

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is the day to honour all those, living and dead, who served in the armed forces. In Britain, Remembrance Day falls on the Sunday nearest November 11. Before World War II, it was known as Armistice Day, as this was on this day that World War I (1914-1918) ended. The day now honours those who died in the two world wars, and at 11 a.m. a two-minute silence is observed (it was at this hour that fighting stopped on November 11, 1918).

In Britain volunteers from the British Legion sell artificial poppies. Money raised helps to look after those who serve in the armed forces. This is why Remembrance Day is sometimes known as Poppy Day. There are special church services and wreath-laying ceremonies at war memorials, the most famous of which is at the Cenotaph in London where the Queen, accompanied by members of the Royal Family, lays wreaths, along with the Prime Minister and other important politicians.



The Poppy became the symbol of remembrance as it was the first thing to grow on the battlefields after the First World War.

“If we are to retain our peace and freedom we must always remember”

Royal British Legion

Why should we bother?

Millions of people died fighting in the two world wars. They fought for us. Those who died, did so because they thought it was worth it. They died so the people who followed could live in freedom.

Remembrance Day is the day where it is our duty to stop and think about the sacrifices these people made for us. It is the day to say thank you to those who died for us in the world wars, and to remember the horror of war to prevent it happening again.



The Cenotaph – a memorial to those killed in World War I, erected in 1920 in Whitehall, near the Houses of Parliament, in central London. The Cenotaph is the focal point of the annual Remembrance Day ceremonies in honour of the dead of both World Wars and other more recent conflicts.