



Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair &
Waterside Theatre
Service of Remembrance

Order of Service

7th June 2023



25th Anniversary - Commemorative Programme
Island of Ireland Peace Park, Messines

General Assembly 1:45 to 2:00pm

Programme Commences 2:00pm

Formal Welcome

Outline of Programme by Master of Ceremonies, Nigel Hagon

Act of Remembrance

John Gamble, The Hills Church Ebrington

Reflection on the Journey of Reconciliation Trust

Tom Burke M.B.E

Music

Reading of the Nine Stone Tablets

Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair and Waterside Theatre

Extract from 'The Enemy Within'

Brian Friel's play on Columba / Colmcille

Read in Irish and English

Kohima Prayer

Waterside Theatre

Music

Playing of Last Post

Exhortation

Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair

Minutes silence

Procession to Lay Wreaths

Playing of Reveille





Keynote Address
Paddy Harte, Chair
International Fund for Ireland

Reading of the Peace Pledge
Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair and Waterside Theatre

Conclusion of public formalities

Exhortation

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.

Audience Repeats: We will remember them.

The Peace Pledge

From the crest of this ridge, which was the scene of horrific carnage in the First World War, on which we have built a Peace Park and Round Tower to commemorate the thousands of young men from all parts of Ireland who fought a common enemy, defended democracy and the rights of all nations, whose graves are in shockingly uncountable numbers and those who have no graves, we condemn war and the futility of war. We repudiate and denounce violence, aggression, intimidation, threats and unfriendly behaviour.

As Protestants and Catholics, we apologise for the horrible deeds we have done to each other and ask forgiveness. From this sacred shrine of remembrance, where soldiers of all nationalities, creeds and political allegiances were united in death, we appeal to all people in Ireland to help build a peaceful and tolerant society. Let us remember the solidarity and trust that developed between Protestant and Catholic Soldiers when they served together in these trenches.

As we jointly mark the armistice of 11 November 1918 - when the guns fell silent along this western front - we affirm that a fitting tribute to the principles for which men and women from the Island of Ireland died in both World Wars would be permanent peace.



