

# Headline: Weeping Window

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Artist Paul Cummins and designer Tom Piper unveiled the Weeping Window display from the 14<sup>th</sup> March to the 29<sup>th</sup> April at Hereford Cathedral.

Hereford Cathedral dates from 1120 and is renowned for being the home of the Mappa Mundi, 1217 Magna Carta and a unique chained library. A book of remembrance for the husbands and sons of members of the Hereford Mothers' Union, who gave their lives in the war, is on permanent display.

The Weeping Window is from the installation 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red' that was originally displayed at the Tower of London to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the First World War.

The installation at HM Tower of London was displayed from August to November 2014 consisting of 888,246 poppies. Each was displayed in memory of all 888,246 British and Colonial lives lost on the front line between 1914 - 1918.

From a small study we found out that the vast majority of the people in Hereford liked the poppies, however it is very new, over the next coming weeks we shall expect more visitors.

They are going to tour these places next:

ROYAL ARMOURIES, FORT NELSON (13<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> June)

CARLISLE CASTLE (23<sup>rd</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> July)

MIDDLEPORT POTTERY, STOKE-ON-TRENT (2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 – 16<sup>th</sup> September)

IWM NORTH, MANCHESTER (8<sup>th</sup> September – 25<sup>th</sup> November)

IWM LONDON (6<sup>th</sup> October – 18<sup>th</sup> November)

In the spring of 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies growing in battle-scarred fields to write a now famous poem called 'In Flanders Fields'. After the First World War, the poppy was adopted as a symbol of Remembrance.