War Memorials Online

War Memorials Trust

On this sheet you will learn:
- What War Memorials Online is.
- How you can get involved.

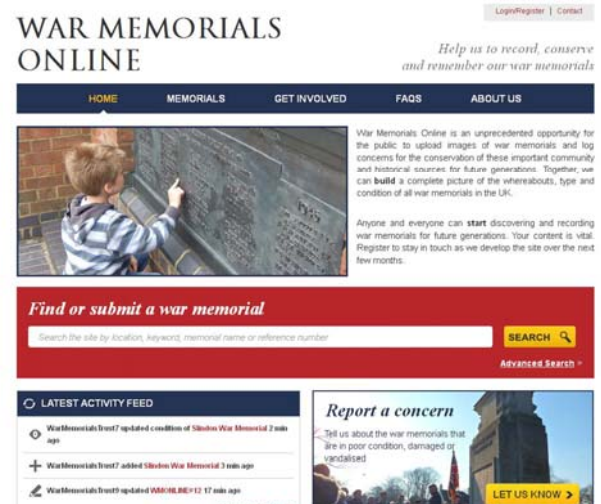## What is War Memorials Online?

WAR MEMORIALS ONLINE

War Memorials Online is a project that aims to build a complete **record** of all war memorials in the UK and of key information about them such as their **location**, type, **condition** and what information they carry. This is important because this information helps War Memorials Trust work out which war memorials are in bad condition and need **help**. Knowledge about war memorials will help us to preserve them so that **future generations** can continue to learn about them and the people that they help us remember. This is especially important now as the wars that many memorials commemorate are no longer part of living memory and so the memorial might be the **only record** of the local people involved. Their loss would mean the loss of this information.

The War Memorials Online website, www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk, contains records of war memorials in the UK. Anyone can use it to **check** if a war memorial is recorded on there, **add new information** about a war memorial that is already recorded or **add a new record** for a war memorial that is not yet on there. The idea of the project is getting everyone to use their **local knowledge** and give information about their local war memorial because someone who knows the memorial and the area will be more able to submit accurate information. It will also encourage **communities** to **work together** and help everyone take an interest in their local heritage and **participate** in its preservation.

What can you do?

Building a record of all the war memorials in the UK is no easy task and we are asking **everyone** to get involved in adding information to the website. The War Memorials Online website is easy to use – once you have **registered** (see 'Things to remember' below) it is easy to search for memorials and add new information.

Start by **searching** the website for any war memorials that are close to where you live. You search for your local memorial using the red 'Find or submit a war memorial' bar on the **homepage**:

It is worth trying different possible **search terms** in case the memorial has been put on the website by someone else but under a **different name**. For example, you can try searching by the name of the town or village the memorial is in or, if the memorial commemorates a specific group like former pupils of a school, search by a term related to that.

If you find your war memorial on the site, look at the **information** that is recorded about it and if anything is wrong (particularly the **location**) you can amend it by clicking on 'Edit memorial details' or 'Edit about the memorial description' and then amending the relevant details following instructions on the screen.

It is really important that we have good quality, up to date **photographs** of the memorial. These help us to assess the memorial's **condition** and recent ones are essential for accuracy – if we use old photographs to make decisions about the war memorial's condition then we might be using out of date information. You and your group could visit the war memorial to take photographs of it and then **add** them to the memorial's record on the website. You add the photos using the yellow 'Submit a new image' button. More information about helpful photographs can be found at www.warmemorials.org/photographs.

Finally, it is really important that we have up to date information about the memorial's **condition** and any other useful comments or information about it that you have. The tabs at the bottom of the memorial's record page can be filled in using the yellow 'Submit' buttons on them. **Guidance** on assessing the memorial's condition is provided when you click on 'Submit a condition update.'

If you have any **questions** about using the website please contact the Trust's Learning Officer (learning@warmemorials.org) or the War Memorials Online Administrator (info@warmemorialsonline.org.uk).

Don't forget this work can also be combined with the other projects we have suggested. For example, you might find war memorials eligible for **In Memoriam 2014** or you might be able to do some **maintenance** work to memorials you find on War Memorials Online.

Why should you get involved?

This project is crucial in helping us to preserve our war memorials so that future generations can continue to learn about the wars and people that they commemorate, and contributing to this will mean that you have helped to look after your **heritage**. It is also a perfect opportunity to do something a bit different that really matters, and learn about your **local history** in a **unique** way by examining the war memorial up close.

Because the information stored on War Memorials Online is quite wide-ranging you can get involved in different aspects of it – you could work on submitting **photos** for different memorials, or concentrate on checking the geographical **location** of all the memorials in your area. If you are more interested in **conservation**, you can visit different memorials and update the condition aspect of the records. There is something to interest everyone.

Things to remember

You will need to **register** with the War Memorials Online website to be able to add updates. You must ask **permission** from your parents or group leader before doing this. If you are working with your whole group your leader might want to register the group once rather than everyone registering individually, so discuss with them what would be best. You must, when using any of War Memorials Trust's websites, follow the terms and conditions and acceptable use policies of that site and follow the rules for **staying safe online**.

Summary

- War Memorials Online aims to **record** and help **conserve** the UK's war memorials.
- You can help by **adding** records of your local war memorials to the website.
- You can also **update** existing records, add **photographs** and **condition** information and show where war memorials are on a map.