

Renhold Chapel November 2018 Newsletter



In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Prayer Point

Please pray for all our friends that are unwell at this time. Pray for the Lord's blessing upon them and that they will be restored to health quickly

At this time of remembrance, please remember all those that have been killed, injured or affected psychologically as a result of war, and also their families & friends who also suffer as a result. Please also pray for all those currently serving in the armed services or the emergency services and their families.

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Items for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you have any items you would like to share with the rest of our readers, please email them to graham.smith1@btinternet.com or pass them to Graham at the chapel. Preferred formats are Microsoft word, .docx or text files but we can handle most formats

Items that are date sensitive need to be submitted by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

Once and for all

‘He offered himself once and for all.’

Hebrews 9:26 CEV

There were many pieces of furniture in the tabernacle, and each served a different purpose. But there wasn't a single seat. Do you know why? Because the priest's work was never finished! The people sinned constantly, so lambs had to be constantly sacrificed to atone for their sins. However, when Jesus died, rose again and went back to heaven, the first thing He did was sit down (see Hebrews 10:12). That's because the work of salvation was finished! The Bible says: ‘Christ did not have to offer himself many times. He wasn't like a high priest who goes into the most holy place each year to offer the blood of an animal ...instead...he offered himself once and for all, so that he could be a sacrifice that does away with sin’ (Hebrews 9:25-26 CEV). And because of Christ's ‘once and for all’ sacrifice on the cross, you have direct access to God at any time. The moment you say, ‘Father, I come in the name of Jesus,’ you're made welcome and all your needs are met. There's a story from American Civil War days about a soldier sitting on a bench outside the White House looking depressed. A little boy passing by stopped and asked what was wrong. The soldier told him he needed to see President Lincoln but the guards wouldn't let him in. Hearing this, the boy took him by the hand and led him directly into the president's office. ‘Father,’ he said, ‘this man really needs to speak with you.’ That boy was the president's son; he had direct and continuous access to his father. And because you belong to Jesus, you do too!

Extracted from ‘The Word for Today’ published by;
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Free issues are available with the UK and Republic of Ireland

News from the Prayer, Praise and Bible Study Group. (September Notes)



This month we did not have a speaker so we listened to CD's from previous UBM reunions.

The first two weeks were by Roger Carswell. Firstly, he spoke on the theme “amazing Grace”, from Ephesians chapter 2.-which is speaking to Christians. This chapter is rich in grace and mercy, and speaks of what God did in us and through us. His talk was divided into three sections:

1. **What we were by nature** - “dead”!-we all have the seed of sin in us and this separates us from God.
2. **What we are by grace** - God has come down to us in the person of Jesus Christ. A holy God has loved us and provided a way to him through his grace because of what Jesus did on the cross. God has taken the initiative. We come to him by faith. We are seated with Jesus who is at the right hand of God.
3. **What we will be** - with Jesus for ever. We are his workmanship.

It is all because of who God is.

The grace of God can transform the darkest of situations.

The next week the CD was about soul winning from Daniel chapter 12 verse 3. Every person has been given an eternal existence, and all individuals need to know that death is not the end. There is either a hell to be shunned or a heaven to gain. Christians have the most wonderful news possible-the gospel-that because of Jesus' suffering and, resurrection we can have forgiveness if we truly repent .We should seek to” turn many to righteousness”, by praying, our example and proclaiming the gospel. The most important work we can ever do is to point people to Jesus Christ. Times are tough, but God's work still goes on. Soul winning is costly but the commission still stands to go, and speak to others. The rewards God gives are undeserved but he loves to give and has said that “those who turn many to righteousness shall shine like stars”.

For the final week Jonathan Gayton spoke on the Lord Jesus as our Shepherd from Psalm 23. He emphasised the wonder that it is **the Lord** who is our shepherd.

David, who wrote this Psalm had no doubts and was completely confident that he was his shepherd, and for him to be our shepherd he went to the cross so he first could be our Saviour, and we must depend on him alone for salvation. Then we will not want- we will lack nothing. He gives us what we really need:

Peace (v2)-he leads us beside still waters

Purity (v3)-he restores our soul

Protection (v4) -we will fear no evil for he is with us

Provision (v5)-he prepares a table for us

A prepared place (v6) -we will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23 is between Psalm 22-which is about the cross and Psalm 24 which is about God's glory.

The Psalm begins with the Lord as our shepherd and ends with his house. He is our all.

Alfred John William Duncombe MM

Report from the Bedfordshire Times – 18 May 1917

SERGEANT. A. DUNCOMBE KILLED

Mrs. Duncombe last week received from the War Office the sad news of the death in action of her son, Sergt. Alfred Duncombe. In Sept. 1914, when still two months short of 18, he enlisted, one of the many Renhold lads who, nobly answered the call of King and country. It was not long before he gained his first stripe, and his promotion to Sergeant was achieved some time before he left for France. His rapid promotion was undoubtedly an outcome of his training as a Boy Scout, in having been leading Patrol Leader in the Howbury Troop from its inception early in 1911. He was noted for his unswerving loyalty to his Scoutmaster and those in authority. Before enlistment he was under-gardener at Howbury gardens, in the employ of Mr. C. H. Polhill, for nearly 3½ years, and left behind him a perfect record as a trustworthy, conscientious and devoted employee. His father, Amos Duncombe, Postmaster of Renhold, died in 1906. It is as a Sunday school teacher, a helper in the Band of Hope, and the Christian Endeavour Band, and as one of the organists at Renhold Chapel, that his loss will be keenly felt in the days to come. He was a devoted Christian, and in his last letter to his mother he expressed his joy that the village prayer meeting of the United Church and Chapel members was so well attended, and told of the strength given to the lads on the battlefield, when they know that they were being upheld by the prayers of those in the homeland. A letter from the Captain of his Company reads as follows: - "Dear Mrs. Duncombe, - You will have heard by now of the terrible news about your son. I cannot say how sorry I was when he was killed. He was far and away the best N.C.O. in the company, and did a Sergeant's work all through, but because we were over strength in Sergeants he had to revert to Lance-corporal. He took part in four attacks, and set a wonderful example of courage and coolness, for which he has since been awarded the Military Medal. I only wish he were here to receive it. He was sniped through the head a few hours before we were relieved, and died instantly. I am glad he suffered no pain. Every officer and man in the Company send their deepest sympathy. He was loved by everyone." A memorial service was held at Renhold Chapel on Sunday evening, when Mr. W. Glassby preached to a large congregation from the text "The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord." The hymns, all of which told of the joy and victory, had been selected from the favourite hymns of the deceased. Sister Mobbs and a number of wounded soldiers from Howbury V.A.D. Hospital were present as a mark of respect.



Coffee Morning

Tuesday 13 November

10:00 - 12:00

Ladies Meeting

8 & 22 November

2:30 pm



Ladies Meeting		
Date	Quote	Speaker
8 Nov	Bill/Miriam	John Pestell
22 Nov	Lily	Bernard Hicks

Men's Meeting			
6 November	Singing - Ladies Welcome	35 Becher Close	2:30pm

Remembrance Sunday

11 November 2018

We will be joining with the rest of the village in commemorating the war dead at the village war memorial from 10:30.

The Sunday morning service will therefore commence at **11:00**

Porch redecoration

The members of Renhold Chapel will be replacing the inner front door with a glazed sliding door. This will improve access to the building & avoid the two sets of doors clashing with each other.

At the same time we will be redecorating the porch area to make it more welcoming. It is estimated that the works will cost around £4000 including redecoration & changes to the electrics.

During August, work started by stripping away the wood panelling to expose the existing door frame to allow for measurements to be taken

If you are able to donate towards the cost of this work, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'Porch' into the box at the back of the chapel. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, the chapel can reclaim the tax you have paid on that income & will increase your donation by 20% at no additional cost to you. Gift Aid forms are also at the back at the chapel

The Story of The Poppy

During the First World War (1914–1918) much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. Previously beautiful countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over, again and again. The landscape swiftly turned to fields of mud: bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow.

Bright red Flanders poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*) however, were delicate but resilient flowers and grew in their thousands, flourishing even in the middle of chaos and destruction. In early May 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lt Col John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies to write a now famous poem called 'In Flanders Fields'.

McCrae's poem inspired an American academic, Moina Michael, to make and sell red silk poppies which were brought to England by a French woman, Anna Guérin. The (Royal) British Legion, formed in 1921, ordered 9 million of these poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. The poppies sold out almost immediately and that first ever 'Poppy Appeal' raised over £106,000; a considerable amount of money at the time. This was used to help WW1 veterans with employment and housing.



The following year, Major George Howson set up the Poppy Factory to employ disabled ex-Servicemen. Today, the factory and the Legion's warehouse in Aylesford produces millions of poppies each year.

The demand for poppies in England was so high that few were reaching Scotland. Earl Haig's wife established the 'Lady Haig Poppy Factory' in Edinburgh in 1926 to produce poppies exclusively for Scotland. Over 5 million Scottish poppies (which have four petals and no leaf unlike poppies in the rest of the UK) are still made by hand by disabled ex-Servicemen at Lady Haig's Poppy Factory each year and distributed by the Royal British Legion's sister charity Poppy Scotland.

THE STORY OF JOHN MCCRAE

Both a soldier and a doctor, John McCrae was born in Canada in 1872 and fought in the Boer War. When Britain declared war on Germany McCrae was appointed as a field-surgeon in the Canadian Artillery. Canadian John McCrae was in charge of a field hospital during the Second Battle of Ypres, a period that saw some of the most brutal fighting on the Western front.

Lt Alex Helmer, a close friend of McCrae's, was one of the casualties and it was his death that inspired the poem **In Flanders Field**. Written on 3 May 1915, McCrae submitted the poem to The Spectator, who declined it, and then to Punch, who published it in December 1915.

After Ypres, McCrae rose in the ranks, first joining the medical corps and being promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, then to Colonel, and finally named Consulting Physician to the British Armies in France (the first Canadian to receive the honour).

He died of pneumonia on 28 January 1918 and is buried in Wimereux, France.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



For The Fallen

By Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.



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.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are
known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Noticeboard

Birthdays in November

No one is any older
this month!

<i>Diary Dates</i>				
4	Nov	Family Service	10:30am	Renhold Chapel
6	Nov	Singing - Ladies Welcome	2:30pm	35 Becher Close
8	Nov	Ladies Meeting	2:30pm	Renhold Chapel
13	Nov	Coffee Morning	10:00am	Renhold Chapel
22	Nov	Ladies Meeting	2:30pm	Renhold Chapel

Prayer, Praise and Bible Study

Prayer, Praise and Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 7:30pm.

Contact Points

Secretary	Albert Browning	01234 772689
Treasurer	Carolyn Smith	01234 344544
Newsletter	Graham Smith	01234 344544

Preachers for November 2018

10:30 Puppets 4:13 Family Service
4th

6:00 Mr J. Howlett Evening Service

The monthly collection will be taken during both services

11:00 Mr J. Simpson Morning Service
11th

6:00 Mr R. Crane Evening Service

10:30 Mr R. Smith Morning Service
18th

6:00 Mr P. Bridle Evening Service

A Missionary Collection will be taken during both services

10:30 Mr I. Markey Morning Service
25th

6:00 Mr R. Andrews Evening Service

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