



Murray Barton
Barton's
181 Normandy Way
Plymouth
PL5 1NL

28th September 2015

Dear Murray

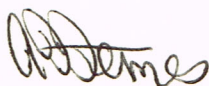
I wanted to write to you because I missed you on Friday and I was not able to express my thanks for all the work that you did with the site for our new marvellous Poppy.

The project which you managed cannot have been the easiest undertaking with which you have been involved. Difficult ground, numerous sub-contractors, the limited funds available to the Council and a complicated design were only a few of the challenges you faced and yet overcame with a charming sense of humour which kept everyone onside. Working with the changing demands of an Artist is not easy I know and yet the final product is simply outstanding. From my straw poll, the residents of Royal Wootton Bassett think our new work of art is marvellous and many call "Forever" just beautiful.

If I may say, the one thing that impressed me above all else was your handling of the health and safety issues on the site over the two days when the Poppy was being assembled. Not only were you faced with artistic temperament but you had sub-contractors and press reporters to deal with and rubberneckers such as myself. During the time I was with you, it was a pleasure to see how you handled the various priorities which each group had without letting any of the important aspects of site safety go begging. The fact that your sense of humour prevailed through all of this might be a reflection of your time in the Navy where confidence and control in difficult situations was the key to success.

Thank you so much Murray for your part in bringing "Forever" to Royal Wootton Bassett. I wish you well in all your future projects and hope they may not be just as complicated and difficult as this one. Please rest assured that our marble Poppy is now the pride of the town and I hope you are pleased with your part in the project.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Ian Ferries
Mayor