EPSOM & EWELL TIMES
For the community, by the community. A not-for-profit service

29th October 2026

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Epsom and Ewell remembers...

12 November 2022



Epsom and Ewell came together for the annual **Remembrance Day** service at Epsom's Clocktower, Friday 11th November. The Mayor's Chaplain reflected on the history of Remembrance Day. The first was held in the grounds of Buckingham Palace in 1919 when the two-minute silence was observed. In 1921 the poppy became a symbol of Remembrance. The Second World War saw the commemoration being held on a Sunday, to avoid disruption of ammunition production should the 11th of November fall in the working week. The Chaplain mentioned how the reality of today's television coverage of wars was inuring many to the horror of war.

The service was attended by a full complement of Councillors of all parties, servicemen and boys and girls from Blenheim School and other local schools.

The full service is reprinted below.

EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

An Act of Remembrance to mark 11.11.11 - Armistice Day
Friday 11 November 2022

The Mayor of Epsom & Ewell, Councillor Clive Woodbridge leads the civic party to the Clock Tower

The Mayor's Chaplain, says:

We meet in the presence of God.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives, in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

Act of Remembrance

Read by The Royal British Legion:
They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

Read by a Cadet: ***At the going down of the sun and in the morning***
we will remember them."

All: We will remember them.

Non-uniformed male personnel to remove headwear,. please

Bugler will play *The Last Post*

11.00: Two Minute Silence

Bugler will play *Reveille*

The Kohima Epitaph, read by the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment:
When you go home, tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow we gave our today.

The Mayor will lay a wreath on behalf of the citizens of the Borough

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We Shall Keep the Faith — By: Monica Michael 1918
read by CIlr Clive Woodbridge, Mayor of Epsom and Ewell

1. Oh! You who sleep in
Flanders' Fields
Sleep sweet — to rise anew:
We caught the torch you
threw,
And holding high we kept
The faith with those who died.

2. We cherish, too. the Poppy red
That grows on fields where
valor led.
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never
dies.
But lends a lustre to the red
On the flower that blooms
about the dead
In Flanders' fields.

And now the torch and Poppy red
Wear in the honour of our dead
Fear not that ye have died for naught:
We've learned the lesson that ye taught
In Flanders' fields.

Reading: *Goodbye Young Soldier* - By: Sgt John Norbury, Afghanistan, January 2010
read by Representative 135 Geographic Squadron

1 We said goodbye tonight
To a soldier whom I did not know
He did his duty well
But sadly he had to go

2 He did not travel this far
To leave behind family & friend
He came to do his duty.
He did not know it would be his
end

3 His short life was just that
A soldier's ultimate commitment
he gave
This earth deserved him longer
He sent too early to his grave

What comfort lies for those he left
Never again to be by their side
A gallery of happy memories
And deservedly this Nation's pride

4 He is one of many heroes
Another poor young soldier
For he is not alone
No years left in which to grow
older

6 So farewell young soldier
Whilst here you did just right
I hope your life was not a waste
Farewell young soldier, sleep tight

The Chaplain: 'Reflection'

Readings -

In Gratitude of Silence - By: Debbie Holick read by a pupil from
Blenheim High School

Silent now the soldiers sleep, their tales long laid to rest.
I knew them not yet still I weep and place a poppy o'er my breast.
They were husbands, brothers, fathers, sons; so valiantly they fought.
On shores stained red, on hands and knees; it was our freedom that they sought.
Courageously they stood their ground, but freedom carries a cost.
Thousands of men were wounded, and countless lives were lost.
So, in gratitude of silence and all those who have served,
sleep now, you have earned it. Your peace is well deserved.

Remembrance Day - read by a pupil from Rosebery School

We wear a poppy
On Remembrance Day,
And at eleven
We stand and pray.
Wreaths are put
Upon a grave.
As we remember
Our soldiers brave.

Prayer for Peace - read by a pupil from Ewell Castle School

Let us know peace.
For as long as the moon shall rise,
For as long as the rivers shall flow,
For as long as the sun shall shine,
For as long as the grass shall grow,
Let us know peace.

The Lord's Prayer (all can join in):

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For „ thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Act of Commitment

The Chaplain says:

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men, women and children: That we may help, encourage, and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and "for the peace and welfare of the nations.

Response:

God of peace, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all people, in the cause of peace and reconciliation and for the relief of want and suffering. Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope and give us perseverance now and always. Amen

The National Anthem

God save our Gracious King!
Long live our noble King
God save the King
Send him victorious
Happy and glorious
Long to reign over us
God Save the King!

The Chaplain concludes the service:

Ever-living God, as we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations. Amen.

End of Service

The Mayor, Councillor Clive Woodbridge, would like to thank all those who joined us in today's Service and hopes you will keep a special thought for those military personnel, past and present, who gave and continue to give their service for our country.

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