

A Celebration of Life



*Gillian Louise Bone*

18th March 1964 - 29th April 2015



Bretby Crematorium,  
Anglesley Chapel

Wednesday 20th May 2015  
at 11.30 am

*Poem*  
'Celebrate'

Weep not for me though I am gone into that gentle night,  
Grieve if you will, but not for long upon my soul's sweet flight.

I am at peace, my soul's at rest, there is no need for tears,  
For with your love I was so blessed for all those many years.

There is no pain; I suffer not, the fear now all is gone.  
Put now these things out of your thoughts, in your memory I live on.

Remember not my fight for breath, remember not the strife,  
Please do not dwell upon my death, but celebrate my life.

*Anon*

十年生死兩茫茫  
不思量自難忘  
千里孤墳無處話淒涼  
縱使相逢應不識  
塵滿面鬢如霜  
夜來幽夢忽還鄉  
小軒窗正梳妝  
相顧無言唯有淚千行  
料得年年腸斷處  
明月夜短鬆岡



# *Order of Celebration*

## **Entry Music**

"Variations on an Original Theme 'Enigma' Op. 36: IX  
Nimrod (A. J. Jaeger) (Moderato)"  
by London Symphony Orchestra/Sir Adrian Boult  
Edward Elgar (1857 – 1934)

## **Welcome and Introduction**

Mr Paul Howarth

## **Poem - 'Celebrate' by Anon**

read by Claire Chalmers

## **Music**

'Purple Rain' - words and music by Prince and The Revolution

## **Eulogy**

read by Neil Wilkins

## **Music**

'Morning Has Broken' - words by Eleanor Farjeon and music by Cat Stevens

## **Personal Tribute**

Paul Johnson and Rachael Gaskin

## **Poem - 'Us Two' by A.A. Milne**

read by Mark Roberts

## **Music**

'Feel' - words and music by Robbie Williams and Guy Chambers

## **Personal Tribute**


Joseph James Charles Bone

## **Concluding Remarks**

Mr Paul Howarth

## **Exit Music**

String Quartet in B minor, Op. 11, Adagio for Strings  
London Symphony Orchestra/Andre Previn  
Samuel Barber (1910 -1981)



# *Music*

## Purple Rain

by Prince and The Revolution

I never meant to cause you any sorrow,  
I never meant to cause you any pain,  
I only wanted one time to see you laughing,  
I only wanted to see you laughing in the purple rain.

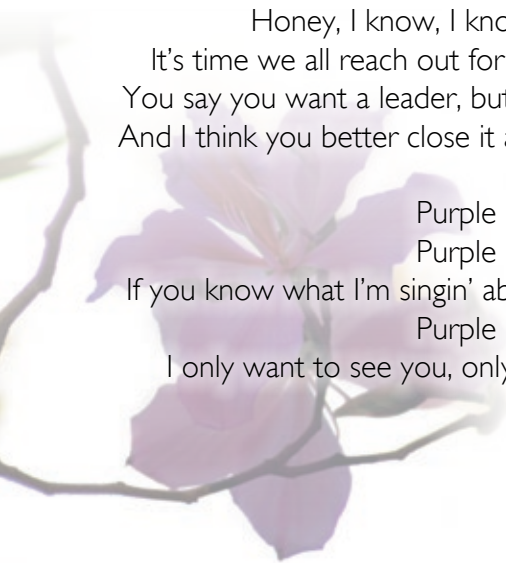
Purple rain, purple rain,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
I only wanted to see you bathing in the purple rain.

I never wanted to be your weekend lover,  
I only wanted to be some kind of friend, hey,  
Baby, I could never steal you from another,  
It's such a shame our friendship had to end.

Purple rain, purple rain,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
I only wanted to see you underneath the purple rain.

Honey, I know, I know, I know times are changin',  
It's time we all reach out for something new, that means you too.  
You say you want a leader, but you can't seem to make up your mind  
And I think you better close it and let me guide you to the purple rain.

Purple rain, purple rain,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
If you know what I'm singin' about up here, come on raise your hand,  
Purple rain, purple rain,  
I only want to see you, only want to see you in the purple rain.



# *Music*

Morning has Broken

by Eleanor Farjeon, sung by Cat Stevens

Morning has broken, like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
Praise for the springing fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall, on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.



# Poem

## Us Two

Wherever I am, there's always Pooh,  
There's always Pooh and Me.

Whatever I do, he wants to do,  
"Where are you going today?" says Pooh:  
"Well, that's very odd 'cos I was too.  
Let's go together," says Pooh, says he.  
"Let's go together," says Pooh.

"What's twice eleven?" I said to Pooh.  
("Twice what?" said Pooh to Me.)  
"I think it ought to be twenty-two."  
"Just what I think myself," said Pooh.  
"It wasn't an easy sum to do,  
But that's what it is," said Pooh, said he.  
"That's what it is," said Pooh.

"Let's look for dragons," I said to Pooh.  
"Yes, let's," said Pooh to Me.  
We crossed the river and found a few-  
"Yes, those are dragons all right," said Pooh.  
"As soon as I saw their beaks I knew.  
That's what they are," said Pooh, said he.  
"That's what they are," said Pooh.

"Let's frighten the dragons," I said to Pooh.  
"That's right," said Pooh to Me.  
"I'm not afraid," I said to Pooh,  
And I held his paw and I shouted "Shoo!  
Silly old dragons!"- and off they flew.  
"I wasn't afraid," said Pooh, said he,  
"I'm never afraid with you."

So wherever I am, there's always Pooh,  
There's always Pooh and Me.  
"What would I do?" I said to Pooh,  
"If it wasn't for you," and Pooh said: "True,  
It isn't much fun for One, but Two,  
Can stick together, says Pooh, says he.  
"That's how it is," says Pooh.

# *Music*

## Feel

by Robbie Williams and Guy Chambers

Come and hold my hand,  
I wanna contact the living.  
Not sure I understand  
This role I've been given.  
I sit and talk to God  
And he just laughs at my plans,  
My head speaks a language  
I don't understand.

I just wanna feel  
Real love, feel the home that I live in.  
'Cos I got too much life  
Running through my veins,  
Going to waste.  
I don't wanna die  
But I ain't keen on living either,  
Before I fall in love,  
I'm preparing to leave her.

Scare myself to death,  
That's why I keep on running,  
Before I've arrived  
I can see myself coming.  
I just wanna feel  
Real love, feel the home that I live in.  
'Cos I got too much life  
Running through my veins  
Going to waste.

And I need to feel  
Real love and the love ever after,  
I cannot get enough.  
I just wanna feel  
Real love, feel the home that I live in,  
I got too much love  
Running through my veins  
To go to waste.

I just wanna feel  
Real love and the love ever after,  
There's a hole in my soul,  
You can see it in my face,  
It's a real big place.

Come and hold my hand,  
I wanna contact the living,  
Not sure I understand  
This role I've been given.  
Not sure I understand,  
Not sure I understand,  
Not sure I understand,  
Not sure I understand.



*In Reflection*





*In Reflection*



**My Beautiful Mum - Eileen**



**My Doting Dad - Norman**



**My Loving Aunt Danna & Uncle Len**

*My Friends*



# *In Memory*

## **“My Love” – Mark**

“Gillian had 3 loves in her life: Her Family, Her Friends and her Passions. She was utterly devoted to her mum Eileen and doted on her dad Norman. She adored her nieces and nephews. I never met Eileen in person, but I have lived with her every day for the last 13 odd years. She was always in her thoughts, and never a week would go by without a story or memory being recalled and shared.

Gillian lived for her many friends. She was so selfless when it came to bringing joy and happiness, and sharing her love with all whom she met.

Her passion for music and dancing is well known to all her ‘party buddies’. Long before she was ill we went to an opera at Sydney Opera House. She was utterly enthralled and excited. In later years she would visit 2 of the other wonders of the world but for entirely different reasons. Back then we were just enjoying life and savouring all the delights of love, travel and living.

Her passion for food and cooking made me love her ever more. We shared a love of a beautiful home, art and culture. Assembling lots of wonderful collections of music, films, photos, paintings, art, sculpture and furniture.

Whilst living in Dublin, we bought an old empty village house in the hills above Heraklion on Crete. It was to become ‘her project’ – ‘her Grand Design’. So much was Gillian’s love of ‘her Crete’ that she organised and celebrated her 50th birthday last year, with friends and family in a spectacular hilltop setting overlooking our village. Achieving this milestone was immeasurably more important to her in her fight than anyone can understand.

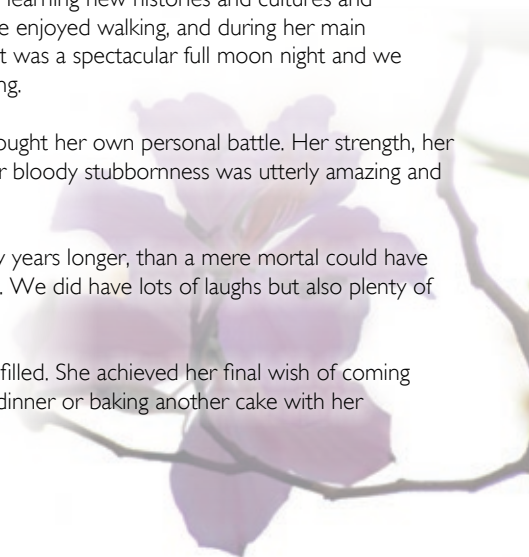
In the Chinese Zodiac, both Gillian and I are Dragons and are generally considered to be ‘in charge’. So it comes as no surprise that with 2 dragons sharing a life and loves, that we didn’t occasionally have some ‘differences of opinion’ One of us was a water dragon and the other a fire dragon, so balance was maintained.

Gillian loved going to new places, meeting new people, learning new histories and cultures and sampling all manner of new foods, drink and nature. She enjoyed walking, and during her main remission we climbed the Mount Kinabalu in Malaysia. It was a spectacular full moon night and we achieved the feat to see the sunrise on the next morning.

Amongst all these adventures, loves and passions she fought her own personal battle. Her strength, her positiveness, her inner resolve and most of all her sheer bloody stubbornness was utterly amazing and an inspiration to all over the last 7 years of her life.

Her iron will and determination lasted her longer, many years longer, than a mere mortal could have endured. She had immense support from many people. We did have lots of laughs but also plenty of tears of both varieties.

I truly hope that Gillian left no regrets, nor wishes unfulfilled. She achieved her final wish of coming home to her devoted dad and is already cooking up a dinner or baking another cake with her beloved mum.



# *In Memory*

## **“My Daughter” - Norman**

“Gillian was the best daughter a father could have. Always very loving and caring. Always very thoughtful and willing to help, no matter how large or difficult the task.

She was a delightful child. At school she made many friends, taking part in all the activities on offer, particularly in drama which she loved. How blessed we were to have her in our family or circle of friends. Her generosity of spirit and concern for others naturally lead to her having an extraordinarily wide circle of friends. Mark provided the love and stability we all need.

I will greatly miss my daughter until I take my last breath. I saw her into this world and I saw her out of it but her example will guide me to acceptance and the need to provide love and help for all those around me.”

## **“Our Niece” – Dannia and Len**

“She was a cheeky child, noisy, and hated having her hair combed, which was very curly and got easily tangled. As a teenager, she was always with her friends. She had so many that we just used to get flying visits.

She discovered Hong Kong and made it her home with Mark, who has been by her side ever since. She always told me what a kind, loving man he was and I know she adored him.

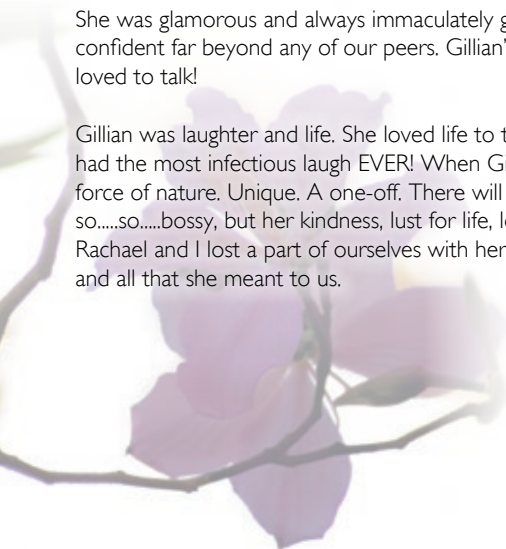
She was always very loving and caring to both Len and me. We will never forget that lovely time in Crete. Whenever we think of you Gillian that is how we see you – happy and smiling – with all your friends and family around you. Sleep tight darling”

## **Paul Johnson – My teenage soulmate**

“To me, she will never be gone. I will think of my dear childhood friend often because she has never left me. A friend for life. Despite me being – (marginally)- older, she really was the big sister I never had.

She was glamorous and always immaculately groomed and accessorised and so sophisticated! She was confident far beyond any of our peers. Gillian’s larger than life personality shone through. How she loved to talk!

Gillian was laughter and life. She loved life to the full and I believe life loved her back. Laughter- Gillian had the most infectious laugh EVER! When Gillian laughed the sun was always shining. An absolute force of nature. Unique. A one-off. There will never be another- she could be exasperating, bossy..... so.....so.....bossy, but her kindness, lust for life, loyalty, sense of humour far outweighed anything else. Rachael and I lost a part of ourselves with her passing but we have each other to honour her memory and all that she meant to us.



# *In Memory*

## **Claire Askham – My Northern Anchor**

Gillian was the first friend I made in Hong Kong in 1996. She helped me with my struggle to establish myself in a new place and showed me the oddities and opportunities in Hong Kong education.

She was a great companion at home and away. I remember lots of beer and lots of laughter on our travels from Mui Wo to Macau and Wanchai to Kuta.

Gillian was a relentless shopper, both for herself and others. She was a perfectionist, which made her a scourge of domestic helpers. She loved to entertain and feed her friends and could outdo the Chinese at Chinese banquets! She made superb cakes for her friends Christmases, birthdays and weddings. But most of all she was a great and loyal friend. I will miss her very much.

## **Neil Wilkins – My Brighton Rock**

As we all knew so acutely, Gillian's passing was imminent but one can never really fully prepare. However, it's such a great comfort knowing that Gillian was where she wanted to be at the end: with her Dad and Mark.

Gillian really was a diamond, and I cannot express how much I miss her. In my photos of Gillian, the thing that shines through so clearly - wherever in the world we were - is the love of friendship, conversation, laughter, travel, good food and maybe the occasional drink!

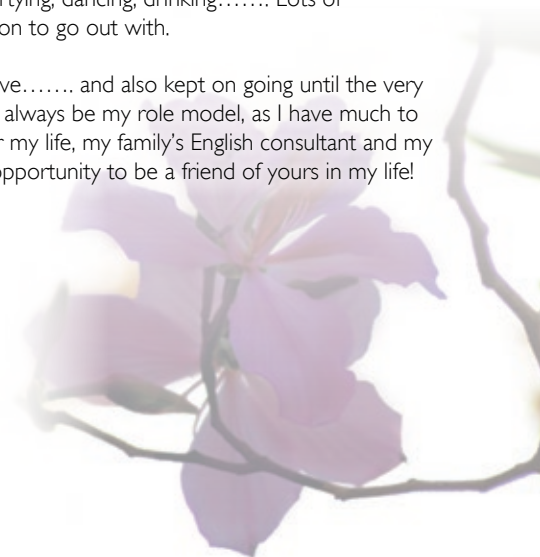
I shall have a drink or several tonight in honour of my wonderful, beautiful and tough friend.

## **Karmen Wong – My Chinese Sister**

My dear beautiful best friend Gillian. Thank you for loving me, and teaching me and my son Pui Hin, my nephews Rhyn and Tat Yee. You always surprise us with presents throughout the years. You are a nice, kind and a thoughtful person and never fail to bring happiness for us.

I loved going out with you, we went to Shenzhen China to have our clothes tailor made, massages, manicure and pedicure, yum cha and lots of lots of partying, dancing, drinking..... Lots of unforgettable memory. You are such a good companion to go out with.

You are brave, you are intelligent, and you are attractive..... and also kept on going until the very end. You are the toughest friend of mine and you will always be my role model, as I have much to learn from your perseverance. You are my mentor for my life, my family's English consultant and my very best friend. Thank you God for offering me the opportunity to be a friend of yours in my life! I wish you peace and comfort on your new journey!



# *In Memory*

**Cecelie Gamst-Berg** "This is how I'll remember you, Gillian: Young and beautiful and on a train thundering through China on our way to new adventures. Although you inexplicably didn't like spicy food we had such a good time wherever we went, not least because of your keen nose for the absurd. Goodbye for now, dearest girl."

**Steve White** "She was an original as Paul said and I shall always remember her laugh especially. There were plenty of times she tried even my patience, but I did love to be able to say something that set her off. Though I sometimes regretted it if we got to the snorting....."

**Claire Chalmers** "Gillian was a very special lady. So many memories, happy ones and sad ones. Gillian had a heart of gold and for those she loved she would have moved heaven and earth to help them. I am very grateful I was one of them...even when she was mad with me!"

**Steve Marr** "I am struggling to absorb the fact a friend who enjoyed life and the finer things it offers so much is now gone. My fondest memories are her intention if to do something to do it right and so we were always confident when invited to join you guys it would be for something special. Keeping us all in check was always part of the entertainment for me and one of life's characters is gone that's for sure and the world is a poorer place for it. I hope her farewell is the celebration she wished for."

**John Wilcox** "What a remarkable woman, truly someone from whom we could all take a leaf from her book. With her determination and your devotion, Mark, you have proved that the boundaries can be pushed back until they have no limit, you and Gillian won so many times."

**Eirini Tsarouchi** "You know what means Gillian to me. The words seems so poor to express. She will be alive in me as still have a breath."

**Shweta Biswas** "Gillian will remain in my heart as beautiful and cheerful person. She was so full of life that we never thought for a moment she is suffering. I am glad that I got the chance to meet her. I have lots of beautiful memories with her. Whether it was in HK OR India, she shared so many things with me... I always described her knowledge bank of history. We will celebrate her life as she wanted... Rest in peace Gillian..."

**Douglas Simmons** "Gillian certainly had a great sense of enjoyment of life and revelled in its challenges. Her stories of the trip up Mount Kinabalu were highly entertaining and prompted Audrey and myself to challenge the mountain too! It's great that she wanted happy faces around and I'll be thinking of you both with a smile and a fond memory."

**Souma Chattergee** "I remember the evening we had dinner during Gillian's trip to India. She told me several things in Indian history that I was not aware of. I was so impressed! I remember her with full of life and all positive spirit...We all enjoyed her presence and talk. I felt Gillian had Mark as her true love and companion. What an expression!! The celebration of life!! Yes, we all should do that. May Gillian rest in peace and her star shine brightly forever...."

**'Farewell My Friends'**  
Rabindranath Tagore

It was beautiful as long as it lasted,  
The journey of my life.  
I have no regrets whatsoever,  
Save the pain I'll leave behind.

Those dear hearts who love and care,  
And the strings pulling at the heart and soul.  
The strong arms that held me up  
When my own strength let me down.

At every turning of my life,  
I came across good friends;  
Friends who stood by me,  
Even when the time raced me by.

Farewell, farewell my friends,  
I smile and bid you goodbye.  
No, shed no tears, for I need them not,  
All I need is your smile.

If you feel sad, do think of me,  
For that's what I'll like.  
When you live in the hearts of those you love,  
Remember then, you never die.



Mark and Norman would like to thank you for your attendance and support today. We also extend our gratitude for the lovely cards, condolences and messages of support we have received from all corners of Gillian's world.

Also, special thanks and love to Rachael, Paul, Claire and Neil for all your help and support in making this occasion as celebrated as Gillian intended.

-----  
Norman and Linda invite you all to an afternoon reception in memory of Gillian at The Mercure Newton Park Hotel, Newton Solney immediately following the service.

Please show your support for Gillian and  
**Cancer Research UK**

by visiting Gillian's dedicated obituary website at  
**<https://www.funeralzone.co.uk/obituaries/7452>**.

Contribute and help in the fight that is taking away our loved ones.

....For My Piglet.....All My Love Always.....Pooh XXX

The Co-operative Funeralcare  
Unit 1, District Centre, Sinfin, Derby DE24 3DS  
Telephone: 01332 271 088