



FELIXSTOWE
REMEMBERS



Civic Service of Remembrance

Sunday
14 November 2021

9.45am
St John's Church,
Orwell Road

also

10.45am
The War Memorial,
Felixstowe Sea Front

and

12pm
Felixstowe Cemetery
at the war graves
of combatants
from both sides during
the Two World Wars





VETERANS' GATEWAY

The first point of contact
for veterans seeking support

veteransgateway.org.uk

Gathering of Civic Officials

Welcome

The Reverend Canon Andrew Dotchin

Hymn

During the singing of this hymns the standards are brought forward

God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble,
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful:
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

After Psalm 46, Richard Bewes (born 1934)

The Bidding Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict,
and ask that God may give us peace:

For service men and women who have died in the violence of war,
each one remembered by and known to God;
For those who love them in death as in life,
offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day,
remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return;
For civilian women, children and men whose lives
are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence
the anger and hatreds of humanity;

For peacemakers and peacekeepers,
who seek to keep this world secure and free;
For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,
asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search
for reconciliation and peace;

All our prayers we bring together in the words which Jesus taught:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Bible Reading

Read by *Mrs Julie Jepson, Mayoress of Felixstowe*

A Reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew:

Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5v1-12

At the end the reader says

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England`s mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
on England`s pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem build`ed here
among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
till we have built Jerusalem
in England`s green and pleasant land.

We Will Remember Them

Please be seated for the readings.

Readings are from the Royal British Legion CD 'We Will Remember Them'.

Reality in Afghanistan - Read by Lt General Sir John Kiszley

My pain feels cold and selfish
My anguish very small
My reality insignificant
Compared to ones that fall

Young men with broken bodies
Their Comrades lie in sacks
Devastated parents
Their sons will not come back.

My pain will ease and lessen
My anguish slip away
Reality in Afghanistan
Two brave men died today

Young men with shell-shocked faces
Growing old before their time
Are living breathing testament
To this shallow pain of mine.

I wrote this poem when I was in Camp Bastion in Afghanistan, working for the NAAFI. I was wallowing in self-pity as my partner had just sent me a 'Dear John' e-mail. All those helicopters coming in with the dead and wounded moved me greatly and put my own small problems into perspective. I am proud to have served our brave service men and women in Afghanistan in my own small way.

Phil Williams

At Daybreak - Read by Joanna Lumley

I listen for him through the rain,
And in the dusk of starless hours
I know that he will come again;
Loth was he ever to forsake me:
He comes with glimmering of flowers
And stir of music to awake me.

Spirit of purity, he stands
As once he lived in charm and grace:
I may not hold him with my hands,
Nor bid him stay to heal my sorrow;
Only his fair, unshadowed face
Abides with me until tomorrow

Siegfried Sasson

Wherever you Are - Sung by The Military Wives Choir

Wherever you are my love will keep you safe,
My heart will build a bridge of light across both time and space.
Wherever you are, our hearts still beat as one.
I hold you in my dreams each night until your task is done.
Light up the darkness, my wondrous star
Our hopes and dreams, my heart and yours, forever shining far.
Light up the darkness, my prince of peace.
May the stars shine all around you may your courage never cease.

Wherever I am, I will love you day by day.
I will keep you safe, cling on to faith, along the dark dark way.
Wherever I am, I will hold on through the night.
I will pray each day a safe return, will look now to the light.
Light up the darkness, my wondrous star
Our hopes and dreams, my heart and yours, forever shining far.
Light up the darkness, my prince of peace.
May the stars shine all around you may your courage never cease.
May your courage never cease...

Paul Mealor – compiled from love letters to military spouses and partners

Aftermath - Read by Lt General Sir John Kiszley

Have you forgotten yet?

For the world's events have rumbled on since those gagged days, like traffic checked while at the crossing of city-ways: and the haunted gap in your mind has filled with thoughts that flow like clouds in the lit heaven of life; and you're a man reprieved to go, taking your peaceful share of time, with joy to spare. But the past is just the same - and war's a bloody game...

Have you forgotten yet?

Look down, and swear by the slain of the War that you'll never forget. Do you remember the dark months you held the sector at Mametz. The nights you watched and wired and dug and piled sandbags on parapets? Do you remember the rats; and the stench of corpses rotting in front of the front-line trench.... and dawn coming, dirty-white, and chill with a hopeless rain?

Do you ever stop and ask, 'Is it all going to happen again?' Do you remember that hour of din before the attack - and the anger, the blind compassion that seized and shook you then as you peered at the doomed and haggard faces of your men? Do you remember the stretcher-cases lurching back with dying eyes and lolling heads. Those ashen-grey masks of the lads who once were keen and kind and gay?

Have you forgotten yet?

Look up, and swear by the green of the spring that you'll never forget!

Siegfried Sassoon

I Vow To Thee My Country

- Played by the Band of the Coldstream Guards

They Tell Me – read by Hayley Westenra

They tell me he always fought bravely,
They say what a hero was he.
They tell me he'd do whatsoever was asked
If it meant they could gain victory.

They tell me though wounded he always fought on
And always supported his men.
It was only when fighting had finally ceased
Would he call for some help; not till then.

I stood on the tarmac and awaited the plane
That would bring my dear loved one back home.
Then it came into view with the metal so bright
And that unmistakable drone.

They tell me at times, I suppose just like this,
That each yard can seem like a mile.
But in just a few minutes he was back in my arms
With that unmistakable smile.

He may have been special to many
And no one could e'er disagree.
But as I held him that day in a field far away
He was the most special to me.

Anonymous

Hymn

During the singing of this hymn the standards are returned and an offering is taken in aid of the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Universal Lord,
who suffered death by nails and sword,
from all assault of deadly foe
sustain thy soldiers where they go;
and evermore hold in thy hand
all those in peril on the land.

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace
Who fills with strength the human race;
Inspire mankind to know the right,
Guide all who dare the eagle's flight;
And underneath thy wings of care
Guard all from peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,
Praise from the air, the land and sea.

In Memory

The Standards gather in front of the Rood Screen.

Cllr Sharon Harkin, Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe, reads the following:

Remember Ypres, Gallipoli, the Somme, Mons and Verdun.

Remember the Western Desert, El Alamein, the Normandy beaches.

Remember Coventry, Dresden, Hiroshima and the Burma Road.

Remember Korea, the Falkland Islands, Northern Ireland,
the Balkans, East Timor, Afghanistan and the Gulf.

Remember the courage, the comradeship, the ingenuity,
the spirit of working together for a common cause,
the planning together for a better world that would come with peace.

Remember the call to arms, the patriotic songs, the partings which
were such sweet sorrow. The sound of the drum, the skirl of the pipe,
the prayer that God would be on our side.

Remember the carnage; the colossal horror of war.

Remember the widows of sixty years and more, the old men and women
who never knew their fathers.

Remember the love that was lost, the wisdom wasted,
the minds that are still pained by memories.

Remember the families bereft by recent wars and conflict.

Remember this day the children who will die while nation fights nation.

Remember the One who asked us to remember them.

God, remember us; and forgive us our sins against you and humanity.

The National Anthem

God save our gracious Queen,
long live our noble Queen
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save the Queen

Thy choicest gifts in store,
on her be pleased to pour,
long may she reign:
may she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the Queen!

The Blessing

May God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen,
the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.
And the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
come down upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Please remain in your places whilst the Standard Bearers leave the Church

Cadets are asked to stay in the church until those not in uniform have left the church.

*After this service please proceed to the War Memorial
on the Sea Front for the Act of Remembrance.
Please take this Order of Service with you.*

PLEASE NOTE: *If you parked outside the church please move your car as soon as possible to allow the Parade to form.*

FELIXSTOWE REMEMBERS



At the
Town War
Memorial
Felixstowe,
Sea Front



Bidding Prayer

*led by Revd. Canon Andrew Dotchin
Chaplain to the Royal British Legion, Felixstowe*

Hymn

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

The Act of Remembrance

Revd. Canon Andrew Dotchin

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping:
those who have died for their country in war;
those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure;
and all who have lived and died in the service of humankind

Ode of Remembrance

Darren Aitchison, Chairman of Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion reads:

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.
We will remember them.

Last Post

The Silence

Reveille

The Kohima Epitaph

Darren Aitchison, Chairman of Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion reads:

When you go home, tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow, we gave our today.

Wreath Laying

*Wreath bearers are called forward by name of organization in groups of four.
Personal Crosses and tributes are laid after the end of the service.*

The Prayers

Revd. Canon Andrew Dotchin

For the Departed.

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For the Armed Forces of the Crown

Almighty God, stretch forth your mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces of the Crown serving all around the globe:
grant that meeting danger with courage
and all occasions with discipline and loyalty,
they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace;
to the honour of your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour everyone;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Those present are invited to lay personal tributes at the War Memorial

*Please join the Mayor and the Cadets at 12pm at Felixstowe Cemetery
for a short ceremony at the war graves of combatants
from both sides during the Two World Wars.*

*After Remembrance Sunday please recycle your Poppy.
Branches of Sainsbury's will have collection boxes available
until the end of November.*

Hymn

During this hymn the wreath bearers move to the Town Hall for the Marchpast

Now thank we all our God,
With hearts, and hands, and voices;
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is our today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever-joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in His grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven:
The one, eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

*The singing of the hymns at the War Memorial is accompanied
by a contingent of The Band of the Felixstowe Salvation Army Corps.*

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Wreaths will be laid by and on behalf of;

The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk
Mayor of Felixstowe on behalf of Felixstowe Town Council
Cllr Mick Richardson on behalf of Ms Therese Coffey MP
Cllr Stuart Bird on behalf of Suffolk County Council
Cllr Steve Gallant on behalf of East Suffolk Council
East Suffolk Labour Group
War Widows Association
Royal British Legion
Submariners Old Comrades Association
23 Parachute Engineer Regiment
Royal Green Jacket Association
Royal Army Pay Corps
Suffolk Regiment Association
Royal Anglian Regiment Old Comrades Association
The Commando Association
Coldstream Guards
RAF Regiment Association
RAF Association
TS Landguard Sea Cadets
356 (Felixstowe) Squadron Air Cadets
Felixstowe Detachment Royal Artillery, Suffolk Army Cadet Force
Orwell District Scouts
Girlguiding Colneis
Level 2 Youth Project
Felixstowe School
HM Coastguard
Suffolk Constabulary
Martlesham Police Cadets
Felixstowe St John Ambulance
Felixstowe Masters Mariners
Felixstowe Merchant Navy Association
Mission to Seafarers
Seafarers UK
Parish of Felixstowe, St John with St Edmund
Church of England Rural Chaplain
and The Women's Royal Air Force Association
St Felix Catholic Church
The Salvation Army
Bethesda Baptist Church
Felixstowe United Services Lodge
Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes
Old Felixstowe Community Association
The Inner Wheel
The Felixstowe Society