FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Dunsden Owen Association (DOA) and All Saints Church, Dunsden celebrate the installation of a contemporary stained glass window commemorating the great WWI poet WILFRED OWEN, who lived in Dunsden village from 1911-1913.

The vibrant window, work of award-winning artist, Natasha Redina, casts radiant colours across the very church where the young 17-year old Wilfred Owen lost his faith and found a new path of truth-telling that marks him out as one of the great poets of WW1.

The DOA window brief was adopted by the Worshipful Company of Glaziers for their prestigious annual Stevens Architectural Glass Competition. Artist Natasha Redina won first prize for design for the second year in a row, and her design was chosen by the DOA and All Saints Church for the commission.

Funded by donations from the local community, the window was made by the artist at Derix Glasstudio, Germany and was meticulously installed by Dan Humphries and India Savill, restoration specialists and glaziers from Glastonbury.

With layer upon layer of carefully researched meaning, from alchemy to infinity, Goethe’s colour wheel, to the Dunsden Owen trail map, to a rooted young poet seated amidst the flowers of Dunsden, the window invites the viewer upon a deep journey of contemplation. Threading through it all is the verse from Owen’s Dunsden poem, Deep Under Turfy Grass, and from the scripture God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death. It is a compelling testament to a young man who learned, whilst at Dunsden, to speak truth to power, with integrity.

The date chosen for the installation marks the date Wilfred Owen was killed in Ors, France, one week before Armistice. The event is supported by the community of Ors in France.

The blessing ceremony, attended by the Bishops of Oxford and Dorchester, will take place at the church on 4 November 2023 (by invitation only). This will be preceded by an event at Dunsden Village Hall, with an artist’s talk, and two short films by Jennifer Leach, on the making of the window, and the philosophy behind it. The church will be open to the public on the 5th from 12-5pm.

**DUNSDEN OWEN ASSOCIATION**

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**ABOUT THE DUNSDEN OWEN ASSOCIATION: “**The work of Wilfred Owen, and his presence in Dunsden between the years 1911 and 1913, is what links the individuals who have come together to form the Dunsden Owen Association. For each of us this connection means something different: creativity, history, heritage, community, the church, pacifism, spirituality. Yet we are united in our common aim of
honouring Wilfred Owen, recognising the importance of the years he spent in Dunsden, and raising the profile of this great war poet both locally and nationally.”

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Members of the DOA, maker Natasha Redina, and Dan Humphries, a member of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers, are all available for interview.

Photographs of the making process and installed panel can be found below (High Res. images can be sent via WeTransfer immediately - contact Natasha Redina)

Photographs from the blessing ceremony and copy can be made available after 4 November (contact Jennifer Leach).

**CONTACT:**

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