



# 80th Anniversary D-DAY SERVICE

**SUNDAY 9th JUNE 2024 at 7pm  
in St Mary's Church, Brixham**



*Photo from Embarkation mural  
Credit: Brixham Arts & Theatre Society, Martin Potten. Artist: Neil Wilkinson-Cave*

## **Welcome to this Christian service and final event to mark the 80th Anniversary commemorations and celebrations of D-Day June 6th 1944.**

It is now 80 years since Allied forces commenced the liberation of Europe. The successful liberation of Europe from Nazi tyranny, resulted in peace on a European continent riveted by centuries of warfare until 2022.

In 1939, Brixham was a small coastal fishing port with a population of around 8,000. Over 125 local inhabitants were killed during the War (1939-1945) with many more injured or suffered loss or bereavement. American forces departed our Breakwater slipway for the D-Day beaches landing on 6th June 1944. The War in Europe ended on 8th May 1945 (VE Day) with the surrender of Nazi Germany but would still continue in the Far East until Japan surrendered on the 2nd September 1945. It had cost 63 million lives.

This Church, and others in Brixham, were places of prayer and consolation for the bereaved and injured. Please remember those who served and sacrificed and never forget, we owe them so much for our peace and freedom.



**PLEASE BE SEATED BY 6.55pm**



**PLEASE TURN MOBILE PHONES OFF DURING THE SERVICE**

# *Welcome and Introduction*

**Organist Mr. Ron Burrington**  
**Ministers Rev Martyn Hodge and Rev Darrell Holmes.**

## **Procession**

The Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Robin Barlow representing HM the King.

Arrival of Royal British Legion Standard, Banners and representatives of local groups.

## **Introduction**

When allied forces landed successfully on the Beaches of Normandy on 6th June 1944, it marked a turning point in world history. This evening 80 years after that great event, we are gathered here today to publicly celebrate the victory and recall the sacrifices made.

The Second World War (1939-1945) cost over 400,000 UK lives. That event scarred a generation and shaped our modern world. Since then, our world has seen remarkable changes. We have enjoyed great advances in science and technology, but continues to endured war and terrible suffering.

As the shadows of war grows ever stronger, we meet together in this Christian church to remember the fallen and pray for the more peaceful and prosperous world our fore-fathers sacrificed for.

## **Tribute**

The Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Robin Barlow's own late father, was one of the first to land on Sword beach at 7.30am on 6th June. He subsequently wrote to his wife, and in recounting the events of the day we have a first-hand account of that day.

The Deputy Lord Lieutenant has very kindly agreed to read this account to those attending the commemoration service occasion with some additional information.



*Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon,  
Robin Barlow*

**Congregation's responses are in bold italics.**

*Please all stand*

## **Hymn: Abide with me**

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grown dim; its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see:  
O Thou who changeset not, abide with me!

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

*Rev. Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)*

## **The Bidding**

***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.***

*Please be seated*

## **A Reading for reconciliation among the nations**

Micah chapter 4 verses 3-5

by Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Robin Barlow  
representing HM King

"For out of Zion shall go forth instruction & the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall Judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken."

## Sermon

by Baptist Minister - Rev Darrell Holmes

*Now please stand*

## The Prayers

### Minister:

Let us give thanks for those who work for peace and liberty throughout the World, for His Majesty's Armed Forces, and for all who strive to bring an end to injustice and oppression; let us bless the Lord.

### Reply All: **Thanks be to God.**

We pray for those in our own day who have grown weary or lost hope as a result of violence or terror; for all refugees and displaced people, and for those who seek to address the causes of discord and distrust; Lord, hear us.

### Reply All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Please be seated*

## Musical Tribute

from Brixham Town Band & Orpheus Male Voice Choir

**A collection is taken up for the benefit of St. Mary's Church restoration which now requires over £750,000 of renovation work. Please make a generous donation to the preservation of this important building.**



In our St. Mary's Churchyard are the graves of fourteen of the 341 men from Brixham who are known to have lost their lives in both World Wars (1914-1918) and (1939-1945) most of whom are buried in foreign fields.



## The General Thanksgiving

*Please stand*

### **Minister:**

With heartfelt gratitude to God our Father and seeking the peace of Christ's Kingdom, let us pray all together:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

**Reply All: Amen.**

## Hymn

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 walked upon 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 the wild confusion peace:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

*William Whiting (1825-78)*

## The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The King, The Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us sinners, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Reply All: Amen**

## **The National Anthem**

God save our gracious King!  
Long live our noble King!  
God save the King!  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the King.  
Thy choicest gifts in store  
On him be pleased to pour,  
Long may he reign:  
May he defend our laws,  
and ever give us cause  
to sing with heart and voice  
God save The King

## *Community Singalong*

with Terrie May McNaulty (see separate booklet)

## **Exit of Standards**

Exit of HM The Kings representative Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Devon,  
Robin Barlow, Honoured Guests and Representatives of local groups

**Our D-Day Commemorations and celebrations are now ended, go in peace. All present are warmly welcomed to share refreshments in Church Centre.**

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### **BRIXHAM FUTURE CIC**

We are a not-for-profit community group that seeks to deliver small scale, quick win, low-cost local projects or events. We also deliver the Brixham Lottery which benefits local good causes.

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### **THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

We provide support for members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, Reservists, Veterans and their families and dependants. Membership is open to all.

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### **THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION**

We have over 20,000 members of current and former Naval Service personnel, relatives and supporters of our Royal Navy. We welcome new members.

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### **THE BRIXHAM ORPHEUS MALE VOICE CHOIR (BOMVC)**

Today in red blazers. Please visit [www.brixham-orpheus-choir.co.uk](http://www.brixham-orpheus-choir.co.uk) or [dewibrown6@gmail.com](mailto:dewibrown6@gmail.com)

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### **BRIXHAM TOWN BAND**

Why not come and join us at our friendly practice sessions. Details are on our website.

Organised and co-ordinated by [www.brixhamfuture.co.uk](http://www.brixhamfuture.co.uk)

*Thank you*

**We are grateful to all who contributed to this major community effort. We have not named individuals to avoid any embarrassment. Many people went beyond normal endeavours to ensure success and for that we are extremely grateful. Our thanks also to those generous people who donate or support the Brixham Lottery providing funding to support local community events and sustain local voluntary efforts.**



**A LOCAL LOTTERY  
WITH BIG PRIZES**

**100% PROFIT  
GOES TO A LOCAL CAUSE**

## **COMMEMORATIVE PROJECTS**

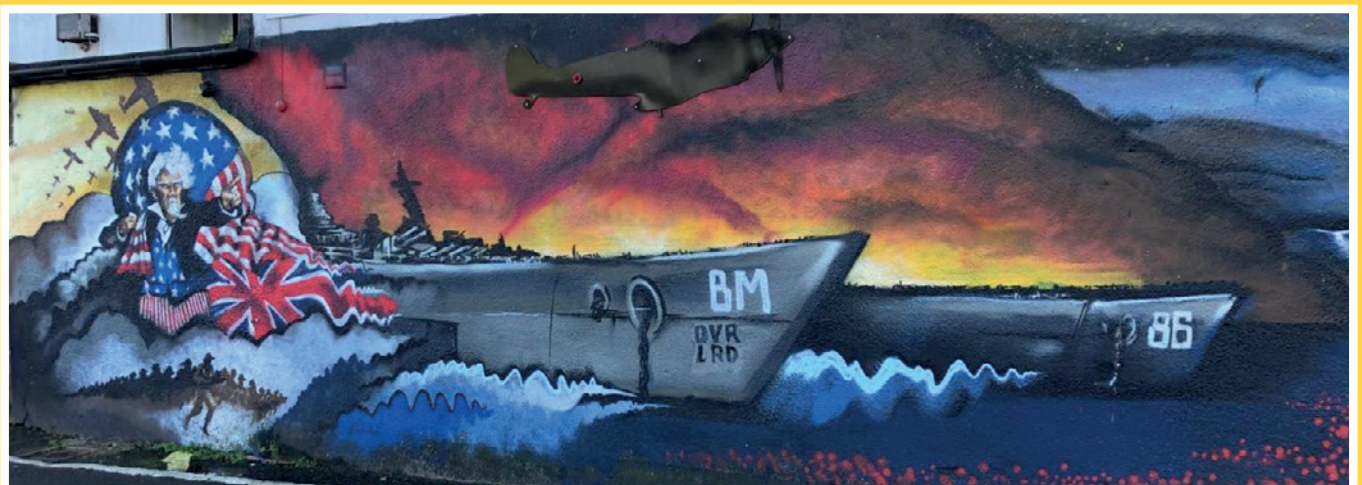
FUNDED BY  
BRIXHAM LOTTERY



100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1 (1914-1918)  
when 216 Brixham people were killed



Commemoration artwork of World War 2 (1939-1945) when 125 Brixham people were killed.



Commemoration wall mural for 75th Anniversary of D-Day 2019 in town main car park - Union Lane.

Brixham Lottery tickets have previously supported local projects including:  
**Wall Murals in Town and Car Park • Floral Displays • Exhibitions in Library/Town Hall • WW1 & WW2 'Shadows' Projects • Parades & Services to mark historical anniversaries • Over 100 FREE public events for local people and visitors to enjoy** including parades, services, films, concerts, exhibitions, displays, dancing, music, talks etc.



# ST MARY'S CHURCH BRIXHAM



St. Mary's is the ancient parish church of Brixham. The wooden Saxon church was succeeded by a Norman Church 14 feet wide and walls 28 inches thick now just within the columns of the North and South aisles.

The current building you see is an example of a new church commenced around 1435 built outside and over the earlier Norman edifice.

Outside, the historic graveyard contains over 8,000 known internments including 43 war graves from both World Wars.

**St. Mary's Church is an essential part of our heritage but now requires over £750,000 of renovation work, if you can, please make a generous donation.**

