

# War Memorials Trust's ideas for the Community Challenge Award



On this sheet you will learn:

- how you could use a war memorial task to help you achieve the Community Challenge Award

## Requirements

This award has two areas: **exploring** the local community and community **service**. For the first one you need to find out how an aspect of the local community works and is **organised**. For the community service element you need to take part in some local community service for at least **six** hours. This could be several small projects or one larger one.

## Exploring the local community

While it may be difficult to link this part of the badge directly to a local war memorial, you could link it to **local history** and **heritage**. There may be a local history interest group, a museum, a committee responsible for an aspect of local history or a charity that you could approach to find out how they operate.

There are different ways to find out about your chosen group. What you do will depend a lot on who you are asking but we suggest some starting points for you:

- Look at the group's **website**. Most charities have one and many local clubs or interest groups do too. This will tell you **background** information about the organisation.
- **Leaflets** or materials produced by the group often give you more of an insight into what the group does.
- **Invite** a member of the group to one of your meetings to tell you about what they do. Remember if you do this you should do some **research** about the group first and have an idea of what you want to find out. In some cases, such as a museum, it might be better for you to visit them. **Always** ask your leader before contacting anyone.

After you have found out about a group you will need to **report** back on what you have found out. There are various ways of doing this – you could produce a written report, give a **presentation** to your group or use ICT. Discuss different options with your leader.

## Community service

This part of the Award is the one you could link more directly to a local war memorial. War Memorials Trust has produced a number of information sheets about war memorials for young people, and suggestions for **projects** you can do within your community to help protect and conserve your local memorial, such as War Memorials Online and In Memoriam 2014, as well as more general maintenance work. These can be found at [www.learnaboutwarmemorials.org/youth-groups/projects](http://www.learnaboutwarmemorials.org/youth-groups/projects).

Participating in one of these projects (or doing work that combines several different elements) could contribute towards the **community service** element of the Community Challenge Award. You will need to plan your work carefully, deciding what you are going to do and how long you will spend doing it (remember the work must total at least **six** hours) and making sure that it benefits the wider community. This could be a great opportunity to build **links** with the community and show your group doing something **positive**.

## Summary

- There are two parts to the Community Challenge Award.
- **Researching** a local history group or museum (which may have connections to local war memorials) can help you achieve the first element of the award.
- Taking part in **community service** linked to the memorial will enable you to achieve the second part of the award.