

Bulletin 100



War Memorials Trust



Number 100 February 2024



War Memorials Trust

Bulletin

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War Memorials Trust

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War Memorials Trust works to protect and conserve all war memorials within the UK

Objectives of War Memorials Trust

1. To improve the condition of war memorials, in their historic design and setting, to support their long-term preservation in-line with best conservation practice, sustainability and the challenges of climate change
2. To increase the understanding of best conservation practice including how to maintain, protect, repair and conserve war memorials appropriately as well as raise awareness of the support available from War Memorials Trust
3. To enhance public engagement with, and the recognition of local responsibility for, war memorials
4. To sustain access to grant funding to support repair and conservation works in-line with best conservation practice
5. To increase the money raised by the charity to deliver its vision to protect and conserve war memorials

Membership rates

War Memorials Trust membership rates (membership rates valid until end of March 2024):

Annual membership: £20 individual or £30 joint

Life membership: £250 individual or £350 joint

Grant schemes

War Memorials Trust administers grant schemes for the repair and conservation of war memorials in the UK. Most types of war memorials are covered and all works funded need to follow best conservation practice.

To find out if your war memorial project could get a grant you need to fill in a Grants Pre-application form. A member of the Conservation Team will review the type of memorial, the proposed works and costs. If your project is eligible we will send you an Application Form.

For more information www.warmemorials.org/grants, conservation@warmemorials.org or call 020 7233 7356.

Please note that projects cannot be funded if they have already started or have finished.

The plastic which covers your Bulletin can be **recycled alongside plastic bags at many local supermarkets.**

This recyclable plastic ensures the Bulletin arrives with you nice and dry so you can read in comfort without the risk of any ink running.

Message from the Director

Dear Supporters

Welcome to the 100th edition of the Bulletin. First published as Friends of War Memorials Newsletter in 1997, the Bulletin has evolved over the years. Initially 2 sides of A4, it has grown to 4, 12 and the current 16 pages. Each edition aims to keep readers informed about charity activities, conservation work and grant-making.

The Bulletin is currently circulated to 2,250 members and regular supporters in February, May and August. In November, it is sent to around 9,000 recipients including legislators, local authorities, community/parish/town councils, irregular donors and those who prefer an annual edition rather than a quarterly publication. The larger mailing is obviously targeted to land around Remembrance Sunday when interest in our war memorials is highest and concerns may be raised about condition. We hope that the Bulletin raises awareness of the assistance War Memorials Trust can offer. Feedback indicates each copy is read by at least 2 people. We are always happy to send you more copies if you can help boost the circulation and potentially recruit new members. Just contact us using the details on page 2.

The first ever Newsletter is reproduced on pages 8 and 9 of this edition (with some contact details redacted). Many of the issues addressed by Sir Donald Thompson in 1997 continue to feature today. The importance of commemorations and anniversaries, the threats that place them at risk, the carelessness with which some war memorials are disposed of, the emotive subject of the addition of names, the need to engage young people with our heritage and a request for the donations which make the charity's work possible.

For anyone interested in reviewing earlier copies of the Bulletin we have uploaded these to www.warmemorials.org/bulletin-back-issues. Unfortunately, we do not hold paper back copies that can be ordered from the office due to limited storage space.

We value your feedback on the Bulletin and keep under review how we may develop it in the future. To that end we note the error on page 4 of Bulletin 99 highlighted by readers. We recorded a fall in expenditure from 2022-23 compared to 2021-22 when it had in fact been a slight rise of nearly £5,000 due to increased spend on charitable activities.

Comparing those two years we also saw a slight fall in grant spend. But this will change dramatically in the next financial statements. In 2022-23, 36 Grant Offers were made totalling £91,105 across all schemes. This was an average grant of £2,528 and a median of £1,520. But in **2023-24, there has been a substantial increase in grant spend**. 33 Offers have been made which total £191,950 with an average grant of £5,817 and a median of £3,250.

As we approach year-end we have therefore spent almost all available funds for WMT Grants Scheme. This means Grant Offers will fall again in 2024-25 if there is less money available. This Bulletin therefore includes an **appeal to support our grant-making**. Any donations specifically for grants will be greatly appreciated. With the smallest grant in 2023-24 being £280 every little helps and may make the difference between a war memorial being repaired or not.

Grants have been awarded since 1998 and initially appeared in Newsletter 6. The first reported project was Bellingham Boer War Fountain and Lamp in Hexham, Northumberland shown in a historic image, from the Hexham Courant, on the front cover ([WMO/90611](http://www.warmemorials.org/90611)). £250, the then maximum value, assisted conservation works to the monument which remembers the Yeomanry and Volunteers who fought in 1900-1-2 (sic).

Thank you as ever to all our supporters. Without your time, efforts and donations the work we have covered in the Bulletin since 1997 would not be possible. We hope you enjoy this 100th edition including the articles from earlier publications.

Frances and the Team

War Memorials Trust news

The Bulletin has always been an important tool to keep supporters up-to-date with the activities of the charity. This often includes staff or Trustee changes, financial reports, events and governance matters.

The first Newsletter discussed the importance of Somme Day as a focal point for the charity. Up until 2006, a service was held at the Cenotaph on the 1 July. Newsletter 7, published in Autumn 2000, was the first to feature an event. The report is reproduced on the right with the photo © W Adams. In 2007, when the charity marked its 10th anniversary, a service was held at the Guards' Chapel instead and, with numbers at the Cenotaph having fallen over the years, the Somme Day event was not re-established.

Instead, the charity offered walks, tours etc in association with the AGM for a number of years giving members the opportunity to engage with different war memorials and heritage. The pandemic saw the 2020 AGM cancelled and, again, as attendee numbers had been falling, this has not been re-started.

Over the years the requirements for arranging events have become more onerous and costs have increased. As a charity, the Trust has to consider the most appropriate ways to spend its money. Particularly at a time when the funds available for repair grants are very limited, we assume supporters would prefer to see funds going directly to support war memorial projects rather than arranging events, especially if those events are not raising additional funds. The Trustees keep a close eye on this though, so if circumstances change the Bulletin will remain an important tool to make you aware of events the Trust arranges.

Charities, as with all things, will evolve over time and changes will occur as they adapt. At present, the big challenge is between 'online' and 'offline' and we continue to try and balance our activities. We recognise many of our supporters are not 'digitally' active nor have computers so assure you we plan to maintain our free telephone service, postal address and hard copy posted Bulletin for the foreseeable.

AUTUMN 2000



In commemoration of the Battle of the Somme, Friends of War Memorials, together with the Association for Military Remembrance, (the Khaki Chums) held a parade at the Whitehall Cenotaph on July 1st.

The Rev. W. Alexander Cairns conducted prayers and, following the laying of laurel wreaths by FoWM President, Winston S Churchill, Founder Ian Davidson and the Khaki Chums, children from the gathered crowd were invited to place sprigs of laurel at the foot of the Cenotaph.



Once again, Amelia Stephens had travelled from Leicestershire with her grandfather, FoWM Regional Volunteer, Mr C. T. A. Stephens.

We were also very privileged to have the company of 104 year old Somme veteran Robert Burns. Scots Piper Darren Thomas and bugler L/Cpl Sam New accompanied the ceremony.

Following the parade, Sgt Taff Gillingham presented Friends of War Memorials with a cheque for £500 on behalf of the Khaki Chums.

We would like to thank the Chums for their generous donation and valuable support.

War Memorials Trust news

War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme - funding emergency

As discussed on page 3, War Memorials Trust Grant Scheme has spent almost all its available unrestricted funds this year. It means in **the next grant round we may be unable to support projects**. In 2023-24, 33 recipients have shared £191,950 compared to 36 projects receiving £91,105 in 2022-23. Expenditure has more than doubled year-on-year, an increase of £100,000.

Grant funds are secured for 2024-25 from Historic England and Historic Environment Scotland which means applications eligible for their support have a chance of success. But not all war memorials can access that money, for example Historic England can only fund freestanding war memorials which are in a conservation area or Grade I/II* as per their statutory rules. WMT also holds some money for use in specific regions and counties but any projects which are outside these eligibility criteria will be unsuccessful unless more money can be raised.

If you are able to make a donation specifically for War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme you can help the charity sustain its grants and ensure our war memorials are repaired and conserved. The smallest grant in 2023-24 was £280, the largest £25,000 so contributions of all sizes matter. If you would like to support grants visit www.warmemorials.org/donate (send us an email to let us know your gift is towards grants) or see pages 15-16 other ways to give. We really appreciate any support. **Thank you.**

London Marathon 2024

Over the years many people have participated in activities such as the London Marathon to raise funds for War Memorials Trust. We thank them for all their efforts and acknowledge the monies donated to support them. Many of these stories have featured in the Bulletin.

On 21 April 2024, our Conservation Officer Andrew McMaster is running the London Marathon again for the charity following his participation in 2016. He is aiming to raise £2,000. Thank you to all those who have donated so far. At the time of going to press £500 has been secured so we hope there will be more contributions to inspire him as he makes his way around the capital. To offer your support visit www.warmemorials.org/marathon or turn to page 15-16 for details on how to donate. **Thank you.**



WMT Governance and charity number change

As reported in previous editions of the Bulletin, War Memorials Trust is converting from a charity governed by a Trust Deed to become a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The change was agreed by Trustees who recognised that the Trust Deed did not reflect the nature of the charity today. As a CIO, WMT is better placed to operate in the 21st century. The new Constitution can be downloaded from www.warmemorials.org/trustees or you can contact us for a copy using the details on page 2.

The change means that charity number 1062255 will close this spring as a new charity was required for the CIO. During 2023-24, the two bodies have been operating alongside each other so the Annual Report and Financial Statements will cover both. But from April 2024 only the new charity, number 1201442, will be in operation. This has no impact on users of our services. Members and supporters whose subscriptions and donations will be affected, as we have had to change bank and donation services, have been, and will be, contacted. But if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Public Engagement

War Memorials Trust achieves its objectives through being part of a community seeking to protect and conserve our war memorials. Working together we can make a difference.

The Bulletin is an important mechanism to recognise and celebrate the different ways this can be achieved. The input of Office Volunteers, Regional Volunteers and War Memorials Online contributors has often been featured. We have discussed activities such as raising concerns, preparing condition surveys, delivering talks, attending conferences, responding to 'Can you help?' requests and many more. We thank everyone who has helped for their support.

In Newsletter 20, published in Winter 2003, Office Volunteer Martin Shorthouse provided a report on the 2003 Regional Volunteer Day that took place that September at IWM North which we reproduce on the right.

Outreach work by staff through site visits and conferences is an aspect of working with others. As is attending meetings and engaging with different organisations. War Memorials Trust chairs the War Memorials Liaison Group, an annual meeting of heritage bodies and other national organisations engaged in the war memorial field.

In November 2021, Bulletin 91, Andrew McMaster discussed the value of site visits to meet custodians and discuss potential projects. His piece is reproduced on page 7 and provides an insight into why he is running the London Marathon (see page 5). Your gifts enable the charity to keep undertaking visits like this to support communities seeking to follow best conservation practice as they preserve their war memorials. **Thank you.**

Regional Volunteers Day

by *Martin Shorthouse*

The sun caught the sharp edge of the silver curved roof thrusting itself towards the blue sky. This towered above the entrance to the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester, where the second Regional Volunteers Day took place on the last Saturday in September.

Around 25 of us gathered in a room kindly provided by the museum where coffee and biscuits were waiting. Sir Donald Thompson introduced Simon, a member of the museum staff, who welcomed us to the museum and talked about the origin, design, architecture and purpose of this world-class institution. Sir Donald then presented us with an enthralling medley of news from the charity, discussing the background to some of the tasks with which it and its volunteers have become involved and how influence can be gently or determinedly applied to further the objectives of FoWM.

FoWM Administrator, Frances, then provided details of staff changes and developments within the charity's Head-office. She discussed the prospect of the charity putting together an RV Handbook for volunteers, and asked that any suggestions/comments would be gratefully received to make it a really useful tool.

Maggie Goodall came to share her thoughts and experiences (against a clattering of caterers removing cups!) about her role as the charity's Conservation Officer. Her talk highlighted the breadth and depth of the subject, acknowledging how much there is that could be done to further the charity's objectives.

All those attending had a particular expertise in or genuine concern for the conservation of war memorials. Each person is committed to the aims of FoWM, providing a strand of support that undoubtedly gives the charity its strength to perform good work. It seemed somewhat ironical then that on the other side of the conference room walls, images of war with sounds reverberating through the museum were being projected, rather poignantly reinforcing the need to remember the sacrifices made in armed conflicts.

Chaired by Sir Donald, the afternoon session enabled those attending to ask questions and make comments before being invited to go on a quick tour of the museum with Simon, so that we could experience the uniqueness of the space and its exhibits.

Afterwards, I went up in the lift of the silver tower to the gallery and looked out over the blue water of the old docks towards the Lowry centre and Manchester beyond, the dying sun casting a reflection of the War Museum on the surface below. The perfect end to a rewarding day.

War Memorials Trust gratefully acknowledges the support of



as well as The Swire Charitable Trust,
The Hugh Fraser Foundation and The John Cowan Foundation.

Public Engagement and Learning

Grants Pre-application advice

Andrew McMaster, Conservation Officer

Grants Pre-application enquiries are designed to identify at an early stage whether a project is eligible for grant funding. It also provides an opportunity for Conservation Officers to engage with custodians and applicants. This should ensure that any works are informed by best conservation practice principles such as minimal intervention and like-for-like repairs.

On occasion, even with the aid of good photographs, more complex cases present difficulties in determining the condition of fabric, and therefore in advising on repair methods and levels of intervention. In such instances a site visit may be arranged to understand the situation better. It can also be an opportunity to see other war memorials in the care of the custodians we are meeting, check-up on other local cases or complete any nearby Can you help? requests.

With the equivalent of just two full-time Conservation Officers focussed on technical issues these can take time to arrange. But, with staff based in different areas of the UK we are now closer to many more than when we just had the London office.

A recent Grants Pre-application from Spennymoor Town Council presented a case that needed a visit. Whilst there I discussed the Spennymoor memorial shown below, [WMO/231171](#)

as well as,

- Tudhoe Colliery

[WMO/224770](#)

- Byers Green

[WMO/225192](#)

- Tudhoe Village

[WMO/253765](#)

Reproduced from Bulletin 91, Nov 21



Learning

In the first ever Newsletter, reproduced overleaf, the importance of engaging young people with our war memorials was highlighted. From 2011-19, the charity had a dedicated Learning Programme to deliver that, which concluded when funds fell at the end of the centenary of World War I.

www.learnaboutwarmemorials.org, developed by the Programme, remains live and continues to be used by teachers, educators and youth group leaders seeking resources. Material is available for Primary, Secondary and Youth Groups offering lesson plans, assemblies and project ideas.



The Bulletin has always been an important tool to promote this and we thank everyone who has passed on information to friends, family and contacts for whom the Learning Programme may be a useful resource. It has also served to report on many of the visits made to schools or youth groups by Learning Officers.

Bulletin 60, in February 2014, included the image, shown right, of a year 7 pupil's design for a new war memorial developed during a session delivered by a member of WMT's staff.



Newsletter 1 - 1997

FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

Patron: The Countess Mountbatten of Burma CBE CD JP DL

President: Winston S. Churchill Esq.

Director-General: Sir Donald Thompson

Founder: Ian Davidson Esq.

Autumn 1997

NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend,

Developments have moved quickly since the inception of the charity, Friends of War Memorials. We consider it important to produce a newsletter to help bring you up-to-date with progress of the Charity, and its growing sphere of activities, all over the country.

Next year and in subsequent years we intend to make July 1st the pivotal point of our activities. It is sad but apposite that this date is also the anniversary of the first day of the Battle of the Somme when over 20,000 British Soldiers gave their lives, the most terrible casualty list in our history. It has been suggested this becomes Friends of War Memorials Founders Day. All appropriate ideas of ways to make this significant are welcome.

Attention will be focused during this Autumn in bringing to everyone's notice the fact that 1998 will be the 80th Anniversary of the end of The Great War and the following year, 1999 will be the 60th Anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War. Friends of War Memorials is working together with The Royal British Legion, The Royal British Legion Scotland, the Imperial War Museum and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to bring to the attention of the country the essential need to preserve our heritage.

At Risk

Friends of War Memorials was set up to protect memorials all over the UK. As you will imagine, with over 50,000 memorials, many of which are thankfully in good repair, there is a considerable number which have been either vandalised, neglected or just plainly forgotten. Her Majesty The Queen Mother, The Royal British Legion plus other organisations, Friends and concerned people have all played their part in bringing to our attention those Memorials which are at risk. Consequently we have already had some measure of success in putting the necessary, but mostly gentle, pressure on Local and Church Authorities with good results.

Negligent Disposal

Will you keep us informed? Friends of War Memorials, along with the other organisations, have been increasingly concerned about a ghastly practise, which has recently been highlighted, of the negligent disposal of Memorials, especially Rolls of Honour Boards which have been taken from abandoned churches and chapels. It is a serious priority that such dishonour to those lives given in the service of their country should be stopped immediately. Whenever memorials are at such risk the relocation in local schools, chapels or churches must be a priority.

Newsletter 1 - 1997

FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

Added Names

A growing number of people, realising that Friends of War Memorials has been formed, have asked the question about what is the situation when names of those who have lost their lives in the service of their country need to be added to existing memorials. Usually, the names to be added to memorials of The Great War 1914-1918 are those from the Second World War. Unfortunately, further conflicts have to be remembered. It is now acknowledged and accepted by all responsible Local Authorities that it is not necessary for an actual declaration of war to have been made for a state of war to exist; so this circumstance should be included when making representations to include the names of those fallen in the service of the country. I have attached a brief note about Local Authority powers with this Newsletter.

Young People

Young people are being encouraged to take a leading role in looking after the nation's heritage, and to develop their skills and employment prospects as a result. Our founder, Ian Davidson would like Companies, interested in sponsoring local young volunteers, from schools, the Scouts, Guides and Cadet Forces to take on the fulfilling task of looking after War Memorials, to get in touch with him on :- 0181 205 1693.

But all this desperately needs funds and we appeal to all for help to preserve our precious heritage.

HELP US SAVE IT

You will find below a tear-off coupon inviting you to donate again, or perhaps make an initial contribution, to help us with this vital work. Perhaps you may be in a position to encourage a firm or a charity to take us on board. We will keep in touch with you over the coming significant years. Meanwhile we are most grateful for your encouraging response for the efforts which are being made to preserve the memory of those who have gone before. We will remember Them.

Thank you.

Sir Donald Thompson

FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

Find enclosed the sum of £..... to be used exclusively for the aims of the Friends of War Memorials.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Send post to:-

Bankers: Royal Bank of Scotland. Elgin Road Branch

Our thanks are due to individual donors, J P Kennedy Construction Ltd., G.N.E.R., ScotRail, Virgin Trains, The Robertson-Ness Trust, The Gosling Foundation, B.A.T. and Charity

Casework and Grants

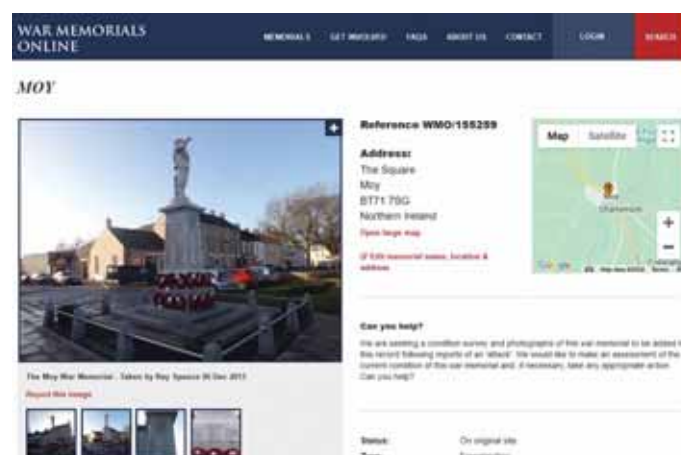
We hope through the Bulletin we are able to give you a flavour of our conservation work and grant-making. When compiling the Bulletin we make every effort to ensure we show a variety of war memorial types and dates as well as offering a geographical spread in each edition and across the year.

Casework deals with general and technical enquiries related to war memorials. From materials to legal status, names to locations, listing to history. When we spot trends or are aware of new legislation or research we try and include articles to keep you up-to-date.

The reporting of concerns about the condition of war memorials, by supporters, volunteers, contributors and the public, is central to the Trust's work. The Bulletin often features cases which have begun in this way. We also try and ensure people understand the type of information we need to be able to progress a case. Good photographs are vital and need to show the areas of concern to enable us to provide advice. Readers will probably have noticed that some of the images we use are not always the best quality. We have to do our best with what we receive as we cannot visit them all.

But that is where the Bulletin can work in another way. We can feature projects we need your help with. Whether it is solving 'mystery memorials' where we just have an image but no details or 'Can you help?' requests where we need photographs and up-to-date information, the interaction the Bulletin can offer can make the difference as to whether the charity can assist a case.

The War Memorials Online screenshot shows a current request for the war memorial in Moy, Northern Ireland. It has been reported as vandalised but we have been unable to confirm this so are asking for photographs in order to find out the extent of any damage.



Projects often feature in the Bulletin as well. We have covered initiatives such as our efforts to identify War Memorials Officers at Local Authorities which ran for several years. In Memoriam 2014, our partnership now with DeterTech, that offers free SmartWater to help protect war memorials from theft is included frequently as it is a simple and free way that communities can be proactive in caring for their war memorials.

Grant-making is possible due to donations from supporters and funders including Historic England and Historic Environment Scotland. Pages 11-13 show some of the earlier reports on grants supported by the charity. They show how the style of the Bulletin has evolved. Initially, multiple projects were summarised with a single image. Gradually, articles have lengthened to include more detail about each project.

War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme, for which we currently have an emergency funding appeal, see page 5, began in 1998. Formal reports on projects supported appeared in the Bulletin from 2000.

In that year the Grants for War Memorials Scheme, supported by Historic England (formerly English Heritage) and others, was launched. It supports freestanding war memorials in England which are either in a conservation area or Grade I/II* listed (Grade II in London).

From 2008, a partnership with Historic Environment Scotland (formerly Historic Scotland) was launched. It supports war memorials in Scotland and during the centenary of World War I operated as the Centenary Memorials Restoration Fund.

Between 2014-19 the Trust also worked on a centenary project with Cadw to assist war memorials in Wales.

Grants

Number 32

Winter 2006/07

Grants For War Memorials

Page 9

Whitwell (Isle of Wight)



This war memorial cross is sited outside the former Methodist chapel in Whitwell. It was erected in 1924 in commemoration of those who lost their lives in the Great War.

A grant of up to £225 was awarded to assist with repairing the surrounding metal railings.

▲ © Niton and Whitwell Parish Council

Chartham (Kent)

This stained glass window was originally installed at St Augustine's Chapel. When the church closed the local branch of the Royal British Legion rescued this important memorial.



A grant of up to £400 was awarded to assist with repairing the panels and framing the window in a light box.

▲ © RBL (Chartham) ▲

Southam (Gloucestershire)



This stone wheel cross was erected in 1920 and commemorates 15 local men who lost their lives in the First World War. An additional name was added at the end of the Second World War.

A grant of up to £250 was awarded to assist with cleaning and repairing the stonework and re-cutting the weathered inscription.

▲ © Southam Parish Council

Meenfield (Kent)

This chalk cross forms part of the landscape of Meenfield wood, near Shoreham. The top of the cross holds a plaque which commemorates the local men who lost their lives in both World Wars.

This unusual war memorial was dedicated in May 1920 in a ceremony attended by local dignitaries.

A grant of up to £250 was awarded to assist with soft landscaping works to restore the cross.



▲ © Shoreham Parish Council

Worksop United Church (Nottinghamshire)

A grant of up to £200 was awarded to assist with the re-displaying of three brass plaques within the church site.

The plaques commemorate congregation members who lost their lives in both World Wars.



▲ © Worksop United Church

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

www.warmemorials.org

Bethesda (Gwynedd)

The Bethesda Cenotaph was erected in June 1924 to commemorate the 90 local men who lost their lives in the First World War. After the Second World War, two side panels were added to list those who died during the conflict.

A grant of up to £250 was awarded to assist with the construction of metal railings to protect the site.



▲ © RBL (Bethesda)

Grants

Number 40 February 2009

Page 9

WAR MEMORIALS TRUST SMALL GRANTS SCHEME IN SCOTLAND

Carmunnock, Glasgow (WM2397) by A. Dunkley

Carmunnock's war memorial stands opposite Castlemilk Hall. It is a sandstone structure with a metal drinking trough in front, erected by the Laird of Castlemilk. A memorial plaque is on the wall above the trough which is now filled with plants.

In 2008 a grant of £5,199 was given for the repair and restoration of the monument which included cleaning the stone, cutting out old joints and re-pointing with lime mortar and repainting the trough with specialist metal paint. The roughcast covering the monument was also repaired and rendered in line with the original 1920's design.



Both images © Carmunnock Community Council

The memorial was erected in the early 1920's on the instructions of William Stirling Stuart, the Laird of Castlemilk, as a tribute to his son James Stirling Stuart, a Lieutenant in the Scots Guards, who loved horses. Lieutenant Sterling Stuart died after leading an attack on German machine gun positions at Ypres on 9th November 1914. He was 23 years old.

The memorial was dedicated in 1922. Originally it commemorated 13 men of Carmunnock who were killed in World War I, listed chronologically from the Laird's son to Private David Scott, 12th Royal Scots Fusiliers, who died in 1918. A second plaque with the names of the nine men of Carmunnock who died in World War II was added after that conflict.

Above the names is inscribed a verse from R.L. Binyon's poem For the Fallen: "O valiant hearts who to your glory came, Through dust of conflict and through battle flame, Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved, Your memory hallowed in the land you loved."



Deskford, Buckie (WM2374) by A. Dunkley



Deskford war memorial © John Robertson

The memorial is situated in the grounds in front of the deconsecrated St. John's Church, Deskford, which is now a private residence. It is just behind the railings separating the grounds from the B9018 and is easily visible from the road. The memorial is ten feet high, tapering towards the top, and made of Kemnay granite. It has a domed top and a stepped base. An inscription and names are incised in black lettering and above the inscription is carved a black Maltese cross.

In 2008 a grant of £2,172 contributed to the costs of tarmac-ing the lay-by in front of the property boundary, beside the road, so that those visiting the war memorial have a designated and suitable place to park. The previous arrangement was parking on the soft verge, or on the drive of the owners of the property.

The lay-by had already been consolidated with hardcore at the expense of the property owners but this was felt not to be a suitable solution for the long term. War Memorials Trust felt it was appropriate to support the property owners who have taken on responsibility for maintaining the war memorial so that it remains in its original location and accessible by all.

The memorial was originally unveiled in June 1921 by Professor Sir Ashley Macintosh, who at the time was Regius Professor of Medicine at the University of Aberdeen. It was built by J. Robertson & Son of Hardgate, Aberdeen.

Details on other completed projects grant aided are available on our web site.

Grants

Number 69 May 2016

Page 7

Grants for War Memorials scheme

Radford St Nicholas, West Midlands (WM7804)

The memorial consists of a Runcorn stonework obelisk raised from ground level on a three-stepped base. Mounted on each elevation of the obelisk is a bronze plaque commemorating those who served and died in World War I. A rectangular bronze dedication plaque is mounted on the stepped base. The memorial is located on open church land between St Nicholas Church and Radford Road.



Members of the local community with some of the removed plaques © Ian Ridley, 2013

In 2013, the memorial was targeted by thieves. Sadly, three of the five bronze plaques were stolen but one was later recovered having been discarded by those who had removed them. The community temporarily removed the other plaques as shown in the image left. The case received a lot of media attention at the time as the issue of metal theft was high profile and incidents at record levels. Our Director, Frances Moreton, was on BBC Coventry to discuss the case and a number of media outlets covered the story.



Radford St Nicholas memorial without its missing plaque © Radford War Memorial Committee, 2014

Following a grant application in 2014, an offer of £6,099 was made through the Grants for War Memorials scheme, funded by Historic England and The Wolfson Foundation, towards repair and conservation works. The grant funding supported the replication of the missing bronze plaques based on photographic evidence. It was important to ensure the same style, design and fonts were used so the new plaques matched the original. Keeping with the original design chosen by those who lost loved ones, and contributed to the costs of erecting local war memorials, is important in respecting the history of a memorial and the feelings at the time it was erected. All the plaques, both old and new, were re-fitted using anti-theft fixings. The original plaques were also appropriately cleaned and protected with a wax finish.



Radford St Nicholas memorial after works © Radford War Memorial Committee, 2016

The memorial was proposed by the Rev. F.G. Upton, Vicar of St Nicolas Church, Radford in June 1918 in a letter to parishioners. A committee was formed to set about raising funds for the memorial. They approached Councillor C. Vernon Purgh, who sponsored the scheme and provided the funds for the obelisk.

The memorial was unveiled by Councillor Purgh on 20th December 1919 in front of a host of dignitaries including the Mayor and Bishop. The memorial was designed by Mr I. T. R. J. Meakin, Architect of Coventry. The stonework was undertaken by Messes J. White and Sons, Yardly, Birmingham with Messrs Baker and Sons of St Pauls Square in Birmingham producing the bronzework.

War Memorials Trust gratefully acknowledges the support of Department of Culture, Media and Sport, Historic England, Historic Environment Scotland and The Pilgrim Trust for its Conservation Programme.



Historic England

Historic Environment Scotland
Àrainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba

Get involved

Annual Appeals and 2023-25 update

The Bulletin has always been a vital way of sharing information about our appeals, giving supporters an update on progress and saying **thank you** for your amazing contributions.

Sometimes we have annual appeals, others are multi-year enabling us to build up momentum to, hopefully, reach our targets. Funds may be raised for general use or for specific areas of work. In previous years we have focused on grants, the Learning Programme and War Memorials Online.

In 2023, we launched a 3-year campaign to raise £150,000 to help support our work as we approach the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II. Custodians, communities, veterans groups and others want their war memorials in the best possible condition for those events and services in 2025.

At the time of going to press the charity has **secured £41,000 this financial year towards the £150,000 target. Thank you** to everyone for your contributions.

Anyone still considering making a donation, or able to make a further gift, can find details on pages 15 and 16.

Legacies

Information about legacies is another common feature in the Bulletin. This reflects the significant impact they can have on the charity and its finances. Leaving a gift in your will is one way of saying, 'we still remember'. If you would like any information about legacy giving then please get in touch. Any legacies being left to charity 1062255 should be redirected to the new charity 1201442, as discussed on page 5. But if you have left a legacy and review your Will, you may wish to update the charity number.

Contributions to appeals, and leaving a legacy, can support work such as the 2015 grant of £40 to Boothtown Methodist Church on Boothtown Road in Halifax, West Yorkshire. The church houses its own memorials and those from Akroydon Methodist Church which were relocated in 1965. The grant saw both plaques remounted and casters added to the World War I memorial communion table!

Whilst the size of grant and nature of the works may not be something we see today, it does show one of the more unusual things the charity has funded over the years.



Left to right: Boothtown plaque ([WMO/94894](#)); Akroydon WWI communion table names ([WMO/94889](#)); Akroydon WWII Plaque ([WMO/261920](#)) © Boothtown Methodist Church, 2006

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To order, join or donate complete pages 15-16, detach and send to:

War Memorials Trust
1st Floor, 14 Buckingham Palace Rd
London SW1W 0QP

Please use a stamp. Adding freepost to the address will incur a sizeable fee which WMT has to pay. **Thank you**

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Please complete this order form and your details overleaf then send to the address on the left.

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	Set of 5 Trust pencils at £4 (inc. p&p)	
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CAF Bank is not on the CoP system yet (roll-out started with the big 6 banks) but these details are correct and you can still make a payment. You can check the details at www.warmemorials.org/donate.

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giftaid it

Please contact WMT if you would like further information. If you have already made a Gift Aid pledge please do remember to advise us if you move house or cease paying tax.

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- Joint = two people at the same address/an organisation

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- Credit/debit card (complete details below and ensure a phone number or email is provided above in case of query)

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Merchandise

War Memorials Trust sells a small number of merchandise items to help raise funds and awareness.

You can order them through the Bulletin, using the attached form, or online at www.warmemorials.org/shop. If an item is unavailable on the website shop then it has sold out and been removed.



Every purchase helps protect and conserve war memorials.



War Memorials Trust pencils and pens, including post and packaging, per pack cost:

5 pencils £4 or 3 pens £6