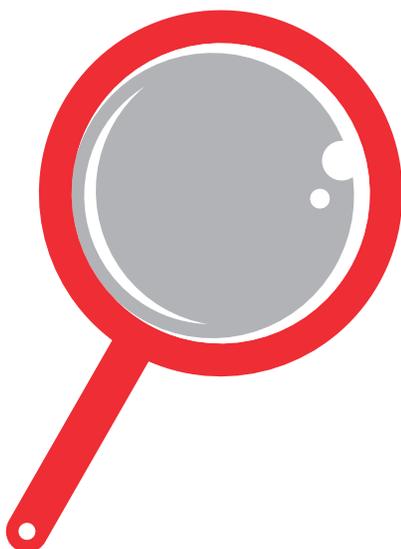




## Case study

**The Coventry Society was inspired by one of their members, Civic Voice Trustee, David Tittle, to begin the rewarding process of locating, checking and recording the condition of local war memorials ...**



### First World War Memorials Programme

## Getting started

### First steps

The Coventry Society's committee decided to participate in the national, First World War Memorials Programme. Online research revealed there were many more than the four war memorials originally believed to be in Coventry, so the society set up a web page to help track them down ([www.coventrysociety.org.uk/heritage-and-history/coventry-war-memorials.html](http://www.coventrysociety.org.uk/heritage-and-history/coventry-war-memorials.html)).

### Making a partnership

An article placed in the society's newsletter invited members to send more information about memorials in the city. A partnership with the Herbert Gallery, who had plans for an exhibition relating to the First World War, brought about a significant increase in the number of missing monuments.

### Attending a workshop

John Payne, facilitator of Coventry Society's action group, attended a Civic Voice workshop in Birmingham giving him the skills to survey and record memorials and the inspiration to get started on a project in Coventry.

### Finding the 'lost memorials'

The Coventry Society organised a war memorials workshop for Civic Day 2015. Civic Voice led the training, and the enthusiasm of the attendees ensured the success of the event. Contacting local media, including radio stations and newspapers, about the 'lost memorials of Coventry' also meant that the event received good coverage.





## TOP TIPS

- ✓ **Do your research, whether online, or in your library or museum**
- ✓ **Make friends with your local media**
- ✓ **Piggy back on national events like Civic Day to help your project take shape**

A partnership between Civic Voice, Historic England, Imperial War Museums and War Memorials Trust has been set up to help communities discover, care for and conserve their local First World War memorials. According to research by War Memorials Trust, up to 10,000 war memorials in poor or very bad condition. As the nation commemorates the First World War, we want to change this. Our aim is to ensure as many war memorials as possible are in good condition by the end of 2018.



## 7 simple steps to success

### 1. Contact Civic Voice

Workshops are being held around the country giving you all the information you'll need to locate, assess and record your local war memorials. You'll also learn about grants to help restore them. Contact Civic Voice on [info@civicvoice.org.uk](mailto:info@civicvoice.org.uk)

### 2. Book a venue

Whether it's your town hall, drill hall or even somebody's kitchen! Pick a venue to suit your needs.

### 3. Rally your troops

You're going to need plenty of help so decide how you're going to get local people involved. From talks to tweets, posters to press releases – communication is key! Prepare a plan of action to get your message out there.

### 4. Recruit!

Recruit, recruit, recruit! Take the time over the next four weeks to and get as many volunteers to sign up as you can. The more volunteers are involved; the more memorials you can survey.

### 5. Train

The condition survey workshop will demonstrate how to locate your local war memorials, how to carry out a condition survey and how to log your results on the War Memorials Online website. Finally, there will be a chance to plan future activity with fellow volunteers.

### 6. Survey

Walk, drive or ride to your local memorial. Complete a condition survey (approx. 30 minutes). Don't forget to take plenty of photographs.

### 7. Record

Record your findings at [www.war memorialsonline.org.uk](http://www.war memorialsonline.org.uk)

## Next steps

Join forces with other volunteers to co-ordinate surveying activity and visit all your community's war memorials. Then, if necessary, you can apply for funding for a war memorial in need of repair and conservation or give it protection for the future by applying to have it designated as a listed war memorial. Your communities 'Next Steps' are completely up to you.

 [@civic\\_voice](https://twitter.com/civic_voice)



 Historic England

 War Memorials Trust