

The Dedication of the Royal British Legion Bench Brixton Remembrance Sunday 12th November 2023 At 1015am

(Reverend Trevor Filtness BA)

The Royal British Legion Bench Brixton

A place for remembrance

It was the fervent wish of the late Chairman, Reg Wilkinson, and the Committee of the Brixton and District Branch of the Royal British Legion to give a commemorative bench to Brixton in recognition of the long history of the Branch which had been active since 1927.

The Parish Council was approached by the Branch with an offer of a bench to commemorate that there had been a thriving branch of the Royal British Legion for nearly 100 years, recognising that it had made an important contribution to the life of the village over the years.

Furthermore, the bench provides us with a constant reminder to remember the lives of those who did not return to the village in both world wars and in more recent global conflicts.

The Parish Council, in collaboration with Devon County Council Highways, has located the seat by the bus stop at the entrance to Elbridge so that people waiting for the bus can have somewhere to sit when the weather is good and is a special place of remembrance to be enjoyed by everyone. Planters have been added to complete the sense of space around the seat.

Thank you to the Brixton & District Branch of the Royal British Legion for the gift of the bench, Nick Colton, DCC Highways and to those who helped install the seat and planters on the 2nd November.

This has given us a unique place of remembrance in our village and improved the street scene.

The Lord be with you All: And also with you

A reading from Isaiah 2: 4

They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

A reading from Matthew 11: 28-30

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Let us pray:

Gracious Father, we thank you for the dedicated work of the Royal British Legion in bringing hope and practical help to our service men and women who have been injured or damaged in body or mind in the service of our country, to their families and to the families of those who have died in this service.

God our creator, who seeks peace for all his people, we thank the Royal British Legion for the gift of this bench.

On this national day of remembrance, we dedicate this bench to all who have served, those serving, and to the work of the Royal British Legion. Bless all who tarry on this bench that they may find rest and peace and pause a while to give their thanks for all those who gave their all to make this rest possible.

May our hearts and minds always be full of the love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ and may we always feel the joy of His peace which passes all our understanding.

All Amen.

St Mary's Church CCLI 1446411