

Your Commemorative Medal Set

The Commemorative Medal set has been struck as a lasting tribute to recognise the dedication and outstanding service performed by Patrons and Committee Members of the St Mary's Cathedral Conservation and Completion Project and Appeal.

The Commemorative Medal Set has three elements:

- A Commemorative Medal (60mm), finished in polished silver and showing a three dimensional impression of St Mary's Cathedral. Each medal is engraved on the reverse with the recipient's details.
- A Miniature Medal (20mm).
- A Riband Bar.

The presentation case is designed so that it may be left open for viewing.

History of Commemorative Medals

Commemorative medals have been presented all over the world for decades but their history goes back for thousands of years. Centuries before governments began issuing medals, the first medals were commemorative, struck and awarded for service by private commanders in individual Roman Legions, not by the government of Rome or even the Roman Army.

Commemorative medals are often presented to recognise service or contributions to causes and, in some cases, as a token of service and respect when no other official recognition is available. Often widows and relatives of injured and deceased defence, police, or emergency services personnel or those people who have served their communities with dedication and commitment are given commemorative medals as a way of expressing thanks.

Wearing a Commemorative Medal

- The wearing of commemorative medals has accepted protocols; those who wear them should do so on a separate rack from official medals and wearers should abide by the guidelines laid down by the various ex-service organisation peak bodies.
- If you are wearing commemorative medals (or medals of a relative), then in accordance with accepted ex-service organisation protocols, you would wear them on your right breast.
- Medals are worn with the obverse side showing.
- Miniature medals are worn only after dark, usually on formal occasions.
- Riband bars are worn only whilst in uniform and the length, by protocol, is restricted to rows of ribands with a maximum of four ribands wide.
- Commemorative riband bars should be worn on the right, not left breast.

Care of Medals

The medals are finished in silver and should be buffed with a soft cloth to remove finger marks and any residual polishing agents. If the medal box is left open for presentation purposes, the medals should be buffed regularly to prevent dust accumulating in the fine detail.