

# Lincoln Tank Memorial Group



**2 Church Lane,  
Waddington,**

**Lincolnshire. LN5 9RP.**

**Tel: 01522 722308**

**Web site: [www.lincolntankmemorial.co.uk](http://www.lincolntankmemorial.co.uk)**

## Press Release

### Contractors donation announced for Lincoln Tank Memorial

Local contractors Willmott Dixon have been appointed to undertake the groundworks and installation of the Lincoln Tank Memorial on Tritton Road roundabout near the University. They are generously donating manpower to the project which is aimed at celebrating Lincoln's vast engineering heritage. The Memorial will be in the form of a partly constructed Mark I tank which was built close to the roundabout by William Foster & Co Ltd at their Wellington Factory. Historians have recently uncovered photographs of the tanks loaded on to trains waiting to leave Lincoln, sited exactly where the roundabout is today.

Joe Cooke MBE Chairman of the Memorial Group said "we are delighted to be working with Willmott Dixon; the cost of the groundworks has proved to be much more expensive than originally anticipated and without the support of Willmott Dixon the project might well have been delayed."

Nick Heath, operations director for the East Midlands at Willmott Dixon, said: "This is a significant installation for Lincoln and it's important we acknowledge the city's tank building heritage. As a firm, Willmott Dixon is donating £15,000 worth of labour for the groundworks and installation of the tank memorial. We decided to support this fantastic community led project to ensure the tank memorial leaves a legacy for everyone to enjoy for years to come."

"We are proud to be a part of this project and I look forward to the unveiling of the tank."

Local company Venture Signs of North Hykeham have been appointed to supply the signage for the Memorial.

The Lincoln Tank Memorial will be unveiled on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 1100hrs.

Further information can be obtained from Julie Cooke, Lincoln Tank Memorial Secretary on 01522 722308.

Lincoln-based Rilmac Fabrication has been contracted to manufacture the £75,000 Lincoln Tank Memorial, which will be revealed on May 10.

The company, which specialises in asbestos, insulation and scaffolding markets, will create the life-sized model of a Mark I tank on the Tritton Road roundabout, near to the University of Lincoln.

Managed by the Lincoln Tank Memorial Group, the structure will sit close to the site of William Foster and Co's factory where the first tank came off the production line in 1916.

The project has also been given a boost by Chancellor George Osborne, who pledged £15,000 of support towards its construction during a visit to Lincoln on February 12.

The memorial will be in the form of a partly constructed tank; it will have no guns as no production tank ever fired a shot in Lincoln, and the male and female figures standing around the tank will be dressed in their work wear with spanners and paintbrushes in their hands.

The memorial will also include the figures of Tritton, Rigby and Wilson, who were the designers, developers and manufacturers of the tank.

Rilmac, who have a long history of engineering in the heart of the city, were selected to manufacture the memorial after a competitive tendering process.

Alan Wilds, Managing Director of Rilmac Fabrication said: "We are extremely proud to be a part of this project that recognizes the rich tradition of engineering that exists in Lincoln.

"It is key that we appreciate our heritage and the efforts made by the people of Lincoln in the past and how they underpin the continued engineering excellence offered by companies such as ourselves within the city."