



## St Giles' Church, Bubbenhall: Newsletter for November 2014

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### SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: NOVEMBER 2014

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
<b>Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> All Saints' Day</b>		<b>5.00 p.m: Readings and Prayers in memory of the Departed.</b>	<b>7.30 p.m: Holy Communion</b>
<b>November 2: All Saints' Sunday/ for St Leonard's Day</b>	<b>11.00 a.m: Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00 a.m: Village Service.</b>	<b>PATRONAL FESTIVAL: 9.30 a.m: Parish Communion, followed by BRUNCH. 6.30 p.m: Evensong</b>
<b>Monday, November 3 All Souls' Day</b>			<b>7.30 p.m.: Requiem to commemorate the faithful Departed.</b>
<b>November 9 : Remembrance Sunday.</b>	<b>10.50 a.m: Service of Remembrance.  NO EVENSONG</b>	<b>10.15 a.m: Service of Remembrance.</b>	<b>8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m: Village Worship. 10.50 a.m: Service of Remembrance.</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Bubbenhall</b>	<b>Baginton</b>	<b>Ryton</b>
<b>November 16: Second Sunday before Advent</b>	<b>11.00 a.m: Mattins. 8.15 p.m: Holy Communion by candlelight.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.</b>	<b>9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.</b>
<b>November 23: Christ the King</b>	<b>8.00 a.m: Holy Communion.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.</b>	<b>9.30 a.m: Morning Service. 6.30 p.m: Holy Communion.</b>
<b>November 30: Advent Sunday Fifth Sunday in the Month: United service for all three parishes.</b>		<b>10.00 a.m: United Benefice Holy Communion. No services at Bubbenhall or Ryton</b>	
<b>December 7 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>11.00 a.m: Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00 a.m: Village Service.</b>	<b>9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.</b>
<b>Monday, December 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>			<b>6.30 p.m: Holy Communion with visiting choir Musica Sacra</b>
<b>December 14: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>4.30 p.m: Christingle service in aid of the Children's Society. NO EVENSONG</b>	<b>10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.</b>	<b>8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m: Advent workshop and worship</b>
<b>EVERY WEDNESDAY</b>			<b>9.20 a.m: Holy Communion</b>

**Next PCC meeting: to be announced.**

## **All Saints/All Souls**

We will be maintaining our custom of holding two annual commemorations of the departed at All Souls' tide. There will be a **Service of Prayers and Readings in Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Baginton at 5pm**, and the **Requiem of All Souls at Ryton on Monday 3 November at 7.30 p.m.** If you would like to have the names of any friends or relatives who have died (not necessarily in the last year) mentioned at either or both of these services, please contact the Rector on 02476 301283.

## **Harvest Festival.**

Many thanks to those who helped to make our church look so beautiful at Harvest-time - the flower arrangers- and to everyone who gave gifts of flowers and produce. We were able to take a large quantity of food from Ryton and Bubbenhall to the Rugby Food bank.

## **Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> in Bubbenhall Village Hall: Christmas Fair**

The Church will be holding a stall at the Christmas Fair. Your contributions of produce, jams, cakes etc will be warmly received by Sanna Alexander and Jackie Lloyd.

## **For your diary: Sunday, December 14, 4.30 p.m: Christingle Service**



Our popular Christingle service will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup> in church at 4.30 p.m. We have decided to try a late afternoon time for our Christingle this year, in the hope that more children and their families will be able to come. At this service there will be a collection in aid of the Children's Society in support of their work with disadvantaged and abused children, those who are bullied and those who have run away from home. Please stay for refreshments after the service.

## **From the Church Register:**

*No entries in October.*

## **Come and enjoy breakfast in BUBBENHALL Village Hall!**



First Saturday in the month,  
from 9.00 – 11.00 a.m.

Full English £5.00, or bacon/  
sausage etc. batches, tea,  
coffee- priced per item.

Proceeds in aid of St. Giles'  
Church.

Angela Greenway and Gill Green were delighted to have so many happy guests at the first three breakfast meetings, and hope to welcome even more of you **on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Do come along and bring your friends! Many thanks to Angela, Gill, and all those who are helping them in this popular venture.

### **The Churchyard: Thank you!**

Many thanks to the valiant band of volunteers who have been keeping the churchyard immaculate throughout the growing season.



### **30 November: 10.00 a.m: United Benefice Parish Communion service at Baginton,**

**with speakers from Us (USPG). No other services in the Benefice that day.**

### **Bellringers' News:**

Bubbenhall Bellringers' Practice night is Wednesday 7.30 – 9.00.

New ringers/visitors always welcome.

For further information on Rugby Deanery/Guild events, bells and/or learning to ring please contact Susan Sheen, tel. 02476 306339

**Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup> on Knightlow Hill at 6.30 a.m:**

**Wroth Silver ceremony.**

Breakfast afterwards at the Queen's Head, Bretford.

This is said to be Britain's longest running annual ceremony being recorded as 'ongoing' in 1086 and on this site since 1170.

The ceremony takes place at the stone, the base of an old wayside cross, on the mound at the top of Knightlow Hill every 'Martinmas Eve before sun-rising'. That means on 11 November every year just at first light the Wroth Money is collected from the parishes of the Hundred of Knightlow (this includes Ryton and Bubbenhall) by the Agent to the Duke of Buccleuch. In practice that is about 6.45am but it varies with the first light of dawn. Anyone is welcome to attend. Many people will be regular attenders and will be bringing their children.

The actual collection from the 25 parishes only lasts about four and a half minutes so do not be late!

Many people will already have been to the local pub, The Queens Head in Bretford (CV23 0JY Tel. 024 76542671 [www.thequeenshead-bretford.co.uk](http://www.thequeenshead-bretford.co.uk)) for the traditional drink of rum and hot milk. The bar usually opens at 6.00 am

All will then return to The Queens Head for a breakfast and speeches. Please note that breakfast tickets need to be pre-booked directly with the Queens Head, (breakfast cost was £11 in 2010. Included in the price is a glass of rum and hot milk with which to toast the health of His Grace and a churchwarden pipe (tobacco supplied). People will be departing by about 8.45am. Further information on : <http://www.wrothsilver.org.uk/>



**Wroth Silver ceremony 2012**

**Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 6.30 p.m:**  
**Visiting Choir returns to St Leonard's, Ryton.**



Following their visit to St. Giles' Church Bubbenhall, to help us celebrate Choral Evensong, guest choir *Musica Sacra*, under their director Dr Gerard Hyland, will be coming to St Leonard's Church Ryton on December 8<sup>th</sup>, in order to sing at the Choral Eucharist to celebrate the feast day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The organist will again be Tim Campain, whose skill on the organ has delighted us on previous occasions, and there will be wine (possibly mulled), cheese scones and other refreshments after the service. Do come and join us.

**Many thanks to the churchyard maintenance team!**

Our churchyard is looking immaculate thanks to the efforts of the kind volunteers who give generously of their time and labour to keep it that way. We look forward to enjoying the new lilac bush which is being planted by the churchyard gate.

Thank you all very much indeed.

If **you** would like to join the team, please contact one of our churchwardens.



## Thought for the Month - November 2014:



### Lest We Forget

During the 1950s we gathered for Remembrance Day – as now – on the nearest Sunday to November 11th - always a strange and sad affair during my childhood, commemorating as it did those whose lives I had missed, but whose relatives I knew. The war veterans of the British Legion from our village and from Baginton turned up self-consciously in their best suits, medals clanking. You could sense their nervousness as they formed the head of the procession up the aisle, the shaking, white-gloved hands of the flag bearers laying their banners by the altar. Each year the dead from our parish lived briefly once again as their names were read from the marble plaque; the wind-up gramophone in the Baptistry at the back of the church wheezed out Reveille and the Last Post.

“They shall not grow 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.”

Then the two minutes' silence, heads bowed – sparrows chattering by the porch.

Now, a century on from 1914, only the Elliott family remains in Bubbenhall of those named on that plaque. Who were they, these men who sacrificed their lives far from home, and what of their families left behind in a village of some 210 people? Only 40% of British Service Records are still intact, many having been destroyed in World War II, but

detailed documentation does exist for two Bubbenhall men, one being Harry Elliott. He, it seems, joined up on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1914, during the peak period of recruitment when news of the British retreat following the Battle of Mons reached Britain. He even falsified his age by two years to get in. His younger brother, however, born in 1900, was recruited towards the end of the War, when a shortage of sufficiently healthy young men at this stage meant that the British government overturned their promise that no one under 19 years of age would be sent overseas to fight. In April 1918 they lowered the age to 18 after suffering a near-defeat on the Western Front.

Of the eight who died across the Channel, two fell in Belgian Flanders in 1916 and 1917, in the area known as the Ypres Salient (a salient is a battlefield feature that projects into enemy territory), where five battles took place between 1914 and 1918; four fell on the Somme between 1916 and 1918; and two fell in the Cambrai-Arras area in Picardy in 1918. Both Samuel Fellows and Howard Drinkwater joined the Machine Gun Corps, formed in October 1915, having earlier been members of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and the Warwickshire Yeomanry respectively, suggesting that they joined up before the autumn of 1915. The cemeteries where the men are commemorated, or in three cases actually buried in a known grave, vary from the huge memorials dividing up the dead of the Ypres Salient and the Somme according to when they were killed, to communal cemetery extensions of local French cemeteries such as Noyelles-sur-l'Escaut.

Three of the men, Samuel Fellows, Fred Vincent, and Howard Drinkwater, came from parishes other than Bubbenhall – two from the Coventry area and one from Willoughby near Rugby. Fred Vincent is also remembered on the war memorial at Walsgrave-on-Sowe and the Roll of Honour at Bablake School, Coventry, whilst Howard Drinkwater is remembered in a memorial window in St. Nicholas Church, Willoughby. Our own memorial in Bubbenhall Church might well have included a tenth man, Sidney William Dowell from Bubbenhall, who is commemorated on the family grave on the north side of the churchyard and also on the War Memorial in Church Street, Warwick, since he had married a Warwick girl. It was in May 1916 that conscription was extended to married men, and this may well have been when Sidney William Dowell was called up.



Just one man, Walter Robert Mills, was brought home and buried in Bubbenhall churchyard, also on the north side. A detailed record exists for him – the last of the Bubbenhall men to die as a result of the War. We know therefore that he was posted to Salonika in Greece, sent home seriously wounded to Winchester in March 1918, and died of pneumonia in a military hospital there almost a year later, a few months after the Armistice.

Of those at home in Bubbenhall, John Waring left an invalid father. By the end of the War John Darlow's family in Bubbenhall was reduced to a widowed mother and a daughter who never married. In the Elliott household the two younger of three sons were now dead, and their parents, devastated, struggled on for the sake of their surviving boy, Bill. The two youngest boys in the large Mills family had been killed, but at least the War Graves Commission had provided one of them with a grave that could be visited and tended at home in the village.

Vicky Airey

*This article, plus more photographs, will appear in the November issue of the Bubbenhall Village Newsletter. Individual details of each of the men killed will be put, together with this introductory article, onto the Bubbenhall website*

*Compiled by Vicky Airey, David Hollway, Geoff Glover, and Steve Haynes*

**Saturday, November 29 10.00 a.m. – lunchtime, in Ryton Village Hall:  
Christmas Coffee Morning and Bazaar.**



Come to the Coffee Morning and buy many of the things you will need for Christmas. There will be stalls, competitions, and refreshments including bacon batches and hot dogs. Father Christmas will of course be paying a visit to speak to all the children.



## Children at St. Leonard's Church, Ryton.



We love having children in our church, and there is **always provision for them at our 9.30 a.m.** services. All families with babies and children are sure of a warm welcome whenever they can join us. All our Sunday morning services start **at 9.30 a.m.**, and the pattern is:

### **2nd Sunday in every month: Village Worship.**

The most informal of all our services. We start in the Church Centre (warm and welcoming) with workshop activities for children, and coffee, puzzles and chat for grown ups to get to know one another. At about 10.00 we move into church for a short and child-centred service. There is no need to be there on the dot of 9.30- people drift in as soon as they can make it

*“ A Sower went forth..” Arrangement made at Village Worship on July 13, and placed in church for all to enjoy.*

### **4th Sunday in every month: Family Service.**

An all-age service of readings, songs and activities with everybody young and old in church together. Children always participate in the readings/ drama sketches etc. and several people bring instruments to accompany the songs... (and any other musicians among you and your children would be very welcome to join them)

Tea/coffee and cake after the service in the Church Centre.

### **1st and 3rd Sundays in every month: Parish Communion with Sunday School.**

Tea/coffee and the chance to socialise after every service. Children start the service in church with their parents, and after the first hymn go out for Sunday School activities in the Church Centre, returning to receive a blessing at the time of Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany their little ones to Sunday School and stay with them if they lack confidence at first.

We value children at St Leonard's, and make them and their parents welcome.

**Families from Bubbenhall are most welcome to come and join us!**

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 9.30-11.00 a.m. at Ryton:**  
**Advent Workshop and Service.**

We will be preparing for Christmas with a variety of fun things to do in the Church Centre. These will be followed by an all-age service in church. We hope to be able to welcome more families to this friendly service. Come and join us!

**Ryton on Dunsmore History Group**

**Meetings** Every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the Month at The Village Hall 7.30pm – 9.30 pm.  
**Subscriptions** £15 per year or £2.50 per meeting.

**Steve Garrett writes:**

**Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Exhibition** in the Village Hall after the Remembrance Service in church. To remind you of why you should remember? We would like some help for this, with setting up of tables and help in the kitchen making teas if anyone can spare an hour, we are teaming up with the school and hopefully they will have a big exhibition of their work. Has anyone got any ideas of what they would like to see or what we can do to improve our exhibition?

Remember the whole idea of this is to show we care and to educate the children at school!

**Nov 11<sup>th</sup> The Wroth Silver Ceremony** starts at 6.30a.m. Perhaps you would like to attend this year. It is one of the oldest ceremonies in the country and takes place at the top of Knightlow Hill at dawn. Followed by Breakfast with Rum and Milk at The Queen's Head, Bretford. Traditional clay pipes are given to everyone. The price for the breakfast is £13 (Please book directly with the Queen's Head) and £2 for the minibus. Anyone interested contact Steve Garrett 02476 639228 email [carrotfromryton@talktalk.net](mailto:carrotfromryton@talktalk.net)

*See also article about Wroth Silver in last month's Newsletter.*

**December 7 (Sunday) Day Trip to Melton Mowbray.**

The Ryton History Group coach leaves the Village Hall at 10:30 returning 4:30.

The price is £9 for members and £12 for non-members. There are still places left so if you are interested in going contact Steve Garrett on 02476 639228 (email).

Further details from Steve on

**We are now on the council website for you to get more information.**

[www.ryton-on-dunsmore.org.uk](http://www.ryton-on-dunsmore.org.uk)

Look forward to meeting you at our next meeting. Steve Garrett

## Tailpiece: A story from the First World War.

One morning, while a famous general was travelling around the Divisional Headquarters, his eagle eye spotted an old war hero, a Londoner, whose fighting days were over, and who now belonged to the Labour Corps, busy on road repairs.

The fact was also noticed that although within the gas danger-zone the veteran had broken standing orders by not working with his gas mask in position.

Accordingly the Corps Commander stopped his car and, getting out, started off in his own familiar way as follows:

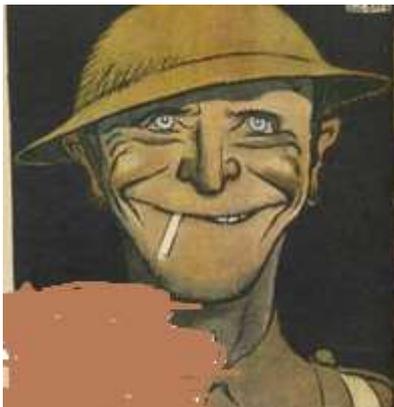
C. C.: Good morning, my man; do you know who is speaking to you?

V.: No, sir!

C. C.: I am your Corps Commander, Sir - -.

V.: Yes, sir.

C. C.: I'm pleased to have this opportunity of talking to one of my men.



V.: Yes, sir.

C. C.: I see you are putting your back into your work.

V.: Yes, sir.

C. C.: I also notice that you seem to have left your gas mask behind.

V.: Yes, sir.

C. C.: Now supposing, my man, a heavy gas cloud was now coming down this road towards you. What would you do?

V.: (after a few moments' pause): Nothing, sir.

C. C.: What! Why not, my good man?

V.: Because the wind is blowing the other way, sir.

### **Do you receive your Newsletter by email?**

### **Please encourage others to do so too!**

- ♦ Email version normally reaches you before the printed version.
- ♦ Less work for our committed band of volunteer deliverers, (to whom we are most grateful)
- ♦ Easier to read.
- ♦ No charge.

- ♦ Email version often contains material which there wasn't room for in the printed version, e.g. pictures, cartoons, jokes...
- ♦ Environmentally friendly if you choose not to print it out, instead saving it to refer to when you want to.
- ♦ Rosemary's email is [rbking007@btinternet.com](mailto:rbking007@btinternet.com). If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but aren't yet on the recipients' list, please just get in touch.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE DECEMBER/ JANUARY  
NEWSLETTER BY NOVEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> PLEASE!**