

Flowers of Remembrance

On the **11th day** of the **11th month** at **11am** nations stop for two minutes silence to commemorate the signing of the Armistice between the Allies and Germany and the bringing to an end of **The Great War** (WW1) 1914-1918.

Wild flowers grew where many of the First World War battles were fought founding many of today's **emblems of remembrance**.

In addition to the usual red poppy, the UK has added different coloured poppies to remember and **honour** the war **sacrifices** made by other specific groups.

The **white** peace poppy represents since 1933, both civilians and soldiers killed in war, as well as those killed or imprisoned for refusing to fight.

The **purple** poppy adopted in 2006, remembers war-serving animals.

Since 2011, the **black** poppy recognises black African, West Indian and Pacific islander community war contribution and sacrifice.

Some campaign for a **rainbow** poppy for those who died when their sexuality was still criminalised.

The British Poppy

Inspired by the 1915 poem "In Flanders Field" the UK and many former colonies including Canada, Australia and the USA have chosen, since the early 1920s, to use the red poppy as the national **symbol** of **hope** and remembrance for the casualties of **all** wars since WW1.

*Four flowers,
four ways of
remembering
the Great War*

The Belgian Daisy

The daisy is the traditional **mourning** flower in Belgium and has become its national flower of remembrance. It also symbolised WW2's Dutch resistance. In homage to her mother Queen Wilhemina's part in the resistance, the Crown Princess Juliana, named her third child **Margriet** (Dutch for Daisy).

The French Bleuets

Like the poppy, the cornflower or **bleuet** thrived in WW1s war-torn battlefields and was officially adopted in 1936 as the French national flower of remembrance. It was also the **nickname** given to the French WW1 conscripts because of their bright new blue uniform.

The German Forget-me-not

The years between WW1 and WW2 saw the forget-me-not flower become a standard symbol for **charitable** organizations in Germany, with the clear purpose not to forget the **poor** and the **destitute**. Masonic charitable organizations in Germany first used this emblem in 1926.

"Lest We Forget"

Word Link:
Complete the words

Circle the correct flower colour

-  pink red blue
-  blue black red
-  green pink black
-  black white purple
-  yellow purple orange
-  blue orange yellow red pink
-  uniform rainbow bright white green

py	reme
our	cor
ifice	mour
nflower	arm
lem	dai
istice	comm
ence	sil
et-me-not	forg
embrace	hon
ning	pop
	sacr
	emb
	flo