

PERMANENT MEMORIAL UPDATE

[Click here to sign our online petition for permanent memorials](#)

The momentum is growing for permanent memorials to the Wittenoom industrial disaster. Our online petition now has almost 4000 signatures - we'd love to get more than 10,000.

The feedback has been very specific including the most important being;

- **The names of loved ones lost included on any memorial, with additional space for those to come**
- The memorial in Karijini National Park in the Pilbara for those lost directly attributed to the mining, milling, living, visiting, working, schooling and transporting of asbestos from Wittenoom and the surrounding areas e.g. Point Samson
- Special consideration and input by the Traditional Owners of the land on how their loved ones lost should be incorporated into the memorial
- The Perth asbestos memorial should be broader and include not only occupational exposures such as tradies, wharfies, and workers from James Hardie plants and Government Railways, but also non-occupational exposures such as housewives (washing work clothes), DIY renovators etc.

[We have created a link \(CLICK HERE\) whereby we can collect and collate ideas sent to us.](#)

We approached the State Government about the construction of permanent memorials in Perth and the Pilbara. The meeting was very positive and it was felt it should be linked with the Wittenoom Closure Bill, which is very close to being read into Parliament.

We were recently offered a space in Solidarity Park by Unions WA as part of their update to the 1970s site. Currently we have the plaque which we placed in 2018 ([see link to prior newsletter](#)). However, realistically we would need most of Solidarity Park to create a memorial to accommodate all the current names of those lost and indeed those to be lost in the future. So we will continue our discussions with the Unions to see if they can assist us further.

Memorial Design

It has been suggested we look at the design of the H.M.A.S. *Sydney* // memorial in Geraldton (pictured right).

This monument commemorates the 645 service personnel who died when their ship sank during the war in 1941. This was designed by local artists Smith Sculptors who specialise in memorials.



We would like our Blue Angel of Wittenoom sculpture included as part of the design (pictured right).

Smith Sculptors are very interested in assisting the development of a whole memorial site.

For more of their amazing memorial work, please [click here](#) or visit their website www.smithsculptors.com.



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