

THE OSSETT FALLEN

OSSETT WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT 2017-2018

HOW IT HAPPENED & WHAT IT DID

By Alan & Pat Howe

This is the so far untold history of the Ossett War Memorial Project 2018; a Project which delivered its objective. It is November 2021, three years after the engraving and unveiling of the names of The Ossett Fallen on 11th November 2018, a whole century to the day after the 1918 Armistice was signed to end The Great War 1914-1918.

The war to end all wars.

After the war Ossett was slow to decide on the way in which the town should remember the sacrifice made by its young men and, indeed, its young women and children who had lost their husbands and fathers. When the decision was finally made in the mid 1920's it was to erect a war memorial in their honour which was unveiled on 11th November 1928; a full ten years after the Armistice was signed.

The second war came and went and whilst it was, and still is, a very fine Memorial and a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives in WWI & WWII some thought it anonymous because it did not record the names of those who lost their lives. It recognised the event but not the sacrifice and it says nothing of their number and little of their loss. How could it be possible for these men and women, the Ossett Fallen, be remembered in this century if we knew not who they were?

Then there came, out of nowhere, a moment in time in July 2017 which changed our history. You will hear more of this as you read on.

This moment gave life to a small group of volunteers, which grew smaller with time; a group which was to become the Ossett War Memorial Project 2018. It had just one objective, to ensure that by the 100th Anniversary of the 1918 Armistice on 11th November 2018, the names of the Ossett Fallen would be prominent in the centre of the town. In that way The Ossett Fallen would be remembered in death as they were known in life; by their names. No more anonymity.

But the Project and the team who ran it was only formed following a tap on the shoulder at a market stall in Ossett Market Place in July 2017.

Before the Beginning

The objective seemed obvious enough and yet the context suggested that it might be difficult to achieve; if it were that simple why had it taken 100 years before it was ever attempted?

This was to be a momentous concept born in an instant but one which needed a catalyst, a seed which needed to be sown to build upon what had already been achieved; i.e. the identification, research and writing of biographies for the Ossett Fallen. These biographies were researched and written for Ossett but in those early days of research it was never intended that they form a basis for a permanent and prominent place in the centre of Ossett.

So, what was the catalyst which moved the names from their virtual existence on a website to become reality at Ossett war memorial? Who sowed that seed?

It came in the strangest circumstances in July 2017 whilst I was stood on a stall in the market place encouraging people to pre – order the book “Sketches of Past Times Flushdyke and Ossett”. In May 2017 Ossett had lost Douglas Morton Brammer, the artist of these remarkable sketches. I had promised Douglas and his family that I would design, produce and publish a book of his sketches, of which there were almost 100. With the help of Douglas’s wife, Sheila, his sister Margaret Wilby and the support of my family the book was due for launch in September 2017.

Stood at the stall I felt a tap on my shoulder and turned to see a face I knew. It was a very modest and quietly spoken lady to whom we, as researchers of the Ossett Fallen, owed so much. She had previously worked at Ossett Library and many years prior to our involvement she had painstakingly collected, created and made freely available files of cuttings and other information about the Ossett men who had lost their lives in WWI. To the researcher and for Ossett it was a goldmine of information and without her earlier work the task of researching and writing the biographies would have been so much more difficult.

The tap on the shoulder took my attention and in a single sentence the lady explained that she had recently read of another town which had been granted funding for their memorial and their fallen. With that she was gone.....the seed had been sown and the catalyst, *the person or the thing that precipitates an event*, had made the point. That lady is Dorothy Wainwright.

This was no easy task and I couldn’t take on another, unexpected, challenge; especially one of such enormity. I parked the idea and concentrated on my immediate imperative, Douglas Brammer’s book. The 1st print of 200 books was sold before the September 2017 launch and in October we took a 2nd print of 200 books which sold out by April 2018. Douglas’s family donated more than £1000 to charitable causes of their choosing



The Memorial and the Ossett Fallen would have to be patient a little longer

What Could Possibly Go Wrong ?

I did intend to park the Fallen/Memorial idea which had been whispered in my ear but later in summer 2017 I learned of Wakefield Council's Local Capital Grant Programme (LCGP). Each of the 21 Wards in Wakefield were allocated the same amount of LCGP Funding each year and projects had to be supported by all 3 Local Ward Councillors of the applicants' area.

If this idea, the *War Memorial Project 2018*, was going to see the light of day it would need significant funding and the Local Capital Grant Scheme might be the only chance it could be achieved.

The Project would also require very substantial time and commitment involving:-

- * concept development, consultation with individuals, communities, local interest groups and organisations about concept and locations.

- *Discussions with ward councillors and the British Legion whose support was essential for success.

- *Wakefield Council (WMDC) departments including Planning, Conservation (the Memorial and Town Hall are Grade II listed and in a Conservation Area), Streetscene, Highways, Community Grants Team, Corporate Landlord and Neighbourhood and Community.

- *Externally, Historic England and, especially, the War Memorial Trust, who WMDC relied upon for advice, needed to be convinced about such a complex proposal. The War Memorial Trust has conservation at its heart and, quite rightly, it was determined that the integrity of the Grade II Listed 1928 War Memorial be protected at all costs.

- *Consultations and subsequent tendering with companies and potential sponsors, designers, photographers, printers, publishers, media outlets, paving and public space experts, plaque makers, surveyors, architects, stone masons and fabricators.....vicars, cherry pickers and Harewood House.

- *The Project was determined to secure a future for the memories of the Ossett Fallen and children formed a key part in the process which required consultation with Ossett Library, Schools, educationalists, sound engineers, churches and the British Legion.

Knowing all of this was ahead of us and that the 11th November 2018 was our target for completion, the date for the Application to WMDC was set as 11th November 2017; a whole year ahead.

In the beginning the initial Project Team comprised four people which soon became three. One of the three who remained a while longer damned me recently with faint praise on the *clerk of works* job he said I had done! It was a sign that he was ***There But Not There*** almost all of the time and had no idea what was involved. The extent of the work and the commitment required to see it through may have been the reason why it had never been attempted in the previous 100 years.

The active "Project Team" effectively comprised Alan Howe and Pat Monteagle Howe until later in the process when it was supplemented by a third, Andrea Hartley. The Project began with a blank piece of paper and it ended with 402 engraved names of the Ossett Fallen, brothers and sisters in arms, together at the Ossett War Memorial in the Market Place.

Fortunately though there was a great many others who were there when needed and they often freely shared their expertise. They deserve Ossett's gratitude, sincere thanks and an acknowledgment for their part in the Project. Their names are written later in this history in the form of a Roll of Honour. Without their support this Project would not have been a success and we thank them all for that support.

Where to Begin?



In late summer 2017 consideration was given to options for location and type of plaque or stone. The options on location in particular were identified and in October they were publicised on social media and consulted with local interest groups in probably the largest consultation ever known in Ossett. One of options was to do nothing. Out of 700 respondents only two opted for the status quo.

Where should the names of the Ossett Fallen finally rest and how should they be shown? Should there be a single “plaque” or several? Should the material be bronze, aluminium, brass, steel or stone? We tested them all. Where should be the Ossett Fallen’s final resting place; the Town Hall, inside or outside, the War Memorial Community Centre, the 1928 War Memorial in the Market Place or elsewhere? We tested them all. Two of those three options involved Grade II Listed buildings.

The overwhelming consensus was that the future place of remembrance should be where Ossett had remembered its Fallen since 11th November 1928; the Ossett War Memorial.

Ossett had settled on that and so it was that we began to investigate how the names of 400 or so Ossett Fallen could be added to the Ossett War Memorial; a Grade II Listed structure in a Conservation area. What could be more straightforward?

Plaque makers and, at the same time, stone masons were commissioned to determine what might be possible whilst all the time dealing with WMDC Planning, Highways, streetscene and crucially The War Memorial Trust. Without the approval of the Trust, WMDC Planning would not budge; rightly so. The possibility of metal plaques incorporating the names *on* the War Memorial became increasingly problematic not least because of the concave faces of the Memorial. More to the point we knew it would overwhelm the Memorial and question the integrity of the 1928 structure. The War Memorial Trust and, therefore WMDC planning didn’t like it at all. Neither did we even though the concept had taken up much of our time and that of potential suppliers.

Further discussions with Planning and the Trust left just one option; the names would need to be placed, in one way or another, *at* and not *on*, the War Memorial in the Market Place. We set about designing how this could be done and how it might look. We brought in expert planning and architectural advice and considered

stone blocks/planters at each corner, or a low wall with or without seating on three sides of the Memorial. The names would be “displayed” on the walls/blocks. There were Planning, Highways and War Memorial Trust practical concerns about these options on access and intrusive grounds so close to the existing War Memorial and in a Conservation Area. We parked those ideas and concentrated on, what turned out to be, the seed of the final concept.

From the beginning of our journey, my daughter, Emma Wild, had floated the possibility of pavements, bearing names, in the Market Place. This idea, which was to be the basis for the final concept, had its advantages. WMDC Planning confirmed that this concept wasn’t intrusive and as long as the stones didn’t touch the War Memorial it wouldn’t require Listed Building consent. Moreover, since the stones were simply replacing the existing paving blocks neither would it require planning consent. WMDC Highways & Streetscene were also content since the changes would not be an obstruction because they were within the chain and bollard fence surrounding the Memorial and consequently not part of the pedestrian and vehicular areas in the market place. We had the planning and listed buildings clearances which we required; we could move on.

The beauty of the concept is that from most positions in the market place you see only what you saw pre November 2018; the Ossett War Memorial seemingly without names. As you get closer you read the long held generic inscriptions of 1928 and the late 1940’s and, most importantly, you can see and read the names of the men and women who lost their lives so that we might live ours in freedom. People no longer simply walk past as if the Memorial wasn’t there; instead they stop and, I hope, they think and remember. In that sense the names are ***There But Not There***.

Just like the high-profile national remembrance project set up to commemorate a century since the end of the First World War There But Not There run by military charity Remembered, was launched in 2018 to commemorate, educate and heal, bringing the 888,246 lost during the conflict off memorial walls and into physical public spaces, reminding the public of the conflict’s grave impact on communities across the country.



There But Not There. The theme continued. Silhouette courtesy of Jack Wild

Moving On

November 2017 had been busy with measuring and re-measuring the Memorial and the space available between it and the chain fence. The number of memorial stones to be laid at the Memorial was calculated (originally twenty but nineteen finally as the legend stone was considered better double size) as were the number of names which could be fitted on each stone. There wasn't room for second Christian names so a single initial had to do. The size of the characters, the font and the layout of each of the 19 stones was carefully considered with the potential masons. Another complication was that the stones at the front of the Memorial, facing the Town Hall, are shorter than the others due to an electric grid box at ground level in the block paving in front of the Memorial.

There had been talk of adding names of Ossett service personnel who had fallen in other conflicts but there was reluctance to do so because the Memorial focus was WWI & WWII. Neither we did we wish to enter a debate about definitions of conflicts, past or future. Instead one of the Memorial stones would bear words of gratitude reflecting the service of those who had served their country.

The four corner stones took up much of our time because we had concluded that each of these four stones should be triangular to enable the provision of sand boxes at each corner. This would allow the continuation of the Ossett tradition, established by the local branch of British Legion, of placing poppy crosses at the Memorial. We resolved it by having square corner stones, each engraved with a rose, and triangular sand boxes which stood upon the stones. It sounds simple now. Even better was that the four triangular sand boxes were sponsored and fabricated by an Ossett Company, Spurr Fabrications Ltd.

We met with two stone masons who quoted prices and obtained a third quote for engraving almost 6000 characters on the nineteen memorial stones. We met too with the paviour suppliers who quoted for engraving and the stones. They also advised on the granite stones which would match the granite at the Memorial.

The final layout would comprise four corner stones, thirteen stones recording 402 names (a further seven were added in 2019) and two stones reflecting tributes to those who have served the country.

With planning and listed buildings clearances we now also had the above information in hand to make the Application to WMDC. Originally the 11th November 2017 had been set as a date for the submission to WMDC of an application for the Project and its funding but the complications meant that the application would not be lodged with WMDC until 6th December 2017. The fourteen pages of Application and supporting appendices gained full support from all three ward councillors Lynn Masterman, Angela Taylor and Nick Farmer; the application required a leading councillor and Lynn Masterman acted in that role.

The hope was that the Application would be considered and approved by 31st January 2018 but the approval letter was not issued until 13th February 2018. The Project had slipped almost six weeks in three months and whilst this could be handled it was a bit nerve wracking with much more ahead.

The good news was that WMDC approved in full the funding requirement for our estimated cost of the Project which was £10,000. Equally good news was that WMDC "allocated" a liaison officer, Andrew Woodhead, to help with the process. It turned out to be a master stroke by WMDC.

The Chinese Connection

The timetable to achieve completion before 11th November 2018 required an order to be made for the nineteen memorial stones by 31st March 2018. This would allow engraving, some stone cutting, moving them to site and laying them at the Memorial. The granite stones were to be sourced from the People's Republic of China by the internationally renowned Marshalls PLC who also advised on the matching of the stones with the granite War Memorial which, incidentally, was called Callisto. The order was issued on 5th April 2018.

The lead in time for delivery by sea from China, of these nineteen bespoke memorial stones, was thirteen weeks such that the cargo should have arrived by 30th June 2018. This would allow the selected mason, Lancaster Memorials of Ackworth, to engrave the stones by late August 2018, as they had specified in their submission.

The date was 19th June 2018. This was the lowest day in the life of the Project. In the early morning I was called by York Hospital to tell me my 92 year old father was in hospital; they suggested I get there as soon as possible. Shortly after my arrival there, the mason called to tell me that the shipping crate of the memorial stones had arrived with him via Marshalls but that it contained only seventeen of the nineteen stones ordered. Worse was that seven of the stones which were shipped were damaged.

I called Marshalls from the Hospital and they agreed to meet at the masons in Ackworth. York Hospital informed me that it would be four hours before they could be sure about my father's situation so I drove from York to Ackworth for the meeting to see what might be salvaged. We agreed on a course of action but the timetable would not allow another 13 weeks to deliver the missing and any seriously damaged stones. Marshall's agreed to fly the missing/replacement stones from China to the UK and to bring in their own mason to check, salvage, remedy and cut what could be done with the remaining damaged stones. I drove back to York within the four hours and in time to see that my father was as well as could be expected.

Several days later, after Marshalls had commissioned a flight to fulfill the original order, their nominated mason wrongly cut one of the stones and Marshalls agreed to fly another stone from China to the UK. Fair to say they didn't charge WMDC with anything above the original cost. It was the Project's lowest day and we were convinced that the Project was lost.

It was 31st August 2018 before the memorial stones were finally delivered to the mason for engraving which was two months after the scheduled date of 30th June 2018. The Programme had lost two months and there was insufficient contingency to allow for any other serious problems. The mason, who would have had the right to walk away from the Project did the opposite and by the end of September 2018 he had engraved almost 6000 characters on the memorial stones. They were ready for delivery to site (the War Memorial) for the next and final stage; the laying of the stones at the base of the War Memorial.

The importance of the Commemoration demanded photographic coverage at the highest level. We approached a number and all enthusiastically responded and offered their services free of charge. Each had a "brief" and a position of sorts.....whether it was from a Town Hall window, a cherry picker, close up (but busy) or free to roam, the collection of photographs from the morning and

afternoon services was absolutely stunning. Photographers on the day included Phillip Smithson, Robert Anthony James Ingham, Neville Ashby, Kenny Smith, Andy Steer and Paul Crilley. Kenny Smith also produced a DVD of the Commemoration and Presentations to the children.

For a brief time we were able to catch up with some issues which we had to park whilst attending to the above chaos. On 3rd September we met with Andy Legge of Lifterz about a cherry picker for one of the photographers; on 11th September 2018 we met with school heads and representatives at Ossett Academy to outline our proposals and seek their support. Kelly Burnett had a co-ordination /liaison role for/with Ossett schools and without her input it would have been impossible for us to bring the schools on board. On 25th September we met with ENGIE and WMDC for clarification purposes and on 26th September we met with British Legion in one of our increasingly regular meetings round our table. The diary was busy.

From somewhere the mason from Lancaster Memorials conjured time on 27th September 2018 to visit the War Memorial to undertake an element of work we had included in the specification; this was to remedy the WWII Inscription on the front of the War Memorial which was in poor condition.



Shipped from China. Delivered to the Mason. Poor packaging, 2 missing & 7 damaged stones

On 11th November 1928 the Ossett War Memorial was unveiled by Lord Lascelles, who shortly thereafter became the 6th Earl Harewood married to Princess Mary, Princess Royal, the only daughter of King George V and Queen Mary. The 6th grandson is the 8th Earl Harewood, David, who was born in October 1950. In mid June 2018 we wrote to him to explain the objectives of the Project and invited him to the unveiling of the names of the Ossett Fallen at the Ossett War Memorial.

It was some time and a number of telephone calls later that we were informed that the 8th Earl Harewood, David Lascelles, would be abroad at the time of the unveiling and that he much regretted not being able to attend. He sent his best wishes for the work of the Project.

The Final Curtain & The Final Push



October 2018 ENGIE Team who undertook groundwork and the laying of the memorial stones

The groundwork and laying of the memorial stones was to be undertaken by WMDC contractor, ENGIE, with whom we had met on several occasions in earlier days of the Project. The Memorial became a construction site with high level hoarding set around the site not least because we wanted the engraved stones to be unseen by the public until the morning of the 11th November 2018, exactly 100 years after the Armistice was signed on that day in 1918. ENGIE began their task on 15th October 2018 and had completed it by 19th October. The hoarding remained in situ with notices and banners on the hoarding to inform the public of the reasons.

Talks were held with the Ossett Company, Spurr Fabrication Ltd, sponsors, designers and fabricators of the bespoke sand boxes which were delivered and fixed in place on Monday 5th November 2018.

During late 2017 and most of 2018 frequent updates were made to the town's interest groups, on social media and by way of press, newspaper and magazine, publicity. This was supported by the issue and circulation to Ossett of almost 11, 000 leaflets and flyers. There were regular meetings with the Horbury, Sitlington and Ossett branch of the Royal British Legion who were key to the Project and, of course, the Remembrance Day arrangements.

Earlier in the summer of 2018 there were meetings with Ossett's eleven schools to canvass their support and the manner in which Ossett's children might play a part in the process, the ceremonies and commemorations so that they understood about the Ossett Fallen and the importance of remembrance and the Day. All of the schools and the children were to have a leading role in the run up to, and on, 11th November 2018.

The involvement of the schools and the children was a breath of fresh air, as if reinforcements had arrived to reinvigorate the Project and help it through to its final objective. There were displays in schools and soldier silhouettes with names in Ossett Library and a rehearsal on 23rd October 2018 in the former magistrates' room at the Town Hall for those children from Ossett's eleven schools who were to unveil the names of the Ossett Fallen on Remembrance Day.

Arrangements were made to create an immensely moving occasion when children from each of the schools recorded their voices speaking the names of the Ossett Fallen so that they would be heard again on 11th November 2018 at the Holy Trinity Church Service. Shortly afterwards the names were heard again at the War Memorial as though it was an echo of thanks and remembrance from Ossett's 21st Century children to the Ossett Fallen. Thanks to Ossett's eleven schools and children who enthusiastically embraced the War Memorial Project and special thanks to Holy Trinity CE Primary School for undertaking the recording of the children voicing the names.

We did what we could to make community groups aware of the proposals and on Friday 12th October 2018 a Display and Presentation about the Ossett Fallen was made to a local Trefoil Guild at South Ossett Church Centre.

During the life of the Project research continued apace to seek out more Ossett Fallen. Andrea Hartley has a passion for the Ossett Fallen helping to discover some of the twenty additional names added to the total we had when we began this journey in summer 2017. Andrea had become a stalwart member of the team assisting and contributing when and wherever she could.

We had set a deadline of 30th June for accepting "new" Ossett Fallen but the delays in the programme meant we had some flexibility. At Heritage Day 2018 the family of a soldier called John Smith approached me expressing the view that he should be included as an Ossett Fallen. The names were with the mason by this time and I was much less certain of John's case. The family's determination and perseverance to pursue John's case encouraged me to investigate more fully. They were right, the mason was flexible too and Private John Smith became the last of the Ossett Fallen to be welcomed before Armistice Day 2018.



23rd October 2018 School children from the eleven Ossett schools gather at the Town Hall to rehearse for 11th November 2018 with Royal British Legion Standard Bearer, Harry Wakefield.

On The Day. Sunday 11th November 2018

Across the United Kingdom and the rest of the world at 6 a.m. on this morning many a Lone Piper was to play “When The Battle is Over” to mark the signing of the truce on 11th November 1918. Ossett was no different and in another immensely moving ceremony the Lone Piper, Mr David Holdsworth, stood alone on the Town Hall steps and played “When The Battle Is Over” to a substantial early morning gathering. (see below)



There was an early start too for ENGIE who came to remove the hoardings protecting the War Memorial and keeping prying eyes from the memorial stones and the names of the Ossett Fallen....until this day.

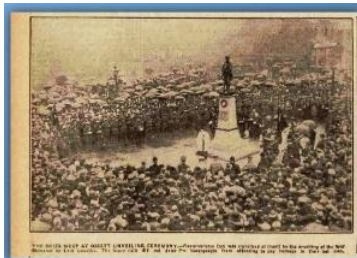
As the sun came up the Memorial was dressed with Royal British Legion poppies. The eleven Union standards and other emblems including the White Rose, Poppies, and the “Lest We Forget” legend were placed in position in readiness for the 11 a.m. unveiling by children representing each of Ossett’s eleven schools (see over)





The crowds, estimated at 1500 - 2000 on the day, gathered (see below) and shortly thereafter the heavens opened just as they had ninety years ago at the unveiling of the Ossett War Memorial on Sunday 11th November 1928. The only difference between 1928 and 2018 was the colour of the umbrellas and the presence in 2018 of BBC television who were recording coverage for their later news reports.

From 10.45 a.m. the Royal British Legion's local branch Vice Chairman, Parade Master and Ossett legend, Peter Waters, conducted the proceedings with his usual panache which is now sadly missed. The service ended with the children unveiling the names of the Ossett Fallen of WWI & WWII, followed by the two minutes silence at 11 a.m.



The afternoon Service of Remembrance given at a packed Holy Trinity Church was equally well attended and those attending left at the end of the service to the recorded voices of Ossett children speaking the names of the 402 Ossett Fallen comprising 315 men who died in WWI and 87 men and women lost in WWII. Most of those present joined the usual Procession from the Church to the Market Place arriving to the echo of the names of the Ossett Fallen.

A Service of Remembrance and Dedication was held before the laying of wreaths at the Ossett War Memorial in the Market Place

They Thought It Was All Over

There was more to come. There were long standing requests from Ossett Library and the Ossett Historical Society to make presentations about the War Memorial Project 2018, the history of the War Memorial and the Ossett Fallen in WWI & WWII. Both requests were honoured respectively on Tuesday 20th November 2018 at the Town Hall and Monday 26th November 2018 at the Trinity Centre.

The layout of the memorial stones and much more was displayed at stalls on Ossett Gala Day on 14th July 2018 and on National Heritage Day on 15th September 2018. The same Display was made available for viewing in Ossett Library from mid October 2018.

Ossett children's contributions to the 2018 Commemoration by the speaking and unveiling of the names of the Ossett Fallen left us thinking that we should mark their contribution in some way. The Chairman of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, Mr. Malcolm Patterson, proposed that they be invited to a Presentation by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire , Mr. Mark Skipper.

Arrangements were made for the Deputy Lord Lieutenant to meet and thank the children from the eleven Ossett Schools who participated in the recording of their voices speaking the names of the 402 Ossett Fallen from two world wars. Another group from the same schools were charged with the unveiling of the names of the Ossett Fallen at the War Memorial in the Market Place moments before the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 2018. They too were invited to meet with the Deputy Lord Lieutenant.

The Presentation was held at 1p.m. on Friday 30th November 2018 in the Magistrates' Court Room at Ossett Town Hall. The Royal British Legion, whose initiative this was, were represented by the Chairman, Vice Chairman /Parade Master and Standard Bearer, respectively Mr. Malcolm Patterson, Mr Peter Waters and Mr. Harry Wakefield.

Each of the children from each of the schools were awarded a British Legion Certificate of Appreciation for their contributions and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant presented each child with the Certificate, a commemorative pin, a wooden poppy cross, a DVD of the event and an emblem in memory of the day.



Deputy Lord Lieutenant & Holy Trinity children .



**British Legion with John Hirst 2nd left
Malcolm Patterson, Peter Waters, Harry Wakefield**

And so, like all good things the War Memorial Project 2017-2018 came to an end. Its work completed. For those who had a part in the Project there were two key achievements. The first was that it had attempted what no other generation in 100 years had attempted . Secondly that it achieved what it set out to achieve.

In the making of that success a new generation had embraced the old. The future looking after the past. For that we thank the heroes of the War Memorial Project 2017-2018; Ossett's children.

Ossett Heritage & the Ossett Fallen Roll Of Honour

There were so many wonderful people that we called upon to help with the War Memorial Project 2018 that three years on we fear our memories may let us down. We hope though that we have included all of those who helped; if we do miss anyone from the list it will be either our forgetfulness or it will be deliberate. The list is in no particular order except alphabetical. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support during the Project.

Austerfield Flooring Ltd, Dean and Louise. Sponsors.

Burnett, Kelly Education Ossett Community Trust Coordination Officer

Build Ossett Better, Bev Riley, John Whiteman.

Councillors Nick Farmer, Angela Taylor and former councillor, Lynn Masterman

Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Mark Skipper

ENGIE Dale Potter, David Harper, Fox Elliott, Kieran Guiry and Philip Holmes.

Hartley, Andrea & Kevin

Hirst, John, Merchant Navy (ret'd)

Holdsworth, David, The Lone Piper

James Burrell Building Merchants, Steve Kellett

Lancaster Memorials Ltd, Ackworth, David Hiorns

Lifterz, Andy Legge

Marshalls PLC, Paul Thwaites

Ossett School heads and liaison officers

Ossett schoolchildren who took part.

Ossett Library staff

Spurr Fabrications Ltd, Richard Spurr. Sponsors

Photographers on the day, Phillip Smithson, Robert Anthony James Ingham, Neville Ashby, Kenny Smith, Andy Steer, Paul Crilley.

Photographers for other occasions Kenny Smith & Robert Anthony James Ingham

Royal British Legion, Malcolm Patterson, Peter Waters, Harry Wakefield.

Shackleton, Anthea, Reverend

Wainwright, Dorothy

Wild, Emma, Ashley and Jack

Williams, Nigel Holy Trinity Primary School, Media Coordinator

WMDC officers Helen Bower, Louise Bragan, Rob Holt, Ian Firth, Karen Morrell, Helen Purvis, Andy Schoolar, Amanda Scott, & Andrew Woodhead (last but very much not least)

The History of The Ossett War Memorial Project 2017-2018

Researched and written by Alan Howe & Pat Monteagle Howe

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Pat Monteagle Howe & Alan Howe at the War Memorial

Early morning 11th November 2018

Photograph courtesy Emma J. Wild

Ossett Heritage