



A celebration of the life and work of

Peter Dimmock CVO OBE

6 December 1920 - 20 November 2015

11.30am Wednesday 16th March 2016
St Bride's Fleet Street, London EC4Y 8AU

The Service

The service will be conducted by

Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce

The Rector of St Bride's

Robert Jones FRCO

Director of Music

Benjamin Giddens ARCO

Organist

The Choir of St Bride's

*I am ready to meet my Maker.
Whether my Maker is prepared
for the great ordeal of meeting me
is another matter.*

Winston Churchill

Note

Please remember to switch off any mobile phones or PDAs.

No photography or recording is allowed in the church.

Order of Service

All stand

As the Rector of St Bride's conducts The Queen
and The Duke of Edinburgh's Representative,
Mr Charles Anson CVO to his seat.

Choir

Introit

God be in my head – Walford Davies

Welcome & Opening Prayer

The Rector

Hymn

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above;
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago;
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

All sit

First Reading

I Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrong doing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child; I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Read by Lord Hall, BBC Director-General

Choir

Lux aeterna – Elgar

Second Reading

Covering the Coronation, 1953

Extract from Peter's BBC Oral History interview

Read by David Dumbleby

Choir

How lovely are thy dwellings – Brahms

Third Reading

Intimations of Immortality (extract) by William Wordsworth

Read by Sir David Attenborough CVO CBE

All stand

Hymn

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.

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!

All sit

Address

Sir Paul Fox CBE

Choir

Zadok the Priest – Handel

Fourth Reading

Remembering by David Harkins

Read by Lucy Petrie, Peter's stepdaughter

Solo

My Way – François/Anka

Performed by Timothy Becker, Peter's godson,
and Rosie Aldridge, Peter's granddaughter,
with the Choir of St Bride's

Prayers

The Rector

All stand

Hymn

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword,
His Truth is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

His Truth is marching on.

He hath sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His Judgement-seat;
O, be swift, my soul, to answer him: be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born, across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free.
While God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is Succour to the brave,
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of Time His slave,
Our God is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Our God is marching on.

Blessing

The Rector

Exeunt

Mucho Mariachi Band

There will be a retiring collection at the end of the service, to be shared between St Bride's, Fleet Street; St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke; the Marie Curie charity. After the service, everyone is invited by the BBC to join Peter's family and friends for drinks in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, New Bridge Street (just behind St Bride's).

Tributes and recollections from friends and colleagues:

With Peter where does one start? Perhaps with his handwriting – which was so magnificent, when I can't even read my own!

He was a giant among broadcasters, and my memories of watching him – as a small boy – are many and varied.

He was always such fun to be with: laughing, joking, arguing, giving advice – such a vibrant personality, the world will be a duller place without him.

Peter was a true pioneer of broadcasting. A man of many firsts - the first host of Grandstand and the first host of the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year. As the man who oversaw coverage of the Queen's Coronation, he was also responsible for a seminal moment in British broadcasting history.

He really was an innovator and a trailblazer when it came to new ideas and modern thinking. So much that we take for granted now is thanks to him.

The wholly professional, wise man. A brilliant visionary and a brilliant negotiator. Also a wonderful practical joker, a buccaneer, a chancer, a gambler, a scamp. A man of incredible generosity, an enabler. A true friend through thick and thin.

He stood out at the BBC, even in a departments of so many talented people, Peter stood out.

I found him enchanting, generous, funny, fascinating to listen to, modest about his huge achievements – and irascible, particularly about the difficulties and indignities of old age, though his mind was still razor-sharp.

Thoroughly enjoyed a few holes of golf at the Berkshire with him, with the inevitable bottle of champagne in the buggy!

Feisty to the last!