



Wolston Poppies are a Parish Council led project and have financial support for a Remembrance Sunday Poppy Cascade.

The local village crafters will produce poppies and create the cascade. The displays will be arranged along the sides of the Baptist Church and feature a small cascade behind the Memorial. Additionally, a number of standalone poppies will be planted along the Brook by the Millstone Gardens.

This initiative will serve as a communal expression of gratitude for those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. The project has commenced and includes red poppies symbolising remembrance for military service members, particularly those from the First World War. It also incorporates white poppies for peace and purple poppies to honour the animals that perished in the conflicts.

The crafters creating the poppy memorial have stated that it will allow them to acknowledge those who served in the military.

Please find attached some basic patterns for crochet, knitting and felt made poppies.

If you wish to make your own, please feel free to do so.

### **The significance of red, purple, white, and black poppies**

Red poppies are widely associated with Remembrance Day, although some individuals opt for white, purple, or black poppies.

The iconic red poppy symbol is prominently displayed at this time of year as preparations are made for Remembrance Day observances. The red flower serves as a mark of respect and support for those in the Armed Forces community. Additionally, various coloured poppies have distinct meanings during times of remembrance.

### **What does the red poppy signify?**

The red poppy, manufactured and sold by The Royal British Legion for over a century, symbolises remembrance and hope for peace. It honours those who lost their lives in active service from the onset of the First World War to the present day, recognising the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families. Its origin is traced to the landscapes of the First World War, where they were prevalent on the Western Front in Europe, thriving in the earth disturbed by combat.

## What is the meaning behind the purple poppy?

The purple poppy represents the suffering of animals during conflict. Historically, not only humans but also animals such as horses, dogs, and pigeons have perished in wars. An estimated 8 million donkeys and horses were killed during the First World War, compared to the war's toll of 9.7 million military personnel.

## What is the significance of the white poppy?

The white poppy, a symbol of pacifism, has been worn before Remembrance Day for 90 years. Initially produced in 1933 post-First World War by members of the Co-operative Women's Guild, many of whom had lost family and friends in the conflict, the white poppy embodies the message 'never again'. It stands for three principles: remembrance of all war victims, challenging war and militarism, and commitment to peace. White poppies commemorate both military and civilian casualties of all nationalities, striving to end the exclusion of civilians from mainstream Remembrance events.

## What does the black poppy represent?

The black poppy rose acknowledges the contributions of African, Black, Caribbean, Pacific Islands, and Indigenous communities to the war effort. Created by Selena Carty in 2010, it highlights the history of people of colour who have died in wars since the 16th century. Black poppies aim to empower, educate, and elevate awareness of key historical narratives shaping the world. They serve to share history and information globally to aid healing through shared experiences.

## Contact details

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## Here's how to make a simple felt poppy using a template:



1. **Cut out the template:** Carefully cut out the petal and leaf shapes from the printed template.
2. **Trace onto Felt:** Use the cut-out template pieces to trace the shapes onto your chosen felt colours (red for petals, black or green for the centre and leaves).
3. **Cut out the felt:** Carefully cut out the felt pieces following the traced lines.
4. **Assemble the poppy:**



**Petals:** Overlap and sew or glue the edges of two or more red felt petals together to form a flower shape.

**Centre:** Attach a black button or a circle of black felt to the centre of the flower.

**Leaves (optional):** Attach green felt leaves to the back of the flower.



# Poppy knitting patterns

Patterns kindly provided by the Arnold & District Branch



## Knitting pattern 1

Easy garter / knit stitch pattern

Colour A - Red (one ball will make a lot of poppies)  
Colour B - Black - (either scrap of wool or black button)

### Step 1: Body of poppy

- Using colour A cast on 120 stitches
- Rows 1-4 knit
- Row 5 knit 3 stitches together across the row (40 stitches)
- Rows 6-9 knit
- Row 10 knit 2 stitches together across the row (20 stitches)
- Rows 11-14 knit
- Row 15 knit 2 stitches together across the row (10 stitches)
- Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm
- Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight
- Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

### Step 2: Centre of poppy

- Using colour B cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.
- Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use black button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy
- Add pin to rear of poppy

### Tips

- For the best yarn finish, knit with a Cotton Double Knit (DK yarn) as shown in the pictures.
- The size of needle you use will determine how big the poppy will be, but we recommend 3.5mm or 3.75mm (UK9). If you have different yarn available just use that and the appropriate needle size.
- If you have any problems with any of the techniques in the poppy patterns and you have access to the internet - you will find lots of tutorial videos on YouTube.



# Poppy knitting patterns

Patterns kindly provided by the Arnold & District Branch



## Knitting pattern 2

Easy ribbed poppy pattern

Colour A - Red  
Colour B - Black

### Step 1: Body of poppy

- Using colour A cast on 60 stitches
- Rows 1-10 K2, P2 across whole row (for a slightly smaller poppy do 8 rows of rib).
- Row 11 knit 2 stitches together across the row (30 stitches).
- Row 12 slip 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together then pass the slip stitch over...repeat across the whole row (10 stitches).
- Break off yarn with a long tail and thread back through remaining stitches and pull tight. Join edges with mattress stitch.

### Step 2: Centre of poppy

- Using colour B cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.
- Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use black button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.
- Add pin to rear of poppy.





# Crochet Poppy Pattern (no sew)



## Black centre of poppy

1. Magic circle with 13 single crochet
2. Close with slip stitch
3. Change yarn to red

### Guidance

- Use a 3.0/3.5 mm hook
- Tunisian-style crochet

## Red petal one

1. Chain 3
2. Insert into 2nd chain from hook and pull through and repeat for 3rd chain, (you should have 3 stitches on your hook)
3. Insert into base stitch and pull through (you should now have 4 stitches on your hook)
4. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops, repeat until you have 1 stitch on the hook and chain 1
5. Insert hook into loop on the front and pull yarn through, and repeat on the second (you should have 3 stitches on your hook)
6. Insert hook into next chain in magic circle and pull yarn through (you should have 4 stitches on your hook)
7. Yarn over and pull through 2, repeat until you have 1 stitch on your hook, and chain 1
8. Repeat steps 5-7, 5 times
9. Slip stitch into 1st and 2nd loop, and into base stitch in the magic circle



## Red petal two

1. Chain 3
2. Insert hook into 2nd chain and pull through, repeat for 3rd and into base stitch (you should have 4 stitches on the hook)
3. Yarn over and pull through 2 loops, repeat until there is one left on your hook, and chain 1
4. Pull yarn through 1st and 2nd loop on the front (you should have 3 stitches on the hook), pull through on loop at base stitch (you should have 4 stitches on the hook) and the again into the next chain in magic circle (5 stitches on hook)
5. Yarn over and pull through 2, repeat until you have 1 stitch left on your hook, and chain 1
6. Pull yarn through 1st, 2nd, and 3rd loop on the front (you should have 4 stitches on the hook), pull through in the next chain on magic circle (you should have 5 stitches on hook)
7. Yarn over and pull through 2, repeat until have 1 stitch left on your hook, and chain 1
8. Repeat steps 6-7, 5 times
9. Slip stitch the 1st loop on the front, then slip the stitch the 2nd and 3rd, loop together
10. Slip stitch into your 1st stitch of the magic circle and finish off

