



SARK CONSTABLE

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COMMEMORATIONS ON CENTENARY OF THE GREAT WAR

Sark will be commemorating the centenary of the commencement of The Great War on the 4th August 2014 with a series of events. The commemorations will start with an all-faiths Church Service at St. Peters Church at 11.00 am and this service will be a unique way of commemorating all the Men of Sark who served in His Majesty's Armed Forces (Navy, Army & Royal Flying Corps/RAF) and Merchant Marine. During the service the names of Sark Men who served will be read out by Sark School Children, many of whom are descended from or have family ties to the men whose names are to be read out. At the conclusion of the service the Seigneur of Sark, JM Beaumont OBE, will unveil a commemorative plaque marking the centenary.

At the conclusion of the unveiling there is to be a Vin D'Honneur in the Island Hall for Sark residents and their families where a toast will be made to remember the Men of Sark who served, during what came to be known as World War One.

Those attending the Vin D'Honneur will be able to view an exhibition of Sark WW1 medals and memorabilia that will have been set up in the Board Room of the Island Hall. This exhibition will be open to the public from 2 pm until 4 pm that day; the exhibition will then be open for the remainder of the week from 10 am until 4 pm daily, excepting Friday 8th August when it will remain open until 6 pm. Entry is free but donations to help defray the costs of the exhibition will be gratefully received.

Between 10 pm and 11 pm the Sark Branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding a candle lit vigil at the Memorial to the Men of Sark outside St. Peters Church, this is part of a national initiative by the Royal British Legion. All members of the public are cordially invited to attend to light a candle. Candles can be purchased in advance at the Sark Tourism Office, Gallery Stores and Mon Plaisir Stores or on the night, all proceeds to the Royal British Legion.

A significant part of the commemorations are the permanent fixing, with family permission, of an Enamel Poppy to the headstones of all Sark Men who served during the War. For the week of commemoration red sashes will be placed on each of those graves to easily mark their location. Additionally 36 crosses, with sashes, will be planted either side of the Memorial Cross in homage to the rest of the men who served and are not buried in Sark.

Posters for the aforementioned events are in various locations and on the Sark Government Website at www.gov.sark.gg and give greater detail of the events.

The Sark Constable
for the Constables' WW1 Commemorations Committee of Chief Pleas

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