



Craft a Forget-Me-Not

*& learn the history behind the
symbol of remembrance*



THE ROYAL NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

MUSEUM



Forget-Me-Not



Newfoundland and Labrador's Remembrance Flower

Wearing the Forget-Me-Not is a longstanding act of remembrance for the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. The flowers stand as a symbol of remembrance to commemorate Newfoundlanders and Labradorians across all times of service; the tradition started after the First World War to remember every sacrifice that was made and the heavy casualties that were suffered.

The flower was officially adopted by the Great War Veteran's Association of Newfoundland (GWVA) in June, 1924 when the executive committee was led by Lt. Col. Thomas Nangle. They used it as a symbol of remembrance and as a fundraising initiative to help pay for Field Marshal Douglas Haig's visit to unveil the National War Memorial in St. John's.

Since then the GWVA, who would later amalgamate into the Royal Canadian Legion, has kept the Forget-Me-Not as a symbol of remembrance for Memorial Day, July 1st. Memorial Day in Newfoundland and Labrador acts as a day of remembrance to those who have served in all our armed forces and engagements since 1917. It is also the anniversary of the first day of the Battle of the Somme where the Royal Newfoundland Regiment was practically wiped out near the French village of Beaumont-Hamel.

Ownership of the Forget-Me-Not as a symbol of remembrance is much larger than the Royal Canadian Legion in our province. The flower is symbolically owned by the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. The tradition of wearing the flower on July 1st continues today and is supported by many individuals and organizations in the province. The Royal Newfoundland Regiment have been granted special privilege by the Department of National Defence to wear the Forget-Me-Not as a sign of reverence to those who came before them.



Pictured to the left is the painting "Forget-Me-Not" by Robert Hand.

Pictured to the right are the Forget-Me-Not flowers.



Composed by Paige Brennan

Sew a Forget-Me-Not!

Craft supplies you'll need; sewing needle, yellow and green thread, a sheet of blue and green felt, scissors and a pen (each of these can be found at a craft store)

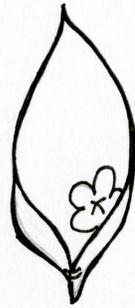
Step 1 Cut out the shapes below. Trace the backing on to your green felt and the three flowers on to blue felt. Cut the shapes out of your felt.

Step 2



Pinch the bottom of your green backing and sew into place using your green thread. You want it to look like the image to the left.

Step 3



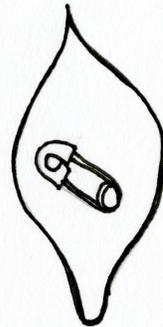
Using your yellow thread sew on your first flower. It should look like the photo on the left.

Step 4



Continuing to use your yellow thread, sew on your second and third flowers. It should look like the image to the left.

Step 5



Secure a safety pin on the back of your flower to finish!

