

In Loving Memory of
Sylvia Joan Stafford

17th August 1944 - 28th January 2021



Friday 19th February 2021
St Mary the Virgin, Harby at 11.00 am





ORDER OF SERVICE

ENTRY MUSIC
An Ending (Ascent)
Brian Eno

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
Reverend Jamie

HYMN

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the Holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

William Blake (1757-1827)

EULOGY

Joe

HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee, without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation:
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

READING
Corinthians, Chapter 13
Reverend Jamie

REFLECTION
Reverend Jamie





PRAYERS

including

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.



POEM

Smell The Flowers
read by Nigel

Don't hurry and don't worry,
Life's too precious to be rushed,
Take time to hear the blackbird sing
When the evening's hushed.
Don't stumble and don't grumble,
We're only here a while,
So smell the flowers on your way,
Enjoying every mile.

Don't groan a lot, or moan a lot,
Or dwell on stress or strife,
But see the wonders of the world
And all the gifts of life.
Don't hurry and don't worry,
Enjoy the sun and showers,
We're here for such a little while -
Take time to smell the flowers.

Iris Hesselden



COMMENDATION

NUNC DIMITTIS AND BLESSING

HYMN

Abide With Me
Military Wives

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.

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, O 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.

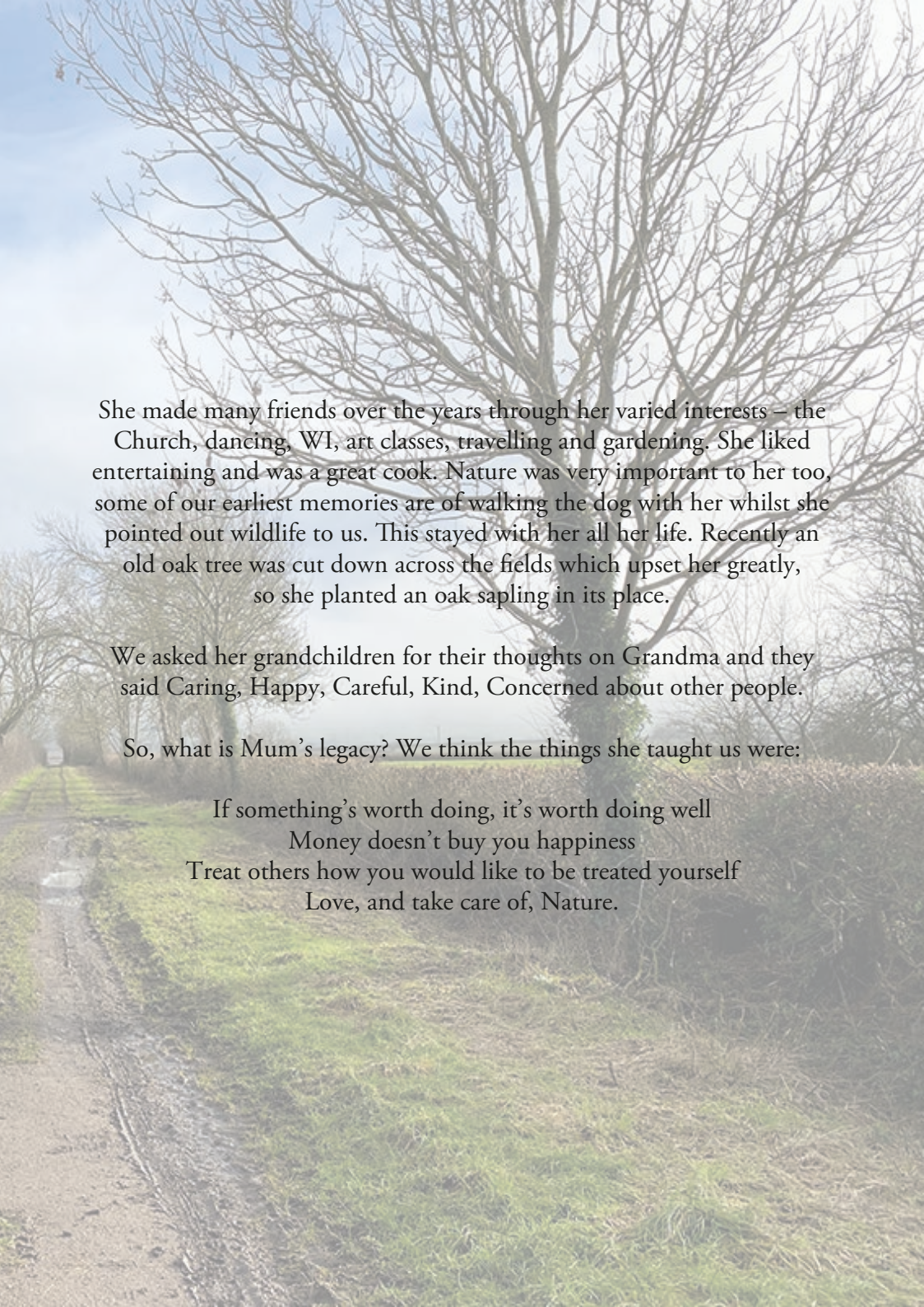
Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR WONDERFUL MUM

Mum stayed at home to look after us until we were both old enough to go to school and then she returned to work in various clerical and later, managerial roles, over the following years. She always thrived on being busy, whether that was looking after us, working, walking the dog or catching up with friends. She would dash everywhere as if there was never enough time; walking was never an option. She wasn't very good at taking time for herself and put the needs of others before herself!

We moved to Harby in 1987. Mum had her work cut out, as a single parent to two teenagers. We're sure we gave her a run for her money at times, but she was always there for us, and always encouraged us to do our best and to go on to Higher Education. She always put us first, going without so that we could have things. They were tough times, but with the support of some good friends she made a stable happy home for us all.

As all parents, Mum taught us right from wrong. She had a strong moral compass and would never be swayed from doing "the right thing". She led by example rather than being the centre of attention, and quietly got on with little caring acts for others - joining in with village events, taking meals to neighbours, helping at Dove Cottage.



She made many friends over the years through her varied interests – the Church, dancing, WI, art classes, travelling and gardening. She liked entertaining and was a great cook. Nature was very important to her too, some of our earliest memories are of walking the dog with her whilst she pointed out wildlife to us. This stayed with her all her life. Recently an old oak tree was cut down across the fields which upset her greatly, so she planted an oak sapling in its place.

We asked her grandchildren for their thoughts on Grandma and they said Caring, Happy, Careful, Kind, Concerned about other people.

So, what is Mum's legacy? We think the things she taught us were:

If something's worth doing, it's worth doing well
Money doesn't buy you happiness
Treat others how you would like to be treated yourself
Love, and take care of, Nature.



Mum was very appreciative of the support she received from her close friends during her illness, and for the amazing care she received from the Haematology Department at Nottingham City Hospital.

Memorial donations for
Haematology Outreach Team, Nottingham City Hospital
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