

Adieu - Ian Fulton's Funeral

Please allow a small vanity on my part in having these few words in this service but I want a last opportunity to take my leave by an expression of my heartfelt gratitude for all the blessings I have received during my life.

In my parents, my sister Jill, my wife Pat, my stepdaughter Tessa and all my family - and then the larger field of so many dear and valued friends I have been enriched beyond any measure that I have deserved.

Of my failings I have been only too well aware but in some areas at least I may have been lucky enough to have done some good and I hope that I have done no harm - if at any time I have offended I would ask forgiveness.

Harpenden, where I have lived for most of my life, has been a warm and generous community and made my path an easy one - I have always believed that we are trustees for whatever time and talents are given to us and nowhere could have made this easier to practice - and although I have often fallen short of what is required this has not been for lack of opportunity.

Some of you may know that I have a particular affection for some words of Hilaire Belloc:

"From quiet homes and first beginnings
Out to the undiscovered ends
There's nothing worth the wear of winning
But laughter and the love of friends."

In conclusion, Almighty God has always dealt graciously with me and made His face to shine upon me - may He continue to do the same to all of you.

Ian.