



# St. Mary's Dalton Holme Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 11

September 2019



## Church Wardens

The Lord Hotham      01430-810771  
Mr. Giles W. Peacock   01430-810254  
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## Services for September

1st	Twelfth after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Said)
8th	Thirteenth after Trinity	9.30 am	Matins with hymns
15th	<b>Battle of Britain Sunday</b>	10.30 am	<b>Special Commemorative Service</b>
22nd	Fifteenth after Trinity	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist (Rev M Craggs)
29th	Sixteenth after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Said)

## *Thoughts from Rev. John McNaughton.*

"The Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this Battle depends the future of Christian Civilisation". Words spoken by our then Prime Minister, Mr Winston Churchill on 18th June 1940, in his thundering call to sacrifice. The response of the entire nation was magnificent, but we all knew that we depended upon "The Few". Without any regard for themselves they showed the dynamic courage, comradeship and compassion immortalised in the life and suffering of Jesus Christ who triumphed over it all when from the agony of the Cross, he committed himself to his and our Father in heaven.

He demonstrated decisively that death is the gateway into whatever kind of life we have chosen. Everyone agrees that our character develops for good or ill, by whatever choices we make in life. It is just too easy to reject love. If we reject divine love in the course of time, it is not likely to bother us in eternity!

I will not waste your time with more words. The need is for urgent action if our Christian civilisation is to survive. It is the only honest way to show our gratitude to Jesus Christ and all those who have given so much to pass on to us a Christian heritage. "The few" in our day, who are moved by the truth to pray and worship, are not as young as they used to be. For the sake of a future generation we must reinvigorate them with courage, comradeship and compassion. Please do not hesitate. Time is short.

John McNaughton

## October Issue

The closing date will be **Tuesday 17th September** Articles should be sent to me in **word format only** at [rac.pfl@btinternet.com](mailto:rac.pfl@btinternet.com)

Robert Coates 01430-810504

## South Dalton Ladies Club.

**Thursday 5th September.** Our next meeting will be held at The Pottery Painting Workshop in Market Weighton.

**At the following meeting on Thursday 3rd October** Kevin Norris will make a welcome return to talk about three glaciers in the Karakorum mountains of Pakistan. He will also tell us about his journey from Islamabad to the border of Afghanistan with China.

Jan Nettleton ( 01430-810089)

## Battle of Britain Sunday 15th September

A special service will be held on Sunday 15th September at 10.30 am. Conducted by Rev. John Mc Naughton

Veterans will parade standards and members of the Royal Air Force Association will be present. The Last post and Reveille will be sounded and wreaths laid at the War Memorial.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.



## BATTLE OF BRITAIN

In the summer and autumn of 1940, German and British air forces clashed in the skies over the United Kingdom, locked in the largest sustained bombing campaign to that date. A significant turning point of World War II, the Battle of Britain ended when Germany's Luftwaffe failed to gain air superiority over the Royal Air Force despite months of targeting Britain's air bases, military posts and, ultimately, its civilian population. Britain's decisive victory saved the country from a ground invasion and possible occupation by German forces while proving that air power alone could be used to win a major battle.

On June 17, 1940, the defeated French signed an armistice and quit World War II. Britain now stood alone against the power of Germany's military forces, which had conquered most of Western Europe in less than two months. But Prime Minister Winston Churchill rallied his stubborn people and outmanoeuvred those politicians who wanted to negotiate with Adolf Hitler. But Britain's success in continuing the war would very much depend on the RAF Fighter Command's ability to thwart the Luftwaffe's efforts to gain air superiority. This then would be the first all-air battle in history.

The battle received its name from a speech Winston Churchill delivered to the British House of Commons on June 18, 1940, in which he stated "The Battle of France is over. I expect the Battle of Britain is about to begin. "In fact, Britain's situation was more favourable than most of the world recognized at the time. Britain possessed an effective air defence system, first-rate fighter pilots, and a great military leader in Air Marshal Hugh Dowding. On the other hand, the Germans had major problems: they had no navy left after the costly conquest of Norway, their army was unprepared for any form of amphibious operations, and the Luftwaffe had suffered heavy losses in the west (the first two factors made a seaborne attack on the British Isles impossible from the first).

Even more serious, the Germans had poor intelligence and little idea of British vulnerabilities. They wasted most of July in waiting for a British surrender and attacked only in August. Although air strikes did substantial damage to radar sites, on August 13–15 the Luftwaffe soon abandoned that avenue and turned to attacks on RAF air bases. A battle of attrition ensued in which both sides suffered heavy losses (an average loss of 21 percent of the RAF's fighter pilots and 16 percent of the Luftwaffe's fighter pilots each month during July, August, and September).

For a time the advantage seemed to swing slightly in favour of the Germans, but a combination of bad intelligence and British attacks on Berlin led the Luftwaffe to change its operational approach to massive attacks on London. The first attack on London on September 7 was quite successful; the second, on September 15, failed not only with heavy losses, but also with a collapse of morale among German bomber crews when British fighters appeared in large numbers and shot down many of the Germans. As a result, Hitler permanently postponed a landing on the British Isles and suspended the Battle of Britain.

## East Yorkshire Look 4 A Book

A new group has been established by Mrs Sam Thomas and her friends to encourage children to read. Children throughout East Yorkshire are being asked to find, read and then to hide the book once more for another child to find. The BBC have shown interest in this initiative and have interviewed Sam and her colleagues.

All the details can be found by clicking on: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/566821847472256/>



