ADMIRAL ARTHUR PHILLIP ROYAL NAVY MEMORIALS AND LEGACY



Westminster Abbey

The Dean and Chapter of the Abbey are committed to the installation of a large memorial stone in the floor of the Abbey, close to the Unknown Warrior and other notable stones such as that to David Livingstone. This will be unveiled at a major Service in 2014, the bicentenary year of his death.

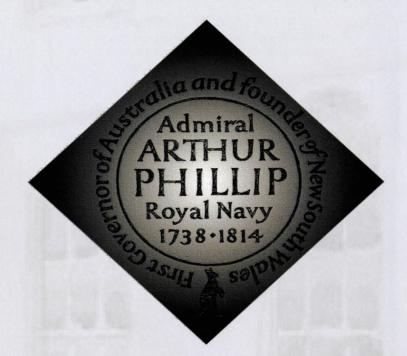
Bath

A fine, elegant, and informative tribute sculpture has been designed for a garden at the Assembly Rooms in Bath, across from the house where Phillip and his wife lived. The community of Bath supports this project and the dedication will be in July 2014.

Former Governor Arthur Phillip and his wife are buried in St Nicholas Church at Bathampton. Panels in the church describe Phillip's extraordinary achievements. Suitably etched glass doors are planned for the entrance, to enhance access to the memorial chapel and the Phillip ledgerstone.

The Legacy

As well as marking in stone Phillip's place in our history it is our intention to create a lasting and living memorial by sponsoring bright and worthy students for higher education who in his name will enhance the exchange between Australia and Britain, two great nations with a shared heritage and unique links in the fields of law, science, commerce, sports and the arts.



Memorial stone in The Nave of Westminster Abbey

(artist rendition)



The tribute sculpture for the Bath Assembly Rooms garden

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Registered with the UK Charity Commission, number 803505., Chairman Sir Christopher Benson, DL

A Memorial Tribute to an Anglo-Australian hero.

Admiral Arthur Phillip Royal Navy (1738-1814) is an under-sung British hero. Widely admired in Australia, as Commander of the First Fleet and first Governor, he founded New South Wales in 1788, and spent nearly five years establishing the new colony in the face of horrendous obstacles. It is more than time that Phillip was nationally and fully recognised in his own country.

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Intended for the bicentenary of Phillip's death in 2014 are: a commemorative stone in the floor of the Nave in Westminster Abbey; a fine sculpture near Phillip's former house in Bath, his city of retirement and death; and an enduring bursary programme for Anglo-Australian higher education.

Phillip's leadership of the First Fleet was inspired: all on board were humanely treated and kept healthy, and his navigation was superb. His establishing of the colony was an extraordinary achievement not recognised in a Britain preoccupied by the French Revolution and its threats and uninterested in the success or otherwise of a penal colony half a world away. Phillip recognised Australia's potential and made modern Australia a possibility.

Arthur Phillip was born in the City of London where he is commemorated in the church of St Mary le Bow at an annual service which is followed by a livery hall luncheon. There is a small, mostly unremarked, memorial to him in Watling Street in the City of London. In Bath, plaques have been affixed to his house and within Bath Abbey. In the village church of St Nicholas, Bathampton, where he lies buried, he is commemorated in an Australia chapel and by a small tablet erected by his widow. An annual service of remembrance is attended by village school children.

A century and a half after Phillip's death, former Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden described Arthur Phillip as one of the most eminent men of the eighteenth century. Phillip, a Captain Royal Navy in 1788, attained the rank of Admiral for his naval service, but was otherwise unrecognised. We should properly honour this modest, self-made yet world-class seaman, linguist, patriot, espionage agent against the French, sometime commodore in the Portuguese Navy, and above all humanitarian and effective first Governor of New South Wales, who deserves to be better recognised by his own nation. He overcame extraordinary odds to lay the foundation of the Australia we know today, the successful and highly-regarded nation and major ally of Great Britain