
Hellifield's Village War Memorial

As it is approaching that time of year when we remember the fallen from all conflicts over the years, I thought a few notes on the village war memorial may be of interest. The following is a transcript from the Craven Herald newspaper from 1921.

Hellifield's War memorial is a Celtic cross in design, constructed of Portland stone and standing 19 feet high, designed by architects Cannon and Chorley of Leeds and executed by J.T Barnes Ltd, Portland and London. The land on which the memorial stands was given by the Ecclesiastical commissioners and the site was prepared by Mr. J. Carr of Long Preston.

There was a large Committee formed to organise the implementation of the Memorial, Chaired by Mr R. Wilson. (Their names were listed in the original article but have been omitted here to save space).

The Unveiling Ceremony was held on Sunday June 5th, 1921. The procession assembled on the village green and marched to the church in the following order:

- The Rev. G. Hayter (vicar)
- Mr. J. Harger (from Settle, representing the Wesleyan denomination)
- Mr. F. Carlisle
- Mr. & Mrs. W. Nicholson, the Peel
- Mr. R. Wilson (Chairman of the Parish Council)
- Children attending the various Sunday schools,
- Relatives of the fallen
- Ex- servicemen
- The united choirs
- Members of the War Memorial

Committee

- Members of the public

The service was conducted jointly by the Rev. G. Hayter and Mr. Harger, and included the hymns "O God our help in ages past", "For all our sons", "O Lord of hosts" and "Let saints on earth in concert sing". The service concluded with the singing of the national anthem and the playing of the "Last Post" by Mr. A. R. Bilton of Settle.

The unveiling of the memorial was conducted by Mr. William Nicholson of the Peel, who gave a short address. The dedication of the memorial was performed by the Vicar, who gave a





powerful sermon on the significance of the cross and at the close Mr. R. Wilson, Chairman of the Parish Council, accepted the custody and upkeep of the memorial.

Five more names were added after the second world war. The memorial was cleaned and restored in 2012 and rededicated in 2013.

On this year's Remembrance Day please spare a thought for those people of our village who made the ultimate sacrifice.

"We Will Remember Them"

John Pearcy, Nov 2019