



BRITISH & INTERNATIONAL SAILORS' SOCIETY

Service of Remembrance And Dedication

**Holy Trinity Church,
Ingham**

**Sunday 20th May 2007
11am**



Foreword

The Prince of Wales Sea Training Hostel was founded in 1920 at Limehouse in London. The PWSTH was used to train boys for service as Deck Ratings in the Merchant Navy and was operated by the British Sailor's Society (now the British & International Sailors' Society). Due to the war, the PWSTH moved to Ingham in 1940. In 1948 the name changed to The Prince of Wales Sea Training School.

It was deemed essential to be near a busy sea port, and therefore the school transferred to Dover in 1953, until its closure in 1975. The school's colours were laid up on 27th October 1975. During the period of the PWSTS, the Royal Family have paid special interest and attended many events. A total of 4,911 boys were trained at the PWSTS during its operation.

In 1946 a memorial service of the 85 Prince of Wales boys, who gave their lives in the service of their country between 1939 -1946, was held at St Peter-Upon-Cornhill Church in London. A memorial plaque was unveiled at PWSTH Ingham on 17th September 1946. The plaque subsequently transferred to Dover.

In May 2007 this plaque was finally returned to Ingham. This location is now registered with the Imperial War Museum London UK National Inventory of War Memorials.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them"

Andy Gale
Director PWSTS Society

Service of Remembrance and Dedication

Welcome and Call to Worship:

Revd David Potterton, Principal Chaplain, British & International Sailors' Society (formerly British Sailors' Society)

Hymn: "Now thank we all our God"

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts, and hands, and voices;
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in His grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Him who reigns
with Them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Prayer: Revd Ken Martin, B.I.S.S. Port Chaplain, Felixstowe

Reading: Acts 16 vs 30-34

Read by Mr Ray Leonard (PWSTS 1943)

He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptised. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God - he and his whole family.

Hymn: "Will Your Anchor Hold"

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
Fastened to the rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear,
When the breakers roar and the reef is near?
While the surges rave, and the wild winds blow,
Shall the angry waves then your bark o'erflow?

Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,
When the waters cold chill your latest breath?
On the rising tide you can never fail,
While your anchor holds within the veil:

Will your eyes behold through the morning light
The city of gold and the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe by the heavenly shore,
When life's storms are past for evermore?

Prayers: Led by Revd Richard Jackson,

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we come into your presence with joy and thanksgiving in the knowledge of your presence with us in our worship. We thank you that you have brought us together today, with members of the maritime family, to acknowledge you and to remember that our lives and that of nations are in your hands.

We confess our unworthiness of your concern and love so clearly shown in the life, death, resurrection and glorious ascension to your right hand of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Forgive us for the wrongdoings of our lives, our forgetfulness of you and of one another. Forgive us and cleanse us from past failures and receive us as we worship you and dedicate our lives anew to you: and grant us your presence, that with a deepened faith and understanding we may from day to day prove your presence with us, on calm waters or on stormy seas, as we serve and follow you.

Here these our prayers, O God, and embolden us for life's adventure in your strength, until from amid these shadows in which we dream and hope, we welcome the morning of the eternal and unshadowed day in which we shall see your face, and know the truth at last.

These our prayers we offer you, amid the sorrows of separation from those who have gone before us into their eternal rest from the oceans of this earth, with the blessed assurance that through faith in your Son, our Redeemer, we shall be re-united on heaven's shore never to be separated again.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Reading: John 17 vs 20-26

Read by Mr Fred Honisett (PWSTS 1943)

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

"Father I want those you have given me to be with me where I am; and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

"Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

Hymn: "The Day Thou Gavest Lord, is Ended"

The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at Thy behest;
to Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping,
whilst earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun, that bids us rest, is waking
our brethren 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord: Thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.

Sermon: Revd David Potterton

Hymn: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:

O hear us when we cry to Thee
for those in peril on the sea

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard,
and hushed their raging at Thy word,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:

O hear us when we cry to Thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the waters dark and rude,
and bid their angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:

O hear us when we cry to Thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,
our brethren shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go:
thus evermore shall rise to Thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Benediction:

Deep peace of the running waves to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. AMEN.

Unveiling of the WW2 Memorial Plaque

Mr Al Robertson

Dedication of the Plaque

Revd Potterton: Let us commemorate and commend to the loving memory of our Heavenly Father, the Great Shepherd of our souls, the Giver of life everlasting, those seafarers, former cadets of the Prince of Wales Sea Training School named on this plaque who we remember as friends, who died in war, for their country and the cause of peace.

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 of the names: Mr Len Abel (PWSTS 1951)

'For the Fallen' read by Mr Tony Sullivan (PWSTS 1952)

They shall not grow 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.
(4th verse, 'For the fallen' by Laurence Binyon 1914)

All: We will remember them

KOHIMA EPITAPH read by Mr Tony Sullivan (PWSTS 1952)

When you go home
tell them of us, and say,
for your tomorrow
we gave our today.

“THE LAST POST” Bugler

SILENCE SHALL BE KEPT

“REVEILLE” Bugler

PLACING OF WREATHS

PRAYERS: Revd David Potterton

Lord of life and death, we acknowledge you in all our ways and in the events that befall us. But today we come together to remember those former members of the Prince of Wales Sea Training School who lost their lives in the service of their country. We remember those lost at sea and who entered your kingdom from a cold and watery grave. We ask you to keep them in your eternal love. We thank you for those that were saved and for the strength you gave some to save others.

All: God of heaven, earth and the seas, we give you thanks.

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for the courage you gave the crew members who remained steadfast at their posts and we pause to remember those who remain entombed on the ocean floor.

In memory of them we ask you to give us the will and courage required of our calling and bring us safely through the wind and waves to the safe harbour of your eternal presence through faith in Jesus Christ, the Great Captain of our salvation. So be with us, we pray, and grant us your presence and protection.

All: God of heaven, earth and the seas, we give you thanks.

BENEDICTION

Go into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render no man evil for evil. Strengthen the faint hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us and with those we love, this day and forevermore. AMEN.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone for coming today and in particular those who have travelled great distances to be here.

Particular mention to:

Mr Andy Gale, President of PWSTS Society, who has done sterling work in reuniting the Old Boys of the Sea Training School and making this service possible

and also

Revd David Potterton, Principal Chaplain, British & International Sailors' Society

Bunty McLean, Churchwarden, Holy Trinity Church

Revd Richard Jackson,

Revd Ken Martin, Felixstowe Port Chaplain, B.I.S.S.

Andrew Washford former Churchwarden, Holy Trinity Church

Captain John Sail, MNI, Merchant Navy Association National Chairman and PWSTS Patron

Mr Pattel of Ingham Old Hall

The staff and residents of Ingham Old Hall

The Merchant Navy Association

The Royal British Legion

The ladies of Ingham Village for the catering

Norfolk Sea Cadets

The Dover War Memorial Project Team

Tim Thirst, Band Master Stalham Town Band

Ann Brogan, B.I.S.S.