

Peter Primrose MLC

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



Thursday, February 11, 2010

Grant to protect and restore Wentworth Falls War Memorial

The Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, Peter Primrose, will today announce \$5,725 in funding for the restoration of the Wentworth Falls War Memorial.

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

"This memorial is an enduring symbol of the sacrifices made by those who served in the two world wars as well as Korea and Vietnam," 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."

The Member for the Blue Mountains, Phil Koperberg, who supported Wentworth Falls RSL's application for funding, said the grant would allow the RSL's work to continue.

"Wentworth Falls RSL has been engaged in a process of upgrading the war memorial for some time now, with remarkable results," he said.

"These funds will enable the branch to clean and repoint the mortar joints of the memorial and improve the appearance of the structure."

The memorial in Station Street, Wentworth Falls, was built in the 1920s and is a single sandstone column mounted on a sandstone base with plaques commemorating World War I, World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

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