

Peter Primrose MLC

Minister for Small Business,
Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth,
Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs



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Grants to protect and restore Hunter war memorials

The Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, Peter Primrose, will today announce \$10,516 in funding for the restoration three war memorials in the Hunter — the Lochinvar Memorial Gate Pillars, the Kurri Kurri War Memorial and display cabinets at the Kurri Kurri Worker's Club.

Mr Primrose said the funding was made possible through the Community War Memorials Fund, which helps local communities to protect and restore war memorials.

"These memorials are an enduring symbol of the sacrifices made by those who served in the two world wars as well other conflicts where Australians have served," Mr Primrose said.

"The NSW Government recognises the importance of maintaining the memory of our servicemen and women, not only through memorials, but in schools through our history curriculum, and in the community through events on Anzac Day and Armistice Day."

A total of \$4,400 has been allocated for display cabinets for memorabilia in the foyer of the Kurri Kurri Worker's Club and repairs and installation of a new plaque at the Kurri Kurri War Memorial in Rotary Park.

The Member for Cessnock, Kerry Hickey, who supported the application for funding, said the grant was gratefully accepted, however, there was still a lot more to do.

"The benefit of the display cabinets for memorabilia will ensure that the public has some recognition of medals and the unselfish sacrifice that many ex-servicemen have given for our communities," Mr Hickey said.

Funding has also been allocated to the Lochinvar Memorial Gate Pillars, which were dedicated around 90 years ago with the names of 56 locals who served in World War I.

In response to safety issues associated with the memorial's current location next to the New England Highway, \$6,116 has been granted to the Greta RSL sub-branch to relocate it and add a Wall of Remembrance along with other enhancements.

Member for Maitland, Frank Terenzini said the Anzac Day tradition was growing stronger every year.

“I am pleased that the Greta RSL Sub Branch’s application for funding has been successful,” Mr Terenzini said.

“The Greta RSL is undertaking works to help the young learn about the sacrifices and honour of past generations and provide places of healing and commemoration for those left behind”.

“I am particularly pleased that the Greta RSL intends to provide space for post World War I service men and women to be included on the rolls,” Mr Terenzini said.

Mr Primrose said the Community War Memorials Fund was established in recognition that many memorials, some now 80 or 90 years old, are in need of maintenance.

“\$250,000 is available across the state each year for the repair and conservation of local memorials,” Mr Primrose said.

The applications are considered by State War Memorials Committee twice a year.

Members of the committee include Don Rowe, the NSW RSL President, and representatives of heritage and community groups.

Mr Primrose said communities, councils and ex-service organisations interested in applying for funding to visit www.veterans.nsw.gov.au or phone 9228 5370.

More information about war memorials across the state can be found at the NSW war Memorials Register: www.warmemorialsnsw.asn.au