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Symbolism [edit]

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The poppy of wartime remembrance is *Papaver rhoeas*, the red-flowered corn poppy. This poppy is a common weed in Europe and is found in many locations; including Flanders, which is the setting of the famous poem "In Flanders Fields," by the Canadian surgeon and soldier John McCrae. In Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, artificial poppies (plastic in Canada, paper in the UK, Australia, South Africa, Malta and New Zealand) are worn to commemorate those who died in war. This form of commemoration is associated with Remembrance Day, which falls on November 11. In Canada, Australia and the UK, poppies are often worn from the beginning of November through to the 11th, or Remembrance Sunday if that falls on a later date.* In New

Zealand and Australia, soldiers are commemorated on ANZAC day (April 25) ^[6] although the poppy is still commonly worn around Remembrance Day.

Wearing of poppies has been a custom since 1924 in the United States. Miss Moina Michael of Georgia is credited as the founder of the Memorial Poppy in the United States. ^{[7][8][9]}



Source: Extract from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poppy

Saved on October 7, 2014 by poppytime.com for use with the Poppy Time crossword "The Poppy and Remembrance" available at www.poppytime.com

^{*}Clarification: In Canada and Australia, Remembrance Day always falls on 11th November. In the UK, the commemoration is held on the Sunday closest to 11th November, called Remembrance Sunday.