



- *integral to community life*
- *welcoming and joyful in worship*
- *inspiring and loving in our ministry to children*

## Letter from Michael Cudby, Church Warden

### Remembrance Day

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year 1918 saw the end of the First World War, that ended fighting on land, sea and air between the Allies and their last remaining opponent, Germany.

We remember the day, as "our boys" escaped from the muddy trenches, threw off their hair shirts and returned their weapons. They were promised "Peace In Our Time" and they were happy.

They could not envisage that their futures would be unpredictable and uncertain as one global crisis led to another. Twenty seven years later, the world would be embroiled in yet another world war with Germany. World war II with Germany was an awful war for which there was some justification for Germany to rebuild its nation but not for us. Hitler, a truly evil man, wrapped himself around sycophants and sadists. He was responsible for the mass extermination of the Jews, Poles and Romanies. The fact we won the war allowed Britain to be independent and develop as a strong nation.

Every year, when we remember those who fought in the war, we remember lives lost on the battlefield and young families torn apart.

It is also time to reflect that wars never stop: The Falklands war, Afghanistan, the oil conflicts and wars in the Middle East and even in our own country with the conflicts in Ireland. One thing after another. For whatever reason, we cannot stop fighting. It seems to be in our blood. The Bible's Old Testament is not a good role model for peace. Mass uprising, crowd killings and religious feuds are not a blueprint for peace and neighbourliness. God placed in his Son's hands, a different plan for life. Jesus was a man of peace, and we should live by his example. On Armistice Day we will honour the dead and remember those who sacrificed their lives for us. Just as Jesus did on the cross.

God Bless you all, as we rely on His protection.  
*Michael Cudby [Churchwarden].*