

#### For Further Information/Reading:

#### **Design and Conservation Team**

Test Valley Borough Council Romsey SO51 8XG

T: 01794 527822

E:ljennings@testvalley.gov.uk

#### **War Memorials Trust**

(The Trust produces a very useful and comprehensive Advice on Maintenance of War Memorials leaflet which is available to download on their website or by post)

4 Lower Belgrave Street

London SW1W 0LA

T: 020 7881 0862

E: conservation@warmemorials.org www.warmemorials.org

#### **UK National Inventory of War Memorials**

Imperial War Museum

Lambeth Road

London SE1 6HZ

T: 020 7207 9863

E: memorial@iwm.org.uk

www.ukniwm.org.uk

#### **Department for Constitutional Affairs**

War Memorials in England and Wales: Guidance for Custodians www.dca.gov.uk



# CONSERVATION GUIDANCE NOTE FOR WAR MEMORIALS

This year marks the 90th year since the end of the First World War, and the focal point of many events and services will be the village and town war memorial.



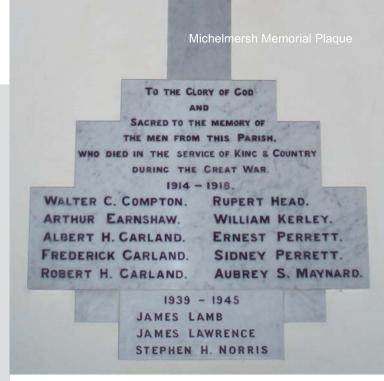
In anticipation of this anniversary, the Council has produced this guidance note to assist those who are responsible for looking after a war memorial.

## Maintaining a War Memorial



- Clean a stone memorial with water and a soft bristle brush, no more than once a year.
- Abrasive methods such as sandblasting or pressure washing should not be used as they could be very damaging to the memorial. Use of chemicals and metallic brushes should also not be employed.
- Any bronze should be cleaned with water, but not under pressure, and a mild detergent using a lint free cloth or natural bristle brush, but no more than once a year. Arrange for a bronze specialist to inspect the bronze and apply microcrystalline wax every 2-3 years.
- Iron joints and areas of flaking paintwork should be regularly inspected as the build up of water on iron structures can encourage corrosion and be very damaging.
- If joints in stone have become open it is important to arrange to have re-pointing carried out by a professional. Avoid the use of cement in the mortar mix.
- It is important to monitor the extent of any organic growth. Vegetation
  around the memorial should be controlled and maintained in
  order to prevent biological growth and accidental damage.

If a memorial is listed then any proposed work which may change the character of the memorial may require listed building consent. This would include any abrasive cleaning or a change in re-pointing mortar. Please contact the Design and Conservation team for advice.



### **Grants Available**

The War Memorial Trust supported by English Heritage runs two grant schemes to assist with the repair and conservation of war memorials. Up to 50% of eligible costs can be funded with a maximum of £2,500 to £10,000 per project depending on the scheme and the proposed works. For more information and an application pack please contact the Trust at:

#### www.warmemorials.org

A small grant for repair/maintenance work may also be available from the Council. For more details please contact the Design and Conservation Team on 01794 527822.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The following war memorials are listed at grade II: Over Wallop; Stockbridge; Kings Somborne.