

Freedom of the Borough Ceremony

21st October 1973

Order of Procedure

From early morning motorists will not be allowed to park their vehicles for any length of time in the High Street. The Town Hall car park is to be kept clear of vehicles for (a) use by the special guests, (b) at the end of the parade for re-embarking the Royal Air Force troops.

10.15 a.m.

The general public and all guests will be in their seats in the church and Councillors, Aldermen and The Mayor will be ready robed in the Vestry, together with the Choir, Clergy, permanent officers of the Borough and Royal Air Force officers.

10.25 a.m.

The main body of Royal Air Force troops will arrive and proceed to their appointed stations. The two saluting dais will be placed in position, one at the junction of Church Street with High Street and the second outside the Town Council Chamber, alongside the Monument.

10.30 a.m.

The procession into Church will commence via the North Door. The order of procession will be Holy Cross Church Choir, followed by the Borough Council and Royal Air Force officers in pairs. The order for the Borough Council being, The Borough Agent, Borough Surveyor, Borough Treasurer, Councillor J.M. Davies, Councillor Colwyn Jones, Councillor Mrs. Weston (this group will enter the first vacant pew which will be Row No.3). They will be followed by Councillor Norman Williams, Councillor Sandy Greenwood, Councillor David Jones, Councillor Jack Roberts, Councillor David Tilley and Councillor Harold Bevan (they will proceed into Pew No.2) with Councillor N.E. Williams sitting at the outside to enable him to have free access in case of trouble. Next will follow Alderman Ken George, Alderman Ken Hutchings, Alderman G. McNeil, Alderman T. Williams, The Town Clerk, The Mace Bearers and The Mayor.

The Mace Bearers will escort The Mayor to his seat and then will sit in front of the Choir, left-hand side (facing the Altar).

Finally, the Church Wardens will enter the Church followed by the Clergy, the visiting Clergy will sit in chairs provided each side of the Altar.

Our Freeman, Sir Gennydd Traherne and Lady Traherne, together with the High Sheriff and his wife, will be sitting with the Senior Royal Air Force officers on the front bench seat in front of the Air Commodore.

When the dignitaries are seated, a Fan Fare will be sounded by four trumpeters in the South Aisle - West End, this will herald the entry of the "Queen's Colours" and Colour Party entering from the West Door and proceeding to the Altar where the Canon will receive the Colours and place them on the Altar.

The two National Anthems will be sung and at the conclusion the Colour Party and escort will seat themselves and the service will commence with a hymn.

The following is the general procedure of the service, but not necessarily in the exact order.

Following the hymn, The Mayor and Town Clerk, The Air Commodore and Scroll Bearer will move to the area where the Lectern is usually located and The Mayor will make a short speech to precede the handing over the scroll. The Air Commodore will accept the scroll and reply. The Air Commodore will give the scroll to the Scroll Bearer, who will place it in a specially prepared stand with a glass front. The Scroll Bearer will then position himself near the Altar and the Town Clerk, The Mayor and Air Commodore will return to their seats. At some stage during these proceedings there will be a reading from the New Testament by the Air Commodore. A further hymn will be sung, followed by prayers. Finally, the colours will be returned to the Colour Party and with their escort will proceed out of the Church, followed by the Scroll Bearer. In conclusion, the Canon will give his blessing.

The egress of the congregation from the church will be in the following order:-

The Mayor and Air Commodore, preceded by the Mace Bearers, will lead the way out of the church, followed by an Air Marshall and Sir Cenydd Traherne, then the Town Clerk, Aldermen, Councillors and permanent officers paired off with Royal Air Force officers.

Just inside the gates of the church the Mace Bearers, The Mayor, The Air Commodore and Town Clerk will stand aside and let the procession proceed past them.

The Group of Aldermen, Councillors and permanent officers, paired off with Royal Air Force officers will proceed along Church Street to the junction of High Street and to a reserved area to the right of the saluting dais.

The wives and guests of both groups will be escorted from the church by Royal Air Force officers to an area to the left of the saluting base and when the two groups, i.e. (1) wives and guests, (2) Borough Councillors and Royal Air Force officers are in position, The Mayor, Town Clerk and Air Commodore, who will have followed the last group, will mount the saluting dais and immediately the troops will come to the salute.

After the salute, The Mayor will be invited to inspect the troops (front rank only) accompanied by the Air Commodore. During this time the remainder of the congregation will be leaving the church.

After the inspection of the troops and on returning to the dais, the Town Clerk will announce the resolution of the Freedom and then the Parade Commander will give the order to fix bayonets. The Queen's Colour will be uncased and paraded past the troops from the West End of the parade to the East End and please note that when the Queen's Colour passes it should be saluted, male Councillors should doff their hats.

The colours will then be in position to head the parade. The scroll will then be paraded in a similar fashion, until it's bearer is in his position in the parade. Before the order to move off is given, The Mayor, Air Commodore, Aldermen, Councillors, permanent officers and Royal Air Force officers will then march to the saluting base at the Town Hall and the parade will then move off towards the Town Hall where the salute will be taken facing the Mayor and the Monument. The parade will continue as far as the traffic lights when it will carry out a 'U' turn and return along the same route until it reaches the Town Hall, where it will wheel right into the car park, where it will dismiss and the troops will disperse to the Royal British Legion and the Lesser Town Hall for refreshments.

After the parade has moved off from the first saluting dais, the ladies and other special guests will have walked down to the Town Hall and entered the Council Chamber, and they will be followed by The Mayor, Air Commodore, Aldermen, Councillors, Royal Air Force officers etc. Sherry will be served to pass the time until a Royal Air Force bus is brought to the Council Chamber door to transport the Borough Council and guests to Royal Air Force St. Athan, where pre-nuptial drinks will precede lunch in the mess.

It is anticipated that the whole proceedings will finish 2.30/3.00 p.m. approximately and the Royal Air Force have kindly offered to transport the Council and guests back to the Town Hall.

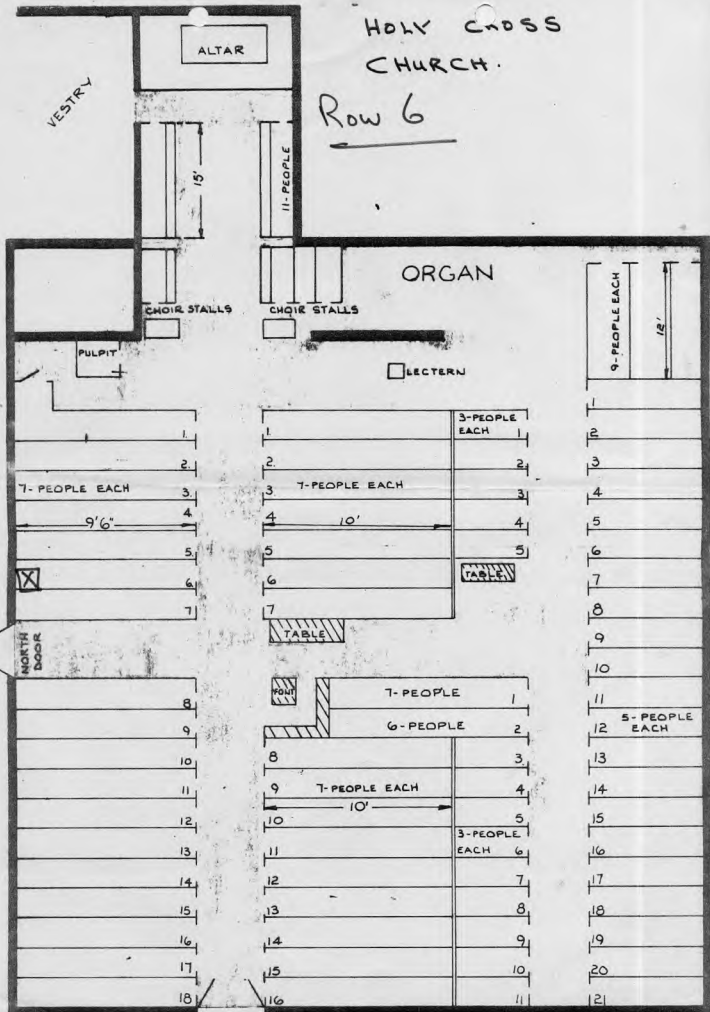
To facilitate the proceedings, Eastgate, High Street and Westgate will be closed to all traffic between the hours 10.40 a.m. to 12.00 noon and the required announcements will be made in the press.

Councillor N.E. Williams
12th October 1973.

NOTE: Subject to last minute alterations
should they be considered necessary.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH.

Row 6



WEST DOOR