

Bulletin



War Memorials Trust

Autumn 2006

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Top and middle ▲: Unveiling of plaque in memory of Sir Donald Thompson. Ceremony attended by Lady Thompson and local dignitaries. Bottom ▲: Commemorative plaque at NMA in Lichfield.

War Memorials Trust, in memory of Sir Donald Thompson, awarded a grant in excess of £7,000 to assist with the conservation and protection of 26 war memorials in Calderdale, the area in which Sir Donald lived all his life and represented as a Member of Parliament. As part of this conservation project, two plaques commemorating the life and work of Sir Donald were erected in a ceremony attended by my family and friends (as published in the previous Bulletin).

At the National Memorial Arboretum at Lichfield in Staffordshire a further plaque has been unveiled. One of the Trees by the Civil Defence Association memorial has been dedicated to Sir Donald. Sir Donald unveiled the memorial for the CDA in 2001 and the Association wished to commemorate him. Frances Moreton, who represented the Trust, stated: "It was a privilege to unveil this plaque. Sir Donald was fondly remembered by many of the CDA. Their memorial plot is grid reference B12 if you are ever visiting; and I would highly recommend a visit."

Sir Donald was a founder of War Memorials Trust in 1996 then known as Friends of War Memorials, which was set up to 'educate the public and to foster good citizenship, by remembering those who have fallen in war and by preserving and maintaining war memorials'. He became Director General a year later, a post he held until his death. His commitment to the Trust's ideals and ethos were matched only by his tireless efforts on its behalf. The Trust is entirely dependent on voluntary donations and fundraising to finance its conservation grants, and Sir Donald's efforts in this area were as innovative and dynamic as the man himself. Sir Donald left, as his legacy, a respected and ever expanding group which is recognised as the national focus for war memorial concerns, ensuring the country's 70,000 memorials and the 3 million lives remembered on them, live on in perpetuity.

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Christmas Cards

We are delighted to bring you our Christmas card for 2006. Ordering this card will support War Memorials Trust and enable us to conserve war memorial heritage.

Please turn to page 16 for more information. Cards are selling fast.

Membership Rates

War Memorials Trust Membership Rates are: £20 Annual Member; £30 Joint Annual Member and £100 for a Lifetime Subscription. On occasion, Bulletins are passed on and the order form removed (which has the membership rates on it). Rates are therefore stated here for those who have picked up a Bulletin that is no longer intact.

Radio 4 Appeal Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday 12th November War Memorials Trust President Winston S Churchill will present a Radio 4 appeal on behalf of the charity. Broadcast at 7.55am on Remembrance Sunday, repeated at 9.26pm and again on Thursday 16th at 3.27pm this appeal is a wonderful opportunity for War Memorials Trust to raise both awareness of its work and additional funding.

You will find enclosed within your Bulletin postcards promoting the appeal. Please send these to friends or family to encourage them to listen. Alternatively put them up on a notice board or just place it by your radio to remind you to tune in.

Mr Churchill will be discussing the work of the Trust, focussing on its conservation activity and the importance of preserving the 3 million names recorded upon our 70,000 war memorials. The comment that 'losing the names from our war memorials is the loss of our history and heritage' is pertinent and will remind us all why we support the aims and objectives of War Memorials Trust. The appeal refers to the fragmented war memorial dumped in a skip which you may remember from previous Bulletins (photograph right).

War Memorials Trust would like to thank the BBC for providing the charity with this opportunity, particularly on such a date. And also thanks go to our President for delivering a powerful appeal. We hope you will be able to tune in and listen. Please do encourage others; they may be inspired to add their support and join us.



▲ Winston S Churchill recording Radio 4 appeal.



Regional Volunteers

Regional Volunteers are War Memorials Trust members who wish to take on a more active role in helping the charity achieve its aims and objectives. Regional Volunteers are registered across the UK. They have become involved with the charity for a variety of reasons but all have a firm belief in the importance of protecting and conserving our war memorials.

The activities in which Regional Volunteers can be involved include monitoring, reporting on and listing war memorials; researching war memorials; giving talks on behalf of War Memorials Trust; and supporting our work through organising and running an event.

Being a Regional Volunteer enables you to help the charity protect and conserve war memorials, offers stimulating and rewarding activities to benefit war memorials and the opportunity of co-operating with others interested in the subject.

For information on becoming a Regional Volunteer please contact Nancy Treves at War Memorials Trust.



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War Memorials Trust gratefully
acknowledges the support of Esmée
Fairbairn Foundation



War Memorials Trust vision is to protect and conserve all
war memorials within the UK.

Objectives of War Memorials Trust

1. To monitor the condition of war memorials and to encourage protection and conservation when appropriate.
2. To provide expert advice to those involved in war memorial projects and to facilitate conservation through grants schemes for war memorial projects.
3. To work with relevant organisations to encourage their accepting responsibility for war memorials and recognising the need to undertake repair and restoration work to these monuments as required.
4. To build a greater understanding of war memorial heritage and raise awareness of the issues surrounding war memorial conservation.

Message from staff

Welcome to the final edition of the Bulletin for 2006. This year has been a success for the Trust with the revision of the Small Grants Scheme (SGS) leading to a significant increase in grant spend. The SGS is a unique source of funding provided by the Trust for those conserving war memorials across the country. Increasing grant spend shows the Trust succeeding in its aim to help with the protection and conservation of war memorials.

However to achieve this we do need to continue to raise funds to provide grants, advice, information and support. We hope that the Radio 4 appeal discussed on the opposite page will contribute to this. It should also bring the Trust to the attention of many who previously were unaware of our existence. Raising awareness is vital. This appeal will encourage more people to get in touch and allow the Trust to assist many more war memorial projects across the UK.

Going into 2007, our 10th anniversary, the Trust is continuing its efforts to improve its performance. To this end a new supporter database is being introduced that will improve our efficiency. Every endeavour is being made to make this process as smooth as possible but if you note an error on your next Bulletin, over a subscription or don't hear from us when you expect to please get in touch. We can only correct things if we know about them so welcome your feedback.

We would like to thank you for all your support this year. The Trust could not exist without you. Finally we would like to wish you Season's Greetings and we hope 2007 is a successful year.

And finally, a little early, but from all the staff we wish you season's greetings.

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Somme Day ceremony

On Saturday 1st July 2006, the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, War Memorials Trust held a service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph. President Winston S Churchill opened the service remembering the events of that day; noting that the British barrage that opened at 7am could be heard on Hampstead Heath, 200 miles away. He paid tribute to the heroism and sacrifice of all those who fought in the Great War before reading the poem of Lt-Col John McCrae, In Flanders Fields.

War Memorials Trust Regional Volunteer Rev Derek West then led a service which included the reading of Noel Hodgson's 'Before Action', a minute's silence and the playing of the Last Post by a member of the Honourable Artillery Company. A wreath was then laid by Mr Churchill and Guest of Honour William Stone, veteran of both World War I and II. Members then laid sprigs of laurel, their own personal tributes.

War Memorials Trust would like to thank those who attended and contributed to the event, in particular the Metropolitan Police for stopping the traffic during the minute's silence, as well as Westminster Council and English Heritage for facilitating the ceremony.



War memorials walk

Prior to the AGM 25 members joined Blue Badge Guide Sarah Fordham on a walk around some of London's war memorials. Starting at Hyde Park corner participants walked across London taking in a number of war memorials before reaching Portcullis House for the AGM. Despite the blistering heat the walk was enjoyed by all.



▲ ©Martin Shorthouse

AGM

War Memorials Trust held its AGM on Monday 17th July 2006 at Portcullis House at the invitation of Trustees, Meg Hillier MP and Lord Cope.

The well attended meeting heard from Chairman of Trustees, Algy Cluff and Treasurer, Roger Bardell and members participated in discussions concerning Trust activities.

Copies of the AGM minutes or Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. Please contact Nancy Treves.



▲ ©Martin Shorthouse

1st July tributes

On the 1st July members of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS), in collaboration with War Memorials Trust, laid tributes at memorials across the country to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

Services were held around the UK with many NAFAS clubs and members taking the opportunity to mark the occasion. Cards, providing details of both organisations, were attached to the wreaths, sprigs and arrangements created and laid. Participating clubs included Barkly, Bebington, Campsie, Edwinstowe, Elworth, Filey, Forest East and Kirby Muxloe, Heanor, Lincoln, North Tonbridge, Queniborough, Sleaford, Southwell, Stamford, Steeton, Stokesley and District Syston, Thurmaston and Yorkshire.

War Memorials Trust would like to thank NAFAS, all clubs who got involved laying tributes or donating to our work and our Regional Volunteers who worked with clubs to mark the event and promote both organisations in local media.



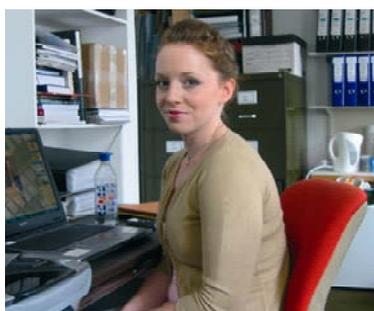
▲ Bebington (far left) and Mil-ton of Campsie (left) war memorials. © Graham Cox (RV) and Jean McBurnie (Campsie).

Introducing Olivia

I am studying a BA in History of Art with Material Studies at UCL. Over the summer period I was looking for work experience in the field of conservation, as I finish my degree next year.

Working at WMT has certainly given me an insight into not only the dedication that goes into running a charity such as this but the conservation of war memorials. It is essential that the sacrifice of those who died in both World Wars is not only remembered but immortalised. Their immortalisation would certainly crumble if it were not for the diligent work of the Trust and the generosity of those involved.

With a heavy heart I must leave WMT and do what most students who are volunteers do, get a paying job! But I hope to return on a part time basis, my time here has certainly refined my desire to work within the field of conservation and heightened my drive towards maintaining the heritage of this country .



Meet the Trustees



Name: Ms Meg Hillier

Role: Trustee War Memorials Trust

Meg Hillier became a Trustee in November 2001. She has had experience of war memorial issues having been involved in a local campaign to save a war memorial at a hospital in north London.

Ms Hillier worked as a journalist before becoming involved in politics. She was a local councillor for eight years and the youngest ever Mayor of Islington in 1998/1999. She served on the London Assembly from May 2000 to 2004, standing down following selection as Parliamentary candidate for Hackney South and Shoreditch. Elected in 2005 she now represents The Labour Party and is a Member of the Select Committee on Northern Ireland Affairs.

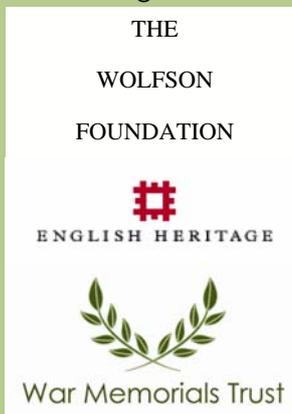
Speaking of her role with War Memorials Trust Ms Hillier said : "As the major conflicts of the 20th Century move from living memory to history it is vitally important that we keep alive the memory of those who contributed so much to this generation."

English Heritage Grants for War Memorials scheme

To stem the tide of decay that threatens this unique aspect of our national heritage, and to ensure that they can remain as a reminder to future generations of the price paid by so many for the freedom we enjoy today, English Heritage, in association with the Wolfson Foundation and War Memorials Trust, is making funds available for the repair of free-standing war memorials in England. There are no listing or conservation area requirements.

The types of work which may qualify for grant aid include:

- repairs to fabric, including works of structural stabilisation
- recutting and recarving of eroded inscriptions
- relettering, releading and regilding
- cleaning where appropriate and clearly beneficial
- reinstatement of lost elements, particularly decorative features
- works to associated hard landscaping, where this forms part of the overall design



This scheme awards grants of up to 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £10,000 (as seen below). Please contact the Conservation Officer at War Memorials Trust for further details, an application form, advice or to discuss a potential application.

Work which has begun before a formal grant offer has been made and accepted is not eligible for grant aid.

Waldron (East Sussex)

The Waldron war memorial cross of sacrifice was erected on the 25th June 1920. This war memorial commemorates 54 local men who died in WWI and 21 in WWII.

Two grants totalling £9,000 have been awarded to assist with structural repairs to the memorial's foundation and also the conservation and repair of the weathered stonework.



▲ ©Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council

Haydon Road Boys School (Greater London)

Commemorating former students who fell in the Great War and dedicated in November 1917, this memorial tablet was originally sited at Haydons Road Boys School in Haydons Road. However, when the new school opened in November 1981 the memorial was moved to its present location in All Saints Road.

A grant of up to £940 has been awarded to replace sections of the damaged wooden structure and to repair the war memorial.



▲ ©All Saints CofE Primary School

Martin (Lincolnshire)

Located in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church, this war memorial cross commemorates the local men who died in the Great War.

A grant of up to £640 was awarded to assist with cleaning and repairing the weathered stonework. The concrete base will also be repaired as part of this project.



▲ ©Martin Parish Council

Beacon Hill (Surrey)

The Beacon Hill war memorial cross is located in the grounds of St Albans Church. This stone Calvary commemorates 29 local men who lost their lives in WWI and 21 in WWII. It also commemorates Victoria Cross holders.

A grant of up to £770 was awarded to assist with cleaning and repair the stonework.



▲ ©Haslemere Town Council

Ascham St Vincent (East Sussex)

This war memorial gate was erected in 1919 to commemorate the former pupils of the Ascham St Vincent Boys School. Although the school was demolished in the 1960s, the memorial gate was preserved in its original location and is today listed at grade II.

A grant of up to £8,000 was awarded to assist repairing the stone and brick structure.



▲ ©Eastbourne Borough Council

Allendale (Northumberland)

This wooden lychgate, located at St Cuthbert's churchyard in Allendale, was erected on the 1st August 1920. It commemorates 24 local men who lost their lives in both World Wars.

A grant of up to £2,900 was offered for repairing the wood structure and the damaged panels shown in detail below.



▲ ©Allendale Parish Council

Westacre (Norfolk)

Located on the Church Green, this war memorial cross commemorates the local men who died in both World Wars.

A grant of up to £1,000 was offered to assist with cleaning and repairing the stonework.



▲ ©Westacre Parish Council

Cheltenham (Gloucestershire)

The Crimean war memorial lamp post in Cheltenham was originally a stand for a cannon taken at Sebastopol in 1856 and handed to the government during WWII to provide metal for armaments.

The cannon (a set of two) used to decorate the entrance of the Winter Gardens is now located on the Promenade in Cheltenham. The memorial is listed at grade II.

A grant of up to £860 was awarded to assist with repairing and re-painting the metal structure.



▲ ©Cheltenham in Bloom

Colkirk (Norfolk)

This war memorial obelisk was erected by public subscription to commemorate 17 local men who lost their lives in both World Wars. Originally erected after the Great War, further names were added on a stone scroll to extend the commemoration to WWII.

A grant of up to £790 was awarded to assist with repairs to the pavement and posts that surround and protect the war memorial.



▲ ©Colkirk Parish Council

For more information on the projects War Memorials Trust has assisted with, please visit our website:
www.warmemorials.org

War Memorials Trust Small Grants Scheme

War Memorials Trust's Small Grants Scheme assists with the conservation and repair of war memorials of all dates and types in the United Kingdom. Since its creation, the Small Grants Scheme has assisted with over 350 projects in the United Kingdom by allocating grants in excess of £100,000.

The Small Grants Scheme awards grants of up to 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £1500.00. The focus of the grant scheme is in helping projects which are not eligible for English Heritage assistance (a funding programme also administered the Trust, as shown in pages 6 and 7) and the type of work eligible for assistance is divided under 3 main strands:

- Conservation and repair of war memorials
- Enhancement of and additions to war memorials (where appropriate and clearly beneficial)
- Condition surveys

Please contact the Conservation Officer at War Memorials Trust for more information, to request an application pack or to discuss a potential application.

Work which has begun before a formal grant offer has been made and accepted is not eligible for grant aid.

Chartham (Kent)

A grant of up to £300 was awarded to Chartham Parish Council to assist with the repair of the Chartham war memorial. Dedicated in October 1920, this war memorial commemorates 60 local men who died in WWI and 30 in WWII.

The grant assisted with cleaning and re-pointing the stonework and re-painting the faded inscriptions.



▲ ©Chartham Parish Council

Great Gonerby (Lincolnshire)

War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £500 towards the repair and conservation of the war memorial at Great Gonerby's parish church (St Sebastian) in Lincolnshire.

The grant was used to clean the stonework and re-point open joints. Damaged areas were also repaired with new stone cuttings.



▲ ©Great Gonerby Parish Council

Turn Hill (Somerset)

War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £250 towards repairs to a war memorial in Turn Hill. This memorial plaque is dedicated to Lt Bryson and is kept at Turn Hill, a The National Trust site.

Our grant assisted with cleaning and re-cutting the weathered inscription.



▲ ©The Royal British Legion (High Ham Branch)

Little Bardfield (Essex)

The Little Bardfield WWI memorial plaque is located in St Katherine's church. War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £350 towards cleaning the marble plaque and wooden frame and applying a protective coating of microcrystalline wax.



▲ ©W. P. Edwards (Bardfield Consultants)

Exmouth (Devon)

A grant of up to £250 was awarded to the Exmouth War Memorial Fund Committee to assist with the addition of names on the memorial.

457 names of Exmouth war dead were inscribed onto a series of granite blocks which were then erected at the base of the existing memorial.

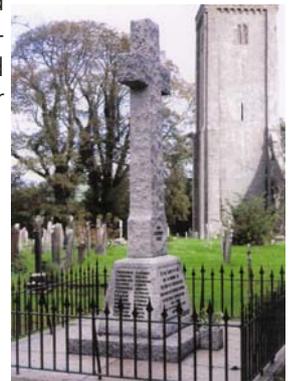


▲ ©Exmouth War Memorial Fund

Buckfastleigh (Devon)

The Buckfastleigh war memorial was unveiled on the 1st January 1921 and is located on the grounds of the, now redundant, Holy Trinity church. It commemorates 50 local men who died in WWI and 28 from WWII.

A grant of up to £400 was awarded for cleaning and repair works.



▲ ©Buckfastleigh Town Council

Metton (Norfolk)

Erected after The Great War, Metton war memorial is located by the roadside, next to the Parish Church.

War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £350 towards repairing the damaged stonework.



▲ ©Metton PCC

British Korean Veterans (Derby)

The British Korean Veterans memorial is located within the grounds of The Sir Peter Hilton Gardens in Derby.

War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £220 towards the cleaning and re-gilding of the lettering on this memorial tablet.



▲ ©British Korean Veterans Association (Derby and Burton)

For more information on the projects War Memorials Trust has helped with, please visit our website:

www.warmemorials.org

Weeley (Essex)

The Man of Weeley war memorial cross was dedicated on the 26th June 1920 by Brigadier General G Metcalfe. This war memorial commemorates 10 men who lost their lives in WWI and 12 in WWII.

War Memorials Trust awarded a grant of up to £200 to assist with rebuilding the wall that surrounds and protects the memorial.



▲ ©Weeley Parish Council

The design and construction of the Far East memorial

by Brian Krill IEng MICE

In 1984 the Singapore Club Wisbech, whose members were all ex-Far East Prisoners of War (FEPOWs), commissioned a war memorial to be erected inside the Church of St Peter & St Paul, in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. This was to be the first war memorial of its type erected in the United Kingdom, being dedicated solely to the Far East. Up to that point all other war memorials dedicated to the Far East were believed to be in the form of simple plaques. The war memorial would commemorate not only the men of the 2nd Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, but also the local members of each of the 1st Battalion, the Royal Norfolk Regiment, the Suffolk Regiment together with other branches of the Armed Services.

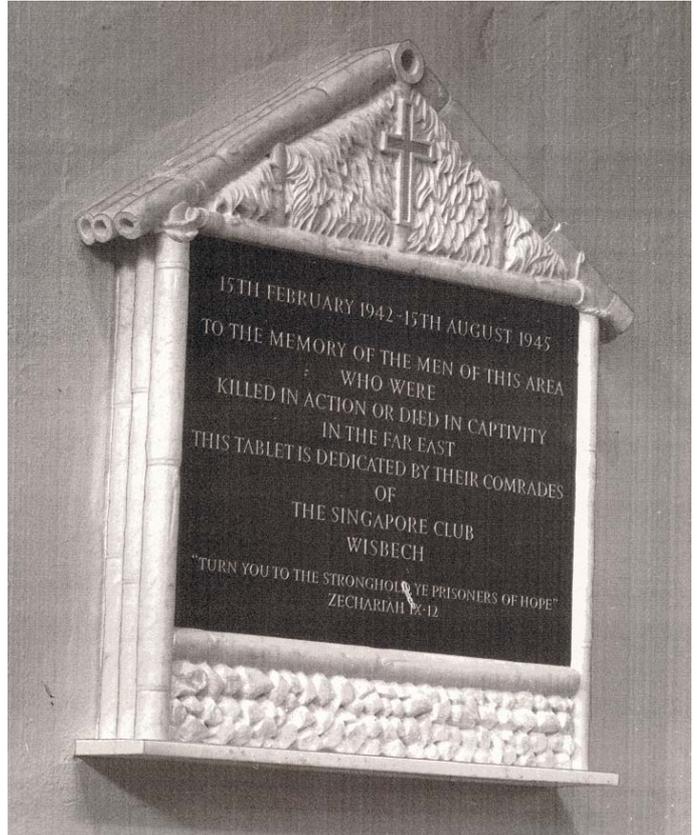
Early in 1984 Jack Burton, Hon. Secretary of the Singapore Club Wisbech, indicated that consideration was being taken by the Club to erect its own war memorial. In September, a meeting was held with Canon Arnold Nicholas, of the St Peter and St Paul's Church, where broad design principles were discussed.

In the coming months several FEPOWs, most of whom are no longer with us, met together. The story of the FEPOW in captivity has been very well documented but it was considered very important to hear those stories at first hand. It was quickly learnt that 'times had been good' and 'speech was free and easy'. However, when times had been 'not so good', conversation soon dried out and there was reluctance to say anything else. On each occasion the question was asked as to what features the war memorial should show and the design mandate soon became "Design us a wall mounted war memorial". It was considered fundamental that the Club should receive a design which it wanted, not that it ought to have. No particular features were ever suggested by members but time and time again the message came through – "Please tell our story. Make sure that we are not forgotten".

Slowly, design ideas were starting to form in the FEPOWs' minds. It was imperative that the FEPOWs' story would be set in stone for posterity and that a unique memorial would be created.

The Faculty application progressed to a meeting in the Church with an Architectural Panel appointed by the Diocesan Advisory Committee. The meeting took almost two hours and the construction and background story of the memorial were discussed in detail. Perhaps the most significant point to come out of the meeting was that the memorial was not

to be located in the original position determined by the Church. The Panel stipulated that the memorial should be located higher than the original low level position in order to guarantee its visibility, accessibility and protection.



Meanwhile, Canon Fred Stallard, a FEPOW and Padre to the Club, was drafting the inscription to be included on the memorial. Once Canon Fred had completed his final draft, the layout of the lettering could be designed and the finalised artistic impression could be prepared .

The construction drawing was prepared, a Church Faculty applied for and competitive quotations obtained for the construction of the memorial. In the meantime, fundraising could begin in earnest.

It was now time to tell a story:

The Church wall upon which the war memorial is erected symbolises a rock face in a jungle clearing. Sculpted in white Sicilian marble, the surround illustrates the ingenuity of the FEPOW and shows how he would have used materials that were available to him, or which he acquired by various means, to construct such a memorial during his captivity.

Bamboo was the most common material and was

used for a wide range of purposes in daily life. Large poles were used in the construction of huts where prisoners lived; slivers could be honed to a razor edge to form crude medical scalpels and thin shavings of bark could be twisted together to form twine.

The bamboo is shown on the memorial as being roughly and hurriedly lopped down and speedily erected in the required position. Machete cut marks on the ends of the uneven rafters are clearly visible and the two short uprights supporting the rafters are not evenly spaced from the central position. They would have been cut in just this way, cut with cupped ends, hastily placed in the middle and pushed outwards until a tight fit was obtained.

The bamboo would be held in position by readily made lengths of bark twine. In the memorial, the binding forms shown are different, thus reflecting the haste in which prisoners would have worked, when they briefly slipped away from the attention of the Japanese guards.

The use of twine bindings, although functional, symbolises imprisonment by binding of hands.

The cross, which is in the central position, depicts the important role which the Church played in everyday life. Because of the importance of this role the cross is highlighted in gold leaf. A keen eye will note that one of the horizontal arms of the cross is longer than the other, as crosses would have been hand carved from any available piece of wood.

This design shows the use of attap (coconut palm leaves), which is a traditional form of thatching. The graceful shapes and curves, plus the soft texture should convey a sense of peace and serenity in memory of those who did not return.

In the lower section of the memorial, rough stone is shown supporting the heavy dedication panel. This symbolises the rough stone that had to be dug out and manhandled from various excavations sites, by numerous Working Parties engaged upon railway construction. Being a member of a Working Party occupied the major part of the FEPOWs' life.

The choice of the rich, black slate, which is a natural British stone, has obvious and deep meaning indicating the true purpose of the memorial.

Apart from the plinth upon which the memorial stands, there are no straight lines in the marble structure, symbolising that the tools used by the prisoners were too primitive and therefore hard to use accurately.

With the FEPOWs' story reflected in the design, competitive quotations were sought and the most attractive received stood at £2,042.14. There was now a realistic fundraising target.

At that time, funds in hand were considerably less than £1000, which would have made it impossible to meet the planned unveiling date of October 1985. This date had been selected to meet, as closely as possible, the 40th anniversary of the Liberation of the prisoners from the Japanese camps.

Then, late one evening, a telephone call was received from Jack Burton. He had been contacted by an anonymous donor (the name was never divulged) in Wisbech who offered to cover any financial shortfall for the project.

With the Church Faculty being approved and finance in place, the memorial project could finally proceed as intended.

Peter Huggon, Masonry Manager of Coulsons Monumental Masons, took on the responsibility for overall provision and erection of the war memorial. Mr Huggon also engaged Angela Hull, of Newmarket, and Kevin Cribb of Haslingfield, near Cambridge, to carry out specialist work under the direction of the designer. Angela Hull set about carving the white marble by hand which took her 120 hours to complete. Meanwhile, Kevin Cribb carried out the hand cutting of all 222 letters and numerals on the dedication panel. He then completed his task by inlaying the beautiful, classic Roman style in gold leaf.

On 20th October 1985, at a special service with the Church filled to its capacity (and even overflowing), the war memorial was officially unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr Michael Bevan.

Share giving

Share Giving is one of the most tax efficient ways to give to charity. Making a gift of £1000 worth of shares could cost a tax payer as little as £600. Share giving is particularly popular if you have, for example, acquired windfall shares or inherited a few. These often generate more paperwork than income for the individual but could help War Memorials Trust in achieving its aims and objectives.

If you would like further information about this method of supporting War Memorials Trust, please contact Frances Moreton.

Listing report

War Memorials Trust campaigns for the protection of our war memorial heritage and, as part of our work, we encourage the listing of war memorials. The list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest is the statutory register recording the best of our heritage. It includes a wide variety of structures, from castles to village pumps. Not all the items on the lists are what we might conventionally think of as beautiful or attractive - some are included purely for their historical value. For this reason, War Memorials Trust believe that all freestanding war memorials should be listed and we participate in this process by preparing reports and submitting listing requests, when appropriate. This is done with the help of our RVs and is central to the preservation of our heritage.

Here, we present the latest addition to the list:

Scopwick (Lincolnshire)

This marble Celtic wheel cross was erected after the First World War to commemorate the local men who died in conflict. Later, the name of a local villager who died in WWII was added. The war memorial stands on the grounds of Holy Cross church and has recently been listed at grade II.



▲© Scopwick Parish Council

VAT memorials grant scheme

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the March 2006 Budget that the grant scheme that allows both charities and faith groups that are exempted from registering as charities to reclaim VAT incurred on eligible construction, renovation and maintenance of public memorials, will be extended until 2010-11.

The refund scheme applies to memorials in the form of statues, monuments and similar constructions together with fittings for listed places of worship, such as bells, pews, clocks and organs. This grant scheme now also covers the VAT costs incurred on professional fees.



▲© Farthing Collection

This scheme is being administered by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport for the whole of the United Kingdom and further information can be obtained on www.memorialgrant.org.uk

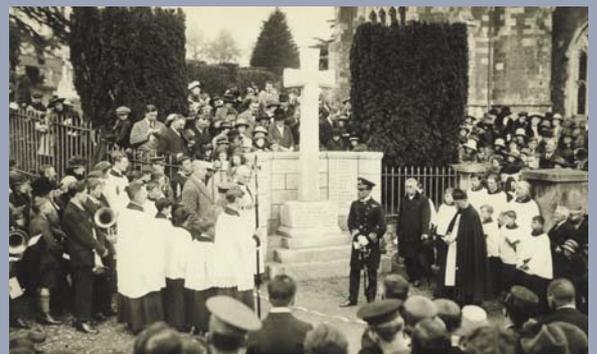
Making your legacy count

Donating to charity through your Will is a great way to give. Should you leave a legacy to War Memorials Trust it will not be taxed so every penny will go directly to supporting our aims and objectives.

Drawing up a Will is not perhaps the most cheerful of things to do but it really is a simple process. And with £1.5 billion left to charities annually, these funds have a massive impact.

The existence of a Will means that those closest to you will not have to face unnecessary worries at a difficult time for them. Above all it enables you to hand on your values and beliefs to the next generation. What better tribute could there ever be than protecting our war memorial heritage?

If you would like to receive information about legacy giving please contact Frances Moreton.



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War Memorials Trust are delighted to continue this series presenting biographies of the most important sculptors involved in the memorialisation process over the last 300 years. This series is written by Mark Quinlan, author of several publications in the field, including *British War Memorials*, which explores the background, politics, financing, policy issues, organisations and personalities associated with war memorials in the United Kingdom (available on www.authorsonline.co.uk).

Professor John Flaxman

John Flaxman was born on 7 December 1755 in York. His father was a farmer who also carried on the trade of moulder and seller of plaster casts at the sign of the Golden Head in Covent Garden. Within six months of his birth, the family returned to London and he spent an ailing childhood in his father's back shop. He would appear to be almost entirely self-taught and developed an interest in drawing and modelling from the shop's stock. His father's customers took a shine to him and offered encouragement, helping him with books, advice and eventually commissions. Aged twelve he won the first prize of the Society of Arts for the design of a medal and became a public exhibitor in the gallery of the Free Society of Artists. In 1770 at the age of 15 he won a second prize from the Society of Arts and began to exhibit at the Royal Academy of Arts, then in the second year of its existence. That same year, he entered the RA as a student and won their Silver Medal. In the competition for the Gold Medal of the RA in 1772, although confident of victory, he was defeated, the prize being awarded by Sir Joshua Reynolds to another competitor named Engleheart. The rebuff cured him of a tendency to conceit, which made Thomas Wedgwood later say of him: "It is but a few years since he was a most supreme coxcomb". To the RA he contributed a wax model of *Neptune* (1770); four portrait models in wax (1771); a terracotta bust; a wax figure of a *Child*; a figure of *History* (1772); a figure of *Comedy*, and a relief of a *Vestal* (1773). In the period 1775 to 1787 he worked for the potter Josiah Wedgwood as a modeller of classic and domestic friezes, plaques, ornamental vessels and medallion portraits. By 1780 Flaxman had begun to branch out and produce sculpture of monuments for the dead. Three of his earliest are those of *Chatterton* in the church of St Mary Redcliffe (1780) at Bristol, of *Mrs Morley* (1784) in Gloucester Cathedral and of the *Reverend Thomas and Mrs Margaret Ball* (1785) in Chichester Cathedral. In 1782 he married Anne Denman and set up house in Wardour Street, Soho. In the period 1787 to 1794 he worked in Rome for Wedgwood. Although initially intending only to spend two years there, he ended up spending seven and was detained by a com-

by Mark Quinlan

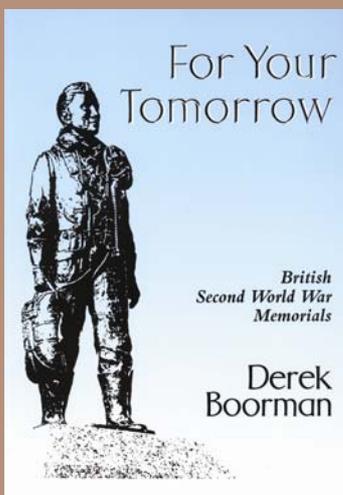
mission for the marble group *Fury of Athamas*. In Rome, he became a member of the Academy of St Luke and illustrated *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey* and Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

Back in England, Flaxman sculpted many monuments, including that in Westminster Abbey to *William Murray, 1st Earl of Mansfield* (1801). His figures of *Comedy* and *Tragedy* adorn the façade of the Covent Garden Opera House. He sculpted the marble funerary plaque in St George's Cathedral, Penang commemorating *Charles, Marquess Cornwallis* (destroyed by enemy action in WWII). He undertook the frieze *Peace, Liberty and Plenty* for the Duke of Bedford's sculpture gallery at Woburn and the heroic group *St Michael Overthrowing Satan* for Lord Egremont at Petworth. He produced the *Monument to Mrs Baring* (1805-1811) in Micheldever Church, the richest of all his monuments in relief and that for the *Worsley Family* at Campsall church, Yorkshire which is his next richest. His neo-classical memorials of *Sir Joshua Reynolds* (1807); *Admiral Earl Howe* and *Viscount Admiral Horatio Nelson* may all be found in St Paul's Cathedral, London. An engraving of his *Nelson Monument* may be found in the collection of Sir John Soane's Museum. Flaxman also sculpted the memorials to *Captain James Montagu* in Westminster Abbey, *Captain Beckett* (1811) for Leeds and *General Sir John Moore* (1813) for Glasgow. In 1816 he appeared as an expert witness before the House of Commons Select Committee investigating the Elgin Marbles and he recommended their purchase for the nation. In 1822 he delivered the memorial lecture at the RA on the art of his great friend and contemporary Antonio Canova (1757-1822). Flaxman was the first British sculptor to achieve a truly international reputation. Goethe described him as: "the idol of all dilettanti". He was elected ARA in 1797 and RA in 1800. In 1810 he was appointed the first Professor of Sculpture at the Royal Academy Schools. On 3 December 1826 Flaxman caught a cold in church and died four days later. An English Heritage blue plaque marks his house at 7 Greenwell Street, Westminster and a collection of his casts may be found in the Flaxman Gallery at University College, London.

For your tomorrow

by Derek Boorman

1945 saw the end of the Second World War, in which tens of millions died worldwide and civilian deaths far exceeded those of combatants. Sixty years later, with all the horrific details available to us of the atrocities committed in Europe and the Far East, we know those who fought on the Allied side in the war did so in the most just of all causes.

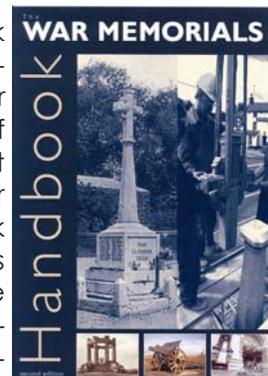


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Contact Frances Moreton for a standing order form

A century of remembrance

by Derek Boorman

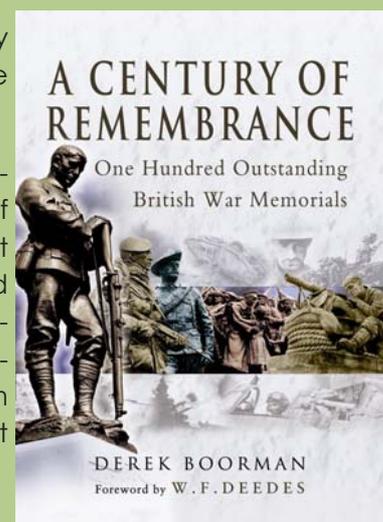
This fascinating Pen & Sword publication has been researched and written by War Memorials Trust supporter Derek Boorman. All the royalties from the sale of the book are very generously being donated to the Trust.

The book is a study of 100 outstanding UK War Memorials which commemorate twentieth century conflicts from the Boer War to the Falklands and Gulf Wars. The memorials, chosen by the author were selected in order to present as wide a range of artists, memorial forms, commemorated conflicts and even geographic sites. Each informative entry has a short description covering background and significance and is also accompanied by superb images, many in colour. The examples also cover a wide range of forms from statues, stained glass windows, arches and obelisks to chapels, cloisters, art galleries and gardens.

The aim of this wonderful book is to draw attention not only to the richness and depth of our war memorial heritage but also to highlight the importance of the work of War Memorials Trust.

A Century of Remembrance can now be ordered directly from WMT, see the order form opposite, at £15.99 plus p&p.

Please note these are selling well. If you have been thinking of purchasing, act quickly.





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War Memorials Trust has been delighted with the response to the 'Pound for Life' key ring. The key ring attachment is emblazoned with the Trust logo with the telephone number and website on the reverse. The attachment is the same size and shape as a pound coin and is designed to be removed from the key ring on those occasions when you need a pound coin, but you never have one. For example use it for the supermarket trolley, or the locker at the gym or the golf club. The key ring is available for £1.50, use the order form adjacent.



Gift Aid is a simple way you can give more to War Memorials Trust without it costing you a penny. For every pound you donate WMT can reclaim an extra 28p. So from your £20 annual membership we can claim an extra £5.40. In 2005 WMT claimed over £7,500 in Gift Aid, a vital contribution to its income. This extra helps us achieve our aims and objectives ensuring more war memorials are preserved and our heritage protected. You can tick the Gift Aid box if you pay income or capital gains tax at least equal to the value WMT would claim. Please remember, if you have already signed a Gift Aid form, do let us know if you change address or you cease to pay tax.



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