

MEMORIALS IN CHURCHES

The erection of a memorial within a church will require the authority of a faculty. Faculty forms and instructions can now be downloaded from the Diocesan website <http://www.oxford.anglican.org/faculty/fcnotes.php>.

Before the Chancellor considers the petition, the DAC will need to consider the design of the proposed memorial. They will wish to see a drawing showing the layout and lettering and proposed inscription, together with details of the material to be used and the treatment of the edge of the memorial. They will wish to know whereabouts in the church it is to be fixed - a plan and a photograph will be very helpful. In addition they will wish to know the age of the plaster into which it is proposed to fix the memorial. It is not appropriate to fix memorials to mediaeval plaster or where there may perhaps be concealed wall paintings. I should add that the DAC prefers memorials made of stone or wood to brass. The reason for this is that the quality of workmanship in brass today does not equal that of the past. The DAC is keen to ensure that memorials erected in churches both honour the persons commemorated and also enhance the interior of the church. For this reason they encourage applicants to consider commissioning a letter cutter to design the memorial. There are a number of letter cutters who have done good work in the diocese including :

Sebastian Brooke
Church Farm Barn, Miserden, Nr Stroud, Glos, GL6 7JA; 01285 821214; home:
01453 751984

Martin Cook
11 Station Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP10 9TX; 01494 450828

Martin Jennings
Sculpture Workshop, Park Farm, Blenheim Park, Oxon, OX20 1HD; 01993 810473
www.martinjennings.com

Alec Peever
Manor Farm, Witney Road, Ducklington, Oxon, OX29 7TZ; 01993 868012
www.alecpeever.com

Annet Stirling
3 The Drive, Amersham, Bucks; 01494 722386

Alan Thewliss
12 Litchfield Close, Enstone, Chipping Norton, Oxon, OX7 4LB; 01608 678788

There is an agency called Memorials by Artists which puts people wishing to erect memorials in contact with artists all over the country. The website for them is <http://www.memorialsbyartists.co.uk>. There is a more local consortium of artists producing memorials in different media – these are mainly landscape projects but many of the artists are also involved with church and churchyard memorials and their website is <http://www.the-stile.co.uk>.

For further information, please contact the DAC secretary, Natalie Merry (natalie.merry@oxford.anglican.org / 01865 208229)