

## NEWS RELEASE

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### NEW WAR MEMORIAL GRANT FUNDING LAUNCHED

Tributes to Scotland's war veterans are to benefit from a new grants scheme launched by Historic Scotland and War Memorials Trust.

Funding will be available to ensure that freestanding memorials across the country are preserved in recognition of the contribution service men and women have made for their country.

Culture Minister Linda Fabiani MSP said: "Communities in Scotland and the UK often joined the armed forces together and remained in the same battalion as their friends. Memorials provide a focus for these communities to come together to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

"I have travelled widely in Scotland and it is exceptionally moving to see the great loss that is felt in even the smallest of villages. This partnership with War Memorials Trust will ensure that the names of our service men and women continue to be honoured properly."

Historic Scotland will provide £30,000 annually to War Memorials Trust who will distribute the grant funds to eligible conservation projects on freestanding war memorials such as obelisks and crosses.

The scheme can grant aid up to 75% of the total eligible cost of the works but at a maximum of £7,500.00 per project. A maximum of £5,000 will be available for each project through the Historic Scotland funding whilst the rest will be paid for by War

Memorials Trust through its own fundraising. The scheme will be run by the War Memorials Trust.

War Memorials Trust President Winston S Churchill said: “War Memorials Trust is delighted to be working with Historic Scotland to promote the protection and conservation of war memorials. The Trust has helped many communities in Scotland cherish their memorials during its first decade and looks forward to being able to support many more through this new grant scheme. It is particularly appropriate that this scheme is launched in 2008, a year in which the nation will mark the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War I.”

Other memorials in Scotland, such as plaques, stained glass windows or church furnishings will continue to be eligible for funding through War Memorials Trust Small Grants Scheme.

### **Notes for editors**

1. Historic Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government charged with safeguarding the nation’s historic environment. The agency is fully accountable to Scottish Ministers and through them to the Scottish Parliament. For more information visit [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk).
2. The Historic Scotland grants will be fund repairs to free standing stone memorials, other types of memorial may be eligible for grants from War Memorials Trust Small Grants Scheme.

### War Memorial Trust Notes to Editors

1. War Memorials Trust works for the conservation and protection of all UK war memorials. It is a registered charity with the Charity Commission 1062255. Further details about the Trust can be found at [www.warmemorials.org](http://www.warmemorials.org)
2. War Memorials Trust Small Grants Scheme was launched in 1998. In its first decade 440 projects shared over £170,000. Of these 23 grants have been offered in Scotland to the value of nearly £10,000. Details of these grants can be obtained from War Memorials Trust.
3. The Trust promotes the importance of war memorials ensuring they become an understood and cherished part of our local and national heritage. War Memorials Trust does this by providing financial assistance for conservation projects, advocacy services and by acting as the key referral and advice point.

War Memorials Trust is an independent Registered Charity and relies entirely on voluntary funding.

4. War Memorials Trust has a specialist Conservation Officer who administers the Trust's grant schemes and will be the contact point for enquiries about the grants available in Scotland.
5. War Memorials Trust contact details:

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