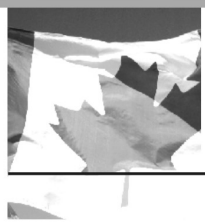


# Brian MASSE

M.P. Windsor West



WINDSOR WEST UPDATE

November 2012

**BRIAN MASSE—YOUR VOICE IN OTTAWA**



“Without freedom there can be no ensuring peace and without peace no enduring freedom.”

*~King George VI at the dedication of the National War Memorial (Ottawa, May 21, 1939)*

## CONTACT US!

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Dear Friends,

As in the past, I am sending these special Remembrance Day stories to help our community honour our local heroes. This year we remember the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. As well, I have highlighted the 95th Anniversary of the Battles of Passchendaele, 95th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge and the 70th Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid to ensure that each year we share new stories of importance with our community.

Further, there are several ways that we can ensure that we pay special tribute to these war heroes with, for instance, wearing a poppy which has been a clear symbol of commemoration since the immediate aftermath of the WWI. Reflection in silence for two minutes is also a common way of remembering on November 11th of every year. These minutes, although short, provide us opportunity to think about the past, our heroes lost and returned, and those who serve today.

Another way to remember is to visit the numerous war memorials that have been erected in the city, country and worldwide that are in many instances the only memory that we have of many soldiers.

I would like to send a special thank you to all war veterans of Windsor. Please take the time to thank our veterans, and remember them and our lost heroes not only on Remembrance Day, but every day.

Ultimately, I encourage everyone to participate in this year's Remembrance Day ceremony held at the cenotaph in City Hall Square at 11:00 a.m., on November 11, 2012. I hope to see you there.

On the back side of this newsletter you will find the story of one of our local veterans that pays tribute to their time in the Services. This story is just one sample of Veterans stories from our community. I am sending different veterans' stories to different neighbourhoods within my riding. If you are interested in seeing these other stories, please do not hesitate to contact my office or visit my website: [www.brianmasse.ca](http://www.brianmasse.ca)

*This November 11, 2012 at  
Windsor City Hall Square Cenotaph  
at 11:00 a.m.*

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# STORIES FROM OUR LOCAL HEROES

## Signalman Bill Mock & George Mock

Bill was George's older brother by four years, and an awesome guy for looking after him as their father had died on the day Great Britain declared war on Germany. Bill enlisted in the Royal Canadian Signal Corps and George followed as he turned 18. Bill was a driver operator and George had been sent to Ottawa to become a High Speed Signals Operator. When George returned to Barriefield they both had great times together until Bill was posted to go overseas.

A few months later George was heading to England and filled half his kit bag with cigarettes (perish the thought now) to share, but by the time George had arrived, Bill was in France on D-Day. Bill was assigned to the RAF as a spotter where he would go as forward as possible to spot targets and then relay that back to base using the 19 set in the back of his vehicle. Later he was attached to the Essex Scottish and helped liberate the Dutch in Holland.

When war ended they finally got together at their relatives in Lancashire, England. Quite a celebration to say the least. Fortunately, they both made it home, however, Bill has since passed away. George misses him.



## In Flanders Fields

Flanders Field's the poppies blow  
Between the crosses row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow,  
In Flanders fields.

On August 4, 1914, Britain declared war on Germany. Canada, as a member of the British Empire, was automatically at war, and its citizens from all across the land responded quickly. Within three weeks, 45,000 Canadians had rushed to join up. John McCrae was among them. He was appointed brigade-surgeon to the First Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery with the rank of Major and second-in-command.

The day before he wrote his famous poem, one of McCrae's closest friends was killed in the fighting and buried in a makeshift grave with a simple wooden cross. Wild poppies were already beginning to bloom between the crosses marking the many graves. Unable to help his friend or any of the others who had died, John McCrae gave them a voice through his poem. It was the second last poem he was to write.