

# A SERVICE OF DEDICATION FOR THE WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Conducted by  
The Right Reverend Colin Fletcher OBE MA  
Bishop of Dorchester



St Peter & St Paul  
Parish Church of Deddington



Sunday June 16th 2013



## **Hymn**

O valiant hearts, who to your glory came  
Through dust of conflict and through battle flame;  
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,  
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

*(Standard Bearer and Escort march in)*

Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,  
Into the light that never more shall fade;  
Deep your contentment in that blest abode,  
Who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God.

Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,  
Rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,  
While in the frailty of our human clay  
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.

These were his servants, in his steps they trod,  
Following through death the martyred Son of God:  
Victor he rose; victorious too shall rise  
They who have drunk his cup of sacrifice.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our dead,  
Whose Cross has brought them and whose staff has led,  
In glorious hope their proud and sorrowing land  
Commits her children to thy gracious hand.

## **Introduction and Prayers** *The Bishop*

Concluding with: "Let us commemorate and commend to the loving mercy of our Heavenly Father, the Shepherd of Souls, the Giver of Life everlasting, those who have died in the service of our country and its cause."

*Congregation:* "Amen."

**Roll of Honour** *Reverend Dr Hugh White MA*

**Exhortation** *Major David Hood MC*  
*President, Deddington Branch Royal British Legion*

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning  
We will remember them.” (Laurence Binyon)

*Congregation:* “We will remember them.”

**Bugler sounds Last Post to mark two minutes’ silence**

**Bugler sounds Reveille**

**Placing of Wreath** *Commander Robert Forsyth RN*

**Dedication**

The Kohima Epitaph

*Mr Albert Humphries MBE, Deddington Branch Royal British Legion*

“When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we  
gave our today”

*The Bishop:*

“This memorial is dedicated to all those who have died for their  
country from the three villages within the Parish – Deddington,  
Clifton and Hempton.

“We pledge ourselves anew to our work in support of the wartime  
generations and to all those in other conflicts since. We promise to  
do everything possible to help where there is a need, and to ensure  
that they may enjoy the years that lie ahead in comfort and dignity  
and contentment.

“The Legion of the Living salutes The Legion of the Dead.”

*Congregation:* “We will not break faith with you.”

## **Anthem** *Deddington Parish Church Choir*

“So they gave their bodies to the Commonwealth”

Setting by Peter Aston, words from Pericles’ Funeral Oration

## **Concluding Prayer**

*Bishop:*

“Remember, O Lord, all those who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of resurrection to Eternal Life, especially the Officers, Men and Women of our Sea, Land and Air Forces, to whom it was given to lay down their lives for the cause of Freedom and Justice. In that place of light, whence sorrow and mourning are far vanished, give them rest, O Lord, the Lover of men. Grant this for Thine only Son, Jesus Christ’s sake.”

*Congregation:* “Amen.”

## **The National Anthem**

## **Final Blessing** *The Bishop*

*Standard Bearer and Escort march out (Nimrod by Elgar)*

The Diocese of Oxford requires an endowment to be set aside for the upkeep and preservation of memorials within the church. Donations placed in the plate by the door will be used to maintain this memorial.

The War Memorial Plaque has been designed by Gwilym Hughes and engraved by Banbury Memorials of Adderbury.