

## Hymn

LOVE Divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of Heav'n, 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 life 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 Heav'n we take our place.  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*In Parwich; everyone is invited to a light lunch at Orchard Farm.*

*In Ringmore; Ella and Jim Dodds have very kindly invited everyone for tea at Aymer House.*

## St. Peter's Church Parwich

*Thanksgiving*

Tuesday 20th April 2004

## All Hallows Church Ringmore

*Burial*

Thursday 22nd April 2004



## Douglas Basil Hall

1st February 1909

8th April 2004

### Hymn

THE King of love my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow  
My ransom'd soul He leadeth,  
And, where the verdent pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I stray'd,  
But yet in love He sought me,  
And on His Shoulder gently laid,  
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy Cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a Table in my sight;  
Thy Unction grace bestoweth;  
And oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure Chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house for ever.

### Hymn

WHO would true valour see  
Let him come hither;  
One here will constant be,  
Come wind, come weather;  
There's no discouragement  
Shall make him once relent  
His first avow'd intent  
To be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound;  
His strength the more is.  
No lion can him fright;  
He'll with a giant fight,  
But he will have the right  
To be a pilgrim.

No goblin nor foul fiend  
Can daunt his spirit;  
He knows he at the end  
Shall life inherit.  
Then, fancies, flyaway;  
He'll not fear what men say;  
He'll labour night and day  
To be a pilgrim.

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10<sup>th</sup> April 2004

*Dear Mike and Alison*

Many of you will know that Douglas' health was failing. He showed such character and determination but eventually lost the struggle, dying peacefully at home at 9.20pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April, two months after his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We have arranged two services: in Parwich where he lived for the last four and a half years and had many friends, and in Ringmore where he spent the first forty years of his retirement and where he and Rachel our mother were so very happy. He will be buried with her there in their grave overlooking the sea.

- ~ Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon at St. Peter's Church, Parwich, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire followed by a cold lunch at Orchard Farm for everyone.
- ~ Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2.30pm at All Hallows Church, Ringmore, near Kingsbridge, South Devon. Ella and Jim Dodds have very kindly invited everyone at the service to tea afterwards at Ayrmer House.

Douglas meant so much to us and his friends and family meant so much to him. We very much hope that you will be able to come to one - or both - of the services.

*Marion*

Marion (Fuller-Sessions), Ruth (Cragg), John (Hall), and all our families.

# THE TIMES - OBITUARY

## SIR DOUGLAS HALL

Colonial administrator in Africa who later turned his attention to technological innovations

TOWARDS the end of a 30-year career in the Colonial Service, which was spent entirely in Africa, Douglas Hall took a large part in preparing Northern Rhodesia, modern-day Zambia, for independence, and he presided over the independence of the Somaliland Protectorate as its governor in 1959-60. Then, in a long retirement, he gave further service as a justice of the peace and a chairman of local sessions in Devon. In the margin of both careers he developed an expert amateur's interest in the field of wireless communication, making a reputation for himself in the narrow circle of those with similar interests.

Douglas Basil Hall was born in 1909 into a family distinguished by a Scottish baronetcy awarded by James II to an Edinburgh wine merchant forebear in 1687. He was educated at Radley and at Keble College, Oxford, and in 1930 he entered the Colonial Administrative Service. Two years later he was dispatched to Northern Rhodesia, where he was to spend almost all his career.

There, from 1932 to 1959, he steadily climbed the colony's administrative ladder: from cadet to district officer, from senior district officer to provincial commissioner, from administrative secretary to a final appointment as Secretary for Native Affairs to the Government of Northern Rhodesia.

In those years the background of his work slowly shifted. Four phases can be identified. In the years before the war, the pace of development in Northern Rhodesia was slow, even stately, the style of administration complacently paternal. Then the war years placed demands on every territory in the British Empire, the African colonies included, and dictated a more engaged administrative style. In the postwar years came a belated concern for economic development, with



Hallafter retiring at the age of 51 he became a respected wireless enthusiast

the building of the Kariba dam, for example, which was completed in 1960. And in the 1950s there developed also the movement towards eventual independence for the African colonies, the movement which Harold Macmillan in his speech to the South African Parliament in February 1960 was to call the "wind of change".

Hall associated himself firmly with the advocates of development towards independence. He brought to his work a strong ethical sense of responsibility for the peoples with whose affairs he was entrusted, and he had long years of experience of the people of Northern Rhodesia. By nature a cautious optimist, he saw in black politicians such as Kenneth Kaunda men capable of taking

responsibility for an independent nation. He was a practical man, concerned to get things done; and he identified the movement to independence as something that had to be got done.

He was an imposing figure, 6ft tall but seeming taller, a gentle perfectionist whom others were glad to follow. Like many, but by no means all, colonial officials of his generation, he put his back into working himself out of a job. And when in 1959 he moved to become Governor of the Somaliland Protectorate, it was to supervise the transfer of authority to the newly independent colony and its merger into the new republic of Somalia in the summer of 1960.

That achieved, Hall retired and settled in Devon. He was only 51 and though he

soon became a justice of the peace and enjoyed tinkering with vintage cars, his time might have lain heavily on his hands. His interest in wireless came to his rescue. In his time in Africa he had undertaken repairs that kept many an expatriate in touch with the BBC and so with the world. In retirement he took matters further and showed himself, in the words of an expert in the field, "an inveterate experimenter with wireless, but no mere tinkerer". Although he was formally quite untrained, he had an almost innate ability to design novel wireless circuits of the most intricate kind.

He specialised in the reflex receiver, whose application comes to the attention of the non-expert in the Identification Friend or Foe equipment of modern air forces. His innovations in this field kept pace with the changes in technology with seemingly effortless ease, and the equipment he created can be seen in the National Wireless Museum on the Isle of Wight. More piquantly, the details of all the circuits he developed are recorded, courtesy of a technology with which Hall in his nineties was unable to make himself familiar, on a website dedicated to "The Ingenious Circuits of Sir Douglas Hall". Told of its existence, he professed himself "tickled pink".

Hall was appointed KCMG in 1959 on his appointment as Governor of Somaliland and in 1978 he succeeded his brother in the baronetcy. In 1933 he married Rachel Marion Gartside-Tippinge. They had two sons and two daughters. Lady Hall predeceased him, as did one of his sons. He is succeeded by his son, John, as the 15th baronet.

Sir Douglas Hall, KCMG, civil servant, was born on February 1, 1909. He died on April 8, 2004, aged 95.