

David Harris

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing,
Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast

**Media Release****War memorials across the state in line for a facelift****Monday, 30 October 2023**

Thirteen war memorials across the state will share in \$124,239 of funding under Round 1 of the NSW Government's Community War Memorials Fund.

The NSW Government established the Community War Memorials Fund in 2008 to help conserve, repair and protect war memorials across NSW. Applications opened on Anzac Day and closed on 25 July.

There are more than 3,700 war memorials in NSW many of which provide a place for people to gather and remember those who have served from their local community.

Funds will be awarded directly to local councils, schools and community organisations in 10 electorates spanning metropolitan and regional areas including:

- \$10,000 to Bellingen Shire Council for conservation work to the Urunga War Memorial
- \$10,000 for the Christ Church War Memorial Gates in Gladesville
- \$10,000 to Coolah District Development Group Inc for conservation work to the Coolah War Memorial School of Arts

Since the establishment of the program in 2008, grants have been provided for a wide range of projects including condition assessments, honour roll repair, war memorial cleaning and conservation work, arborist advice for war memorial trees, security measures for memorials, repairs to war memorial halls and improvements to the accessibility of memorials.

Round 2 of the Program opens on Remembrance Day, 11 November 2023.

For more information and details of the Fund go to

<https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/heritage/community-war-memorials-fund/>

Quotes attributable to the Minister for Veterans, David Harris:

"Our communities are proud of their military history, and local war memorials are a vital part of our culture enabling us to reflect on over 100 years of our veterans' service and sacrifice.

"It is wonderful to announce this funding, which will be used to give our war memorials much-needed attention so they can continue to honour our veterans who have served our community.

"I encourage all communities to review the status of their local war memorials and to apply for funding for eligible conservation work that is needed, after Remembrance Day."

Quotes attributable to the Mayor of Bellingen Shire Council, Councillor Steve Allan

"Thank you to the NSW Government for this funding which will go towards the staged restoration of the Urunga War Memorial.

"Cenotaphs own unique values and hold space to the importance of the history of regional areas both as a community and for individual families.

“They remind us of the sacrifices made by earlier generations to protect the freedoms we enjoy today. Council is pleased to be able to undertake conservation works to help protect this Memorial for years to come.”

Quotes attributable to Jeremy King from the Anglican Parish of Gladesville:

The Christ Church War Memorial Gates in Gladesville will also benefit from conservation work. Mr Jeremy King from the Anglican Parish of Gladesville acknowledged the benefits to the memorial thanks to the funding.

“This funding will help preserve and restore the memorial gates, a significant historical feature of the Gladesville streetscape and a tribute to those who served in the First World War.”

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Round 1 of the Community War Memorials Fund 2023-24

Organisation name	Project description	Amount funded
Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney	Christ Church War Memorial Gates, Gladesville	\$10,000
Barkers Vale Public School	Barkers Vale District War Memorial	\$9,450
Bellingen Shire Council	Urunga War Memorial	\$10,000
Blayney Shire Council	Millthorpe War Memorial Gates	\$8,921
Blue Mountains City Council	Wentworth Falls War Memorial	\$4,950
Coolah District Development Group Inc	Coolah War Memorial School of Arts	\$10,000
Mallanganee Hall Public Land Manager	Mallanganee Memorial Hall	\$9,979
Northlakes High School	Northlakes High School War Memorial	\$3,500
Shoalhaven City Council	Nowra Soldiers Memorial	\$8,107
Shoalhaven City Council	Nowra Mafeking Boer War Memorial	\$11,627
Shoalhaven City Council	Kangaroo Valley Soldiers Memorial	\$15,000
Shoalhaven City Council	Berry War Memorial	\$14,905
Tocumwal War Memorial Hall	Tocumwal War Memorial Hall	\$7,800