

## THE POPPY APPEAL AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

To reiterate and clarify previous notices; There will be no house to house poppy collection this year but poppies will be available in selected retail outlets in Stamford Bridge. Additionally, it is hoped to have a stall in The Square on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October and again on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October, weather permitting, where paper poppies, knitted poppies, enamel poppies and other poppy merchandise will be available. The popular small dated poppy lapel pins will also be available throughout the period from Andrew Long's Whisky and Card Shop.

On Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> November, a special Remembrance Service will be held in St. John's Church at 10.00 o'clock. However, as places have to be limited, anyone wishing to attend must pre-book by ringing 07800 879663. Following the indoor service, the wreath-laying and dedication ceremony will take place around the war memorial at approximately 11.00am. As stated in last month's Link, anyone who is not directly involved in the ceremony is requested to observe from a place of safety outside the church precincts. (The roads will not be closed to traffic this year)

The knitted poppies referred to above were made by local ladies to create a spectacular display in 2018. They were then kept to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V.E. and V.J. day this year, but those events were stopped by the pandemic. They have now been washed and adapted to be worn as badges, but if any local groups would like to make a wreath or other display of their own – say a poppy “soldier” wearing a steel helmet – there is a surplus available (free) from Jenny Harris, tel. 07717 831294

As poppies may not be in evidence so much this year, due to a shortage of stock, it has been suggested that, to show support for the poppy appeal, people may like to make or draw poppies of their own and display them in their house windows in the same way that many of us celebrated and thanked the N.H.S. earlier in the year. Just a thought!

Gordon Peel.