



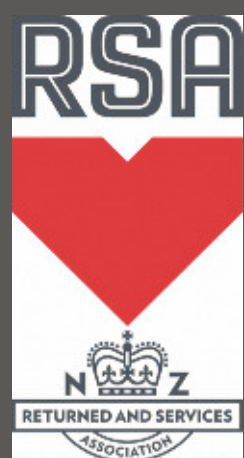
# Lighting Memories - Lest we forget

## Christchurch Memorial Returned and Services Association (Inc.)

August 29, 2016

To whom it may concern;

**RE: Lighting the Christchurch RSA Plaza**



The Christchurch Earthquake of 2011 damaged the Christchurch RSA and resulted in the need to rebuild the building.

The RSA Board engaged Warren and Mahoney to design the new premises and create a venue which both honored those who had fallen, provided club rooms for the membership and venues suitable for the use of the wider community. As part of this design, the exterior plaza is focused on the memorial to the brave men who gave their life for this country and also as a venue for the RSA

membership and wider community to get together socially.

Warren and Mahoney engaged Kevin Cawley and Lyonne Edwards to design the lighting for this area and they have provided us a beautifully lit space that reflects the intention of the original design. As such we are very pleased to endorse Lyonne's entry into the IES Lighting Awards

Yours Sincerely

Paul O'Connor M.B.E.  
Director Christchurch Memorial RSA





## Inspiration

The inspiration for the RSA lighting came from the architecture of the building. The warm coloured stone walls begged to be showcased and provided the necessary vertical surfaces for us to create the warm and welcoming space the brief called for. The strong linear aspects of the building asked for linear lighting solutions while the single tree in the plaza acts as an inviting element wanting a more encompassing lighting solution.

## Solution

To create a warm inviting space a 3000K Targetti LED Belt was installed in a channel, offset from the top of the walls on stays, to allow a wash of light to graze the three walls surrounding the plaza.

The offset of the channel is generous enough and the LED strip mounted far enough into the channel to allow the light distribution to wash and graze the walls without causing discomfort to those viewing the area.

The wall with the names of the fallen engraved on it needed a stronger lighting solution. A 3000K LED Belt was housed in an in-ground walkover profile to provide illumination to the bottom of the wall, complementing the lighting at the top of the wall.

A 3000K LED Belt was also used to light the ripples of the reflection pond and runs the length of the pond along one side

The tree is lit with a 3000K Targetti Keplero Zoom in ground fitting with an adjustable zoom lens which allows for the beam angle to be widened as the tree grows.

## Christchurch RSA

This project was an opportunity for lighting designers Kevin Cawley and Lyonne Edwards to use light to help create an installation which is both warm and inviting to the wider community while respecting and recognizing the memorial to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The dual purpose of the RSA as both a place to meet, dine and socialize as well as a memorial to those lost in past battles created very special lighting design challenges.

## Concept

Lighting an entertainment venue and lighting a memorial normally require very different approaches. This design needed to meet both briefs through light within very tight budget parameters and time constraints. Engaging the wider community, giving the RSA members a beautiful venue, creating a warm inviting area for those who want to reflect and remember and those who want to relax and socialize. The public plaza, behind the blade columns which pay homage to the battles fought, is designed to welcome people into the RSA and provide both a formal area for some occasions and an informal recreational area at other times. There was importance placed on the memorial wall where the names of the fallen are engraved being well lit so family and friends could read those names and feel comfortable mourning their loved one.





**Solution (continued)**

There were very significant budget restrictions on this project which were a blessing in disguise as they encouraged us to search for a more out of the box solution to achieve the desired result. The use of energy efficient long-life LED fittings with an installed total wattage of less than 800W makes for very cost effective long term maintenance. When the fittings reach the end of their life they are easily replaced as none are in hard to extract locations.

**Summary**

The Christchurch RSA Plaza lighting is the result of a strong concept and a desire by all parties involved to create a beautiful space. Respecting the sad and sombre significance of the memorial area while celebrating the life of the RSA, the lighting design reflects both facets and provides a warm and inviting area.

**Credits**

- The Christchurch RSA
- Simon Brown (Principal Warren and Mahoney)
- Chris Dopheide (Architect Warren and Mahoney)
- Donald Gunning (Smart Sparks Electrical)

