

## 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

## Funding for war memorials throughout NSW

**Thursday, 7 November 2024**

Minister for Veterans David Harris announced \$128,358 in NSW Government funding for care and upkeep of 15 war memorials across the state.

The \$2,000 to \$15,000 grants have been awarded to local councils, RSL sub-Branches and community groups throughout metropolitan, regional and rural NSW from Round 1 of the 2024/25 Community War Memorials Fund.

The recipients range from all four corners of the state, from Broken Hill to Bland, Port Stephens to Sussex Inlet, Tamworth to Thirroul.

Minister Harris was in Broken Hill today to announce \$10,000 has been awarded to Broken Hill City Council for conservation work on the town's Great War Memorial.

Dubbed 'the Bomber', the memorial comprises an imposing bronze sculpture of an Australian First World War soldier throwing a Mills bomb.

The memorial was unveiled by Lt. General Sir John Monash on 11 October 1925 where it has since stood as an iconic feature of Broken Hill and remains the largest free-standing war memorial action sculpture in Australia.

Twenty-six applications were received in this round, which closed on 24 July. Round 2 of the grant program will open on Remembrance Day, 11 November 2024.

Changes will be made to the Community War Memorials Fund schedule in 2025, and more details will be released closer to that time.

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

### **Minister for Veterans David Harris said:**

"Our communities are proud of their military history, and it is wonderful to announce this funding for local war memorials across the state.

"Local war memorials like the Great War Memorial here in Broken Hill, are a vital part of our culture. Ensuring they are supported with appropriate conservation and upkeep will help us to continue to reflect on over 100 years of service and sacrifice by our veterans.

"I encourage all communities to review the status of their local war memorials and to apply for funding for any restoration work that is needed."

### **Broken Hill City Mayor Tom Kennedy said:**

"I'd like to thank the NSW Government for this funding, which will contribute to much-needed conservation work on our War Memorial statue in Argent Street.

"The Bomber statue is an iconic Broken Hill landmark and a great tribute to all the brave locals who have lost their lives fighting for Australia over the years.

“I commend the NSW Government for helping to ensure their sacrifice is not forgotten.”

**MEDIA: Matt Porter | Minister Harris | 0407 239 578**

## Successful recipients - Round 1 of the Community War Memorials Fund 2024/25

Organisation name	Project description	Amount funded	Electorate
Windsor and District RSL sub-Branch	Moran's Rock Reserve First and Second World War Honour Rolls	\$6,700	Hawkesbury
Austinmer Thirroul RSL sub-Branch	Thirroul First World War Memorial	\$9,933	Heathcote
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	Muttama Hall	\$3,596	Cootamundra
Broken Hill City Council	Broken Hill Great War Memorial (The Bomber)	\$10,000	Barwon
Mangrove Mountain Christian Group Incorporated	Mangrove Mountain Union Church First World War Memorial Tablet	\$10,000	Gosford
Sussex Inlet RSL sub-Branch Limited	Sussex Inlet RSL sub-Branch Memorial Hall	\$15,000	South Coast
Goulburn Mulwaree Council	Goulburn Boer War Memorial	\$5,390	Goulburn
Patonga Beach Progress Association	Patonga Beach War Memorial	\$7,000	Gosford
Portland RSL sub-Branch	Portland War Memorial	\$2,090	Bathurst
Port Stephens Council	Knitting Circle Memorial, East Seaham	\$12,672	Port Stephens
Fairfield City Council	Cabravale Memorial Park Bandstand	\$10,000	Cabramatta
City of Newcastle Council	The Junction Soldiers War Memorial	\$14,300	Newcastle
Tamworth Regional Council	Tamworth Boer War Memorial Fountain	\$10,000	Tamworth
Council of the City of Ryde	Meadowbank First World War Memorial	\$9,677	Ryde
Bland Shire Council	Mirrool War Memorial	\$2,000	Cootamundra