



ERIC FERGUSON

ERIC FERGUSON made many friends throughout a long and happy life. All have their own special memories of him but the most abiding one must be that of a kind and gentle man. Here are some words and pictures in remembrance of Eric.



*Above: At the door of 22 Deepdene Avenue with Su-Li.
Cover photograph: At Garth House, 2000.*



Left: 1922 with his Mother and brother Donald.

Above: Eric in 1931.



Above: Eric and his brothers on holiday in Dorking

Right: Eric's thoughts about his last dog, Su-Li, in 1996.

SU-LI

*The house is empty, but she's there -
a cushion bears her shape -
her special cushion - special chair.
I know there's no escape*

*because her shadow follows me
as softly as a mouse
but when I look around to see
there's no-one in the house.*

*I go upstairs and that is where
there is a blanket spread -
a blanket that was made for her
on her side of the bed.*

*I feel her presence when I wake -
she's never very far -
where'er I go - each step I take
I leave all doors a-jar.*

*In dignity she passed her days
beloved by all she met,
so calm, so gentle in her ways -
a friend as well as pet.*



Above: In the garden at 22 Deepdene Avenue.

Left: With Su-Li in her chariot. Below: U3A Poetry group.



In 1978 Eric and Ivy moved to Dorking. Eric had known Dorking since spending many happy holidays here in his childhood and he had always wanted to return. After Ivy's death in 1991, Eric remained at 22 Deepdene Avenue and he and Su-Li were a familiar sight, even when she decided that walking was just too tiring and retired to her chariot!



The green hills of Surrey

AN EMIGRANT SONG

O Farnham, green Farnham,
what hop-grounds are there
That with Farnham's fair hop-grounds
can ever compare!

And what pleasure it were
once again but to lie
On Guildford's green hillsides
beneath the blue sky!

O the green hills of Surrey,
the sweet hills of Surrey,
The dear hills of Surrey,
I'll love till I die.

O Dorking is pleasant,
and Dorking is green,
And sweet are the woods
and the walks of Deepdene,
And for Dorking's sweet meadows
in vain must I sigh,

And Deepdene's green woods
will no more meet my eye;
But the green woods of Surrey,
the sweet woods of Surrey,
The dear woods of Surrey,
I'll love till I die.

O Kent has fair orchards,
no pleasanter show
Than her apple-trees blooming
in April I know,
Save the orchards round Reigate,
sweet Reigate, that lie
With their red and white blossoms
so fair neath the sky.
O the green fields of Surrey,
the sweet fields of Surrey,
The dear fields of Surrey,
I'll love till I die.

WILLIAM COX BENNETT 1820-95

MIDDLE VALLEY CHURCHES HOUSING COALITION

HOMELESSNESS WEEKEND

You are warmly invited to a

COFFEE MORNING

*in the Christian Centre
Church Street, Dorking
on Saturday 25 January 1997*

*The Dorking Hospital
League of Friends will be at the*

SCOUTS SPRING SHOW

*at Cradhurst Ground, Westcott
26th May at 2p.m.*



GIFTS FOR THE STALL

THE ARTIST'S DOG . . .

*I know a dog in whose dear eyes
I see the love of God.
I'm sure that he would give for me
His body and his blood.
Humble he is and very brave:
He lives to guard, to serve, to save.
With self-forgetting courtesy
He ever comes to welcome me.
Patient and generous is he:
If I am cross he pardons me:
And oh, how I have learnt to prove
The healing power of his love!
Indeed, it hardly seems to me
That any one could better be.
I hope to find among the saints
My dog, my brushes and my paints.*

FR. ANDREW S.D.C.

WILLOW TREE SANCTUARY FOR ANIMAL WELFARE, GAINSFORD END, TOPPESFIELD, HALSTEAD, ESSEX

ERIC FERGUSON 1911 - 2002

1911 Born in Houndsditch, City of London.

Educated at the Sir John Cass Foundation School,
City of London.

1927 First job as an office boy, then Account 'Chaser',
at Ingersoll Watch Company.

1930 First jobs in advertising at small agencies, then
eventually at Mather and Crowther, still a well known
advertising agency in London.

1939-40 Developed the wartime campaign for the
Ministry of Food, "Food Facts".

1940 Conscripted into the Hereford Light Infantry then
transferred to Station 14, a secret wartime establishment
engaged chiefly in forging documents for use by secret agents
in occupied Europe. Eric's skills as a typographer and
knowledge of typefaces and printing methods throughout
Europe helped to give these documents a very necessary
authenticity!

1945 Returned to Advertising, becoming in 1950 an
Art Director and eventually an Associate Director at
J. Walter Thompson Agency.

1971 retired but continued working free-lance for old
colleagues and developing his new 'hobby' as a
Calligrapher. This new skill was turned to good use
providing advertising and posters for many charities
supported by Ivy or their friends.

1978 Moved to Dorking and continued his charitable
work. Some is shown here together with one example of
calligraphy for pleasure, "The Green Hills of Surrey".

1991 After Ivy's death he joined Dorking U3A and made
new friends in the Poetry and Writing for Pleasure groups
as well as leading the Calligraphy group.

1999 Following a debilitating fall Eric moved to Garth
House Nursing Home where he was cared for with great
kindness. He continued his interest in poetry and books
until his death on Christmas Eve 2002 at the age of 91.

