

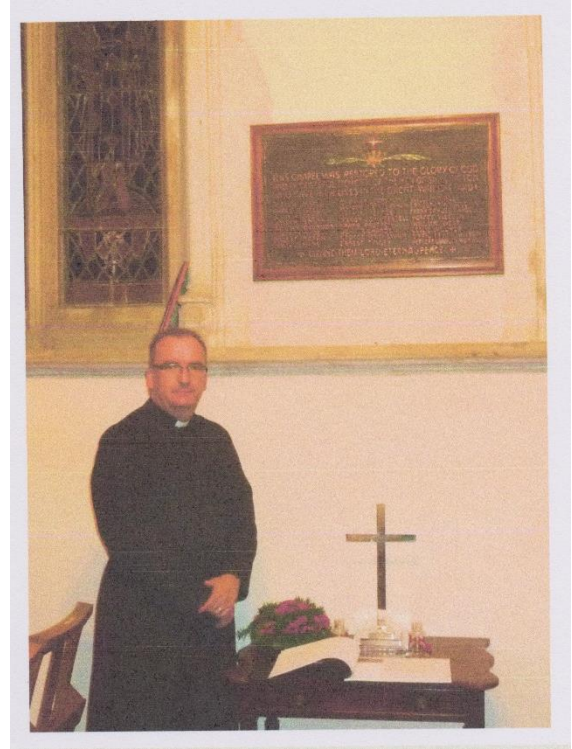
Remembrance Services for the Centenary of the Great War

“Throughout the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, as the centenary of the First World War approached, Services of Commemoration and Remembrance were prepared. At All Saints’ Services would be held to commemorate the 100th anniversary of each of those twenty-eight servicemen from the village, engraved on the Shillington War Memorial, who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War. The first service was attended by Sir Samuel Whitbread, Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire accompanied by the Deputy Lieutenant.”



Right: Sir Samuel Whitbread, Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire accompanied by the Deputy Lieutenant.

“Each individual service was held in the Lady Chapel, conducted by the Rector, Reverend Richard Winslade, accompanied by the full church choir, to commemorate each man, in many cases attended by present day members of his own family, and making an appropriate reading from the Scriptures. In one case a family came over specially from Australia to attend their ancestor’s service.”



“The services were reported in the local Bedfordshire Press”

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Two candles flickered in the darkness in Shillington's parish church on Tuesday evening to mark the centenary of the deaths of the first villagers to fall in the First World War.

The poignant tribute featured in a service held at All Saints Church to remember the first two men from the village who lost their lives fighting for their country.

But the glowing candles were lit in memory of Private Harry Ansell and Private Arthur Pearce, both of the 1st Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment.

Pte Ansell died on November 7, 1914 aged 21, and his name is inscribed on the Le Touret memorial in Pas de Calais.

It is believed that Pte Pearce was killed in action in the same area two days later.

Tuesday's ceremony was the first of a series of services which will be held over four years to remember each man who died from Shillington, on the centenary of their sacrifice.

They have been organised by John Catton, a former serviceman from the Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment), and the Rev Richard Winslade.

Mr Catton said: "I think it is a very good idea and everyone I have spoken to has been very enthusiastic about it.

"It is important to remember the men - who are all listed on Shillington's war memorial - who lost their lives.

"We remember them every year,

Candles commemorate a village's many sacrifices

“A ceremony for each man makes things a bit more personal, they can be remembered as people rather than as part of a mass

Rev Richard Winslade

but this is a bit more personal with a candle lit in their memory and on the anniversary of their deaths.”

At the half hour church service prayers were said, hymns sung and a moment of silence was observed for each man.

The candles were then placed on the war memorial and information about their lives was read out.

Rev Winslade, who conducted the service, said: "A ceremony for each man makes things a bit more personal, they can be remembered as people rather than as part of a mass."

Sir Samuel Whitbread, the former Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, was at the service on behalf of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment along with Major Simon Sadler, who attended on behalf of

the County Lieutenancy.

About 30 services will take place at All Saints over the coming years, each being held in the week of the

100th anniversary of a death, with the next scheduled to take place in April in honour of Frank Prutton, killed in action in Gallipoli.

■ Candles in remembrance: the Rev Richard Winslade at All Saints by the tribute to the village's first two First World War fatalities, who both died 100 years ago this week, with the Book Of Remembrance which visitors are encouraged to sign.

The Order of each Memorial Service closely followed the form of the services that were held a century before.

ORDER OF MEMORIAL SERVICE

FOR THOSE FALLEN ON THE FIELD OF HONOUR.

Shillington Parish Church,

Sunday, July 15th, 1917, at 6 p.m.



"Oh Rest in the Lord." (*Mendelssohn*).

HYMN 221. "Let Saints on earth in concert sing"

SPECIAL SENTENCES Psalm 46. "God is our hope and strength"

THE LESSON. Wisdom iii., 1-9

THE ANTHEM. "What are these arrayed in white robes" (*Stainer*)

READING THE ROLL OF HONOUR



*The names of those who have made the supreme sacrifice
for King and Country*



Arthur Pearse

William Grundon

Harry Ansell

Frank Samuel Twydell

Frank Prutton

William Tingey

Ernest Tingey

Percy John Pestell

Ernest Twydell

John Brewer

John Richards, R.N.

A PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

LET US PRAY.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father.

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS.

HYMN 437. "For all the Saints."

COLLECT FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY.

BENEDICTION.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

DEAD MARCH IN SAUL

LAST POST,

sounded by two trumpeters of the R.E's.,

(by kind permission of the Lieut.-Colonel Commanding R.E. Depot
at Haynes Park).

The Collection will be for the Restoration of the Lady Chapel in memory
of the fallen and to celebra'e the Peace.



Almighty ✠

God, we

commend to:

Thy loving care the souls of

Thy servants who gave

their lives to defend us.

Accept, O Lord the offer-
ing of their self-sacrifice

and grant them with all

Thy faithful servants a place

of refreshment and peace where

the light of Thy Countenance

shines for ever and where all

tears are wiped away, through

JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

“At the final service, for 1918, plaques that included name, service record, Regiment and the War Grave location of each man, was placed on All Saints’ High Altar as a tribute to a brave member of this village who lost his life fighting for his country.”



“The Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemorates 1.5 million service men and women, including those from our village represented here.”



Click on the link below to go to the website of

[**The Shillington Roll of Honour**](#)

HARRY ANSELL 1st Bn, Bedfs Regt 7th November 1914

ARTHUR PEARCE 1st Bn, Bedfs Regt 9th November 1914

FRANK PRUTTON 3rd Bn, Australian Inf 25th April 1915

ERNEST TINGEY 8th Bn, Bedfs Regt 8th November 1915

JOHN RICHARDS, RN HMS Queen Mary 31st May 1916

WILLIAM GRUNDON 2nd Bn, Bedfs Regt 12th October 1916

CHARLES JEPPS 2nd Bn, R Berks Regt 28th October 1916
ERNEST TWYDELL 4th Bn, Bedfs Regt 31st October 1916
FRANK TWYDELL 4th Bn, Bedfs Regt 19th November 1916
WILLIAM TINGEY 1st Bn, Middx Regt 23rd April 1917
HORACE WEEDEN 6th Bn, Bedfs Regt 23rd April 1917
CHRISTOPHER ALLEN 4th Bn, Bedfs Regt 28th April 1917
JOHN BREWER 6th Bn, Bedfs Regt 21st May 1917
BERTRAM LARMAN 6th Bn, Border Regt 15th July 1917
JOSEPH DENTON 83rd Bde, R Field Arty 21st March 1918
WILLIAM WEST 11th Bn, Essex Regt 21st March 1918
LESLIE WILMER 1st/4th E Yorks Regt 10th April 1918
BERTRAM HYDE 7th Bn, Bedfs Regt 24th April 1918
ROBERT INGRAM 2nd Bn, Bedfs Regt 8th May 1918
FRANK WILSON 18th Bn, Lancs Fuslr 1st June 1918
ALBERT ASHTON 2nd Bn, R Fuslr 13th June 1918
GEORGE SWAIN 7th Canadian Inf 6th October 1918
HERBERT WOMWELL 9th Bn, Norfolk Regt 8th October 1918
FREDERICK COLE 22nd Bn, Rifle Bde 24th October 1918
ALFRED ANSELL 1st Bn, Bedfs Regt 26th October 1918
LEWIS JENKINS 'A' Bty, 76thBde, R Fld Arty 4th November 1918
FRANK GUDGIN R.A.S.C. 23rd May 1920

Remembrance Services were held in the
Lady Chapel in the week of the 100th anniversary
of the death of those names above
who made the ultimate sacrifice

1914—1918