



The Hon Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 27 June 2011

NEW COMMUNITY WAR MEMORIAL GRANTS FOR NEWCASTLE

Minister responsible for Veterans' Affairs, Victor Dominello MP and Member for Newcastle, Tim Owen MP today announced two new Community War Memorial Grants for the Newcastle area.

"I am very pleased to announce that Cook's Hill Surf Lifesaving Club has been granted \$10,000 for the refurbishment and relocation of their memorial," Minister Dominello said.

"I am equally pleased to announce that \$3,500 has been granted to the Newcastle Maritime Museum Society for the purchase of interpretative material for exhibit on the Merchant Navy during WW2," Minister Dominello said.

Minister Dominello said funding had been made available through the Community War Memorials Fund which helps local community groups, local councils, RSLs and schools to restore war memorials in their communities.

"More than 3000 memorials were built in towns and suburbs after the Great War. It is important that we support local groups in maintaining these memorials, some of which are eighty or ninety years old," Minister Dominello said.

"This partnership between the NSW Government and local communities ensures that we never forget the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women," Minister Dominello said.

Member for Newcastle Tim Owen MP, a former Deputy Commander of the Australian Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan with the Royal Australian Air Force, welcomed the grants, recognising that they provide practical support to ensure the repair and conservation of local memorials.

"These memorials are our testimony to those who didn't return from the Great War. They represent the bravery, courage and mateship displayed by past members of the Newcastle community," Mr Owen said.

"With the support of the NSW Government, the Cook's Hill Surf Lifesaving Club and the Newcastle Maritime Museum Society can continue to honour our local servicemen and women and educate future generations about the sacrifices they have made," Mr Owen said.

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