

FUNERAL SERVICE  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF



IAN CHARLES ROSS HOLFORD

24TH NOVEMBER 1933 - 10TH JANUARY 2026

St John The Evangelist Anglican Church Tamworth  
10.30am, Wednesday 28th January 2026

OFFICIATING  
The Reverend Gus Batley

ORGANIST  
Mr. Tim Godden

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**  
**Lo He Comes With Clouds Descending**

**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**  
*Reverend Gus Batley*

**HYMN**  
**Holy Holy Holy**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,  
Early in the morning to you our praise shall be;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore you,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before you,  
God everlasting through eternity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide you,  
Though the sinful human eye your glory may not see,  
You alone are holy; there is none beside you,  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,  
All your works shall praise your name in earth  
and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

(Please remain standing for the Canticle)

## **CANTICLE** **Te Deum**

We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord;  
All creation worships you, the Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven:  
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might:  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you:  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you:  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded:  
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,  
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free:  
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death:  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory:  
We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

## **PLACEMENT OF SYMBOLS**

*Jenny, Maria, Sarah,  
Hanna, Samuel and Isak*

## **EULOGY**

*David, Stephen and Peter*

## BIBLE READING

**Psalm 71** (selections) *Colin Pearce*

*The prayer of an elderly person*

LORD, I have come to you for protection; never let me be defeated! <sup>2</sup> Because you are righteous, help me and rescue me. Listen to me and save me! <sup>3</sup> Be my secure shelter and a strong fortress to protect me; you are my refuge and defence.

<sup>5</sup> Sovereign LORD, I put my hope in you; I have trusted in you since I was young. <sup>6</sup> I have relied on you all my life; you have protected me since the day I was born. I will always praise you. <sup>7</sup> My life has been an example to many, because you have been my strong defender. <sup>8</sup> All day long I praise you and proclaim your glory. <sup>9</sup> Do not reject me now that

I am old; do not abandon me now that I am feeble. ...

<sup>14</sup> I will always put my hope in you; I will praise you more and more. <sup>15</sup> I will tell of your goodness; all day long I will speak of your salvation, though it is more than I can understand. <sup>16</sup> I will go in the strength of the LORD God; I will proclaim your goodness, yours alone. <sup>17</sup> You have taught me ever since I was young, and I still tell of your wonderful acts. <sup>18</sup> Now that I am old and my hair is grey, do not abandon me, O God! Be with me while I proclaim your power and might to all generations to come. <sup>19</sup> Your righteousness, God, reaches the skies. You have done great things; there is no one like you. <sup>20</sup> You have sent troubles and suffering on me, but you will restore my strength; you will keep me from the grave. <sup>21</sup> You will make me greater than ever; you will comfort me again. <sup>22</sup> I will indeed praise you with the harp; I will praise your faithfulness, my God.

## HYMN

### There Is A Green Hill Far Away

There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell what pains He had to bear,  
but we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven, He died to make us good,  
that we might go at last to heaven, saved by His precious blood.

There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin;  
He only could unlock the gate of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has He loved, and we must love Him too,  
and trust in His redeeming blood, and try His works to do.

## BIBLE READING

### Philippians 2:1-13 *Samuel Holford*

Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you.

You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. <sup>2</sup> I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. <sup>3</sup> Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. <sup>5</sup> The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: <sup>6</sup> He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. <sup>7</sup> Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death — his death on the cross. <sup>9</sup> For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. <sup>10</sup> And so, in honour of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, <sup>11</sup> and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. <sup>12</sup> So then, dear friends, ... Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, <sup>13</sup> because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose.

## HOMILY

*Reverend Gus Batley*

## PRAYERS

## CHORAL RECORDING

### No More Night

## HYMN

### There Is A Redeemer

There is a Redeemer,  
Jesus God's own son,  
Precious lamb of God,  
Messiah, Holy One

### Chorus

**Thank you, O my Father  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit 'til  
Your work on earth is done.**

Jesus my Redeemer,  
Name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God,  
Messiah, O for sinners slain. **Chorus**

When I stand in glory  
I will see His face,  
And there I'll serve  
My King forever,  
In that holy place. **Chorus**

## BENEDICTION

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Recessional



Ian standing in one of his long-term experiment paddocks,  
Tamworth Agricultural Research Station, 1990.

### **A REFLECTION**

Ian was the most honourable of men.

He was kind, generous, loyal and a man of faith.

He had strong convictions.

His convictions did not mean that he was judgemental.

He was the least judgemental person that I have known.

He was devoted to his family and friends and  
treated everyone equally.

He dedicated his life to the benefit of others.

This was not isolated to his significant contribution  
to science. He was generous with pastoral care.

*Andrew Mackie*



*Eunice, Jenny, David & Maria, Stephen & Andrew,  
Peter & Sarah and their families thank you sincerely  
for your presence here today.  
Your friendship and support is greatly appreciated.*



*Following the Interment  
at the Lincoln Grove  
Memorial Gardens,  
Workshop Lane,  
Tamworth the family  
warmly invite you  
to join them for light  
refreshments and to share  
your memories of Ian at  
the Tamworth Golf Club,  
Mahony Avenue,  
West Tamworth.*

 *Shawn Hamilton Funerals*

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