

NEWS RELEASE



The Hon. Graham West MP
Minister for Juvenile Justice
Minister for Youth
Minister for Volunteering
Minister Assisting the Premier
on Veterans' Affairs

Saturday 21 March 2009

Funding to protect and restore Mendooran-Merrygoen Memorial

Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, Graham West, and the State War Memorials Committee, have announced \$10,000 in funding for the restoration of the Mendooran-Merrygoen Memorial Club Honour Wall.

Mr West said the funding was made possible through the Community War Memorials Fund, which was announced in April 2008 to help local communities protect and restore war memorials.

"The funding will be allocated to the Mendooran and District Development Group to conduct repairs and improvements to the Memorial," Mr West said.

"The Mendooran-Merrygoen Memorial Club Honour Wall commemorates the veterans of World War 1 and World War 2.

"Erected more than 50 years ago for the servicemen of the Mendooran District, the Memorial features 20 names inscribed on the concave Memorial Wall name plates.

"\$10,000 for the Mendooran-Merrygoen Memorial Club Honour Wall will allow local tradespeople and artisans to conduct restoration work on the Honour Wall, repair footings, replace damaged bricks in the wall and restore the concrete path," Mr West said.

Mr Herb Busine, President of the Mendooran-Merrygoen Memorial Club, wrote about the importance of the memorial in his letter to the State War Memorials Committee.

"The involvement of people from this small community has always been out of all proportion to the actual size of the town, with virtually every family having had at least one member in the Australian Armed Forces," he wrote.

Community War Memorials Grants are offered twice each year, with the next round of applications closing on April 17 in advance of Anzac Day. The applications are considered by State War Memorials Committee members, who include Mr Don Rowe, President of the NSW RSL and representatives of heritage and community groups.

Mr West is encouraging communities, councils and ex-service organisations interested in applying for funding to visit: <http://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/>

Contact: Cara Davis 9228 4228/ 0407 219 944