Westminster School Leavers' Service



Westminster Abbey

Saturday 1 July 2006 5.00 pm

Music before the service

Simon McGregor

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand for

THE WELCOME

At this Leavers' service we meet, in the presence of almighty God, to give thanks for all that we have received at Westminster School, particularly our training in the virtues, both moral and intellectual, and to ask for God's blessing on those who are leaving.

Let us first keep silent, and reflect inwardly on all that our years here have taught us about truth and justice, charity, friendship, and respect for others. Let us reflect too on what the School has meant to us, and on how it has helped us to become what we are today.

A short period of silence is kept.

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve your offences, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

All remain standing for

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!

John Whittier (1807-92)

C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

THE FIRST READING

An extract from The Trial by Franz Kafka, translated by Richard Stokes

Read by the Under Master

Outside the Law stands a doorkeeper. To this doorkeeper there comes a man from the country and begs for admittance to the Law. But the doorkeeper says that he cannot grant him admittance yet. The man reflects and then asks whether he might be allowed to enter later. 'It is possible,' answers the doorkeeper, 'but not now.' Since the door leading into the Law stands open as usual and the doorkeeper steps to one side, the man bends down to peer through the door and look inside. When the doorkeeper sees this, he laughs and says: 'If it so attracts you, go ahead and try to enter despite my prohibition. But take note: I am powerful. And I am only the lowest doorkeeper. From hall to hall, however, stand keepers each more powerful than the other. The mere aspect of the third is more than even I can bear.' The man from the country had not expected such difficulties, the Law should, after all, be accessible to anyone at any time, he thinks, but as he now examines more closely the doorkeeper in his fur coat, his large sharply pointed nose, his long, thin, black Tartar beard, he decides that he would sooner wait until he receive permission to enter. The doorkeeper gives him a stool and allows him to sit down to one side of the door. There he sits for days and years. He makes many attempts to be admitted and wearies the doorkeeper with his entreaties. The doorkeeper occasionally crossexamines him a little, asks him about his home and many other things, but they are apathetic questions, the sort great men ask, and he always ends up by saving that he cannot admit him yet. The man, who has equipped himself with much for his journey, uses everything he has, however valuable, to bribe the doorkeeper. The doorkeeper, though he accepts it all, says in doing so: 'I accept this only so that you will not think you've left something untried.' During all these long years, the man watches the doorkeeper almost continually. He forgets the other doorkeepers and this first one seems to be the only obstacle between him and admittance to the Law. In the first years he curses his ill fate aloud, later, as he grows older, he merely mutters to himself. He becomes childish, and since in his many years of studying the doorkeeper he has come to know even the fleas in his fur collar, he pleads with the fleas to help him change the doorkeeper's mind. In the end his eyes grow dim and he cannot tell if it is really getting dark around him or if his eyes are merely deceiving him. Yet in the darkness now he sees a radiance that streams inextinguishably from the door of the Law. He does not live much longer now. Before he dies, everything he has experienced in all this time merges in his mind into one single question he has never asked the doorkeeper. He motions to him, since he can no longer raise his stiffening body. The doorkeeper has to bend down low, for the difference in size between them has changed very much to the man's disadvantage. 'What do you want to know now?' asks the doorkeeper, 'you are insatiable.' 'Everyone strives to reach the Law,' says the man, 'how is it, then, that in all these years no one has sought admittance but me?' The doorkeeper realizes that the man is nearing his end, and in order to reach his failing hearing, he bellows in his ear: 'No one else could gain admittance here, because this entrance was intended solely for you. I shall now go and shut it.'

All remain seated for the Remove Choir to sing

God be in my Head

H Walford Davies (1869-1941)

Horae BVM (Sarum) 1514

All remain seated for

THE SECOND READING

Matthew 7, 13 - 14

'Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few.'

The Head Master says the School Prayer:

W^E yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father for our Foundress, Queen Elizabeth the First, and all other our benefactors, whose bounty Thou hast given us to enjoy.

Grant us, we beseech Thee, grace so to use Thy manifold blessings in our life here, that becoming profitable members of this church and nation, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

Other prayers may be said.

All say together

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. **B**^E thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word, Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord, Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son, Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might, Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower: O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Be thou my inheritance now and always, Be thou and thou only the first in my heart, O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun, O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won, Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Irish c 8th century Tr Mary Byrne (1880-1931) Versified Eleanor Hull (1860-1935) Traditional Irish melody Harmony by Erik Routley (1917-82)

All sit for

The Address

Given by the Chaplain

All stand to sing

A ND 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)

C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

All remain standing for

THE BLESSING

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit you. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you His peace. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Music after the service

Fantasia in G Major (BWV 572)

J S Bach

Valete

Nidal Al-Iuzi Charlie Allen Samuel Allen David Altv Audrey Ariss Lilv Ash Sakula Alexander Asher Alexa Baden-Powell Marc Baghdadi Sofia Barclay Holly Baukina Grace Benton Alex Berend Emma Berger Neil Bhadresha Faiz Bhanji Charlotte Blundy Philipp Braunwalder Daniel Brodie Alex Brooman-White Iamie Buchan Ellie Buchdahl Alexander Cagan Tom Cairns Tommy Cattell Nikolai Cedraeus Matthew Chen Yean Chooi Thomas Clinton Anthony Comninos Nikunj Davda Nicola Davidson Nicholas Dore Robertson Eccles Alexander Elias Alexander Estorick Christina Farr Frederick Farrell Patrick Ferguson Hakan Feridun Izzy Finkel Edmund Fokschaner Leon-Sing Foong Charles Gardiner Sara Gardiner Alex Glover Ben Golden Harry Gooding Nathaniel Gordon Nicky Goulimis Adam Grant Jonathan Greenland Roland Grender **Rachel Griffiths** Alex Hall Blair Hamren Thomas Hannah Beth Hardie Christian Harman Becky Hilbert

Tom Hoare Adam Holmes Moonhee Hong Charlie Horten-Middleton Katharine Howell John Iwatate Ed Jeffrev Matthew Johnson Rebecca Jones Tiffany Kaba Nader Kaheil Karan Kanal Lara Karady Emma Kavanagh Gamal Khamis Tae Kim Hannah King Iav Kirk Denis Kolesnikov Edward Lane Lydia Lau Hugh Leonard Eurion Leonard-Pugh Johnny Lewin . William L'Heveder Michael Lim Sarah Linthwaite Freddy Lyon Iamie Macfarlane Hasan Mandviwalla Yeghiche Manoukian Anokhi Mashru Rachel Maud Charles Mavnard Thomas McEvov Ionathan McKinlev Edward Miles Samuel Mindel Alexandra Mitiukova Lvdia Monnington Charles Moran Iamie Moran James Moselev Alexander Murley Sebastian Nadal Andrew Naughtie Georgina Neve Benjamin Newmark Alix Nicoli Cleo Nisse Lucy O'Connor Theodore Orpen-Palmer Leyla Osman Dominic Parsons Arjun Patel Rajiv Patel Holly Phillips William Pickering Chloe Pickup Lucy Pickup

Oliver Pinkus Olga Polunina Rodrigo Queiro Rakhee Radia Sophie Ramsbotham Edward Randell Orlando Reade Imogen Roberts Giles Robertson Jake Robson Angela Rogan Alice Rowell Charles Rovce Jake Rudman Naomi Rupasinghe Nour Sacranie Bella Sanders Sian Sawbridge Jav Shadwick Antony Smith Samuel Smith Andrew Spyrou Thomaz Steuerman Oliver Stevenson Michael Stothard Pen Stuart Mahima Sukhdev George Sumner Yathurshan Sutharsanan **James Sykes** Maximilian Taylor-Smith Sarah Thickett Emma Thompsell Hermione Thompson Richard Trainor Lucian Trestler Caedmon Tunstall-Behrens Darshan Vora Julian Walton . Fanxi Wang Lucy Webb-Wilson Emilia Weber Christopher White Sam Wilkin Jak Wilkinson Zachary Williamson Charlie Wilmot-Smith Matthew Woodhams Keen Yeung Sam Young Ramsey Yuan Daniel Zackon Caroline Brooke Peter Goddard Martin Guv

James Harrison

Lystra Riches

Richard Stokes

RETIRING COLLECTION

On 1 April 2006 Will & Ed Stevens (OWW) left London, and set out on a five month journey around the coastline of Britain. The brothers are pedalling more than 4500 miles (that's London to Istanbul three times). They are riding seven feet from the ground, on a pair of 'Tall Bikes'. They aim to raise funds for three registered charities:

RE-CYCLE (www.re-cycle.org) aims to redistribute bikes abandoned in Britain to African countries.

CYCLEMAGIC COMMUNITY PROJECTS (www.cyclemagic.org.uk) supports community schemes such as their Youth Improvement Project which teaches children from disadvantaged backgrounds about bicycle maintenance.

SUSTRANS (www.sustrans.org.uk) is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity and works on practical projects to encourage people to walk, cycle and use public transport in order to reduce motor traffic and its adverse effects. SUSTRANS's flagship project is the National Cycle Network.

THE ROHAN SCHOOL in Sri Lanka (supported through the registered charity Find Your Feet) is a residential school for deaf, dumb and blind children most of whom come from very poor families. The school has been in a state of disrepair for years but is now being renovated and transformed into a far more pleasant environment with much improved basic facilities and resources. The money already raised by Westminster School has contributed towards a major, ongoing renovation programmme. Your further donations will help bring this work to completion and enable the children to be supported with adequate nutrition and better educational opportunities. The school was recently visited and assisted by Alice Edgerley (OW).

You are warmly invited to drinks in College Garden after the service where the Head Master will say a few words of farewell.

Printed by Barnard & Westwood Ltd 9 Railway Street London N1 9EE By Appointment to Her Majesty The Queen Printers and Bookbinders Printers to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster