

Service of Thanksgiving
for the life of
John Benedict Mellon
1940 2010



Wednesday 16th February 2011
at 11.30am

St Bride's Church
Fleet Street EC4

JOHN MELLON

By Michael Clayton

Formerly Editor of Horse and Hound and a Director of IPC Magazines Ltd

John Mellon was a colleague you could never forget. He had an effortless air of authority which made him the leader of any group. This helped him immensely as a highly effective executive, but his reputation for tough decision making was balanced by a warm appreciation of human issues. He was good company at off-duty functions, aided by his native Irish wit.

Leaving Ireland in the early 1960s, John worked at the Daily Telegraph and Pearl and Dean before joining Odhams Press in 1966, three years before it became part of IPC Magazines. He was an assistant and associate publisher on the young women's titles, becoming Publishing Director of the women's monthly magazines in 1980. Two years later he joined the Board and took over as Chief Executive in 1986.

He was the right man at the right time, taking the company forward with great success into the liberation of desk-top IT publishing and handling the problems as well as the opportunities this presented. He ruled the board firmly but fairly, and ensured the company achieved notable coups, such as the purchase of the TV Times and the launch of What's On TV during the deregulation of the TV listings market in the early 1990s.

After handing over the CEO role to Mike Matthew, John took on the IPC chairmanship and a wider role in Reed Elsevier, working hard on developments at Reed Business Information. Soon after the sale of IPC to Cinven in 1998, John retired from Reed Elsevier and returned to Ireland and his beloved Loughtown House. However his expertise was valued highly and he became a non-executive director of the publisher Future plc, a role he retained until 2009.

Our sympathy goes to Patricia who supported him so well, and to his sons Tom and Ben.

Choir

Ave Verum Corpus Mozart

Bidding Prayer

The Rector

Hymn

Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him;
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

First Reading

People By Mother Theresa (Originally By Kent M Keith)
Read by Sly Bailey

Choir

Kyrie from St Nicholas Mass Haydn

First Address

Stephen Quinn

Choir

Ave Maria Bach/Gounod

Second Address

Colin Reeves-Smith

Hymn

Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee
The silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

Second Reading

Ecclesiastes 3. 1-13

Read by Felicity Martin

Third Address

Ben Mellon

Choir

The Trumpet Shall Sound from Messiah Handel

Prayers

The Rector

Hymn

Thine Be The Glory

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, 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 hath 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 hast won.

Blessing
The Rector

Choir
The Parting Glass Irish trad.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Bride's Church
and the Irish Cancer Society.

All are welcome to join Patricia, Tom and Ben Mellon
in the Press House Wine Bar for refreshments
immediately after this service.

The family would like to thank Reed Elsevier and IPC Media
for the generous contributions to today's service.
And thanks to Colin Reeves-Smith, David Stam and Ian Locks
for their help in putting today's service together.





ST BRIDE'S CHURCH
FLEET STREET,
LONDON EC4Y 8AU

Rector

The Venerable David Meara

Director of Music

Robert Jones

Organist

Matthew Morley