#### **November Services and Events**

Sunday 3	08.00	Holy Communion	
	09.30	Sung Communion and Children's Groups	
	15.00	All Souls Commemoration Service	
Monday 4	19.30	Knit & Natter Group in the Leverton Room	
Sunday 10	10.30	Remembrance Sunday Service	
Saturday 16	10.30	Women's Group in the Cuddington Hall	
Sunday 17	09.30	Sung Communion and Children's Groups	
Wednesday 20	20.00	PCC Meeting in the Cuddington Hall	
Thursday 21	14.30	Afternoon Club Garden Centre Outing	
Sunday 24	09.30	Sung Communion	
Christ the King	11-1	Christmas Homemade Fair	
Sunday 1 Dec		Gift Day for Church (Roof) Repairs	
	08.00	Holy Communion	
	09.30	Sung Communion and Children's Groups	
	19.00	Epsom & Ewell Silver Band Concert	

Morning Prayer is said in church every weekday morning at 9am Everyone is very welcome

# **Christmas Services**

Carol Service	6.30pm	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December
Crib & Christingle	4pm	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December
Midnight Communion	11.30pm	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Morning	10am	Wednesday 25th December

# **♯LISTENING**POST **☆**STMARY'S



#### November 2024 Edition 105

No-one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends John 15 v 13

### REMEMBRANCE



The early days of November each year are very much on the theme of remembrance. November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints' Day, November 2<sup>nd</sup> is All Souls' Day and November 11th is Remembrance Day. Here at Cuddington we'll be celebrating all three. On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> the theme of our morning worship will be All Saints and in the afternoon we'll have our annual Commemoration Service for all departed souls. On the following Sunday we will have our annual Remembrance Sunday service with the uniformed organisations present, wreath laying at our war memorial, and the Last Post.



## We Will Remember Them



While returning from a holiday in the Peak District Christine and I detoured to visit the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas near Lichfield in Staffordshire. It already contains over 50,000 trees chosen to match the 300 or so memorials that are spread around the site. Although the arboretum is part of the Royal British Legion there are memorials to civilian organisations as well.

It was officially opened to the public in May 2001 and from the start it was seen as a place of joy where the lives of people would be remembered by living trees that would grow and mature in a world at peace. Although many of the trees are still young, they are rapidly growing into a unique living tribute. Every year sees the dedication of new memorials and special events.

At the heart of the Arboretum is the Armed Forces Memorial, which is a tribute to over 16,000 service personnel who have lost their lives in conflict or as a result of terrorism since the end of the Second World War.



At 11 am on 11<sup>th</sup> November each year the sun shines through two slits in the outer and inner walls of the memorial, casting a shaft of light across a wreath in the centre.

I was particularly struck by the exhibition in the *Children of Far East Prisoners of War* (COFEPOW) hut where the full horrors of the imprisonment and internment of men, women and children by the Japanese are shown in pictures and interviews with survivors.

That was a salutary lesson in man's inhumanity to man that should never be forgotten, but the Arboretum also houses the Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness where, at 11am each day, an act of remembrance takes place.

While it will be many decades until the trees rival those at Winkworth,



it is well worth a visit already. The land train tour with its commentary was particularly worthwhile.

**Rod Clarke** 



## **Kohima Epitaph**

When you go home, tell them of us and say

"For your tomorrow, we gave our today"