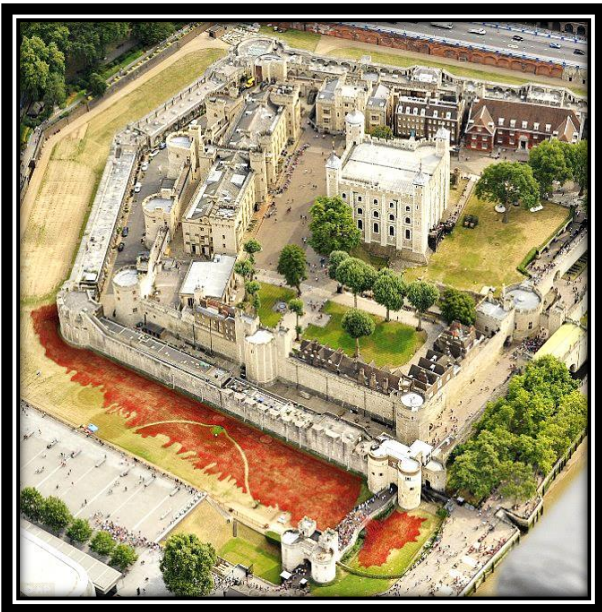


First World War Tribute Memorial 'Tower of London' Poppy Donated to Brighton Branch 100

In 2014 there was a stunning installation of 888,246 red ceramic poppies at the Tower of London. Each poppy is the size of a man's fist and attached to a two-foot metal stalk so it can be planted into the ground. Each poppy paid tribute to British and Commonwealth soldiers killed in the First World War. Sales of the poppies, from ceramic artist Paul Cummins' installation **Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red**, raised more than £2.5million in just two days, the profits of which went directly to six charities for servicemen and women. Mr. Cummins, who works from his studio in Derbyshire, described the public reaction to his art, in which one poppy for each dead soldier is being placed in the dry moat at the Tower of London, as 'overwhelming'.



The *Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red* was an astonishing collection of ceramic poppies placed in Tower's famous dry moat to commemorate the centenary of the Great War. The poppies "flourished" throughout the 2014 summer. The last poppy was symbolically planted on November 11th, 2014. **The Most Beautiful Display of Public Art Memorializes Britain's WWI Dead.**



2014 represented 100 years since Britain entered the First World War and to mark the centenary, the Tower of London was surrounded by nearly 900,000 ceramic poppies. It was a spectacular sight – particularly where the poppies flow out of one of the Tower's windows – one can only imagine how powerfully poignant the site was on November 11th when the models encircle one of London's most famous landmarks. It's not always successful when contemporary art tries to mark historical events, but this project struck exactly the right note.

Brighton Branch 100 recently received the donation of one of the famous **Tower of London** memorial poppies from **Gail Todd and daughter Sandra**. Gail is the wife of the late Comrade Brian Todd who was a long time member of **Brighton Legion Branch 100**. In 1983 Brian was Superintendent of Northumberland-Durham Board of Education. He retired in 1995 and became a Brighton Community supporter. He was past Master of the United Masonic Lodge #29 and District Deputy Grand Master of Prince Edward District in 1992. Brian was active in the community through Lions and Branch 100. He was involved in the Brighton Curling Club as an active curler and past president. Brian was one of the founders of the Brighton Health Service Centre and Chair from its inception in 2001. He was actively involved in the Quest for a new community sports field in Brighton. Brian was active in Brighton Rotary Club for many years, served on many committees. He was honoured as Brighton's Citizen of the year in 2009. Brian passed away in November 2011.