

General Stanislaw Maczek **Memorial Trust**



PATRONS:

Prof. Richard Demarco
Polish Consul-General Mr. Dariusz Adler
Lord Cameron of Lochbroom
Lady Fraser of Carmyllie DL
Mrs. Heather Goodare
Rev. Dr. George Grubb
Lord Hope of Craighead
Dr. Andrew Maczek
Ms. Karolina Maczek
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Mr. Robert Ostrycharz
Mr. Trevor Royle .

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GENERAL MACZEK MEMORIAL BENCH MAQUETTE UNVEILED

Plans for a memorial seat and statue of Polish war hero General Stanislaw Maczek took a major step forward today with the unveiling of a maquette of the artwork.

Lady Fraser of Carmyllie revealed the model alongside the Polish Consul-General in Edinburgh Dariusz Adler at a ceremony in his office.

The maquette was created by the Polish artist and sculptor Bronislaw Krzysztof and shows the General seated on a bench.

Trustees will commission the full-scale version when sufficient funds have been gathered.

Currently they have raised over £25,000, a third of what is required to complete the project which was launched by Lady Fraser's husband prior to his untimely death in 2013.

General Stanislaw Maczek was Commander of the 1st Polish Armoured Division and appointed by Winston Churchill to the role of defending Scotland's East coast from potential invasion.

He played a key role in the Battle of Normandy preventing the retreat of thousands of German soldiers and with his men liberated parts of France, Belgium and Holland.

When the Second World War ended he was unable to return to his native Poland as it was incorporated into the Soviet Union as part of an allied agreement.

Refused a war pension, he worked as a barman in his adopted city of Edinburgh and with his wife raised a son and two daughters.

After the collapse of the Communist regime in Poland, the head of Chancellery of President Lech Walesa came to Edinburgh and decorated General Maczek with the Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest decoration awarded to the most distinguished Poles and to heads of state.

He lived until 102 and the late Lord Fraser of Carmyllie only started to learn of the war hero's achievements while representing the Government at General Maczek's funeral.

TRUSTEES: Katie Fraser, Roddy Harrison & Archie Mackay
General Stanislaw Maczek Memorial Trust, c/o RAH, BTO Solicitors LLP, 48 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5HS

Further investigation led him to conclude that a permanent memorial was long overdue.

The Trust has now launched a nationwide appeal to gather enough money to have the work commissioned in full scale. It is to be located near the General's former home and has full backing of the Friends of the Edinburgh Meadows and Bruntsfield Links.

Lady Fraser said: "We are now making a public appeal to the people of Scotland to support the project. My husband thought the Scots missed out on an opportunity by not making a memorial sooner."

Consul General Dariusz Adler said: "Today is a great day for Polish People and the people of Scotland. It is extremely important to see General Maczek commemorated. He was a hero and a father figure for many Polish soldiers who fought with him during the Second World War for our freedom and yours.

"We owe a great debt of gratitude to the late Lord Fraser for his initiative and the effort he put towards establishing a permanent memorial to the Polish general, who actually spend more of his life in Scotland than anywhere else.

"We are grateful to the Trustees and the Patrons for their work and to all those who support the project that Lord Fraser started."

Media Contacts:

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Note to Editors: **Donations can be made to the General Stanislaw Maczek Memorial Trust at RBS and other banks using the bank sort code 83-44-00 and account number 10810625. Cheques can be sent to General Stanislaw Maczek Memorial Trust, c/o RAH, BTO Solicitors LLP, 48 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5HS. Or via Paypal – www.paypal.me/generalmaczek**