



ROUTES TO ROOTS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 01, 2009

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 4

Canada Remembers



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The Poppy

The blood red poppy is a symbol
And wearing it is the way we tell
That we'll ever remember the fallen
It's how we mourn the ones who fell

Those who fought for our freedom
Who are not among the living today
But are now resting in many countries
They sacrificed their lives in the fray

Poppies grow in the fields of Flanders
Creating a vivid flowery carpet of red
Growing among the white cross markers
Bearing the names of the valiant dead

Red as their lifeblood shed in battle
Poppies are a memorial tribute that we
Wear to show that we'll always remember
Those who shed their blood to keep us free

This is the way we show our appreciation
That for their supreme sacrifice we care
A demonstration that we remember them
By the symbolic blood red poppy we wear

October 3, 2002
George Olson

Canada and the Second World War 1939-1945

The Second World War lasted six terrible years and left a legacy of death and destruction. It was truly a world war encircling the globe from the Atlantic to the Pacific

Christmas is coming!! Give your children, parents or grandparents a gift that will be treasured for years to come.

GenealogyResults can create that extra special gift for your hard to buy for family member.

This newsletter is the creation of Marg Meldrum of GenealogyResults

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and touching the far reaches of the Arctic. Nor was it confined to soldiers and battlefields, for new weapons of destruction made war possible on the land, in the air, and beneath the seas, and brought death and suffering indiscriminately to the young and the old, to their homes and their hearts.

A few pages are not sufficient for a full account of that war - its causes, its events, its heroism and its treachery. The aim here is simply to tell something of the story of the Canadians who went overseas, to give some idea of where they fought and died, and what they were able to achieve.

For a young nation it was a remarkable achievement. Serving in the Canadian Army, the Royal Canadian Navy, the Royal Canadian Air Force and with other Allied Forces, thousands of young Canadians fought from 1939 to 1945 on the battlefronts of the world. They were there to defend the United Kingdom when it appeared that Nazi invasion was imminent. They fought valiantly in the unsuccessful attempt to defend Hong Kong against the Japanese. At Dieppe they bore the brunt of a daring, but fateful raid against the enemy-controlled coast of France. Above all they played their part in two great campaigns: they fought for twenty months in Italy, and were in the front lines when the Allies returned to Continental Europe on D-Day in 1944.

They brought honour and a new respect to their country. Most of all they helped to win the struggle against the tyranny and oppression which threatened to engulf the world. It was for our freedom that these young Canadians fought, and it was for that freedom that many of them died.

More than one million Canadians and Newfoundlanders served in the Second World War. Of these more than 45,000 gave their lives, and another 55,000 were wounded. Countless others shared the suffering and hardship of war.

These few words are dedicated to those who fought so that we might live in freedom. It is their valour that we must remember. ✍️

Article reproduced from the website of Veterans Affairs Canada www.vac-acc.gc.ca Please visit the website for the complete story.

Canadian Military Records

With Remembrance Day fast approaching, perhaps your genealogy research will turn to your family members who served in our Armed Forces. Canada has a long and rich military history and there are several records and collections related to our veterans which can now be found online.

Several websites you will want to check out are:

[Canadian Air Aces and Heroes](#)

This is a site which provides biographies, airplane histories, medal details, and more for the Canadian pilots of World Wars I & II as well as the Korean conflict.

[The Canadian Army Overseas 1939-1945](#)

Maple Leaf Up, is a private Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the memory of the all-volunteer Canadian Army Overseas in World War II.

[Canadian Books of Remembrance](#)

This site is provided by Veterans Affairs of Canada and is comprised of six books that record the names of Canadians who fought and gave their lives in each of the six wars outside of Canada since the birth of our country in 1867.

[The Maple Leaf Legacy Project](#)

The Maple Leaf Legacy Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to photographing or obtaining a photograph of every Canadian War Grave of the 20th Century. Their aim

is to create a virtual Canadian National War Cemetery for the families and friends of Canada's war dead to visit and remember.

[Canadian Soldiers of the First World War \(CEF\)](#)

This is a site maintained by Library and Archives Canada of the over 600,000 Canadians who enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the First World War. Over 800,000 images of Attestation papers have been scanned and made accessible through the database.

[The Canadian Merchant Navy War Dead](#)

This is an index provided by Veterans Affairs Canada and can be searched for the names of Canadian Merchant Seaman who died while serving Canada in her Merchant Navy.

[Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)

Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, this is free online database which provides personal, service, and burial location details for the 1.7 million members of the Commonwealth forces who died in the First and Second World Wars.✍

**It's your family's past.
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