

## Streatley Village sign & war memorial dedication ceremony



On Streatley village green during a lovely afternoon on 21 July, members of the Parish Council and about 100 local parishioners were joined by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Colonel Colin Mason OBE, the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, Mrs Deborah Inskip and the Mayor of Luton in a ceremony to dedicate the new war memorial and village sign to parishioners past and present.

John Farrent, Parish Council Chairman, welcomed everyone and explained that war memorials are a familiar sight in the landscape of the UK where about 100,000 exist.

Following a suggestion made at a Parish Council meeting; feasibility, cost and siting had been explored and local artist, Dorothy Iszatt, agreed to draft a design. The new sign reflects well known village sights and the war memorial wording encompasses all faiths, allowing those involved in past and future conflicts, as well as those currently on active duty, to be honoured.

Everyone at the ceremony agreed that the sign and war memorial would stand, through time, as a proud tribute to the village and to the fallen men and women from local families.

Steve Wood, Vicar of St Margaret's church, Streatley, said a prayer of dedication and Major Oliver Ormiston of The Royal Anglian Regiment, lay a commemorative wreath. Everyone present was then invited to lay white carnations.

The well known passage from Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen" which was written in September 1914 was read to end the ceremony.

*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.*

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday 9 September 2013 at 7.30pm at the Streatley Village Hall.  
All local electors and members of the press are welcome to attend.