



THE DURHAM
LIGHT INFANTRY ASSOCIATION



ROLAND BOYS BRADFORD, VC, MC
1892-1917

A SERVICE OF DEDICATION
OF A MEMORIAL STONE IN HIS HONOUR

Witton Park, Co. Durham
11 March 2017, at 10.30am

BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS

The Dedication of the Standard for the DLI Association, Bishop Auckland Branch

Throughout the ages, people have made for themselves signs which are marks of loyalty, responsibility and the honouring of laws in community under God. In this tradition, we pray God's blessing on this Standard. May it be for us, and for the Bishop Auckland branch members, a reminder of God's eternal help and strength in all situations, a symbol of our unity one with another in our service, and a sign of inspiration and dedication in all that we do.

Chaplain: To the honour and service of God,
ALL: **We dedicate ourselves.**

To the honour of the Queen, to the love of our country, and to the good of all people,
We dedicate ourselves.

To the sacred memory of those whose courage and endurance have given us the freedom we enjoy and the heritage we must preserve,
We dedicate this Standard.

Bless, ✠ O Lord, this Standard, offered as a sign of service, loyalty, inspiration, and unity; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you have called us to be citizens one with another. Enable us to be worthy of that calling. Unite us all in true Christian love and help us to fulfil with patience and courage the duties which may be laid upon us. Keep us calm, steadfast, and unselfish. Grant that at all times we may put our whole trust and confidence in your mercy and serve you in holiness and purity of life to your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A REFLECTION

General Sir Peter de la Billière, KCB, KBE, DSO, MC*, DL

The Unveiling and Dedication of the Memorial Stone to Roland Boys Bradford, VC, MC

Cllr Edward Bell, Chairman of Durham County Council, unveils the stone

Let us pray:

God of grace, you have raised up champions to the cause of goodness in this world and given us their example of courage and bravery in the face of adversity. We thank you for Roland Boys Bradford and for all that he was to the cause of freedom.

In your name, O Lord, ✠ we bless and dedicate this stone that it may be for us a constant reminder of the gift of service to all people, the gift of life which we hold so dear, and the gift of love for our well-being, which not even war can diminish; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ORDER OF SERVICE

All sing THE HYMN

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guide while troubles last
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of thy wings
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guide while troubles last
And our eternal home.

THE READING *Psalm 121*

The congregation join the Chaplain in saying the verses in bold type

I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?

**My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.**

He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.

**Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The Lord himself is your keep:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;

the sun shall not strike you by day; nor shall the moon by night.

The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.

**The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in: from
this time forward for evermore.**

THE ADDRESS

The Revd Kenneth Crawford
Chaplain to the DLI Association

All sing THE HYMN

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill:
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

THE LAYING OF THE WREATHS

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
We will remember them.

We will remember them.

Last Post / Silence / Reveille

THE PRAYERS

The Revd Elisheva Mechanic
Priest-in-Charge, Witton Park St Paul

THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE

Cllrs Robert Yorke and Christine Wilson, unveil the statue

THE ACT OF COMMITMENT

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our neighbours: that we may help, encourage and comfort others, support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

Lord God our Father, we pledge ourselves to serve you and all people in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering and for the praise of your name. Guide us by your Spirit; give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful, now and always. Amen.

All sing THE HYMN

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, Lord, 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.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

THE BLESSING

God grant to the nations peace, to the Queen and Commonwealth happiness and prosperity, to governments the gift of discernment, to all people love in their hearts, and to the departed eternal rest and perpetual light; and the blessing of God almighty, the ✙ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen!

Thy choicest gifts in store,
On her be pleased to pour,
Long may she reign!
May she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice:
'God save the Queen!'



FOR VALOUR

ROLAND BOYS BRADFORD VC