

## Great response to poppy commemoration

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Local News

BRIGHT, red and holding great significance in Australian war history, poppies are set to feature in art installations at the Tasmanian Heritage Festival.

More than 5000 knitted poppies are being made by volunteer knitters who responded to a creative call-out by National Trust Franklin House events manager Hilary Keeley.

Ms Keeley said the flowers were being collected for the installations that will sit in the gardens or buildings of National Trust properties sometime before Anzac Day, to remain on display throughout May.

She said the response from all sections of the community had been overwhelming, with up to 40 individuals or groups from as far as St Helens, and even in the UK, getting crafty.


One lady had even requested that she be able to use her great-grandfather's army buttons, to be placed in the centre of the knitted red flower.

"They are all knitting, or crocheting, or felting these poppies for the installation. New friendships are happening and groups are getting together and having knitting days," she said.

"I love this idea of people coming together. The West Tamar Wool Tarts were talking to some of the schools, we have an Aboriginal group, it is just escalating and that is the bit that I just find so great."

Ms Keeley said if people were interested in helping to add to the poppy collection, they could contact her at the National Trust on 6344 6233.



 Hilary Keeley with one of the knitted poppies that will be used in an art installation for the National Trust Heritage Festival celebrations. Picture: PAUL SCAMBLER