

Lest we forget...



# Countesthorpe Centenary Paddock

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
10.00am

The Paddock, Station Road

# Foreword

Over the last few years the Parish Council has been acknowledging the sacrifice made by soldiers in various wars.

There is now a corner in our cemetery where wild flowers and poppies grow guarded by a silent soldier. This area is cordoned off with a plaque explaining its purpose.

The chapel in the cemetery has been renovated and the names of those who died in the two world wars now hang in the entrance.

A couple of years ago the ownership of the area known as the Paddock was passed from Blaby District Council to Countesthorpe Parish Council. The Parish Council immediately decided to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War by renaming the Paddock the Centenary Paddock as a lasting memorial to those who gave their lives.

We did this with the blessing of the Centenary Fields.

Centenary Fields Programme is a partnership between The Royal British Legion and Fields in Trust and works with landowners to protect at least one green space in each of the local authorities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The project was created in commemoration of the centenary of the First World War and the sacrifice made by those who gave their lives in the conflict. It was launched by HRH The Duke of Cambridge at the Coventry War Memorial Park.

The Centenary Paddock will today, and always, be a reminder of sacrifices made on our behalf. Countesthorpe will always remember.

Councillor Revd. Mick Gillespie  
Chairman of Countesthorpe Parish Council

**A welcome introduction will be given by the  
Chairman of the Parish Council  
Councillor Revd. Mick Gillespie**

**Dulce et Decorum Est**

by Wilfred Owen

**Reading by Air Cadet**

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,  
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.  
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots,  
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;  
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
Of gas-shells dropping softly behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of fumbling  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,  
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime.—  
Dim through the misty panes and thick green light,  
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams before my helpless sight,  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace  
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;  
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,  
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—  
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est  
Pro patria mori.*

**Greenfield Primary School  
will sing their songs of remembrance**

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**Unveiling of the plaque and renaming of  
The Paddock to Centenary Paddock**

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**The Last Post**

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**Two-minute silence**

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**Reveille**

**The commemorative flag will be raised  
during the playing of Reveille**

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**Prayer**

Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ  
we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them,  
to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Tribute songs

## Join in with the songs they knew

### *Pack up your Troubles*

Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag,  
And smile, smile, smile,  
While you've a lucifer to light your fag,  
Smile, boys, that's the style.  
What's the use of worrying?  
It never was worthwhile, so  
Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag,  
And smile, smile, smile.

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Smile, boys, that's the style.  
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It never was worthwhile, so  
Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag,  
And smile, smile, smile.

### *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*

It's a long way to Tipperary  
it's a long was to go  
It's a long way to Tipperary  
to the sweetest gal I know  
farewell to Piccadilly  
so long Leicester Square  
It's a long way to Tipperary  
but my heart lies there.

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**Thanks and Acknowledgements by  
Countesthorpe Parish Council Chairman  
Councillor Revd. Mick Gillespie**

***National Anthem***

God save our gracious Queen,  
Long live our noble Queen,  
God save the Queen:  
Send her victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us:  
God save the Queen.





**Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor  
Revd. Mick Gillespie will lead the gathering  
to St Andrews Church for a rededication of  
the War Memorial**

**This will be conducted by three local  
ministers**

**Revd. Jenny Impey – Methodist Church**

**Pastor Aubrey Vaughan – Baptist Church**

**Revd. David Hebblewhite – St Andrews Church**

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**The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire  
Michael Kapur will lay a commemorative  
wreath**

**The Parish Council would like to thank the Air Cadets, Greenfield Primary School and Enderby Band's Senior Members.**

**Please take a moment to view the displays in the church, then join us for refreshments in The Bridge.**



### **Royal Air Force – 100 years**

The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was the air arm of the British Army before and during the First World War, until it merged with the Royal Naval Air Service to form the Royal Air Force.

During the early part of the war, the RFC supported the British Army by artillery co-operation and photographic reconnaissance. This work gradually led RFC pilots into aerial battles with German pilots and later in the war included the strafing of enemy infantry and emplacements, the bombing of German military airfields and later the strategic bombing of German industrial and transport facilities.

Founded on April 1<sup>st</sup> 1918, the Royal Air Force celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Its most famous campaign was the Battle of Britain, when between July and September 1940, the RAF fought off a hugely superior German air force, denying the Luftwaffe air supremacy over southern England and therefore preventing the German invasion of Britain.