

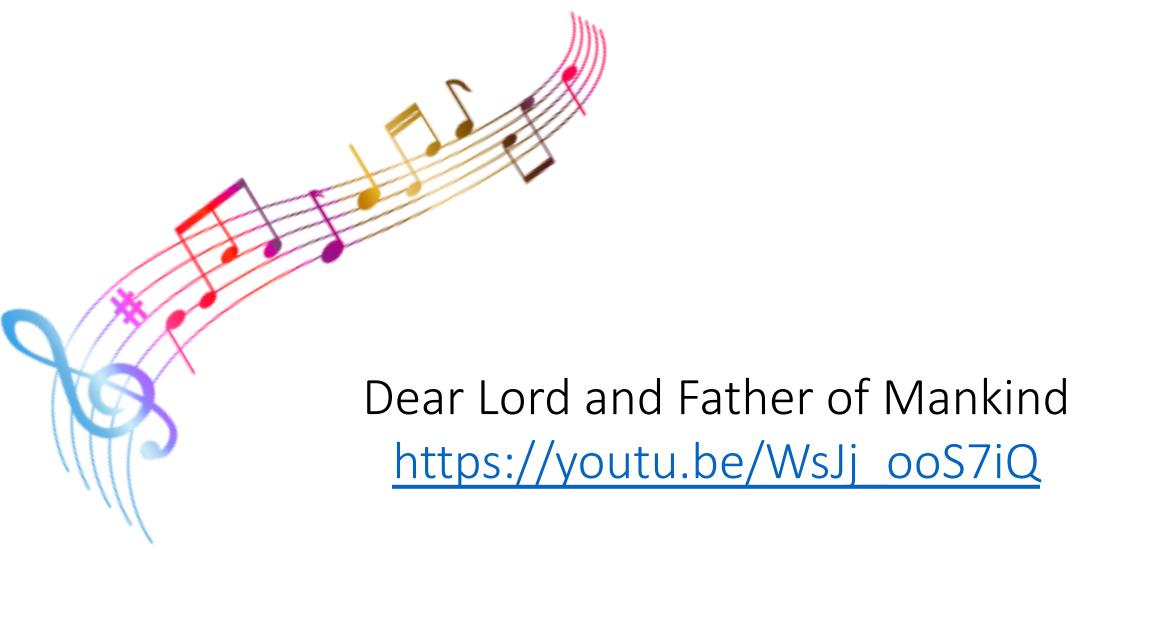
Welcome to the All Saints 75th Anniversary VE Day Concert

Thank you everyone who has chosen music and provided photographs for the programme Particularly

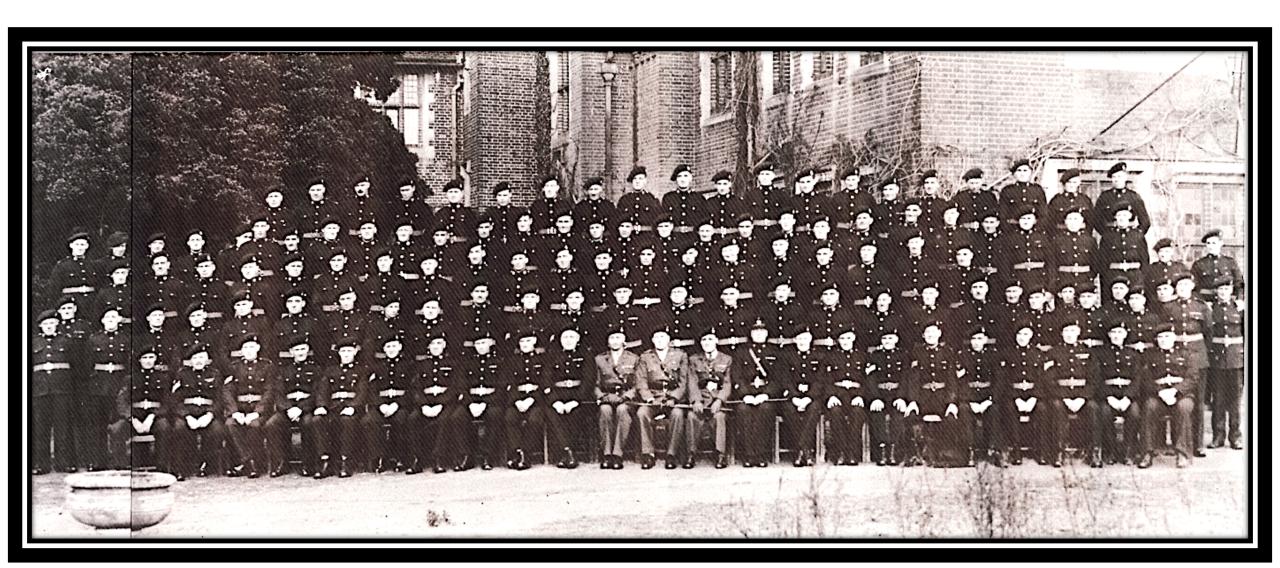
Adrienne, Jane, Emma, Tony, Claire, Alice, Colin, Maryon & Chris, and Ian & Carole

You just need to tap or click on the links to be taken to YouTube for the music

Enjoy!



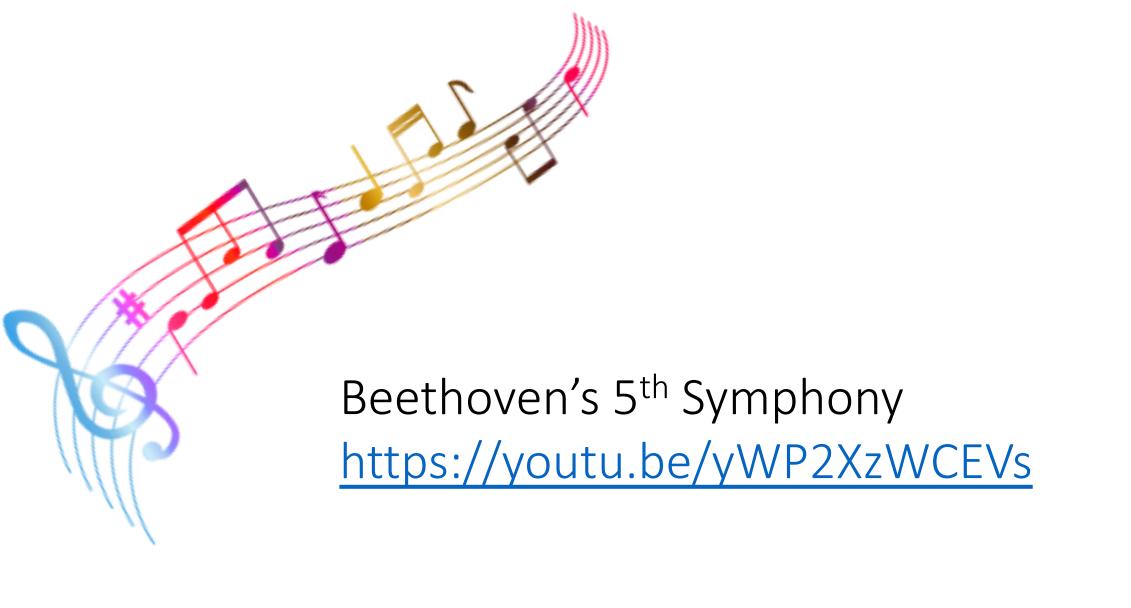
Marines of HMS St Mathew at Creeksea Place





VE Day Prayer

O Almighty God, grant, we beseech thee, that we who here do honour to the memory of those who have died in the service of their country and of the Crown, may be so inspired by the spirit of their love and fortitude that, forgetting all selfish and unworthy motives, we may live only to thy glory and to the service of mankind through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN









GREAT UNCLE FRANK

My story from my family's past is about my great Uncle Frank and his role in the army and in the second World War. My Great Uncle was born in 1911 and was raised in Essex. On the leftis a picture of him in his uniform. My story is going to be about his life and when he won

a Military Cross. Frank was also part of the battle of Monte Cassino where he died age 33, sacrificing his life for many in his regiment. Now my great uncle is buried in the Cassino war cemetery in Italy.

Frank was a professional soldier. He joined the army at the age of 21 because of a worldwide crisis called the Great Depression which was an economic crash which left a huge 25% of the global population with no jobs. Like many others, Frank couldn't find a job so decided to join the army. He rose up the ranks to become a Major, commanding the X battalion of the Essex Regiment and at the time of his Military Cross, he was Lieutenant and Captain of the Essex Regiment.

On the 24th March 1943 in Cairo, a now experienced Frank was wounded by a splinter from aircraft fire. With his arm in a sling and in considerable pain he again commanded his regiment with skill. Two days later, Frank and two others were employed in an attempt to outflank the enemy and secure their territory, He led his small group under heavy fire and secured the enemy territory at last light while catching the enemy off guard and forcing about 100 of the soldiers to surrender. This earned him his Military Cross a great honour and impressive achievement.



MONTE CASSINO

Monte Cassino was a battle in Italy towards the end of the second World War and was a hard fought victory for the Allies. The Allies had to get to Rome to try and take control of Italy and so they had to break through the strong German forces.

Although the allies eventually won, the battle saw both sides lose many men including Great Uncle Frank. Frank died on the slopes of Castle Hill on the right. Monte Cassino is also famous for its abbey which was destroyed in the battle. It has been rebuilt and a picture above shows you it now. 2 months before Frank's death, he was injured and could have chosen to go home because of his injury but knowing the tough battle ahead, Frank chose to stay and fight, a sign of his bravery and dedication.

Then on the 20th March 1944, a 33 year old Frank and his men climbed up castle hill to get to the other side when they were surprised by a group of Germans. They were outnumbered by the enemy soldiers and an enemy machine gunner was picking off Frank's men one by one. Then Frank started to make his way up to the machine gun. He was spotted by the machine gunner and both him and Frank shot at the same time towards each other. Frank's brave act had managed to kill the enemy gunner and save a lot of his men but he was hit in the head by the machine gun. There and then, Frank died in an honourable way, sacrificing himself for many in his regiment.

Now Frank's grave lays in the Cassino war cemetery. I have a photo above. I hope to visit it one day.

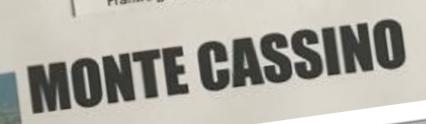


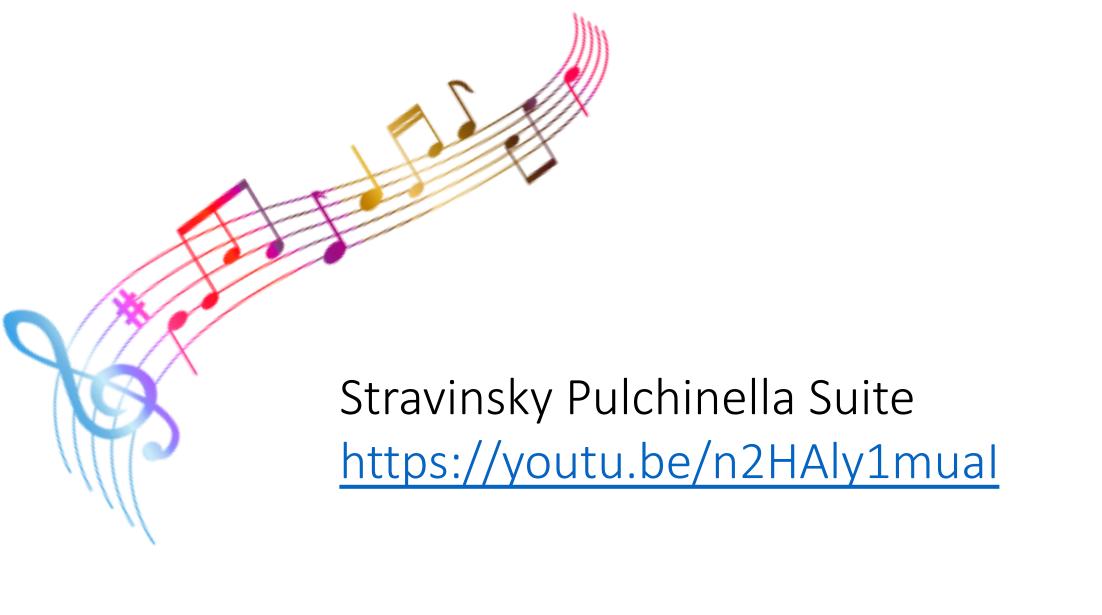
Castle hill





The abbey and in all its glory.





The Home Front







