

Friday, May 26, a.m. — Essex Farm Cemetery



In Flanders Fields

Lieut.-Col. John McCrae wrote the poem *In Flanders Fields* in May 1915 while serving as a doctor at this site. McCrae noticed poppies blooming among the graves following the burial of his friend Lieut. Alexis Helmer.

Above: Guide Filip Debergh tells the story of John McCrae. *By Robert Judd.*

Right: A poppy grows amid rocks. Poppies flourish in the wild but are difficult to grow in gardens.

By Dawn McArthur.





Ruth Francis places a poppy on the grave of Valentine Strudwick, a British soldier who was killed at age 15.
By Dawn McArthur.