



Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas de Calais BOULOGNE CONGREGATION

November 2017 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

No. 61

Tree-mendous thanks

It does not take a very keen eye to realize that leaves are fast falling to the ground in abundance; every few days in our local park, a member of the council staff has been busy with a noisy leaf blower fastidiously trying to heap up the richly coloured remains of the trees' natural covering, into a suitable pile for his colleagues to cart away. Sadly the branches will soon be completely bare so his job will be done and although this has the added advantage of providing much needed light to the upper floors of the nearby houses, it does mean that summer is well and truly over for another year.

November brings lots of changes, if nothing more than dark nights, now 'the clocks have gone back' – but having already said our thank yous for the last harvest, in November we take a moment to remember those who died, like the fallen leaves, in the two World Wars and other conflicts.

At this time of being thankful, one good idea which is growing in popularity, particularly in North America and especially appropriate for the all important Thanksgiving Day - which the USA celebrates this year on November 23rd, is to encourage children – and no less adults too – to make a 'Thankful Tree'. This expresses very nicely the verse in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: *'Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* Like all the best ideas, the tree is an incredibly simple one and is more inspiring than any plastic Christmas tree, which may make its presence felt later the following month. All that is needed is a bunch of twigs, attach to their bare stems paper leaves in various shades of reds and browns and complete the decoration by writing on each of the leaves something you have been thankful for during the year. The nakedness of the stalks will soon be re-clothed with an abundance of rich, warm tints and the gratefulness will radiate throughout the room. Of course you could deck the branches with a set of fairy lights to make it a bit more outstanding during the long winter evenings but however it is presented it will be a glowing reminder of the good we have in our lives. (MG)



A 'Thankful Tree'

*I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.*

*A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing
breast;*

*A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;*

*A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;*

*Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.*

*Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.*



TREES by Joyce Kilmer (1886 – 1918) from a 1914 collection of poems: *'Trees and Other Poems'*.

The American poet died on the battlefield in France during the last days of WWI near the village of Seringes-et-Nesles, at the age of 31 and was buried at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery near Fère-en-Tardenois (Aisne)



Forthcoming services at the chapel of the Monastère du Carmel, rue du Denacre, Saint-Martin-Boulogne

◆◆**Sunday 29th October 2017 10h45 / Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost** – Joint Eucharist service with our other congregations led by Revd Caroline Pinchbeck, Diocese of Canterbury, followed by lunch. Readings: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22: 34-46

◆◆◆**Sunday 5th November 2017 10h30 / Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost - REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** (see below)

◆◆◆◆**Sunday 19th November 2017 10h30 / Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** - Eucharist led by Rev, David Houghton. Readings: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

◆◆◆◆◆**Sunday 3rd December 2017 10h30 / First Sunday of Advent** - Simple service of hymns and readings for Advent.

◆◆◆◆◆◆**Sunday 17th December 2017 10h30 / Third Sunday of Advent** - Eucharist service led by Canon Peter Brown. Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28



A warm welcome is extended to Revd Caroline Pinchbeck

who will be leading our joint Eucharist on Sunday 29th October.

Caroline received her calling as early as the age of six when at a school service, in her native Lincolnshire, she was impressed by the way the local vicar had led the service, so she said to herself: 'that's what I'm going to do!' She joined the nearby Methodist Church at 12 and by 17 she felt a call to ministry once more, however she was told that she was too young. Not daunted she obtained a place in 1990 at Durham University to study theology and by 21 she was working in Reading as a residential social worker for a charitable trust, set up for ex-offenders. She finally started her training as a Methodist minister at Cambridge, later transferring to the Church of England. It was then off to Truro for six years before becoming the parish priest at Eastling near Faversham in Kent. She now has the role of Director Communities and Partnerships Framework in the Diocese of Canterbury, but in a recent interview with Kent Life magazine she said: "At the end of the day, my vocation is to be a minister of the Word and Sacrament. That's my first calling; everything else is added on."



Paul Glaister writes about two forthcoming services :

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - SUNDAY, 5 NOVEMBER AT 10h30

Organising our annual Remembrance Service has been rather complicated this year. It is normally in close collaboration with myself and Lalage, Graham and Jean Hughes, Charles and Chrysteen Vandezande, but this year the Hughes are resident in England, which made it impossible to settle details over a bottle of good French wine. We have, however managed to create a service which we hope will be worthy of the event. We have combined our prayers with a wide selection of prose and poetry, together with readings from the Bible and hymns. Poppies will be available at the service, and we hope that as many people as possible will come and join us.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE AT ESTREELLES CHURCH

SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER AT 15h00

We can't quite remember, but we think that we have been holding an Anglo-French carol service at Estréelles for at least ten years, probably more. To organise the service is always a mix of fun, tears and strife, involving the local residents and children, the Catholic hierarchy, and the local mairie. Luckily we manage to preserve good relations with them all to a certain extent, even if we tend to remove ourselves from disputes about costumes for the children. The service is planned to involve

both French and English as much as possible, and we do all we can to accommodate both languages and cultures. This year we have assembled a 'choir' of English voices to give us two or three chances to sit back and listen to other people's singing; that, combined with the efforts of the local children, if they remember to turn up, should result in an entertaining and rewarding afternoon. If it is not enough, we still offer mulled wine, mince pies and a small Christmas market after the service.

We will remember them...

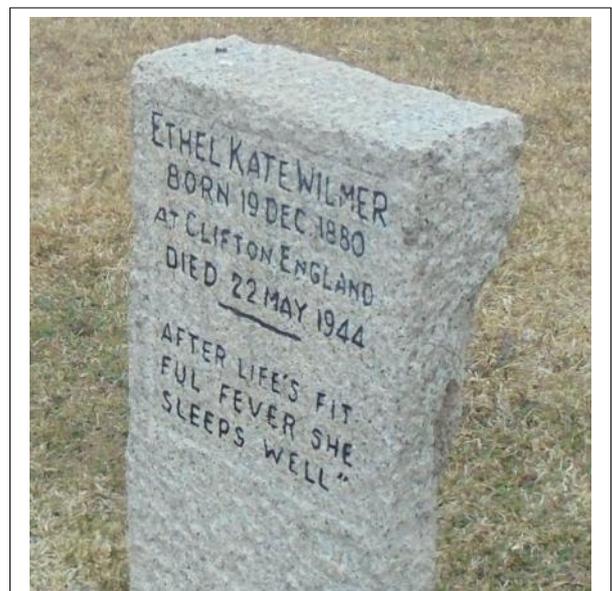
W^{ar}
touches
peoples' lives
in so many
ways, and
living as a
civilian in a far
off outpost of
the British
Empire did
not guarantee
immunity



from its consequences during the Second World War. As is so often the case wars come to find you -proof enough can be seen from today's refugee problem worldwide. Earlier this year I had the opportunity to visit one of the cemeteries where the graves of civilian internees of an occupying force – effectively prisoners of war – were interred alongside the bodies of service personnel. This was at the Stanley Military Cemetery, situated on the southern tip of Hong Kong Island.

At the start of the war the British government drew up a plan for the compulsory evacuation of the British and other European residents in Hong Kong; this was partly carried out but many did not wish to leave the territory or felt it was unnecessary. However in early December 1941, Japan launched an invasion of the crown colony leading to the eventual British surrender on Christmas Day 1941. Not long after, the majority of the western civilians were rounded up and sent to Stanley where an internment camp was established. Conditions in the camp were very poor, rations meagre and medicines and drugs almost non-existent leading to many deaths, largely from illnesses connected with malnutrition. The site of the cemetery, which contains the memorials is maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and follows the contours of a steep hillside overlooking the sea. Just below the formal ranks of headstones marking the graves of service men and women, are the touchingly simple headstones of the 121 civilian internees carved on rough-hewn granite. This material was collected from the 19th century fortifications and fashioned by a former Russian police officer, George Robinson (he had changed his name by deed poll before the war), who spent his time in the little graveyard carving the memorials.

Unforgettable are Robinson's inscriptions carved in his characteristic and charmingly rudimentary style. To the left is an example, the headstone of Ethel Kate Wilmer's grave with an oddly split word in its adapted quote from Shakespeare's Macbeth. Sadly she died of heart failure and pneumonia aged only sixty-three while in the camp with her husband Harry Bradlaugh Wilmer. Just as much a victim of a world war as those she lies amongst. We will remember them all. (MG)



In Memory of Douglas Haig

On the 10th November each year at 5.30 pm, there is a short ceremony in front of the statue of Field Marshall Douglas Haig in Montreuil. The aim of the ceremony is not only to remember the life of Haig, but to emphasize the close union that emerged between the British and the French, a union which is still very important to the French residents of the town and to the many English who live in and near Montreuil.

After the ceremony you are invited back to the home of Paul and Lalage Glaister in Estréelles for a Soup and Ploughman's supper. It would help if you could let Lalage know at lalageglaister@gmail.com if you can join us.



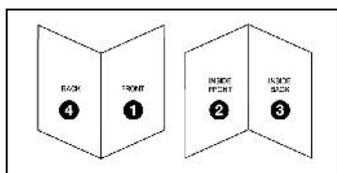
Prayer Diary /Intercessions - A book is now available for the entry of names of those who anyone wishes to have included in the intercessory prayers during the service. Otherwise please pass a note to the person responsible for the intercessions on that day.

Other services in the Chaplaincy: Calais's regular services: Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10h30. The normal place of worship is now the Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais – (near St Pierre's church). Church Warden: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65 or e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

Hesdin's regular services: Services are held as follows: 1st Sunday monthly – Morning Prayer 10h30; 3rd Sunday monthly – 17h00 Eucharist. Services are held in Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin - Church Warden: Michael Spriggs ☎ 03 21 81 61 79 e-mail: kmspriggs@fsmail.net

If anyone needs any form of help or assistance or if you are aware of someone who is ill, either in hospital or at home and would appreciate a visit, or alternatively if you know of anyone who you feel may benefit from prayer, please contact the church warden: George Murray ☎ 03 21 36 53 87, e-mail: georgemurray@sfr.fr.

This newsletter can be found, together with other information about the Chaplaincy, on our website at: <http://www.anglicanspdc.com>



If you have any news, short articles, adverts or any form of announcement for inclusion, please send them to: Malcolm Gale: malcolm.gale@dbmail.com - ☎ 03 21 31 83 57 Port: 06 99 09 60 44
Deadline for December issue: 18th November 2017

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Adobe PDF Reader, this turns it into a handy A5 size four-page leaflet – of course remember to pass the paper through your printer twice (i.e. both sides).

TOONS

by Dan

