



Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in Deddington – 8th May 2025

Market Place

Cdr Forsyth: *We are gathered here today to celebrate Victory in Europe 80 years ago after five long years of war and to pay thanks for the sacrifices made to achieve that peace; in particular we will remember at the War Memorial those Deddington men who paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives.*

God Save the King

Band: Plays the National Anthem, Standards are lowered, Union Flag is hoisted by Year 6 pupils while the class lead the singing of the first verse

Canon Hall: Leads prayers of thanksgiving and for peace

Pipe Major Duffy: Plays ‘*The Battles O’er*’ and leads the way to the War Memorial via the churchyard path

War Memorial

Canon Hall: *Let us remember before God and commend to his sure keeping: those who have died for their country in conflict; those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and all who have died in the service of humanity. Here in Deddington we especially remember:*

*Robert Alec F Churchill
William Charles Coulton
Edward Bostock Dumbleton
Francis Beesley Garrett
John Richard Frederick Gilkes
William Reginal Greenaway*

*Ernest Sydney G Hall
Kenneth Henry Harris
John H Lewis
Lawrence Lee Pyman
Henry Sorrell
Ernest Arthur Sykes*

Thomas Willem van Oss

Major Hood: Recites Larence Binyon's words from his poem 'The Fallen' :

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

Bugler: Plays the Last Post, Standards are lowered

2 minute silence

Bugler: Plays the Reveille, Standards are raised

Cdr Forsyth: Recites The Kohima Epitaph

When you go home tell them of us and say 'for your tomorrow we gave our today'

Laying of wreaths

RBL VE 80 (Mr Kingsford, RBL County Chairman); Royal Navy (Commander Forsyth); Army (Major Hood MC); Royal Air Force (Flying Officer Pearson). Each wreath will be laid with the assistance of a Year 6 pupil. During the laying of wreaths Piper plays a Lament

Canon Hall: Leads prayers of Remembrance

Re-Dedication of Deddington RBL Branch Standard

Cdr Forsyth: *In this our 100th year of Deddington Branch's formation I now ask Canon Hall to re-dedicate our Standard dressed with its 100th Anniversary pennant.*

The Standard Bearer: Presents the Standard.

Canon Hall: Lays his hands upon the Standard and says: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do re-dedicate and set apart this Standard that it may be a sign of our duty towards our King and country in the sight of God and a symbol of the service The Royal British Legion is called upon to render.*

Canon Hall: Concludes with a blessing and these responses...

In peace and conflict

All present : **God is with us**

In work and worship

All present: **God is with us**

Now and always

All present: **God is with us**

Piper Major Duffy: Plays and leads the way back to the Market Place via the churchyard footpath.