



A Rededication Service for

Corporal (5851) William Lionel Court

19th (Queen Alexandra's Own Royal) Hussars

Killed in Action 8 August 1918

CWGC A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers, France at 14:30 hrs on
23 March 2022

Conducted by the Reverend Andrew Grant (CF)

William Court was born in London to William and Esther Court. He was one of 5 children, having a sister and 3 brothers. Sadly, we know very little else about him.

A brief history of the 19th Hussars (Queen Alexandra's Own Royal) Hussars

Formed as an East India Company, (and transferring to the British Army service) it existed until 1922, when it merged into the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars.

It was the first ever British cavalry regiment to operate in India, fighting in the 3rd and 4th Mysore Wars in the late 18th century and the 2nd Maratha War during the first part of the 19th century. They also saw service in Egypt and Sudan before taking part in the Boer War. In 1902, the regiment was re-titled the 19th (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own) Hussars and subsequently 19th (Queen Alexandra's Own Royal) Hussars. During the Great War, the regiment was sent to France in 1914 and saw action that same year at Mons, Le Cateau, the Aisne and the Marne. It served on the Western Front for the rest of the war, including the 2nd Battle of Ypres (1915), the Somme (1916), Cambrai (1917) and Amiens (1918).

The Cemetery

The original burials in Plot 1, Rows A and B, of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's A.I.F. Burial Ground, were begun in November 1916 and used until February 1917 by Australian Medical Units. After the Armistice, the cemetery was enlarged with the concentration of nearly 4000 graves from the surrounding battlefields of the Somme and the wider area. It was during this later period of concentration that the previously unidentified grave of Corporal Court was brought in from the vicinity of Guillaucourt for burial.

Welcome and Opening

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." *John 11:25 & 26*

We have come together to rededicate the final resting place of Corporal William Court and to honour him this day.

As Christians, we believe that those who die in Christ share eternal life with him. Therefore, in faith and hope we offer our prayers of trust and thanksgiving to God. Facing the certainty of our own death and judgement we yet proclaim that Christ is indeed risen, and that all who believe in him will rise in him.

Prayer

Almighty God,
you judge us with infinite mercy and justice
and love everything that you have made.
In your mercy turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new
life, and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven;
through our saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Scripture Readings

The Compassion of the Lord

The reading is from Isaiah 55: 1 – 9.

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy. Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Behind, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteousness man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord that he may have compassion on him, and to our God for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Born Again to a Living Hope

The reading is from Peter 1: 3 – 5.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfailing, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

The Act of Remembrance

We remember with thanksgiving at God's throne of grace all those who have died during operational service. We remember this day especially Corporal William Lionel Court.

Merciful God, you have made us all and given your Son for our redemption. We once again commend our brother to your perfect mercy and wisdom and rededicate his final resting place into your care. For in you alone we put our trust.
Amen.

For the Fallen.....Laurence Binyon

'They shall grow not 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.'

All: We will remember them.

The Last Post

The Silence

The Reveille

The Kohima Epitaph

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

The Padre shall lead in prayer

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we thank you that in all things God works for the good of those who love him and who have been called according to his purpose.

We thank you for the hope of eternal life that you offer to all those who trust in you through the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank you that nothing can separate you from your children – neither in life nor in death. Hear our prayers as we thank you for those who sacrificed their all so that we might enjoy the freedoms for which they died. And we thank you especially for the Lord Jesus Christ who gave his life so that those who trust in him might enjoy the freedoms of eternal life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Wreath Laying

The Prayers

For those facing armed conflict today

God of infinite mercy, we trust in your good purposes of peace for all your children. We pray for those who at this time face danger in the defence of justice. Watch over those in peril; support those who are anxious for loved ones; gather into your eternal purpose those who will pay the ultimate sacrifice. Remove from the hearts of all people the passions that keep alive the spirit of war, and in your goodness restore peace among us; for the sake of the Prince of peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord in your mercy;

Hear our prayer

For faith by which to live

How generous is your goodness, O God, how great is your salvation, how faithful is your love? Help us to trust in you in trial, to praise you in deliverance and to rejoice before you with overflowing hearts. Lord in your mercy;

Hear our prayer

The Collect of the 19th (Queen Alexandra's Own Royal) Hussars

O Merciful God, who givest more than we can desire or deserve, may it please thee to grant that, while no man alone may deserve thy favour, the true fellowship of the 19th Hussars may attain thy salvation, through the merits of Him by whose precious blood we are cleansed, our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Blessing

Closing blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you his peace this day and always.
Amen.



ARMY

The Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC) researches, approves and organises commemorative funeral and rededication services for casualties in cemeteries (including nominated CWGC cemeteries) within the country of the casualty's death.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1.7 million men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the first and second world wars and ensure they will never be forgotten.

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