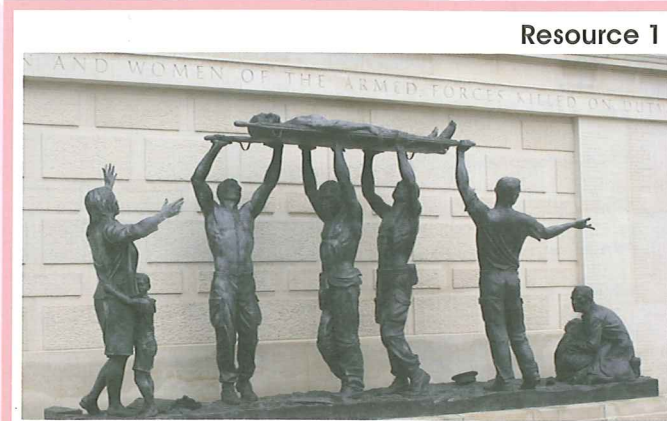


How and why do we remember them?



Resource 1

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Memorial, National Memorial Arboretum

Resource 3

What is remembering?

- Remembering . . .
- is more than memories
- is more than just saying 'thank you'
- is not enough, but is something
- helps the lessons of the past inform the actions of today
- celebrates courage, honour, bravery, sacrifice, generosity and love.

Resource 5



© Emma Jardine

Poppies, National Memorial Arboretum

Resource 2

National Memorial Arboretum

The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire was created in 1977 as a national place of remembrance of those who gave their lives in the service of their country, or suffered as a result of conflict, or whose lives make it fitting that they be remembered here.

There are more than 200 memorials in 150 acres of woodland, with new ones being added all the time. People from many religions and cultures are remembered here.

The Armed Forces Memorial commemorates those who have been killed on duty or as a result of terrorism from the end of the Second World War to current conflicts, e.g. Afghanistan.

There is a daily Act of Remembrance, including a moment of silence, in the Millennium Chapel. Visitors are encouraged.

See: www.thenma.org.uk

Resource 4

A Widow's Story

We'd only been married for almost two weeks when Iain went off to the Falklands.

Seeing Iain off to the Falklands war was the hardest thing I've ever had to do – neither of us could have known we'd never see each other again.

On 21 May 1982, five ships were hit. One of them was the HMS Argonaut, Iain's ship. When I was told that Iain was "missing presumed dead" a part of me didn't want to believe it. There were five Iains on that ship; they might have got it wrong.

Iain's body never came home, so the Armed Forces memorial is a place where I can run my fingers over his name and be with him. My first visit was wonderful, but heart-breaking too. I stood there and talked to him for ages.

Widow of Able Seaman Iain M. Boldy

© Emma Jardine

How and why do we remember them?



Resource 6

© Lewis Whyld/Press Association Images

Gurkha Justice Campaign

On 21 May 2009 the Home Secretary announced that all Gurkha veterans who retired before 1997 with at least four years' service would be allowed to settle in the UK if they wish. This victory followed a long campaign headed by the actress Joanna Lumley. Since 1815 the Brigade of Gurkhas has fought for the British Crown in conflicts around the world. Gurkhas come from Nepal and are usually from Hindu or Buddhist backgrounds.

Resource 8

Some things that religions say about peace and conflict

- 1 **Buddhism**
He who destroys life ... he digs up the very roots of his life.
Dhammapada 346
- 2 **Christianity**
Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God.
Christian Bible, Matthew 5:9
- 3 **Hinduism**
Ahimsa, non-violence, comes from strength, and the strength is from God, not man. Ahimsa always comes from within.
Mahatma Gandhi
- 4 **Islam**
Do not take life – which Allah has made sacred – except for a just cause.
Qur'an, 17:33
- 5 **Judaism**
They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation.
Hebrew Bible, Isaiah, 2: 4
- 6 **Sikhism**
When all efforts to restore peace prove useless and no words avail, lawful is the flash of steel. It is right to draw the sword.
Guru Gobind Singh

See: www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/war

Resource 7

Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph, Whitehall

Remembrance Day is always the second Sunday of November and there is a service at the Cenotaph in London. The monarch lays a wreath and other tributes, dedicated to all who have suffered or died in war, are placed on the Cenotaph. Great care is taken to ensure that everyone is included.

Members of the Cabinet, opposition party leaders, former prime ministers and certain other ministers and the mayor of London are invited to attend the ceremony, along with representatives of the armed forces, merchant air and navy and fishing fleets, and members of faith communities. High Commissioners from Commonwealth countries also attend and lay wreaths.

See video of the ceremony: <http://bit.ly/McNPHS>



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Queen Elizabeth II laying a wreath at the Cenotaph

To think about:

- 1 **Look closely at Resource 1.** What do you think the sculptor is saying about the impact of war, and the importance of peace?
- 2 **Watch the video for Resource 7.** What does the music, colour, pace, people, and use of silence say to you about the nature and importance of this annual event?
- 3 **What do the religions** you have been studying this term say about war? What questions do you have? What are your own thoughts?
- 4 **If you were to write a poem** called 'Remembering' or 'Thankfulness' what would you write? Use Resources 1–7 to help you.