

Haveringland Parish Church Service of Remembrance 2018



November 2018. Standing in the field in front of Haveringland Parish Church were two soldier silhouettes, marking the 100th anniversary of the formal end of World War One.

Strings of poppies adorned the trees in our Avenue of Remembrance, dedicated to those who served at RAF Swannington (Haveringland).

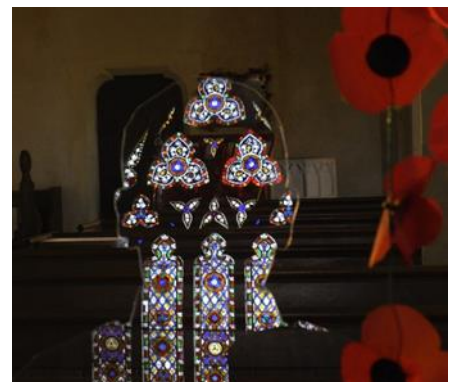
Along the path to the church grew poppies made from recycled plastic bottles.

More strings of poppies decorated the porch screen and pillars inside the church.



One silhouette soldier sat on the pew nearest the roll of honour. Another sat in each aisle, amidst the congregation, as poignant reminders of those we have lost from our community.

We would like to thank the Armistice and Armed Forces Community Programme for their support for our Remembrance Service by way of donating three "silhouette soldiers".



We researched the lives of the nine names on our roll of honour. Of the thirty families living in Haveringland at that time, seven lost a family member. We had a display about life in our village 100 years ago plus biographies for each of the men on our Roll of Honour.

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About 120 people attended our Remembrance Service this year. Standard Bearers from the Royal British Legion Reepham Branch and 231 squadron Air Training Corps officiated at the service. The Last Post and The Reveille were played by a young member of the ATC. During the service 'In Flanders Fields' was sung by a choir from a nearby high school.



Wreaths were laid by representatives for The Royal British Legion, The Royal British Legion Reepham Branch, The Royal Air Forces Association, 42 Squadron Air Training Corps and Haveringland Parish Meeting.

A contribution was made to the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal from the collection taken during the service.

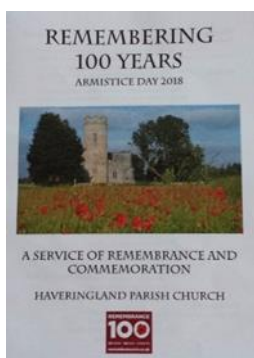
Many of the congregation stayed after the service to enjoy tea and cakes. One parishioner, now in his seventies, who had never been to a Remembrance Service, vowed to come every year from now on. Comments made by others attending the service included:

The decorations, the poppies and silent soldiers outside and in the church added to the poignancy of the occasion.

There was a wonderful feeling of solidarity within the church as people came together in the act of remembrance.

Special mention to the choir with their poignant singing of 'In Flanders Fields'.

I felt the service was nicely respectful and moving.



Our Service of Remembrance this year proved to be a very special one. We feel honoured to have received the three soldier silhouettes. Thanks also to everyone who helped to decorate our church or contributed to the Service this year.