

**THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION**

**Charter of Incorporation dated 21st May 1917
and
Supplemental Charter dated 8th June 1964**

Consequent upon the promulgation of the Supplemental Charter dated 8th June 1964, the current Charters of the Commission consist only of the Charter of Incorporation dated 21st May 1917 and the Supplemental Charter dated 8th June 1964.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India; To all to whom these presents shall come greeting:

WHEREAS it has been represented to Us by Our most dearly beloved son, Edward, Prince of Wales, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, that the establishment and organisation of a permanent Imperial Body charged with the duty of caring for the graves of officers and men of Our military and naval forces raised in all parts of Our Empire who have fallen, or may fall, in the present War, and have been, or may be, buried either in foreign countries or in Our dominions, would, by honouring and perpetuating the memory of their common sacrifice, tend to keep alive the ideals for the maintenance and defence of which they have laid down their lives, to strengthen the bonds of union between all classes and races in Our dominions, and to promote a feeling of common citizenship and of loyalty and devotion to Us and to the Empire of which they are subjects:

AND WHEREAS the Government of the French Republic has made generous provision by law for the grant in perpetuity of land for the graves of all officers and men buried in France belonging to the forces of all foreign States fighting in alliance with the forces of the said Republic, and negotiations are now proceeding, or will hereafter be instituted, on Our behalf with the Governments of other foreign States for similar grants of land for the graves of officers and men of Our said forces who have been, or may be, buried in Belgium, in the Gallipoli Peninsula, in Mesopotamia, in parts of Africa not within Our dominions, or in any other foreign territory:

AND WHEREAS the objects intended to be promoted by this Our charter have hitherto formed the care of Our Army Council and of a Committee appointed by the Lords Commissioners of Our Treasury, of which Our said dearly beloved son, the Prince of Wales, is the President:

AND WHEREAS application has been made to Us by Our said dearly beloved son, the Prince of Wales, to incorporate himself and the persons from time to time holding the several offices hereinafter named, and all other persons who may become members of the said Body as hereinafter provided:

NOW KNOW YE that We, being desirous of promoting the establishment and organisation of the said Body, have by Our royal prerogative and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion given and granted, and by this Our charter for Us, Our heirs and successors do hereby give and grant that-

Our said most dearly beloved son, Edward, Prince of Wales, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter:

The persons for the time being holding the offices of-

Our Principal Secretary of State for War;
Our Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies;
Our Principal Secretary of State for India; and
First Commissioner of Our Office of Works and Public Buildings;

Such five persons as may from time to time be respectively appointed for that purpose by-

The Government of the Dominion of Canada;
The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia;
The Government of the Dominion of New Zealand;
The Government of the Union of South Africa; and
The Government of Newfoundland;

And all other persons who may, pursuant to this Our charter, become members of the Corporation established by this Our charter shall be a Body Corporate by the name of "The Imperial War Graves Commission," with perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to break, alter, or renew the same at discretion, and with capacity to sue or be sued in their corporate name, and with the further authorities, powers, and privileges conferred and subject to the conditions imposed by this Our charter.

And We do hereby accordingly will, ordain, give, grant, constitute, appoint, and declare as follows:-

I. PRELIMINARY.

In the construction of this Our charter the following words and expressions, unless there is something in the context inconsistent with such interpretation, shall have meanings hereinafter attached to them: that is to say:-

"The Commission" means the Corporation of the Imperial War Graves Commission established by this Our charter.

"Fallen" means died from wounds inflicted, accident occurring, or disease contracted, while on active service, whether on sea or land.

"Person" includes a body of persons corporate or unincorporate.

Words in the masculine gender include the feminine, and words in the singular number include the plural, and in the plural number include the singular.

II. THE PRESIDENT.

1. The first President shall be Our dearly beloved son, Edward, Prince of Wales. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, from whatever cause arising, such vacancy shall be filled by the nomination of a successor under the Sign Manual of the Sovereign for the time being.

2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Commission and of any Committee constituted in pursuance of the provisions of this Our charter at which he may be present.

3. The President shall have power to summon meetings of the Commission at any time he may think fit so to do, in order to submit to the members thereof such matters of importance relating to the affairs of the Commission as he may deem requisite. Such meetings shall be summoned in such manner and by giving such notices as the President may think best calculated to advise the members of the Commission of the time and place of such meetings.

III. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

The Members of the Commission shall consist of the following persons:-

1. The President.

2. The persons for the time being holding the offices hereinbefore mentioned and such persons as may be appointed by the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Newfoundland, as hereinbefore provided in this Our charter, all of whom shall be styled and are hereinafter referred to as Official Members.

3. Such other persons, not exceeding the number of eight in all, as may from time to time be appointed Members of the Commission by Royal Warrant under the Sign Manual of the Sovereign for the time being.

IV. ORGANISATION.

1. (i) There shall be a Chairman of the Commission who in the absence of the President, shall preside at all meetings thereof.

(ii) The Chairman shall, subject to the power hereinbefore conferred upon the President, and subject to such regulations as may be made by the Commission as hereinafter provided, summon all meetings of the Commission for the despatch of business.

(iii) The Chairman of the Commission shall be Our Principal Secretary of State for War.

2. (i) There shall be a Vice-Chairman of the Commission who, in the absence or illness or other incapacity of the Chairman, shall have and exercise the powers and authorities of the Chairman.

(ii) The Vice-Chairman of the Commission shall be appointed by the Commission.

3. (i) There shall be a Secretary to the Commission, and as many Assistant Secretaries, not exceeding three, as may be necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Commission.

(ii) The Secretary and Assistant Secretaries shall be appointed by the President.

(iii) The Secretary and Assistant Secretaries shall not be members of the Commission, but the Secretary, or, in the event of his absence, illness, or other incapacity, one of the Assistant Secretaries, shall attend every meeting of the Commission and assist the Commission in the transaction of its business thereat.

4. The Commission shall meet for the despatch of business, and shall from time to time make such regulations with respect to the summoning, notice, place, management, and adjournment of such meetings and generally with respect to the transaction and management of business, as they think fit, subject to the following conditions:-

(a) The first meeting of the Commission shall be held on such day after the date of this Our charter, and at such place, as may be determined by the President, and, subject to the provisions of this Our charter, the proceedings at any such first meeting of the Commission shall be conducted in such manner as may be directed by the President.

(b) The quorum of the Commission shall consist of five members, or such other number as the President, with the concurrence of the Commission, may declare.

(c) Every question shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and voting on that question.

(d) The names of the members present at a meeting shall be recorded, and, upon a requisition made by three or more members voting on a question, the names of the members voting on that question shall be recorded.

5. (i) If at any meeting neither the President nor the Chairman nor the Vice Chairman is present at the time appointed for holding the same, the members present shall choose some one of their number to preside at such meeting.

(ii) In case of an equality of votes at any meeting the persons presiding at such meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

(iii) If any Official Member is unable to be present at any meeting he may appoint some fit person to represent him at such meeting, and such representative shall be entitled to exercise all the powers and privileges of such member save that he shall not be entitled or chosen to preside at such meeting.

6. The Commission may from time to time delegate all or any of its powers to Committees, consisting of such number of its members as the Commission may think fit, and may appoint the quorum for any such Committee. Such Committees shall have power to make or adopt such rules for the guidance and regulation of the affairs of the Commission specially delegated to them, and as to the holding of their meetings and the conduct of their business thereat, as they may from time to time see fit, subject to the control of the Commission.

7. (i) The Commission may from time to time appoint Advisory Committees, consisting of such persons as the Commission may think fit, to advise the Commission, either permanently or temporarily, on any special subject.

(ii) The members of such Advisory Committees shall hold their offices during the pleasure of the Commission. Such Advisory Committees shall have power to make or adopt such regulations as to the holding of their meetings and the conduct of their business thereat as they may from time to time see fit, but shall obey any directions given them by the Commission as to the exercise of their powers with regard to the subject referred to them.

8. The Commission may from time to time constitute and maintain Agencies in Our Dominions beyond the Seas and in Our Protectorates and in foreign States charged with the duty of aiding the Commission to carry locally into effect any of the purposes of the Commission, and may delegate to any such Agency such of the powers, authorities, and privileges conferred on the Commission by this Our charter as may be specified in the instrument constituting such Agency.

V. PURPOSES AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.

1. The purposes of the Commission are the following:-

(i) To acquire and hold land for the purpose of cemeteries in any territory in which any officers or men of Our military or naval forces raised in any part of Our Empire who shall have fallen in the present War may be buried.

(ii) To make fit provision for the burial of officers and men of Our said forces and the care of all graves in such cemeteries, to erect buildings and permanent memorials therein, and generally to provide for the maintenance and upkeep of such cemeteries, buildings, and memorials.

(iii) To complete and maintain records and registers of all graves within such cemeteries.

(iv) To make fit provision for the care of all graves of officers or men of Our said forces who shall have fallen in the present War and may be buried elsewhere than in such cemeteries as aforesaid.

(v) To acquire and hold land for the purpose of providing or erecting permanent memorials elsewhere than in such cemeteries as aforesaid in honour of any officers or men of Our said forces who shall have fallen in the present War.

2. The Commission is hereby authorised and empowered for the purposes aforesaid from time to time-

- (i) To acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise, and hold and dispose of personal or movable property of every kind in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (ii) To acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise, and to hold (without licence in mortmain or other authority than this Our charter) lands in the United Kingdom, not exceeding two hundred acres for the purposes of such cemeteries as aforesaid, or five acres for the purposes of such offices as may be required by the Commission, and to acquire by the like means and to hold (subject to any local law for the time being in force) lands in any of Our Dominions beyond the Seas, and in any of Our Protectorates, and in any foreign State, for the purposes of such cemeteries or offices as aforesaid.
- (iii) To provide for the burial in any such cemetery of any such officers or men of Our forces as aforesaid, and to exercise such powers of exhumation and reinterment as may appear to the Commission to be desirable, and as may be approved by the duly constituted local authority in the territory or territories concerned.
- (iv) To erect and maintain buildings and permanent memorials on or in any such cemetery, to plant trees, shrubs, and flowers therein, to make and maintain all necessary fences, ways, and paths, and to do all such other things as may be necessary for the general maintenance and upkeep of such cemetery.
- (v) To permit or to prohibit the erection by any person other than the Commission of permanent memorials in any such cemetery, or in any part of such cemetery, and, where such memorials are permitted, to receive and deal with applications by any persons to erect any such memorial, and to reject any application if the proposed memorial appears to the Commission (whose decision shall be final) to be unsuitable.
- (vi) To provide for the registration of all graves in such cemeteries, and for the method of keeping all registers or branch registers used for this purpose, and for their inspection by the public, and their safe custody.
- (vii) To make bye-laws, as hereinafter provided, with regard to any such cemetery, subject in every case to the local law of the territory in which such cemetery is situated.
- (viii) To provide for the care of graves of any officers and men of Our said forces who may be buried elsewhere than in such cemeteries as aforesaid, for the placing of memorials on such graves for their registration, and for the doing of all such other things as the Commission may think proper with regard to such graves, subject in every case to the local law of the territory in which any such grave may be situated.
- (ix) To take such steps as may be necessary under the local law of the territory concerned to enable the Commission to hold any land, other than any such cemetery as aforesaid, for the purpose of providing or erecting any permanent memorial in honour of officers or men of Our said forces who shall have fallen in the present War.
- (x) To establish and maintain such offices as may be necessary for the work of the Commission, whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, to build or take by gift, lease, purchase, or otherwise suitable buildings for such purposes, and to dispose from time to time of any land and buildings used for such offices when not required for such purposes.
- (xi) To appoint and employ such officers and servants as may be necessary to carry out the work of the Commission, whether in such offices or in such cemeteries as aforesaid, and whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (xii) To enter into any contract, whether within the United Kingdom or elsewhere, with any of Our subjects, or with the subjects or citizens of any foreign State, with a view to the carrying into effect of any of the purposes or the exercise of any of the powers of the Commission.

(xiii) To act as the "Association Regulierement Constituee" for the purpose of the French law of the 29th day of December, 1915, and to have similar authority in relation to any law or agreement of a like nature passed by or made with the Government of any other foreign State, and generally for the purposes of this Our charter to enter into such relations with the Government of any foreign State, or any Body authorised by such Government, as may be approved by Our Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

(xiv) To enter into such arrangements with the Government of any part of Our Dominions beyond the Seas, or of any of Our Protectorates, as may be desirable with a view to the carrying into effect of any of the purposes or the exercise of any of the powers of the Commission.

(xv) To do anything not expressly hereinbefore provided for which may be incidental or conducive to the carrying into effect of any of the purposes or the exercise of any of the powers of the Commission.

3. The Commission is hereby specially authorised and empowered from time to time to make bye-laws (subject as aforesaid) with regard to the following matters:-

(i) The protection of public health and the maintenance of public decency and order in the cemeteries held for the purposes of the Commission.

(ii) The hours for opening and closing such cemeteries and the admission of the public thereto.

(iii) The conditions upon which any private memorials, permanent or temporary, may be placed upon graves in such cemeteries.

(iv) The duties and conduct of all officers and servants of the Commission in relation to such cemeteries.

(v) The entry of records in all registers kept at such cemeteries, the inspection thereof by the public, and the safe custody of such registers.

(vi) Generally, all such matters as appertain to the work of the Commission in connexion with the maintenance and upkeep of all cemeteries held for the purposes of the Commission.

4. In the construction of this Part of Our charter the word "cemetery" may or shall include a Hindu or other non-Christian cremation ground, and any action which may be taken in regard to a cemetery under the provisions of this Our charter may be taken in regard to such a cremation ground in so far as may be consistent with Hindu or such other religious customs as may be applicable in the case of any such cremation ground.

VI. FINANCIAL.

1. The Commission is hereby authorised and empowered-

(i) To receive all funds which may be granted annually or otherwise by the Legislature of any part of Our Dominions or any of Our Protectorates in furtherance of the purposes of this Our charter.

(ii) To administer all funds which may be granted as aforesaid, and to receive and administer all other funds which may be given or bequeathed in furtherance of the said purposes or derived from any other source not hereinbefore mentioned, with power, subject to any such conditions as may be attached to any such grant, gift, or bequest as aforesaid, to treat all such funds either as capital or income at its discretion.

(iii) To establish an Endowment Fund, consisting of such part of its funds as shall from time to time be treated as capital.

(iv) To receive the income for the time being produced by the Endowment Fund, and to apply such income and all other the income of the Commission in carrying into effect the purposes of this Our charter.

2. (i) The Endowment Fund established as aforesaid shall be vested in three Trustees, who shall be appointed, with the approval of the President, by the Commission under their common seal, and any vacancy in their number occasioned by death, resignation, or incapacity shall be filled in the like manner.

(ii) The Trustees may invest, and change the investments of, any moneys for the time being constituting the capital of the Endowment Fund in such manner, and in and for such securities of such a description as the Trustees think expedient.

VII. GENERAL.

1. The Commission may at any time, and from time to time, with the concurrence of the President, apply for and accept a Supplemental Charter, or an Act of Parliament, if it appears to it that such Supplemental Charter or Act of Parliament is required for carrying into effect any of the purposes or powers of this Our charter.

2. No act or proceeding of the Commission, or of a Committee established by the Commission, shall be questioned on account of any vacancy or vacancies in the Commission or any such Committee.

3. No defect in the qualification or appointment of any person acting as a member of the Commission or of a Committee established by the Commission shall be deemed to vitiate any proceedings of the Commission or of such Committee in which he has taken part, in cases where the majority of members parties to such proceedings are duly entitled to act.

4. (i) Any instrument which, if made by a private person, would be required to be under seal, shall be under the seal of the Commission and signed by the proper officer of the Commission. Any notice issued by or on behalf of the Commission shall be deemed to be duly executed if signed by the proper officer; but, subject as aforesaid, any appointment made by the Commission, and any contract, order, or other document made by or proceeding from the Commission shall be deemed to be duly executed either if sealed with the seal of the Commission and signed by the proper officer, or if signed by two or more members of the Commission authorised to sign them by a resolution of the Commission and countersigned by the proper officer.

(ii) The proper officer of the Commission shall be any officer authorised by the Commission to sign such notices and documents as he is required to sign as aforesaid.

VIII. ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

1. The accounts of the Commission shall be audited annually by an auditor or auditors, who shall be chartered accountants, and who shall be named by the Governor of the Bank of England for the time being.

2. The Commission shall, once in every year at least, prepare a General Report of their proceedings for the year preceding, and attach thereto a duly certified Statement of Accounts and of the finances of the Commission.

3. The President shall, on the completion of every such annual General Report and Statement of Accounts forthwith submit the same to Us, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to transmit copies thereof for the information of the Governments of such parts of Our Dominions as are represented on the Commission or have made grants as aforesaid in furtherance of the purposes of this Our charter.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster, the twenty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord 1917, and in the Eighth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT under the King's Sign Manual.

SCHUSTER.



ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING !

WHEREAS His Majesty King George the Fifth by Royal Charter dated the twenty-first day of May in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventeen (hereinafter referred to as "the Original Charter") constituted the persons for the time being holding the Offices therein named together with other persons to be chosen as therein directed to be a Body Corporate by the name of The Imperial War Graves Commission with perpetual succession and a common seal and with capacity to sue and be sued in their Corporate name:

AND WHEREAS by Supplemental Charters dated respectively the twenty-sixth day of August One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, the seventeenth day of January One thousand nine hundred and twenty-four, the seventeenth day of March One thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, the fifth day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty, the seventh day of February One thousand nine hundred and forty-one, the tenth day of February One thousand nine hundred and forty-four, and the fifth day of October One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, such additional powers were granted to the said Commission and such further matters provided for as are therein respectively set out:

AND WHEREAS by a further Supplemental Charter dated the twenty-eighth day of March One thousand nine hundred and sixty, We did provide that the name of the Body Corporate established by the Original Charter should be and was thereby altered to "The Commonwealth War Graves Commission" (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") and such other matters were provided for as are therein set out:

AND WHEREAS by reason of the transfer of the functions of Our Principal Secretary of State for War in the United Kingdom to Our Principal Secretary of State for Defence it appears to the Governments represented on the Commission and to the Commission that it would be expedient for Us by Supplemental Charter to declare that the person for the time being holding the Office of Our Principal Secretary of State for Defence in the United Kingdom shall be an Official Member of the Commission:

AND WHEREAS the Commission have represented unto Us that it is expedient that for the purposes of the Original Charter and the said Supplemental Charters certain other variations and alterations to the provisions of the Original Charter and of the said Supplemental Charters should be authorised:

AND WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented unto Us in Our Council by the Commission praying Us to grant a further Supplemental Charter to the Commission making provision for the matters hereinbefore mentioned:

NOW KNOW YE that We being desirous of clarifying and defining the purposes, powers and responsibility of the Commission, and of promoting its efficiency, have of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion granted and declared and do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors in addition to and notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Original Charter and the aforesaid Supplemental Charters grant and declare as follows:-

1. Each of the aforesaid Supplemental Charters is hereby respectively revoked and the authorities, powers and privileges conferred upon the Commission shall henceforth be exercised under and by virtue of the provisions set out in the Original Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter provided that the revocation of the said hereinbefore recited Supplemental Charters and the provisions of this Our Supplemental Charter shall not in any wise prejudice or affect anything done or forborne to be done or which remains to be done or forborne to be done under or by virtue of the Original Charter or the aforesaid Supplemental Charters or any of them.

2. The Original Charter shall be read and construed and shall have effect in conformity with the provisions set out hereunder, that is to say:

(i) The Members of the Commission shall be:

(a) Our most dear and entirely beloved Uncle and most faithful Counsellor Henry William Frederick Albert Duke of Gloucester, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, President of the Commission, or any successor to him as President nominated under Our Royal Sign Manual as provided by the Original Charter;

(b) The persons for the time being holding the Offices respectively in the United Kingdom of Our Principal Secretary of State for Defence, Our Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and Our Minister of Public Building and Works;

(c) Such six persons as may from time to time be respectively appointed for that purpose by the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India and Pakistan, and which said six persons, together with the persons for the time being holding the Offices referred to in the preceding subparagraph hereof, shall be styled and be referred to in the Original Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter as Official Members;

(d) Such other persons, not exceeding the number of nine in all, as may from time to time be appointed Members of the Commission by Warrants under Our Royal Sign Manual;

(ii) The Commission shall have and may exercise by its altered name of "The Commonwealth War Graves Commission" all the authorities, powers and privileges conferred and subject to the conditions imposed by the Original Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter;

(iii) This Our Supplemental Charter shall not in any wise prejudice or affect any rights or obligations of the Commission or anything done or forborne to be done or which remains to be done or forborne to be done under or by virtue of its previous name and any reference to the Commission by its previous name occurring in any deed, instrument, agreement, contract, notice or other document shall subject to any requirement of local law be deemed to include a reference to the Commission by its altered name;

(iv) This Our Supplemental Charter shall not render defective any legal proceedings by or against the Commission and any legal proceedings that might have been continued or commenced by or against the Commission in its previous name may be continued or commenced by or against the Commission in its altered name;

(v) The Chairman of the Commission shall be Our Principal Secretary of State for Defence in the United Kingdom;

(vi) If any Official Member appointed to be a Member of any Committee under Article 6 of Part IV of the Original Charter is unable to be present at the meetings of that Committee, he may appoint in writing a person approved for that purpose by the Commission to represent him in his absence at any particular meeting or meetings of that Committee. The person so appointed shall be entitled to exercise all the powers and privileges of the Official Member whom he represents, save that he shall not be entitled or chosen to preside at any meeting of the Committee;

(vii) Any reference in the Original Charter to Military and Naval Forces shall be deemed to have referred and shall refer to Naval, Military and Air Forces;

(viii) The Original Charter shall have effect and shall be deemed always to have had effect, when the context so admits or requires, as if any reference therein to "this present War" includes a reference both to any war existing between His Majesty King George the Fifth and any State during the period beginning with the fourth day of August One thousand nine hundred and fourteen and ending on the thirty-first day of August One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and to any war existing between His Majesty King George the Sixth and any State during the period beginning with the third day of September One thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine and ending on the thirty-first day of December One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, and as the context so requires such periods may be referred to as "the War Periods" or "the 1914 to 1921 War Period" or "the 1939 to 1947 War Period" as the case may be;

(ix) Without prejudice to any of the provisions of the Original Charter or of this Our Supplemental Charter, any reference in the Original Charter to Our Dominions beyond the Seas or to Our Dominions, may, when the circumstances or the context so admit or require, be construed to refer to any country whose Government is represented on the Commission, or to any country or territory within the Commonwealth, or to any State or territory under Our Protection, or to any Trust territory administered by the Government of any such country as aforesaid;

(x) The Commission may exercise in relation to any persons who were subjects of His Majesty King George the Sixth and any persons who were under the protection or suzerainty of His Majesty, or were nationals of any territory mandated to His Majesty (not being persons included in the description of officers and men of Naval, Military or Air Forces) and being persons who died during the 1939 to 1947 War Period from war injuries wheresoever sustained, all or any of the powers given to the Commission by the Original Charter or by this Our Supplemental Charter, in so far as such powers relate to the compilation of records, as the Commission may determine;

(xi) The authorities and powers of the Commission in relation to the acquisition and holding of lands for the purposes of cemeteries or memorials, either in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere, shall be deemed to have included, and to include, authority and power to dispose (subject to any requirement of local law) of any such lands, or any part thereof, when not required for such purposes;

(xii) Without prejudice to the generality of any of the powers conferred on the Commission by the Original Charter, the Commission may make such arrangements and provide for such facilities and either in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere, in relation to persons in the employment of the Commission, or the retirement of such persons, or in relation to any dependants of such persons, as the Commission in their discretion may consider requisite or expedient according to the circumstances, and the Commission may, amongst other things, in their discretion, and if considered necessary for the purposes of any such arrangements or facilities, acquire and hold lands or buildings by gift, lease, purchase or otherwise, either in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may dispose from time to time of any such lands or buildings when not required for such purposes;

(xiii) The provisions set out hereunder shall be substituted in place of the provisions appearing in Article 4 of Part VII of the Original Charter, that is to say:

4. (i) Any instrument which, if made by a private person would be required to be under seal shall be executed under the Seal of the Commission and signed by the Proper Officer of the Commission. Subject as aforesaid, any appointment made by the Commission and any instrument, agreement, contract or other document to be executed by the Commission or on its behalf, shall be deemed to be duly executed either if sealed with the Seal of the Commission and signed by the Proper Officer, or if signed by an Officer of the Commission duly authorised in that behalf under the terms of a resolution of the Commission;

(ii) The Proper Officer of the Commission shall be any Officer so designated under the terms of a resolution of the Commission and authorised to sign such documents as he is required to sign as aforesaid;

(iii) The Commission may act on such terms as may be mutually agreed, on behalf of any Government represented on the Commission, or on behalf of the Government of any country or territory within the Commonwealth, for the purpose, from time to time, of fulfilling any obligation towards or carrying out any arrangement with the Government of any Foreign State in respect of graves or memorials relating to war dead of any State engaged in any war during the War Periods, and who died during either of the War Periods in a country whose Government is represented on the Commission, or in a country or territory within the Commonwealth, or in any State or territory under Our Protection, or in any Trust territory administered by the Government of any such country as aforesaid, and for the purpose aforesaid the Commission may exercise all or any of the powers given to the Commission by the Original Charter or by this Our Supplemental Charter, as if such war dead were included in the description of officers and men of Our Naval, Military and Air Forces:

(iv) The Commission, if in their absolute discretion they deem it desirable, may at the request or on behalf of any Government of, or any Authority, person or body in, any country whose Government is represented on the Commission, or any country or territory within the Commonwealth, or any Foreign State, responsible for or desirous of maintaining any place of burial or memorial whether or not of or relating to such officers or men as may fall within the descriptions contained in the Original Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter, or of or relating to any other officers, men or civilians whatever, exercise with regard to such place of burial or memorial aforesaid and the graves in such place of burial all or any of the powers (*mutatis mutandis*) given to the Commission by the Original Charter or by this Our Supplemental Charter, provided that the cost of or incidental to any exercise of such powers for such agency service shall be provided by the Government, Authority, person or body concerned.

AND WE do will and ordain that this Our Supplemental Charter shall be construed as one with the Original Charter, but that in the event of any inconsistency of interpretation between any of the provisions contained in this Our Supplemental Charter and any of the provisions contained in the Original Charter, then the provisions contained in this Our Supplemental Charter shall prevail.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the eighth day of June in the thirteenth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

COLDSTREAM

