

ST JOHN'S, REDHILL AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The following are extracts from the diary of Rev WAR Ball, then Vicar of St John's, and from the Surrey Mirror.

1943

Sunday April 25th – Easter Sunday

The church bells were allowed to be rung on Sundays from this day. Large congregations. Six bells rung for Mattins – and eight for Evensong.

Thursday April 29th

I buried Donald Alexander Jameson at Shamley Green. Killed in a flying accident on April 24th.

Sunday May 16th

This day was appointed as Empire Youth Sunday – also it became Home Guard Day after three years since the H.G. were formed – and finally with the King's approval the government asked that this Sunday should be a Day of Thanksgiving for the victory granted to our forces and our allies in Africa. Seven ringers rang a Thanksgiving Peal for Victory before Mattins. The R.E.'s under Lt Swan from Shenley attended Mattins.

Thursday May 27th

Government permission was given this day for church bells to be rung at any time.

Sunday August 22nd

The R.E.'s from Shenley came to church at 11am for the last time before moving. Lt. Riddell read both lessons (officer I/C) and R.E.'s took the collection.

Friday September 3rd

Observed as a Day of National Prayer at the King's wish. Seven services were held at St John's. At the School Service, the girls from St John's Council School and the boys and girls from Dalmain Road (evacuees) attended. Also services were taken by the vicar at Fuller's Earth Works, the Redhill Laundry and Love and Malcolmson's Printing Works.

Sunday September 12th

HM the King asked that thanksgiving should be rendered to Almighty God at the morning services on this day for "the surrender of the Italians to the allies". A good congregation attended at Mattins.

From the Surrey Mirror

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH CENTENARY WEEK
SEPTEMBER 26TH – OCTOBER 3RD**

From the Diary of Rev Ball

Sunday November 7th was Remembrance Sunday

At their own wish the Redhill Company of the Home Guard attended Evensong at 3.45pm. This was their first visit to St John's.