

Thank you, Burgess Hill – Leader Update 10

It was an absolute privilege to march, as the Town Council Leader, with the services and youth organisations in the Remembrance Parade on Sunday 10th November. As we progressed down Church Road and into Church Walk, I was humbled by the incredible number of residents that had turned out to pay tribute to the 258 Burgess Hill lives lost in conflicts over the past 110 years. Parents, grandparents and carers came to see their youngsters in uniform and pay their own respects, others came because they knew, or were relatives of, some of the names on our memorials and some just wanted to say 'We are grateful'.

I wish to say a big 'Thank You' to you all for showing that our community spirit is alive and well, something that we must nurture. As I walked, it made me appreciate that I was free to do so, as I listened to the prayers it made me realise that through those lives lost I was free to pay my respects. As I saw the crowds gathered around and heard the silence that descended for two short minutes, it made me think that the sacrifices were not made in vain and when the school children attending the Armistice Day Service on Monday placed their wreaths or scattered poppies on the animal memorial, it put their freedom into context.



The material problems with our town are many and varied and will all be resolved, sooner or later. Basically, bricks and mortar has a finite life and will be replaced in the fullness of time. But our community spirit will last for generations to come and we must share the responsibility to make sure that happens. So once again, **'Thank You Burgess Hill'**.

