

Remembrancetide, 2011



Greenford War Memorial

Remembrancetide is the collective name given to the season when our thoughts are with those who have died, in many different circumstances.

It starts this year on All **Saints' Sunday**, 30th October, which we observe although All Saints' Day is actually 1st November. The purpose of All Saints' Day is to remember the great men and women of the Christian Church who have either lived exemplary lives or died for their faith. Each has a special day of their own, of course, but on All Saints' Day we behold the whole panoply of holiness of life and seek to be inspired and encouraged in our own lives, our own journey and in our own time.

This is followed on 2nd November which is **All Souls' Day**. On this day we remember the people who were special to us, but lived and enjoyed normal lives. Their names are read out at a Mass in the Old Church at 8pm and everyone is invited to offer names and be there to share the prayers.

This is followed by **Armistice Day**, Friday 11th November. It is the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, when in 1918, the armistice was signed and peace was restored after the Great War. At this time and on this day, there will be a short Act of Remembrance at Greenford War Memorial, attended normally by about 60 people. It is rather more informal than the next big event on Remembrance Sunday.

Remembrance Sunday this year is on Sunday 13th November. It is a national day of remembrance with Her Majesty the Queen attending at the Cenotaph in Whitehall but in every town and village across the country and around the Commonwealth, people will gather to make an Act of Remembrance. In Greenford, this takes place at the war memorial and is attended by about 700 people of all ages. The service starts at 10.55am so that the two minutes silence may be observed from 11am.

Neil Richardson