawker Tempest fighter plane in a field near Rye. The plane crashed whilst trying to shoot down a V1 rocket in 1944 and Mr Kosh's remains had lain undisturbed since then, until Mr Saunders dug up the site and removed an amulet and bracelet belonging to the pilot.

He did not remove any of the human remains, which were later exhumed by an RAF crash recovery team.

WAR MEMORIAL NEWS

A letter from America

Wendall Phillips of Milwaukee, National Chaplain of the China, Burma, Indian Veterans Association writes with his reflections on the veterans' reunions he attends.

Why do we travel to places near and far to attend these reunions? Why do we feel that it is so important that we continue to get together in small groups and large groups as often as we can? When we consider, at this time in our lives, where we have been and what we have as a common bond, we know, even without thinking, why we do these things. We do them because we care for one another.

We were so young when we answered our countries' call those many years ago. But, we remember who we were - why we were there - we cannot forget the sights, smells, and the challenges of living and fighting in lands that we had only read about or heard of, half way around the world. Each one of us is a walking history book of knowledge attained because we were there. Yes, we remember the good times and the sad times of our experiences. In this, the autumn of our lives, memory is kind. It fogs the dark valleys and highlights the mountain tops of our lives. The harshness in our memories begins to fade as we mellow - and reminisce together. But, we veterans are the fortunate ones - so many young lives had their history cut short before they experienced much of that life. They gave the greatest sacrifice for the cause of freedom.

So, it is really not just for ourselves that we get together. We do this for those who have answered the last roll call - both from wartime and, of course, those who have left our realm since. We are here because it was their sacrifice that made it possible for so many to enjoy freedom and justice and liberty. Although the world is still far from perfect, it is better for having known all those who gave so much. We can never pay our debt to those who have answered the last roll call - but we can and we must always honour their memory. This is why we consider it so important that we continue to get together as often as we can, for as long as we are able. We honour and respect their memory - the knowledge gained from having touched their lives and their having touched ours.



Great Valley CIBVA stone, West Park, Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA
Photo by Wendall Phillips

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

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 special for you.

War Memorial of the Month

is a popular new section in the Friends of War Memorials website, where we feature a different war memorial each month. Memorials can be nominated by anyone: FoWM members, Regional Volunteers and members of the public, and will appear on the website and in the Newsletter.

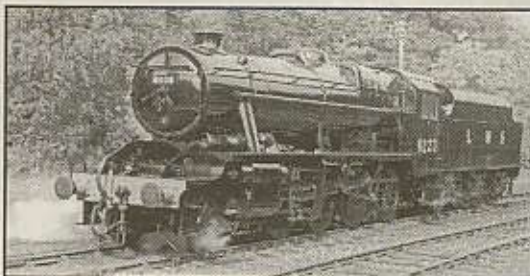
So, get in touch and tell us about what war memorials mean to you. Send details of your special war memorial (and a photograph if possible) to FoWM by post or e-mail: Fowm@eidosnet.co.uk and check the website www.war-memorials.com to see the current War Memorial of the Month



September's War Memorial of the month was Penzance WWI, Cornwall, designed by Sir Edwards Warren, FRIBA & nominated by Mr Freely of Penzance.
Photo courtesy of UKNIWM

Mobile Memorial on the Move

A new Roll of Honour to the 345 military members of the Corps of Royal Engineers (Sappers) killed in WWII will be dedicated at Kidderminster Town Station on the Severn Valley Railway on **November 3rd 2002**. Afterwards, a wreath will be placed on the front of the railway's mobile war memorial, Stanier 8F locomotive 48773, which will then haul the 12-00 hours train service to Bridgnorth and back. More details are available on the website: www.8fsociety.co.uk Anyone interested in the November event should contact George Moon at 33 Stodden's Road, Burnham on Sea, TA8 2DA



Stanier 8F locomotive LMS 823 (now No 48773), dedicated as a war memorial in 1986

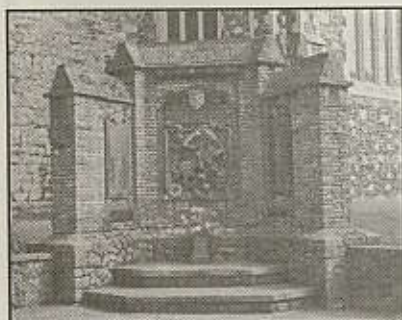
SELECTED APPEALS

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.

Sandwich, Kent

Ann Claringbold is researching the names recorded on the Sandwich war memorial for an exhibition and future publication. She would like to hear from anyone with documents, photographs, letters or other information that could assist her with her task. (All material will be returned and will only be copied with the owner's permission).

Contact Ann at: Little Orchard, Sandown Road, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9PA or e-mail: d.a.claringbold@virgin.net



Sandwich war memorial

Photo by Ann Claringbold

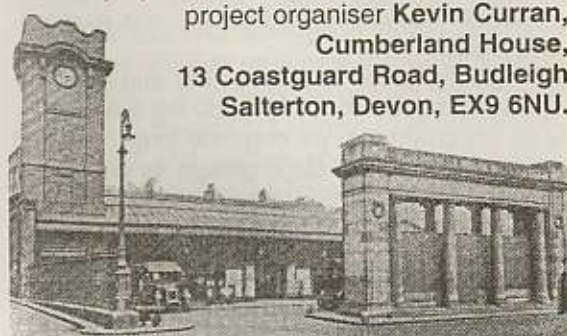
Far East POW Memorial, London Borough of Camden

Councillor Roger Robinson is leading a campaign to raise £5,000 for a new FEPOW memorial to stand in Lincoln's Inn Fields. The memorial will be dedicated to all military and civilian prisoners who suffered and died in the Far East in WWII. If you wish to contribute to the project please send your donation, payable to the *Camden New Journal* (which is holding funds for the project) to the paper at **40, Camden Road, London, NW1** and mark the envelope *POW Memorial*.

Great Central Railway Memorial

The Great Central Railway Company played a significant part in WWI: some 5667 special trains were run to transport troops, horses, vehicles and equipment; and 1304 company employees lost their lives on active service. A superb memorial arch designed by T E Cullcutt was erected to their memory in the forecourt of Sheffield's Victoria Station in 1922. The memorial was moved inside the station in 1937 and, when the station closed in 1970, the name plaques from the memorial were installed beneath the city's Wicker Arches viaduct. This has proved a particularly undignified setting in recent years and a

campaign has been launched to return the plaques to a new site at the Royal Victoria Holiday Inn Hotel (which was built in 1862 to serve Victoria Station). Following initial pledges of support, some £18,000 is still needed for the project. For information, please contact



Great Central Railway memorial in its original location
Photo courtesy of Kevin Curran

project organiser **Kevin Curran, Cumberland House, 13 Coastguard Road, Budleigh Salterton, Devon, EX9 6NU.**

Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111

Your call is free.

You do not have to give your name.

You may receive a reward.

Friends Needed

Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens Friends Group, Buckinghamshire, is seeking new members. If you would like to get involved, please contact: **Peter Bright, South Bucks District Council, Windsor Road, Slough, SL1 2HN**

Korean War Memorial, Perth

The Korean Veterans GB Trust is building a new memorial pagoda at Perth to commemorate the Korean War (1950-53). The memorial is to be dedicated on March 30th, 2003 but funds are still needed for its completion.

Contact: Mr R A Manning, KVGB Trust, 7b Smith Drive, Perth Aerodrome, PH2 6PL.



Mystery Memorial

FoWM member Mrs Hancock rescued this illustrated Roll Of Honour from an auction. The people it commemorates are from Torquay, Devon, and it is signed by artist G Sanguinetti. Do readers recognise the memorial? Please contact FoWM with any information.

Photo by Maggie Goodall

Looking for a Speaker?

Gordon Newton of Burlite Ltd, specialists in war memorial manufacture and restoration, offers an illustrated talk on war memorials. He does not make a charge but asks that a donation be made to FoWM (for which we are very grateful). Gordon restricts his presentations to one per month, available on a first-come first-served basis. If your group would be interested, please contact Gordon at Burlite Ltd on Tel: 01622 721077

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 War Memorials Handbook (Second Edition)

Guidance on the conservation of war memorials and using the UK National Inventory of War Memorials as an information source

36pp illustrated in colour £4.99 + 50p p&p



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

Please tick as applicable

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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.

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

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Date..... (Autumn 2002)

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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

HELP !!

Can you help for all or part of a day on the FoWM stand at the **Caravan & Outdoor Leisure Show** at Earls Court, London from Tuesday 5th to Sunday 10th November 2002?

Assistance from members and Regional Volunteers would be much appreciated and a day pass to the show will be provided. If you can help, please complete and return this form to Jane Gaskell at FoWM.

Name

Address

.....

Post Code Tel:

I can help on the following day(s):

..... am / pm

..... am / pm

FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS EVENTS

Out and About at Recent Events

by Jane Gaskell

Events in June tended to be rather quiet - it had a lot to do with the World Cup! The **Norfolk Game & Country Fair** competed with an England Match and the Jubilee, but the show announcers (John Humphries and Stuart Reynolds) did a splendid job promoting our stand. FoWM springer Sally was somewhat worried that the stand was opposite the dancing dogs display ring and she might be called upon to do a turn! Regional Volunteers Colin Richardson, Chris Stephens and Ann Thompson represented FoWM at the **East Anglian Flower & Garden Show** at Bourn, where our stand was between the Beekeepers and the WWF - complete with volunteers in panda costumes. FoWM RVs can rest assured that we have no such plans for dressing up! Along with Ian Turner, the three also attended **Duxford Flying Legends Airshow** in July, where Professor M R D Foot CBE signed copies of his book *SOE in the Low Countries* at the FoWM stand.

For the second year running, Lincolnshire RV David Hooper co-ordinated an FoWM display at **RAF Waddington Air Show** in June. David would like to do the show again next year but does not drive, and so would appreciate help with transport. Please contact me at the office if you would like to assist. The first weekend in July saw FoWM represented at four different events, which was only possible through the support of Regional Volunteers. With the help of Noel Grimmett and other local supporters, Deirdre Nicol took a stand to **Army 2002** at Larkhill. She and others have reported back how well-organised and interesting the event was. FoWM is grateful to Simon Brooks-Ward and Army 2002 for space at the show. Albert Page and Dorrie Lopacka co-ordinated a display at **Army Training Lichfield's Jubilee Spectacular** at Whittington Barracks, Staffordshire. Albert advises that the organisers have generously matched the amount of donations taken at the event, and invited FoWM back next year. Roland Buggey represented FoWM at the **Norfolk & Suffolk Aviation Museum** at Flixton, where N&SAM Chairman Ian Hancock has agreed to display a framed poster showing war memorials FoWM has assisted in the area. Finally, I was at the **RMA Sandhurst Open Day**, where I was encouraged by the interest in the war memorials shown by children, and touched to see them making donations from their pocket money without any prompting from parents. FoWM is grateful to everyone who helps with events. Thank you!

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

Forthcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 2002

- **Saturday 14th,**
FoWM Regional Volunteers Seminar
11.00am to 5.00pm at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth, London. - Further details from FoWM.
- **Friday 20th & Saturday 21st**
Holkham Country Fair
Holkham Hall, Holkham, Norfolk
Further details: www.holkham.co.uk
or Tel: 01263 711736
- **Saturday 21st - Guided Tour:**
St Michael-on-Greenhill, Lichfield, Staffs
10.00am tour of the church, churchyard and war memorial led by Dr Trevor Jones.
Further details Tel: 01543 301097
- **Sunday 22nd**
Norfolk & Suffolk Aviation Museum - Royal Observer Corps
10am - 5.00pm at N&SAM, Flixton, Nr Bungay, Suffolk. Further details: www.aviationmuseum.net
or Tel: 01986 896644
- **Saturday 28th - Flower Festival**
St Michael-on-Greenhill, Lichfield, Staffs
10am onwards. Also 10.00am guided tour by Dr Trevor Jones (as September 21st)
Further details Tel: 01543 301097

OCTOBER 2002

- **Thursday 10th - No Fitter End Than This?**
War Memorial Study Day, London.
10.30am - 5.00pm at The Georgian Group, London, W1 (includes exhibition and bookstall).
A study day focusing on the design, creation, conservation and care of war memorials.
Speakers include: Maggie Goodall (FoWM), Lorraine Knight (UKNIWM), Joy Russell (EH), Jo Darke (PMSA), Andy de Comyn (sculptor) and Tim Crawley (stone carver).
Tickets priced £40.00 inclusive, are available from FoWM. Further details: contact Maggie Goodall at FoWM.
- **Sunday 13th - Duxford Autumn Airshow**
Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambs.
Further details: www.iwm.org.uk
or Tel: 01223 835000.

NOVEMBER 2002

- **Tuesday 5th - Sunday 10th**
Caravan & Outdoor Leisure Show
10.00am to 6.00pm daily, Earls Court, London
Further details: www.caravanshow.com or
Tel: 020 73708203
- **Thursday 21st**
Illustrated talk on FoWM by Maggie Goodall
7.45pm Fulbourn History Society, Six Bells, High Street, Fulbourn, Cambs. Further details from FoWM.