



## Helping Kent's young people to learn about war memorials: War Memorials Trust receives £9,900 Heritage Lottery Fund grant

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### Starts

War Memorials Trust (WMT) has been awarded £9,900 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to train a group of Learning Volunteers to work with local young people and help them learn about Kent's War Memorials.

WMT works to protect and conserve war memorials across the UK. It provides advice and grants as well as encouraging young people to engage with our war memorial heritage. The charity will use the HLF grant to develop a project called 'Remembering their history,' which will help young people in Kent discover more about the memorials and the people and events they commemorate.

WMT's Learning Officer will provide training for the volunteers to equip them with the skills to work with the young people, give talks and guide teaching sessions. They will work directly with young people and the adults who support them as they explore their wartime heritage in the lead up to and during the centenary of the First World War.

Commenting on the award, Frances Moreton, Director of WMT, said: "War Memorials Trust is delighted to receive this grant and is grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund for its support for our work to educate young people in Kent about war memorials. As the two World Wars move beyond living memory, war memorials are becoming a touchstone to the past and it is important to help young people, the next generation of war memorial custodians, understand the history and significance of this part of our heritage."

Stuart McLeod, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund South East, said: "The First World War changed the face of modern history touching the lives of everyone in this country and beyond. HLF has committed to funding a variety of projects, from organisations large and small, that will create a deeper understanding of the heritage of the conflict. Some of these will capture the memories of individual soldiers, regiments or families, some like 'Remembering their History'; will help young people from across Kent learn about their local war memorials. We have already supported over £28m of projects from across the United Kingdom and will continue to support as many applications as we can afford that want to commemorate the centenary."

### Ends

### Contact

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## Notes to editors

### About War Memorials Trust

1. War Memorials Trust is an independent registered charity. Established in 1997 due to concerns about neglect and vandalism it works to protect and conserve war memorials. It provides advice, information and administers grants schemes that assist the repair and conservation of war memorials across the UK. As a charity the Trust relies on voluntary contributions to undertake its work. Supporters include annual and life members, donors, charitable trusts and corporate contributors.
2. War Memorials Trust runs a Learning Programme for young people, launched in 2011. The Trust's learning website, [www.learnaboutwarmemorials.org](http://www.learnaboutwarmemorials.org), provides lesson plans and resources for schools and project ideas and activities for members of youth groups and the Trust's Learning Officer offers visits to schools to lead sessions and workshops for young people. These resources have been well received and used.
3. War Memorials Trust provides grants that can assist repair and conservation of war memorials. Contact the Conservation Team to discuss eligibility on 020 7233 7356 / 0300 123 0764 or [conservation@warmemorials.org](mailto:conservation@warmemorials.org) or download an 'Expression of interest form' from [www.warmemorials.org/grants/](http://www.warmemorials.org/grants/).
4. War Memorials Trust provides a free advisory service to anyone with a war memorial enquiry. Specialist Conservation Officers are available on 020 7233 7356 / 0300 123 0764 or [conservation@warmemorials.org](mailto:conservation@warmemorials.org).

### About Heritage Lottery Fund

1. Heritage Lottery Fund: Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) aims to make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities across the UK and help build a resilient heritage economy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, we invest in every part of our diverse heritage. HLF has supported almost 35,000 projects with £5.5bn across the UK. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk). Images available on request.

### Images

The image(s) sent with this news release should be credited to:

- Child looking at names on a war memorial: © J Peach-Miles, 2012
- Children researching names on a local war memorial during a lesson by WMT's Learning Officer © War Memorials Trust, 2013
- Ditton war memorial, Kent (WM3030) after works © Ditton PC, 2010