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A Funeral Service for

An Unknown Soldier of the Durham Light Infantry

and

An Unknown Soldier of the Bedfordshire Regiment

At 12:00 hours on

Thursday 15 March 2018

Orchard Dump Cemetery Arleux-en-Gohelle, France

Cérémonie Funéraire pour deux soldats Britanniques inconnus du Bedfordshire Regiment et du Durham Light Infantry

au cimetière militaire d' Orchard Dump, Arleux-en-Gohelle, la France le jeudi 15 mars 2018 a 12h 00

## **Order of Service**

led by The Revd John Swanston CF, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Rifles

Déroulement de la cérémonie présidé par le pasteur The Revd John Swanston CF, 1st Battalion, The Rifles

The remains of a British soldier were found at Gavrelle in September 2016. Found in his uniform pocket was a Bedfordshire Regiment cap badge. It is thought that he died in the Battle of Gavrelle in April 1917, but there are too many Bedfordshire Regiment soldiers still missing for us to attempt identification.

En Septembre 2016 les restes d'un soldat Britannique ont était découverts à Gavrelle. Un insigne de casquette qui a était trouvé avec les restes dénote qu'il était un soldat du Bedfordshire Regiment. Étant donné le lieu où les restes ont était trouvés, il y a une possibilité que ce soldat était tué en Avril 1917 au cours de la Bataille de Gavrelle. Cependant il y avait un trop grand nombre des soldats du Bedfordshire Regiment qui ont était tués pendant cette époque et qui manquent encore pour tenter d'identifier cet homme.

The remains of a British soldier were found at Gavrelle in July 2016. Found with him was a Durham Light Infantry shoulder title and cap badge, plus a T7 (7<sup>th</sup> battalion) badge. Based on this, it was thought that he died in September 1918, from when only 2 soldiers of the 7<sup>th</sup> battalion are still missing. It has proved to be neither of these 2 soldiers, so he will be buried as an unknown soldier of the Durham Light Infantry, although investigations into his identity will continue.

En Juillet 2016 les restes d'un soldat britannique ont était découverts à Gavrelle. Un titre d'épaule du Durham Light Infantry, un insigne de casquette et un insigne T7 (7 ème bataillon) ont était trouvés avec les restes. Cela suggérait que ce soldat est mort en Septembre 1918 parce qu'il y avait seulement deux soldats du 7ème bataillon qui sont toujours portés disparus. Cependant il s'est avéré être aucun des deux soldats, alors il sera enterré comme un soldat inconnu du Durham Light Infantry, bien que les enquêtes seront continuer.

#### Welcome

Invitation a la Prière

John 11.25.26

Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

We are gathered here today in this place of remembrance to honour our fallen in conflicts past.

Today we remember with thanksgiving these 2 unknown soldiers who, alongside so many others, answered the call of their country, served with honour and gave their lives in the service of their nation.

We will shortly commit their bodies to be buried. In so doing let us commit ourselves anew to remember them. For by so doing we honour them and we reflect upon their sacrifice.

Let us offer ourselves in His service that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven and that His kingdom of justice and peace be established everywhere.

### **Bidding Prayer**

Prière

Let us recall the presence of God, the Father of all mankind, maker and sustainer of all that is, whose purposes are good, whose love is never withheld and whose mercy never passes away. We call to mind His faithfulness in times of darkness and despair.

We remember before Him our brothers whose names are known only to God, and all who have served in the Armed

Forces of our nation; who counted service to others greater than service of self, and who gave their lives in battle.

Merciful Father,
hear our prayers and comfort us;
renew our trust in your Son
whom you raised from the dead;
strengthen our faith
that all who have died in the love of Christ
will share in his resurrection;
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

#### **Scripture Reading**

Lecture des Ecritures Saintes Ecclesiastes 3, 1 – 8

activity under heaven;
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain,
a time to search and a time to give up,

There is a time for everything and a season for every

a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend,

a time to be silent and a time to speak,

a time to love and a time to hate,

a time for war and a time for peace.

### Hymn – I Vow to Thee My Country

Hymne

Thaxted (Gustav Holst). Words by Cecil Spring-Rice

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above, entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love: the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test; that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best; the love that never falters, the love that pays the price, the love that makes, undaunted, the final sacrifice.

And there's another country I've heard of long ago, most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know; we may not count her armies, we may not see her king; her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering; and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase; and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

#### **Scripture Reading**

Lecture des Ecritures Saintes John 14, 1 – 6

Jesus said to his disciples; "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going". Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way"? Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me".

#### Interment

We have entrusted these two unknown soldiers to God's eternal keeping. We now commit their earthly remains to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Hymn – O God Our Help in Ages Past** *Hymne* 

Lyrics: Isaac Watts; Music; William Croft

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is thine arm alone, And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same. A thousand ages in thy sight Are like an evening gone; Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

#### The Exhortation

L'Exhortation

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.

We will remember them.

The Last Post
Sonnerie aux morts

Silence

Reveille

Kohima Epitaph Lecture de l'Epitaphe de Kohīma

When you go home tell them of us and say: "For your tomorrow, we gave our today".

# Wreath Laying Depots des Gerbes

### **Prayers**

Prières

Almighty God, protect all who serve in the Forces of The Queen; strengthen us in danger and temptation, give us courage and loyalty, that we may remain true to the highest traditions of our profession; and keep us steadfast when faced with the perils of action in war; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** 

Almighty God, who has revealed your only Son as the resurrection and the life; raise us, we pray, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness that, when we depart from this life, we may rest in him, and at the last may receive the blessing; Well done good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Lord. Grant this, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our mediator and redeemer.

Amen

## The Lord's Prayer Prière du Seigneur

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory For ever and ever. Amen.

# Regimental Collect of the Durham Light Infantry Récitation du Régiment

Almighty God, who requirest that thy servants be found faithful, grant, we pray thee, that we, the Durham Light Infantry, who twice a year remember the great valour of those who went before us, may ever be ready as they to fight the good fight, and above all things to give obedience to thy call, through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

# Regimental Collect of the Bedfordshire Regiment Récitation du Régiment

O Lord, God of Battles, make us worthy of the soldiers who have fought under the Colours of the 16TH Foot, and of the glorious achievements of our Regiment. Create within us a fervent desire for freedom, justice and truth. Give us strength, perseverance and loyalty in all our undertakings so that we may prove truly valiant. In the Name of the Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost.

Amen

#### The Dismissal

Séparation et Dernière Bénédiction

Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening falls, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at last; through Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you and all those you love and for whom you pray, this day and always.

Amen

The National Anthems of the United Kingdom and Belgium Les hymnes nationaux du Royaume-Uni et de la France