

*To Celebrate the Life
of*



Alan Gordon MacCormick

19th October 1938 - 18th December 2022

Gedling Crematorium

Friday 13th January 2023
at 2.00 pm





Order of Service

Celebrants: Reverend Aiden Hall and Reverend Alicia Rowe



Funeral Ceremony for Alan Gordon MacCormick

Entry Music

Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis

CELEBRANT *offers a stick of incense and recites:*

We take refuge in the Buddha, since He is our True Teacher;

We take refuge in the Dharma, the Buddha's teaching,
since it is the medicine for all suffering;

We take refuge in the Sangha, the community of all those who follow
the Buddha's teaching, since its members are wise and compassionate.

CELEBRANT *blesses the water and asperges the deceased, and says:*

Because we care so much for those we love, we find it difficult when
family ties are cut, relationships dissolve, and we experience the world
of no birth and no death. To accept this fully, however,
is to understand true gratitude.

CELEBRANT *censes the razor and symbolically shaves the deceased, saying:*

Alan, this is your name, and in this name you must take refuge in the
Buddha, take refuge in the Dharma, and take refuge in the Sangha.

Alan, now you have been shaved; we pray that you will leave behind
selfish desires for eternity; from now there will be neither birth nor death.



CELEBRANT *censes the Bloodline certificate and places it on top of the coffin, above the heart of the deceased, whilst reciting:*

Alan,

For you, we take refuge in the Buddha.

For you, we take refuge in the Dharma.

For you, we take refuge in the Sangha.

For you, we take refuge in the Highest Buddha.

For you, we take refuge in the most immaculate Dharma.

For you, we take refuge in the Harmonious Sangha.

For you, we take refuge in the Buddha.

For you, we take refuge in the Dharma.

For you, we take refuge in the Sangha.

CELEBRANT *censes the Wagesa and places it on top of the coffin above the head of the deceased. As this is being done, all recite:*

**How great and wondrous are the clothes of Enlightenment,
formless and embracing every treasure.
I wish to unfold the Buddha's teaching
that I may help all living things.**

CELEBRANT *censes the rosary and places it on top of the coffin;
spreads the funeral Kesa over the coffin.*

CELEBRANT *censes the photograph and memorial tablet and places them on or in front of the coffin.*

PRECENTOR *intones:*



The Litany of the Great Compassionate One

Adoration to the Triple | Treasure! :

Adoration to Kanzeon Who is the Great Com | passionate One! |

Om to the One Who leaps beyond all | fear! :

Having adored you, — may I enter into the heart of the noble | life of
Great Compassion! |

This life is the completion of | meaning; :

It is pure, — it is that which makes all beings victorious — and cleanses
the | path of all existence. |

Om, — O you seer, — world-tran | scending one! :

O hail to the | Great Bodhisattva! |

All, — all is defilement, defilement, earth, ,| earth. :

Do, do the | work within my heart. |

O great victor, I hold on, hold | on! :

To the source of all com | passion I cry! |

Move, move my defilement- | free one! :



Come, come, hear, hear, a | joy springs up in me! |
Speak, speak, give me di | rection! :
Awakened, awakened, | I have awakened! |
O, merciful one, com | passionate one, :
Of daring ones the | most joyous, hail! |
You are all-suc | cessful, hail! :
You are the great suc | cessful One, hail! |
You have attained mastery in the | discipline, hail! :
You hold the sword of | wisdom in your hand, hail! |
You hold the Dharma Wheel in your | hand, hail! :
You who | hold the lotus, hail! |
Hail to you who are the root of e | ternity! :
Hail to you who | are all compassion! Hail! |
Adoration to the Triple | Treasure! Hail! :
Hear | this my prayer, hail! |

Offertory

We offer the merit of this recitation of The Litany of the Great
Compassionate One to **Alan MacCormick**.

We pray that he may be in his Own True Home in peace.



Giving and Receiving the Bodhisattva Precepts

CELEBRANT holds up the 108 bead rosary so as to frame the photo of the deceased. The sight of the deceased is allowed to enter the mind as the image of Buddha. Holds rosary up, rubs beads together, frames photo, - 3 times, while reciting in a low voice:

In the Names of the Seven Buddhas,
In the Name of Shakyamuni Buddha,
In the Names of the Twenty-Eight Indian Ancestors,
In the Name of Bodhidharma,
In the Names of the Chinese Ancestors
In the Name of Eihei Dōgen,
In the Name of Keizan Jōkin,
In the Names of the Japanese Ancestors,
In the Name of Keidō Chisan,
In the Name of Seck Kim Seng,
In the Name of Hōun Jiyu,
In the Names of all those in the past who have Founded and
Supported our temple,
In the Names of All the Teachers of the Future,
if **Alan** wants to be converted to the Precepts, he and you should
first make confession.



Those who want to confess know that there are two ways of doing so, however there is a confession verse that has been used by every Buddha. Please say it with me:

All: All the evil committed by me is caused by beginningless greed, hate and delusion. All the evil is committed by our body, speech and mind. I now confess everything wholeheartedly.

CELEBRANT takes the asperge bowl in left hand, makes 3 triangles in the water and asperges the congregation; right, left, centre. Touches asperge to head 3 times, then continues in a low voice:

The Precepts that are the True Mind of Buddha sound forth like thunder; the kindness of the Buddha is as the clouds, from which the good rain falls equally on all. Now I am pouring the sweet water of the Buddhas upon you so that you may cease from desire unto eternity.

You have already confessed your three karmas of body, speech and mind, and become immaculate, and now you should be converted to the Three Treasures of Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. The Three Treasures have three merits; the first merit is the true source of the Three Treasures, the second is the presence in the past of the Buddha, and the third is the presence of the Buddha at this present time. When we are once converted to the Three Treasures, we can have the Precepts of the Buddhas completely. Please repeat after me:



**All repeat after the Celebrant:
Homage to the Buddha,
Homage to the Dharma,
Homage to the Sangha,
Homage to the Highest Buddha,
Homage to the Most Immaculate Dharma,
Homage to the Harmonious Sangha.
I have given homage to the Buddha,
I have given homage to the Dharma,
I have given homage to the Sangha.**

CELEBRANT: Thus you have made your confession and have received the Precepts and become immaculate. From now the Buddha, the Truth and Enlightenment is your Great Master and so you must not be converted to wrong ways. These Precepts have been kept by the former Buddhas and have been Transmitted by the previous Ancestors, and they have now come to me in the eighty-seventh generation of the Buddha's disciples. In order to show my gratitude for the compassion of the Buddhas, I am now going to give these Precepts to you; you must keep them from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.



Homage to the Buddha. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha

Homage to the Dharma. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Homage to the Sangha. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Cease from evil. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do only good. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do good for others. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not kill. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not steal. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not covet. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not lie. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not sell the wine of delusion. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not speak against others. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not be proud of yourself and devalue others. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not be mean in giving either Dharma or wealth. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not indulge anger. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.

Do not defame the Three Treasures. You must keep this from your present body to that of becoming Buddha.



Because of the compassion of the Buddha, because of the compassion of the Buddha, because of the great compassion of the Buddha, when someone receives the Precepts of the Buddha they attain Buddhahood being One with their True Nature. Buddhahood is equal to enlightenment; thus **Alan** has truly become Buddha.

PRECENTOR *recites offertory:*

We offer the merit of this taking of the Precepts to
Alan MacCormick.



Precentor recites:
Adoration of the Buddha's Relics

All recite:

Homage to the Relics of the Buddha of merit all;
Homage to the Body of Truth which is Truth itself and a Stupa for the
World of the Dharma for our present body.

Through the merits of the Buddha the Truth enters into us
and we enter the Truth; through the excellent power of Buddha
we realise Truth. Let us do only good things
for all living things that we may possess the true Mind;

Let us do only pure deeds that we may enter the
peaceful Mind which is unchanging Great Wisdom;

Let us pay homage eternally to the Buddha,
to the Buddha, to the Buddha.

Homage to the Relics of the Buddha of merit all;
Homage to the Body of Truth which is Truth itself and a Stupa for the
World of the Dharma for our present body.

Celebrant:

Alan, we have recited the Adoration of the Buddha's Relics, and
we offer the merit of this recitation to glorify your way. We pray that
you may go to the pure world, that your karma may be cleansed, and
that you will become as the flower of the lotus. The Buddha is giving
you His blessing.



Remembrances of Alan

read by members the family

Celebrant: When we think sincerely we understand that birth and death are transient, as are cold and heat. Returning to the source of Truth this day, **Alan** has finished his appointed time and has realised that everything is transient, and that true peace lies in quietude Now we are going to cremate his body which, like a dream, has only a short span, and let him go on his way to Nirvana.

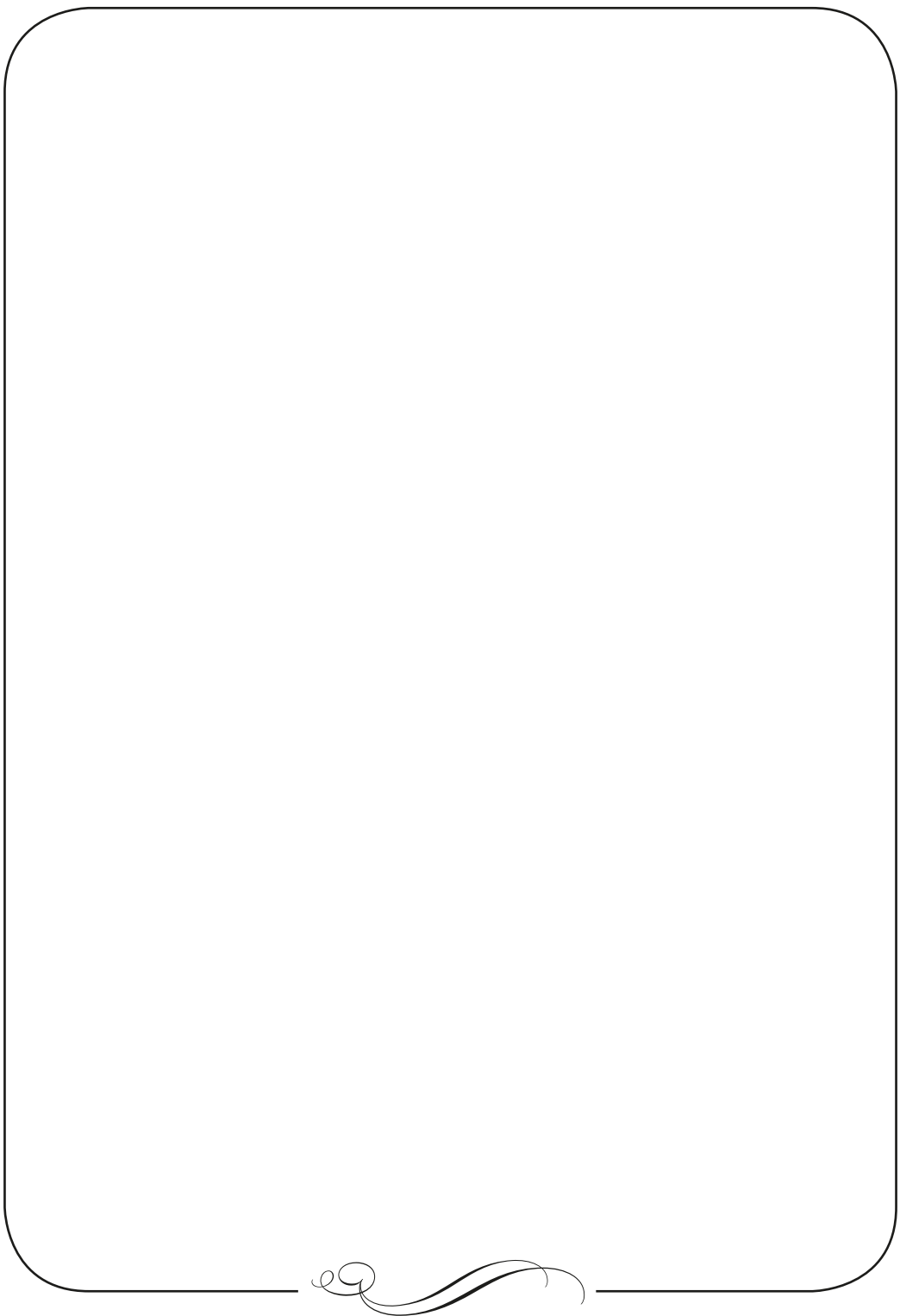
Alan, we pray that the Pure Mirror of Wisdom will share its light with you and that the True Wind will cover you with the coloured halo so that you will be enlightened in the Garden of the Bodhisattvas and work in the Waveless Sea that is Immaculacy Itself. We pray that you may receive our offerings as we say farewell to you within the clouds that hide the heavens from our sight.

Homage to all the Buddhas in all worlds
Homage to all the Bodhisattvas in all worlds
Homage to The Scripture of Great Wisdom.

Music

Loch Katrine's Lady
by Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham





The family would like to thank everyone
for their kind words and support at this sad time.

All are welcome for refreshment at
Mapperley Golf Club,
Central Avenue,
Mapperley,
Nottingham
NG3 5LD.

Memorial donations for
The Friary
or the
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
may be left in the box provided
on leaving the service, left online at
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