SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION & REMEMBRANCE

AT THE WAR MEMORIAL
POLICE HEADQUARTERS BRIDGEND

WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2015 AT 10.50AM
The great war, the war to end all wars had a catastrophic effect on humanity and the world as a whole. Great empires centuries old collapsed and disappeared, new countries formed and the world changed forever.

Please take sometime before the service begins to read the following statistics.

- 1.1 million British and Commonwealth soldiers lost their lives.
- 250,000 underage teenage boys enlisted in the army, the youngest age 13 years. 50% were killed.
- The remains of 100,000 troops still lie under the battlefields.
- At the battle of the Somme, 1916 in Picardy, 17,000 British soldiers were killed and 40,000 wounded on the first day of battle.
- 14,287 merchant seamen lost their lives.
- Valiant hearts who to your glory came.
- 10 million civilians died of starvation and illness.
- 1 million civilians were killed as the result of military action.

LEARN ENGAGE REMEMBER
Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God

MATTHEW Ch5. v9

POPPIES OF REMEMBRANCE

Delicate and bright, they catch the eye, petals open to embrace the world.
Innocent, they push their way through soil and rubble, seeking light.
In the light they bring forth colour to a devastated land.
Blood red, they reveal the horrors lived out on the ground of their creation.
Nurtured, nourished, by the rain that fell, the blood shed of human life.
Their birth into the ground of warfare, herald’s remembrance.
Delicate and bright, they catch the eye, petals gently moving in the breeze.
Innocent, and with gentleness, they subvert all the land has witnessed.
In the light of a new day they bring forth colours of peace and hope.
Blood red, they reveal the pulse and life of love possible in humanity.
Nurtured, nourished by creation, they become our Remembrance,
Of all that has been, and is, and never should be again.
Chief Constable WELCOME

Chaplain We are gathered here together in the presence of Almighty God to give thanks and to commemorate the sacrifices of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Amen

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

THE LAST POST

THE SILENCE

REVEILLE

THE EXHORTATION

Chief Constable They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

And all shall repeat:

We will remember them

LAYING OF WREATHS

THE KOHIMA EPITAPH

Chief Constable When you go home tell them of us and say for your tomorrow we gave our today.
A READING

WISDOM OF SOLOMON 3:1-9

No torment will touch them

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.
Last year South Wales Police, along with many other organisations and individuals, commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the War in 1914.

We continue that commemoration this year by remembering the events of 1915, particularly as they affected the members of our predecessor forces of Glamorgan, Cardiff, Swansea, Merthyr and Neath.

It was a year that saw bitter fighting at Gallipoli and at the Battle of Loos. Poison gas was used for the first time by the Germans at the Second Battle of Ypres and by the British at Loos.

Away from the front line, civilian deaths and injuries were caused by bombing attacks on England, and in May 1915 over 1000 passengers and crew lost their lives when the British liner, the “Lusitania”, was sunk by a German U boat off the coast of Ireland.

This year we remember fifteen members of our predecessor forces who died in 1915. Six of them were killed on one day, 27th September, during the Battle of Loos.

Eight of those who died were from the Welsh Guards which was formed in February 1915. In total thirty three members of our predecessor forces died during the War whilst serving with the Regiment.

The events of 1915 may now seem far in the past but, as the amount of public interest in the centenary commemorations has shown, there is still a commitment to remember those who served and especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

South Wales Police has sought to play its part by honouring our former police officers and it will continue to do so. They deserve nothing less.

Gareth Madge OBE
Chair, First World War Project Group
1915 ROLL OF HONOUR

30TH APRIL
PC Bertram Frederick Crees (Glamorgan/Royal Engineers)

7TH MAY
PC William Arthur Jones (Swansea/Royal Engineers)

20TH MAY
PC William George Mathias (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)

7TH AUGUST
PC Frederick Richards (Glamorgan/South Wales Borderers)

27TH SEPTEMBER
PC Michael Doyle (Glamorgan/Irish Guards)
PC Benjamin Evans (Cardiff/Welsh Guards)
PC David William Evans (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)
PC David Charles Grant (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)
PC Ernest Lewis Reeves (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)
PC Charles Henry Snailham (Glamorgan/Grenadier Guards)

6TH OCTOBER
PC William East (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)

8TH OCTOBER
PC William Holland (Swansea/Welsh Regiment)

12TH OCTOBER
PC Leonard Nowell (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)

17TH OCTOBER
PC William Hammond (Glamorgan/Grenadier Guards)

25TH OCTOBER
PC William Henry Carter (Glamorgan/Welsh Guards)

We remember them with pride. Yn angof ni chant fod.
Chaplain  We pray now for this nation, giving thanks for its traditions of freedom and democracy.

Remembering the part we have played in peace and conflict over many decades in all parts of the world. Especially remembering all those who laid down their lives to attain this freedom.

We pray too that in harmony and truth we may continue to seek the way of peace, joining our prayers together as we say the Lords Prayer.

Chaplain  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

BLESSING

Chaplain  Go forth into the world in peace, ‘Be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good,’ render to no one evil for evil. Support the weak, help the afflicted love and serve the Lord and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you and all whom you love, now and always.  Amen
SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
AT THE MEMORIAL GARDENS
POLICE HEADQUARTERS BRIDGEND
LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN HEROES WITH PRIDE
We have come to the Memorial Gardens to remember before God our Father all those we love, but now no longer see, who died whilst a serving member of the South Wales Police, and to give thanks to God for their lives and dedication.

O gracious Lord, help us to listen lovingly to your Word, that we may find comfort in our grief, light in our darkness, and faith in the midst of doubt; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

I am the way, the truth and the life

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.”

Most merciful God, who in your loving kindness gave us so much joy through your servants
departed; we thank you for them and for our memories of them. We praise you for your goodness and mercy that followed them all the days of their life and for their faithfulness in the tasks to which you called them. We bless you that for them the tribulations of this world are over and that death is past; we give them back to you dear lord and we pray that you will bring us with them to the joy of your perfect kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Chaplain

A PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Eternal God we pray for all who mourn, comfort and support and uphold them. Help them to know you are always with them and not to think of the darkness of death, but of the splendour of everlasting life in your presence. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Chaplain

A PRAYER FOR THE POLICE

Almighty God we bring to you in prayer those who bear responsibility for maintaining law and order in our land especially members of the police service. Give them faith, hope, courage and wisdom to carry out their duties justly and mercifully without fear or favour, so that the innocent may be protected, evil doers be brought to account, the rights of all be defended, so that we as a nation may enjoy the blessing of a just, free and peaceful society... In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Chaplain

BLESSING

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest, to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and abide with you always. Amen

Chaplain
South Wales Police is currently gathering information about the many serving officers from our predecessor forces of Glamorgan, Swansea, Merthyr Tydfil, Neath and Cardiff who fought and died during the First World War.

We want to ensure we uncover as much information as possible about our proud history, and the many men who served both the force and their country to ensure they are never forgotten.

All the stories and information collected, including photographs, letters and newspaper coverage from that time will be shared online and on Facebook.

To make a contribution please email: policemuseum@south-wales.pnn.police.uk