



## **The Royal Guernsey Light Infantry**

**A Service of Remembrance  
to commemorate the return and disbandment  
of the regiment**

***The Town Church, Guernsey***  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Private 257 Ernest Quevatre** lived in the Vale and was one of the first men drafted into the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry. He left Guernsey on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1917 onboard the SS Lydia and remained with the regiment throughout all of its active service, including witnessing the bitter losses at Les Rues Vertes in Masnieres, Passchendaele and the Lys Offensive in the spring of 1918.

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 1918, in a railway cutting on the Hazebrouck-Bailleul line their commanding officer, Colonel de Havilland, ordered the roll to be called. Private Quevatre was one of only fifty-five men left to answer the regimental list.

Almost a year later to the day on 12<sup>th</sup> April 1919 Ernest Quevatre was granted his honourable discharge. Today his granddaughter, Susan Hunt, will unveil the rededication of the RGLI memorial, representing all those families of the men who served. She is proudly wearing Ernest's medals.

*As the congregation gathers in the Town Church, music is played by the Guernsey Concert Brass (directed by Mr Alan West).*

*Please stand for the arrival of the Bailiff of Guernsey, Sir Richard Collas, who will be escorted to his place by the Rector and the churchwardens.*

*All stand to sing the hymn, during which the standards are brought into the Church*

**All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him, and rejoice.**

**The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.**

**O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.**

**For why? The Lord our God is good;  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
from men and from the angel-host  
be praise and glory evermore.**

*Words: William Kethe (d 1594)*

*Tune: Old Hundredth (Genevan Psalter, 1551)*

*All remain standing as the National Anthem is sung.*

**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.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store  
on her be pleased to pour,  
long may she reign.  
May she defend our laws,  
and ever give us cause  
to sing with heart and voice,  
God save the Queen.**

*Words: Author unknown (c. 1745)*

*Tune: Thesaurus Musicus, c. 1743*

*All sit. The Dean says*

### **The Bidding Prayer**

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 46.1

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40.31

We meet in the presence of God to remember the men of Guernsey who returned to this island one hundred years ago and their service in the Great War. We remember those who did not return we salute their courage and their duty, undertaken without knowing all that would be expected of them. We honour their memory. We also honour the families, members of whom are gathered today, whose suffering and trials were shared and endured through the sacrifice of the loved ones.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith for reconciliation between the nations, that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace. We rejoice in the

twinning of St Pater Port and Masnières, to be inaugurated later today, and pray that this may be an outward and visible sign of this commitment.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror. We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives have been given and taken away, in world wars and conflicts past and present, and especially the women and men of this Bailiwick of Guernsey.

*The Dean invites all to say the Lord's Prayer*

*All*     **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.**

### **Reading**

An abridged narrative of the Battle of Les Rues Vertes

*Mr Christopher Oliver (Trustee, The Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Charitable Trust)*

### **The Sermon**

*The Dean of Guernsey, the Very Reverend Tim Barker*

*All stand to sing*

**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.**

*Words: Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice (1859-1918)*

*Tune: Thaxted; adapted from Jupiter (The Planets) by  
Gustav Holst 1934)*

### **Re-dedication of the memorial plaque and the Guernsey flag**

Lt Col Colin Vaudin QCVS (Trustee, The Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Charitable Trust) invites *Susan Hunt* to unveil the plaque commemorating the return from overseas service and the disbandment of The Royal Guernsey Light Infantry. The Guernsey Concert Brass will play Nimrod during this time.

The Dean says a prayer of dedication.

### **The Act of Remembrance**

*All stand. Lt Col Colin Vaudin says*

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.

*All* **We will remember them.**

The Last Post

*Silence will be kept for two minutes*

Reveille

*All sit or kneel*

### **The Prayers**

*The Revd Matthew Barrett, Rector of St Peter Port leads the prayers.*

*All stand. A collection will be made, as all sing*

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
who like thyself my guide and stay can be?  
through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

*Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)*

*Tune: Eventide (William Henry Monk, 1823-1889)*

*The Dean says*

### **The Blessing**

*Please remain standing as the Dean, with the Rector and churchwardens,  
escorts the Bailiff of Guernsey to the north door of the church.*

*The standards follow. The Guernsey Concert Brass will play at this time.*