

Leatherhead & District Local History Society

Potted Histories No 66

Leatherhead War Memorial



The dedication of The War Memorial, Sunday 3rd April, 1921



Triptych Shrine

Sunday April 3rd 1921 - The Hymn 'For all the Saints who from their labours rest' was sung and the Vicar Thomas Frederick Hobson pronounced the Blessing. The day was fine and sunny. The *Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser* described the unveiling saying 'The day maintained its brilliance until the last post was being sounded, near the end of the service, when, as though with the passing of the souls of the gallant dead from the conflicts of life to the eternal peace of the realms beyond, it [the sun] passed behind a cloud'. The service was concluded with the singing of The National Anthem, which was sung heartily by all. There then followed the laying of wreaths by the bereaved and representatives of local organisations including: The Fire Brigade, The Red Cross, The Leatherhead Town Silver Band and others. After the service a muffled peal of bells was rung by the ringers at The Parish Church.

The buildings in Gravel Hill are still recognisable and apart from some changes to the wall and the addition of a hedgerow this view is almost unaltered today.

On the 4th December 1921 the wooden triptych shrine was moved from the Clock Tower to the Parish Church. For many years it was situated beneath the tower. It is currently in a more fitting position, against the West wall of the North Aisle, acquiring the original position of the font which was itself relocated beneath the tower at the same time.

We shall remember them and also those who have since given their lives in subsequent conflicts.

Goff Powell - For further information on the local War Memorials go to www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk



For information regarding Membership, Lectures and Museum opening hours contact:

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