

THE CHURCH OF ST PETER'S
BRIDGE



A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE OF

DEREK JOHN STIRLING

14TH OCTOBER 1927 – 3RD FEBRUARY 2008

MONDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY 2008

AT 11.30 AM

ORDER OF SERVICE
conducted by Reverend Simon Rowlands



OPENING SENTENCES



HYMN

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransom'd soul He leadeth,
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I stray'd,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy Cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight,
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And oh what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house for ever.

HENRY WILLIAMS BAKER 1821 - 77



PSALM 84

O how amiable are thy dwellings : thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord : my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young : even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house : they will be always praising thee. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee : in whose heart are thy ways. Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well : and the pools are filled with water. They will go from strength to strength : and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer : hearken, O God of Jacob. Behold, O God our defender : and look upon the face of thine Anointed. For one day in thy courts : is better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God : than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness. For the Lord God is a light and defence : the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life. O Lord God of hosts : blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.



READING

St John Ch. 14 vv 1 - 6



ADDRESS

by Reverend Simon Rowlands



PRAYERS

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Response: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister: Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord;

Response: For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

Minister: Grant unto him eternal rest;

Response: And let perpetual light shine upon him.

Minister: We believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord;

Response: In the land of the living.

Minister: O Lord hear our prayer;

Response: And let our cry come unto thee.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



HYMN

Now thank we all our God,
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

M. RINKART 1586 - 1649 TR CATHERINE WINKWORTH 1820 - 78



COMMENDATION

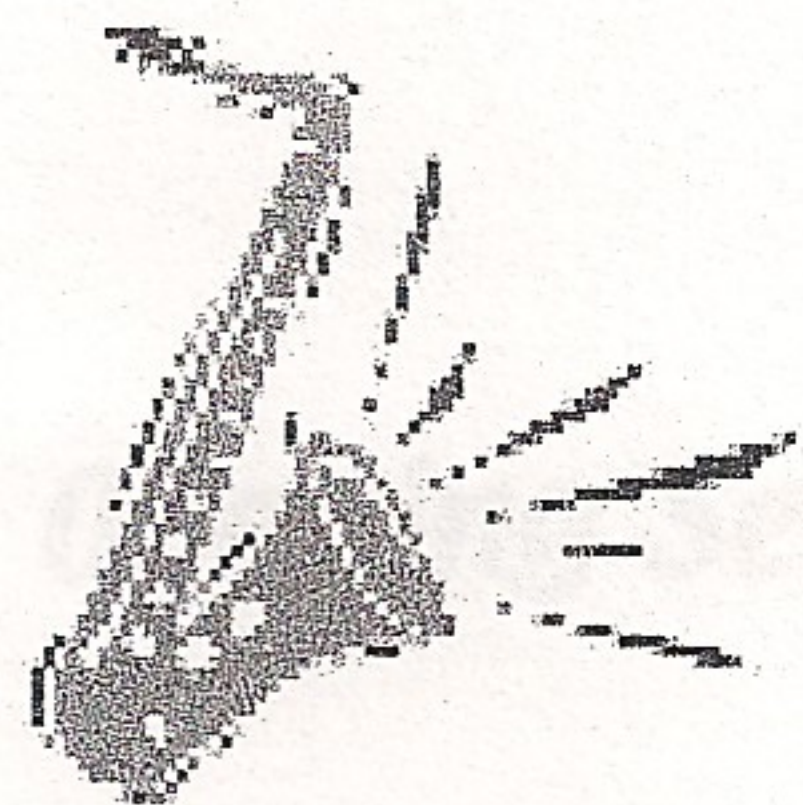


BLESSING

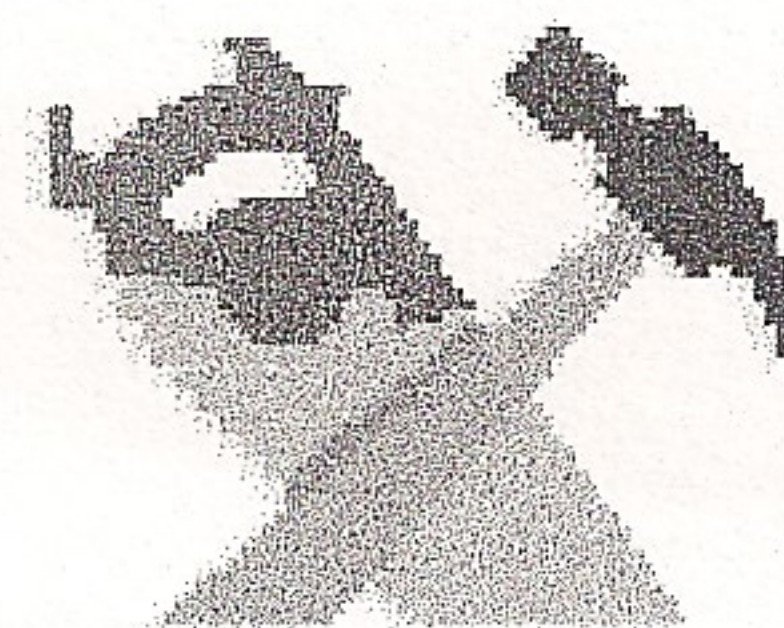


*The service continues with a committal at Barham Crematorium for the family.
You are all warmly invited for refreshments at Canterbury Golf Club.
Donations in Derek's memory may be sent to The Pilgrims Hospice.*





*A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of*



Laurence George Samuel Shirley

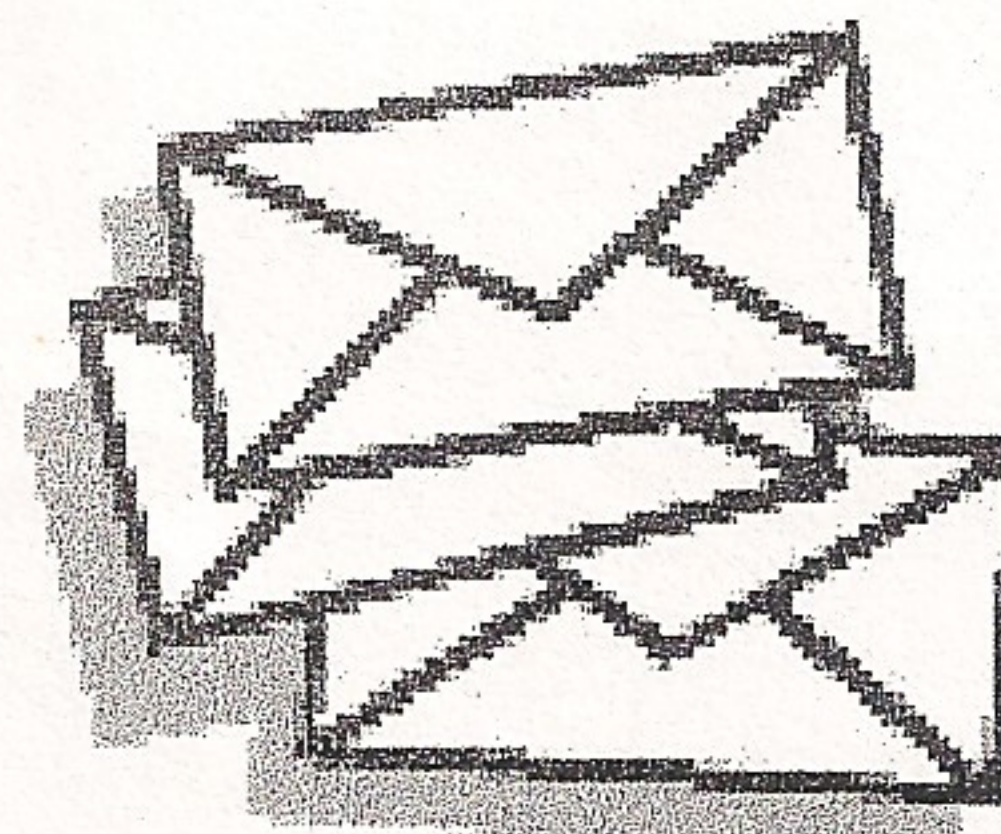
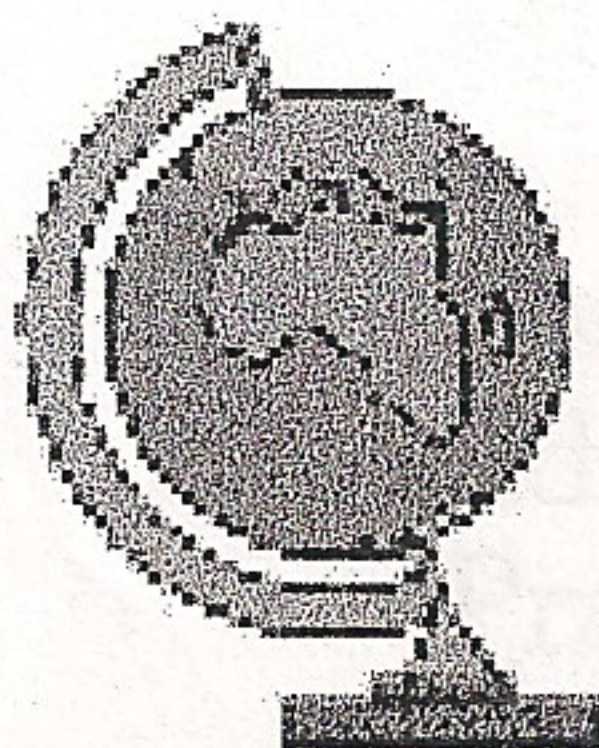
21st May, 1935 - 21st January, 2003

St Peter's Church, Bridge
2.00 pm on Sunday 2nd February, 2003

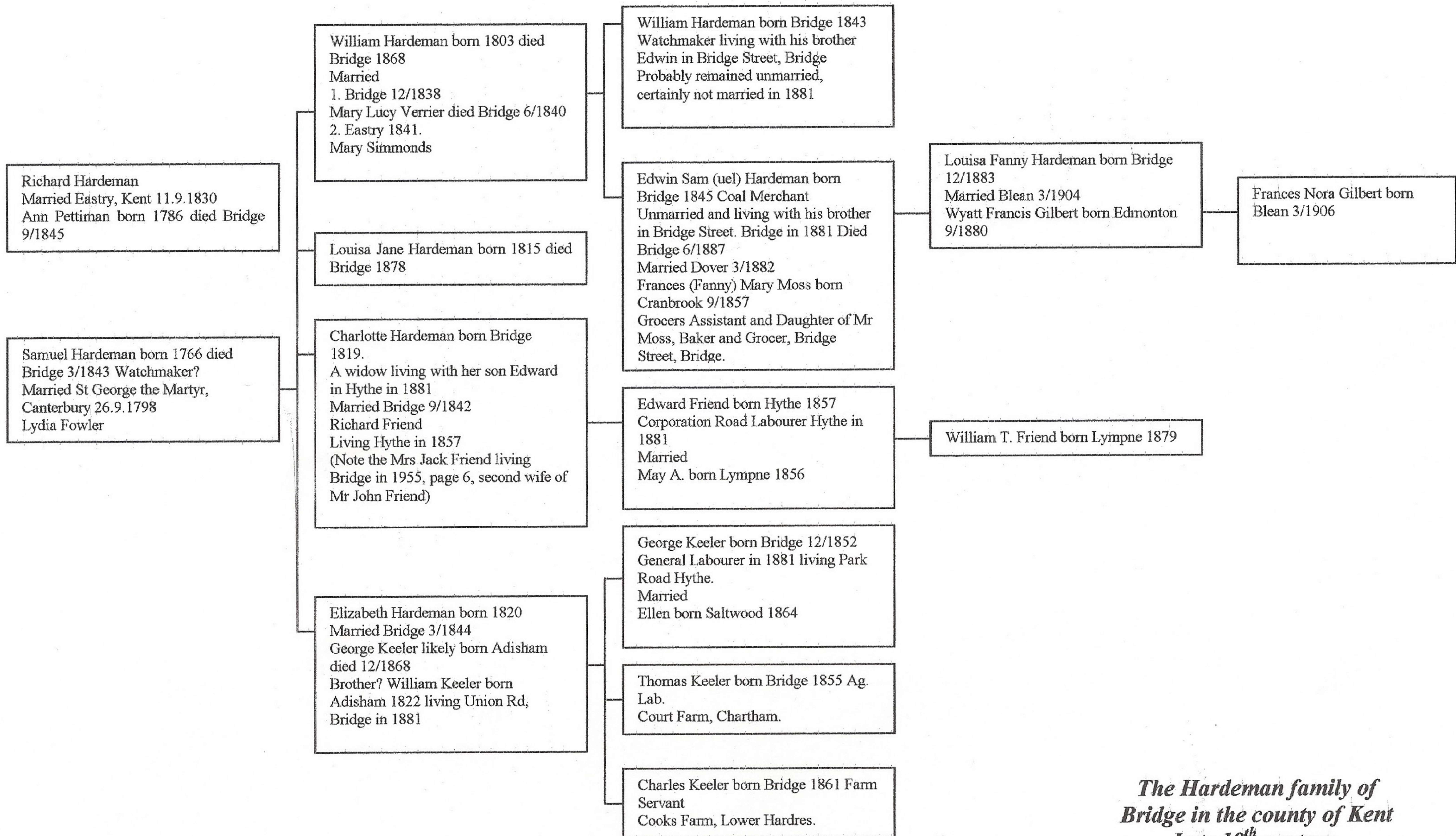
followed by burial at
St Mary's Churchyard, Partixbourne

*Presiding Minister
Mrs Margaret Clarke
Pastoral Assistant, the Bridge Group*

You may keep this service sheet



Donations in memory of Laurie gratefully received for
"The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation" Reg Charity No 1088623
for the benefit of Raphael, North India
c/o WJ Farrier & Son, 161 London Road, Dover CT17 0TG



*The Hardeman family of
Bridge in the county of Kent
Late 19th century.*

Personal Tributes

Chris Barton

Dr Peter Giles

Nick Shirley

A Poem

Written & read by Laurie's granddaughter, Meg

Grandad

We are gathered here,
Hearts too sad,
Because of the loss,
Of my grandad.
His name was Laurence,
Laurence Shirley,
I need not tell you,
His loss is hurting.
His grin so wide,
His eyes so gay,
His laughing side,
Every day.
His large straw hat,
His snow white hair,
His wanting to chat,
His judgement so fair.
His mouth full of joke,
His hand full of fun,
Friends of all folk,
but now he's gone.
Remember my grandad.

Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

A Reading From Holy Scripture

The Revelation to John, Chapter 21: verses 1-7
Read by Laurie's grandson, Scott

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

Address

Prayers

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

The Committal

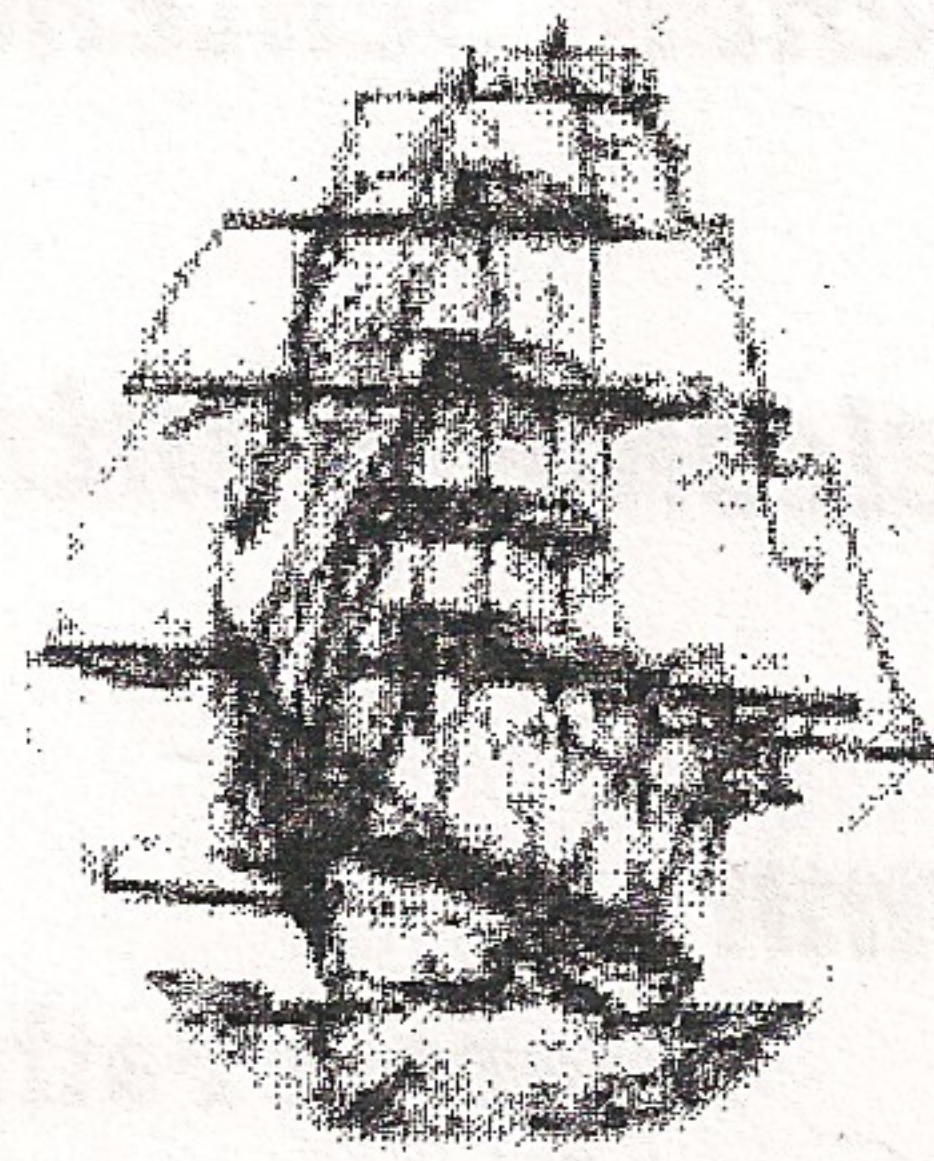
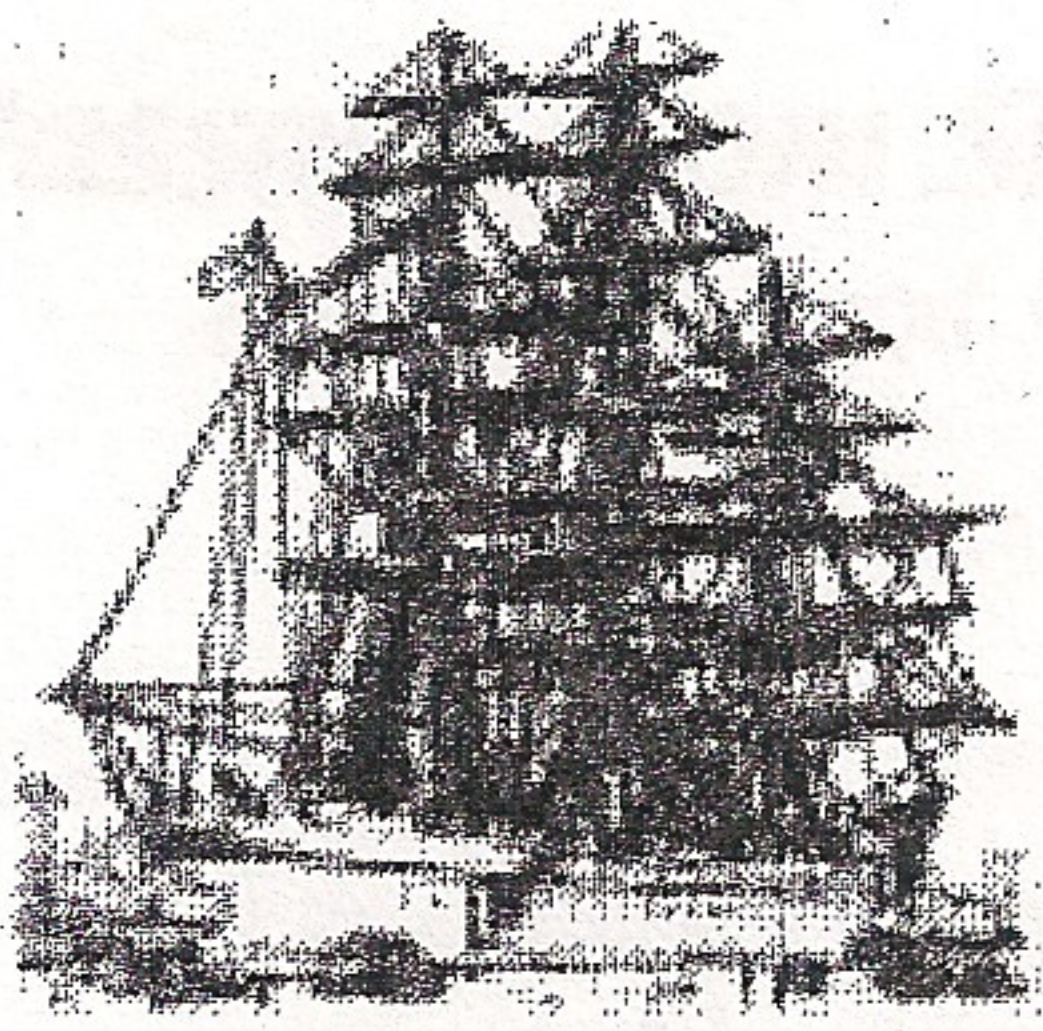
Procession to St Mary's Churchyard

The Burial

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The family would like to thank you all for coming today,
and invites everyone for light refreshments at;
The Plough & Harrow, Bridge
following the burial



*A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of*

Richard Ellis Beinder

4th December, 1922 - 14th October, 2002

St Peter's Church, Bridge

12 noon on Thursday 24th October, 2002

followed by a

Private Service of Committal

at Barham Crematorium

Presiding Minister

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Pastoral Assistant; The Bridge Group

You may keep this service sheet

*Memorial donations for Dick can be made to
The Parkinson's Disease Society
c/o C.W. Lyons & Son; Funeral Directors*

Opening Sentences

Welcome & Introduction

Hymn

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
who bad'st its angry tumult cease,
and gavest light and life and peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O trinity of love and power,
our brethren shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them whereso'er they go:
and ever let there rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

A Poem

Read by Dick's Niece, Kate

A Personal Tribute

By Dick's long standing friend, Rod Stubbs

A Passage from Shakespeare

Read by a good friend, Margaret Day

Hymn

Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
blessed Trinity!
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven render thee.

Readings From Holy Scripture

Psalm 23 read by Dick's Niece, Jenny

Revelation Ch 21, v 1-7 read by Dick's colleague, Ray O'Dell

Address & Prayers

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

Thine be the glory

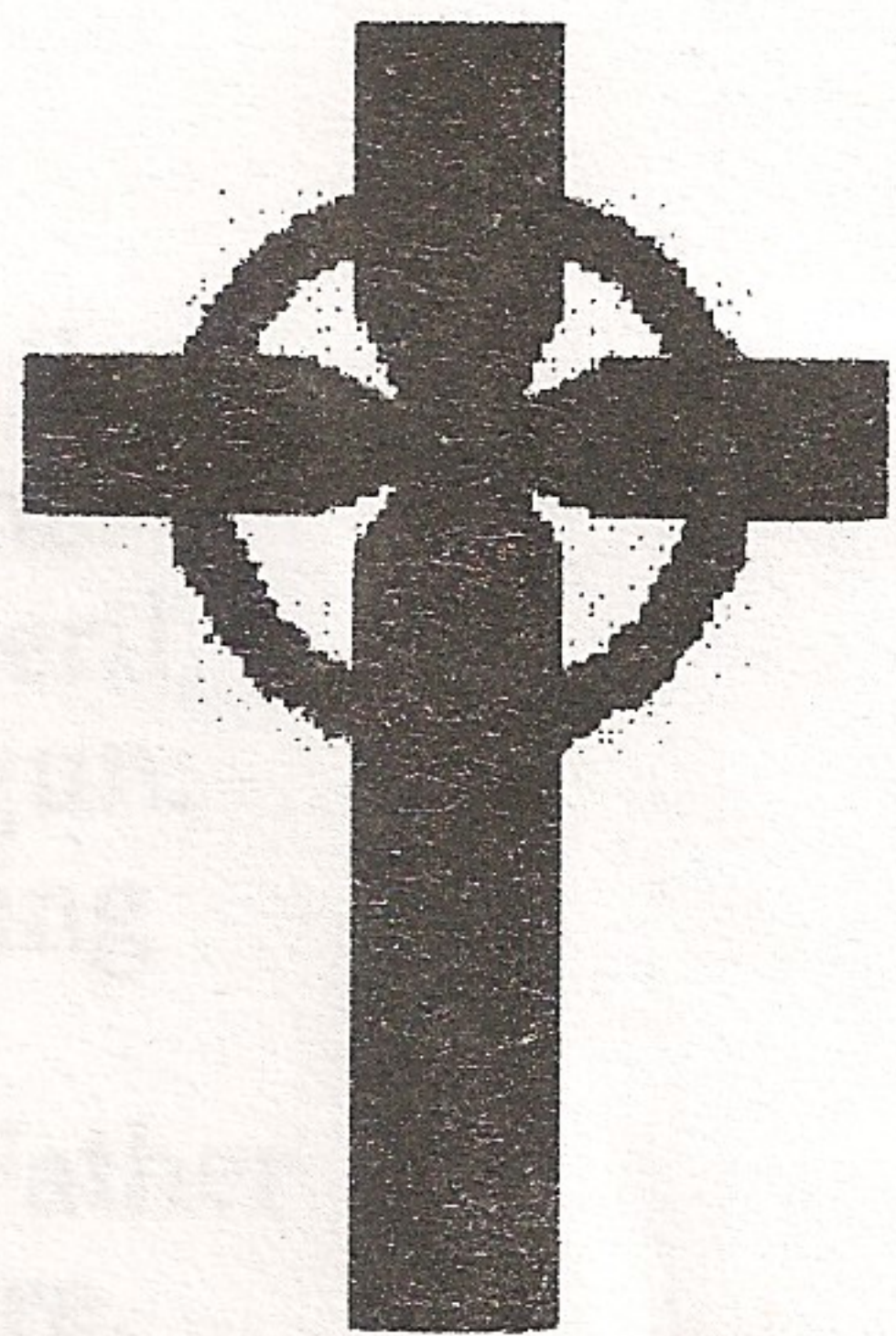
No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

Thine be the glory

The Commendation

*The family would like to thank you all for coming today,
and invites everyone for light refreshments at
Albany, 17 High Street, Bridge
following this service*

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*A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of*

Bill Dawson

24th October, 1940 - 29th December, 2001

St Peter's Church, Bridge

2.00 pm on Wednesday 9th January, 2002

*Presiding Minister
Mrs Margaret Clarke
Pastoral Assistant; The Bridge Group*

**Donations gratefully received for the
Pilgrim's Hospice**

You may keep this service sheet

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Opening Sentences

Introduction

A Tribute to Bill

Read by Canon John Packer

Hymn: Through The Night Of Doubt And Sorrow

Through the night of doubt and sorrow
onward goes the pilgrim band,
singing songs of expectation,
marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness
gleams and burns the guiding light;
brother clasps the hand of brother,
stepping fearless through the night.

One the light of God's own presence
o'er his ransomed people shed,
chasing far the gloom and terror,
brightening all the path we tread:
One the object of our journey,
one the faith which never tires,
one the earnest looking forward,
one the hope our God inspires:

One the strain that lips of thousands
lift as from the heart of one:
one the conflict, one the peril,
one the march in God begun:
one the gladness of rejoicing
on the far eternal shore,
where the one almighty Father
reigns in love for evermore.

Onward, therefore, pilgrim brothers,
onward with the cross our aid;
bear its shame, and fight its battle,
till we rest beneath its shade.
Soon shall come the great awaking,
soon the rending of the tomb;
then the scattering of all shadows,
and the end of toil and gloom.

Readings From Holy Scripture

Revelation Ch 21, v 1-7

Read by Peter Hilton

John Ch 14, v 1-6, 27

Read by John Dawson

Address

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Prayers

Read by Major Retta Gray, of the Salvation Army

Opening Sentences

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Read by Peter Hilton

John Ch 14, v 1-6, 27

Read by John Dawson

Address

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Prayers

Read by Major Retta Gray, of the Salvation Army

Hymn: Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide:
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

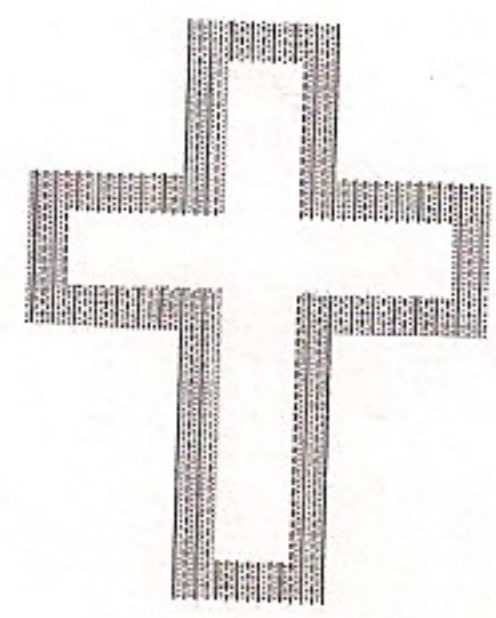
Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Commendation

Committal

Please turn to face the back of the church

ST PETER'S CHURCH
BRIDGE



JOHN JAMES WILLIAMSON
1929 - 1999

Thursday 26th November 1999
at 2pm

*"If I should go before the rest of you
Break not a flower nor inscribe a stone
Nor when I'm gone speak in a Sunday voice
But be the usual selves that I have known.
Weep if you must, Parting is hell,
But life goes on, So sing as well"*

Joyce Grenfell

ORDER OF SERVICE

SENTENCES

Thou, O God, art not the God of the dead, but of the living.
In thy resurrection, O Christ, we celebrate ours.
The gift of thy life, O Holy Spirit, is not for a season,
but for ever.

As long as thou art with thy servants, thy children, they are with thee;
they lose nothing by dying.
They depart out of the world, but not out of thy family.
They vanish from our sight, but not from thy care.
One sun hath set upon them, but a greater is risen.
They are not dead; nay, it is death that hath died in them.
They leave behind the mortal, to put on immortality;
theirs is entrance into healing, into rest, into glory.

From THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED by Eric Milner-White.

HYMN

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord at the break of day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe
Be there at our labours, and give us we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give us we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm.
Be there at our sleeping, and give us we pray,
Your peace in our hearts Lord, at the end of the day.

READING

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into a silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I, half turn to go, yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be too late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

Christina Rossetti

LESSON

For everything its season, and for every activity under heaven its time:
a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to uproot;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time for mourning and a time for dancing;
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace and a time to abstain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to discard;
a time to tear and a time to mend;
a time for silence and a time for speech;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace;

What profit has the worker from his labour?
I have seen the task that God has given us mortals to keep them occupied
He has made everything to suit its time.
Moreover he has given mankind a sense of past and future,
but no comprehension of God's work from beginning to end.
I know that there is nothing good for anyone except to be happy and live
the best life he can while he is alive.
Indeed that everyone should eat and drink and enjoy himself, in return for
all his labours, is a gift from God.
I know that whatever God does lasts forever; there is no adding to it or
taking away.
And he has done it all in a way that everyone must feel awe in His
presence
What ever is has been already, and whatever is to come has been already,
with God summoning each event back in its turn.

Ecclesiastes 3, vv 1-15

HYMN

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodnes faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

READING

Take time to think

It is the source of power.

Take time to play

It is the secret of staying lively.

Take time to read

It is the fountain of wisdom.

Take time to pray

It is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to love and be loved

It is a God-given privilege.

Take time to laugh

It is the music of the soul.

Take time to give

It is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to work

It is the price of success.

Take time to do charity

It is the key to heaven.

THE ADDRESS

By

The Vicar - The Reverend Raymond Gilbert
with words from Rupert, Toby and Tessa.

PRAYERS

HYMN

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory Thou over death hast won,
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away
Kept the folded grave clothes where Thy body lay.
*Thine be the Glory, Risen Conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom,
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting.
*Thine be the Glory, Risen Conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without Thee: aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.
*Thine be the Glory, Risen Conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hats won.*

THE BLESSING

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that house where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence; but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity in the habitations of Thy Glory and Dominion, world without end. **Amen**

John Donne (1572 - 1631) Dean of Saint Paul's Cathedral

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God the Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

NUNC DIMITTIS

After the service some members of the immediate family will depart for private cremation.

Donations can be made in memory of John to
The Bridge Church Restoration Fund or St John's Eye Hospital, Jerusalem.

*Whether you knew him as Dad, Grandad, Uncle John, Mr John, JJW,
or just the nice gentleman who lives on the corner,
Ailsa and the family welcome you afterwards in The Bridge Village Hall.*



*A Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of*

Enid May Booth

1st May, 1929 - 31st August, 2001

Barham Crematorium

1.30 pm on Tuesday 11th September, 2001

Presiding Minister

Mrs Margaret Clarke

Pastoral Assistant; The Bridge Group

You may keep this service sheet

**The family would like to thank you all for coming today,
and invites everyone for light refreshments at
1 Union Road, Bridge
following the service**

Opening Sentences

Introduction

Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou has furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Prayers

A Reading From Holy Scripture

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Chapter 14: verses 1-6 & 27

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Address

Prayers