

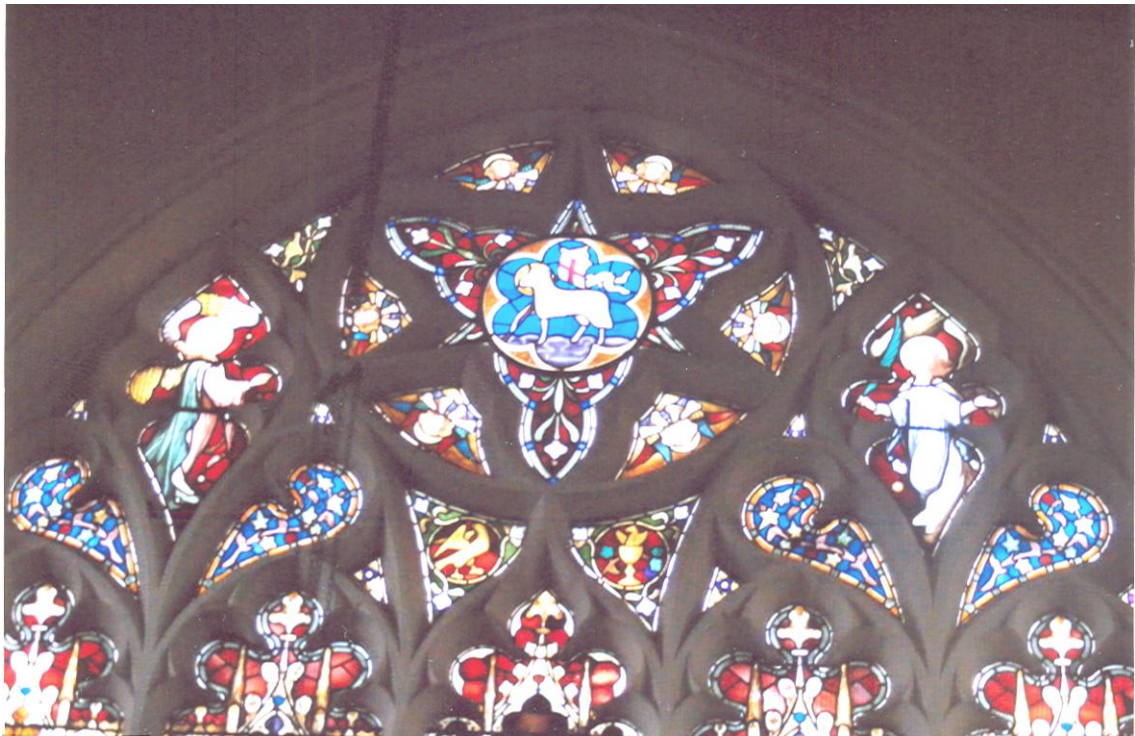
## MEMORIAL WINDOWS

### 1) THE EAST WINDOW – November 1874

As part of the work to extend the Chancel the Tracery had been inserted in the East Window and was much admired. Cathedral Glass was used when the church was re-opened in September 1873. This was replaced, as promised by Mr. Rideout, by a stained glass window. By January 1874 drawings of the planned window were submitted by Messrs. Ballantyne of Edinburgh, and these were accepted, at a cost of £400 for the finished article.

In November 1874 the window was punctually sent off and in place in time for the dedication by The Rev. Canon Drake, Rector of Sedgebrook, and Chaplain to the Queen.

It was a matter for regret that Mr. Rideout the munificent benefactor of the new window was unable to be present having left home rather hurriedly to spend the winter abroad. Unfortunately he died on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1876 at his London home; it is probable that he never saw the magnificent window. Mr. William Rideout was the nephew of Thomas Bonsor Crompton and his wife Jane, to both of whom the window is dedicated.



• UPPER TRACERY AND WINDOWS

The upper tracery contains a centre piece of “The Lamb, “representing Christ in Heaven surrounded by cherubim, while on either side are angels in adoration.

There is a brass plaque on the Reredos which reads: - “To the glory of God, and in affectionate remembrance of Thomas Bonsor Crompton, and of Jane Crompton his Wife this window was put in by their Nephew William Jackson Rideout 1874.”



Mr. Crompton was one of Farnworth's benefactors, born on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 1792 in Farnworth.

His grandfather had a paper mill and bleach works at Great Lever, and when he saw what a manageable site Farnworth presented for manufacturing purposes, he obtained a lease from the Duke of Bridgewater for a portion of land - *now known as Moses Gate Country Park* - and built a paper mill and bleachworks. His son John - the father of Thomas Bonsor succeeded to the works and he built Rock Hall as his residence but he did not occupy it however, for he died at the time of its completion.

Thomas Bonsor Crompton had two brothers but with the passage of time he was to become the sole proprietor of the works at Farnworth and additionally other works at Worthington. He enlarged the business and improved the system of printing and packing papers. He supplied the principal newspapers both in London and the provinces. He invented a "continuous drying system" and was one of the first to turn the waste of cotton mills to account in the manufacture of paper and was the foremost to apply fibrous material in its raw condition to that purpose.

Mr. Thomas Bonsor Crompton died September 5<sup>th</sup> 1858 aged 66; he is buried in the Church grounds.

### THE FIVE LIGHTS REPRESENT STAGES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS



BIRTH



BAPTISM



CRUCIFIXION



RESURECTION



ASCENSION





### THE EAST WINDOW

*Photograph by Barry McGlynn January 2007*

**Stained Glass production and usage.** From the 10th or 11th century, when stained glass began to flourish as an art, glass factories were set up where there was a ready supply of silica, the essential product of glass manufacture. Glass was usually coloured by adding metallic oxides to the glass while in a molten state in a clay pot over a furnace. Glass coloured in this way was known as *pot metal*. Copper oxides were added to produce **green**, cobalt for **blue**, and gold was added to produce a **red glass**, though green and blue are made similar today, other more modern ingredients are used for red, gold is used for a more pinkish red than in the past. The coloured glass is crafted into *stained glass windows* in which small pieces of glass are arranged to form patterns or pictures, held together (traditionally) by strips of lead and supported by a rigid frame. Painted details and yellow stain are often used to enhance the design. The design of a religious window may be non-figurative or figurative. It may incorporate narratives drawn from the Bible, history or literature, or represent saints or patrons. It may have symbolic motifs, in particular armorial. Windows within a church would show episodes from the life of Christ.



## 11) MEMORIAL WINDOW

This window is located on the East wall of the South Chancel Chapel, or the Crompton Chapel as it is sometimes known.

*Extract from the Church magazine July 1877.*

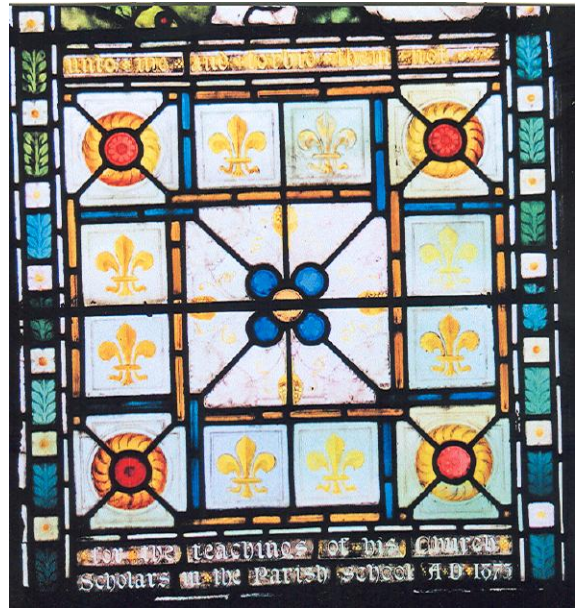
The design in stained glass was received from Messrs. Lavers and Barraud. In one light is represented Christ setting a little child in the midst of His Disciples, in the other the children shouting Hosannah in the Temple.

**SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME**

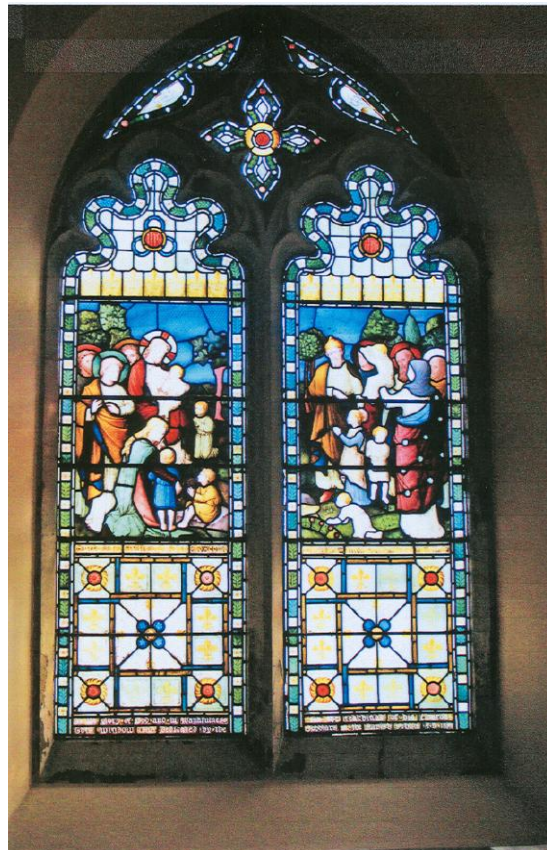


**TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN THANKFULNESS  
THIS WINDOW WAS DEDICATED BY THE**

**UNTO ME AND FORBID THEM NOT**



**FOR THE TEACHING OF HIS CHURCH  
SCHOLARS IN THE PARISH SCHOOL A.D. 1873**





## 12) THE JUBILEE WINDOW – May 1877

An extract from the *May 1877 Church Magazine* reads as follows:-

In anticipation of the School Sermons which are to be preached on the Sunday, in which the magazine appears, a beautiful stained glass window has been placed in the South Chancel Chapel. In one light is Hannah bringing Samuel to Eli (1 Samuel 1. 24-28); in the other the youthful Timothy being taught from the word of God (2 Timothy, 1c. 5v. and 3c. 15v).

There are appropriate texts under each picture, and the inscription at the foot of the window runs as follows:- “To the glory of God, and in commemoration of the Jubilee of this Church- Consecrated September 9<sup>th</sup> 1826, R. C. Burton, Vicar; Jubilee, September 8<sup>th</sup> 1876, W. H. Taylor, Vicar.”

The cost of the window has been mainly defrayed by contributions of the Sunday scholars and a few friends. Messrs. Lavers and Barraud, of Manchester and London, have executed the work. The detail of the window is copied from one in Wells Cathedral, and in this respect, as well as in the subjects represented; it is in every particular as admirable a specimen of art-work as can be produced.

I HAVE LENT HIM TO THE LORD



TO THE GLORY OF GOD & IN COMMORATION OF THE JUBILEE OF THIS CHURCH CONSECRATED

FROM A CHILD THOU HAST KNOWN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES



SEPT 9<sup>TH</sup> 1826 R A BURTON VICAR JUBILEE SEPT 9<sup>TH</sup> 1876  
W H TAYLOR VICAR



## 15) MEMORIAL WINDOW - 25<sup>th</sup> December 1894



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF JAMES & ELIZABETH -

- WARBURTON. THIS WINDOW IS PLACED HERE BY  
THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS.

### DAVID

**My song shall be always  
of loving kindness  
of the Lord.**

### DORCAS

**He that hath pity upon  
the poor lendeth  
Unto the lord.**

During the morning service of 25. December 1894 the stained glass window which had been erected to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. Warburton was uncovered.

It is the work of Shrigley and Hunt of Lancaster, and is a very good example of their work.

This window was the fulfilment of the promise of Miss Warburton, of Kearsley House, to provide a Memorial Window in remembrance of her father.



## 21) MEMORIAL WINDOW



TO THE GLORY OF GOD THIS WINDOW IS DEDICATED

AND TO THE MEMORY OF SAMUEL COOPE BY HIS WIDOW

In the left hand light the Priest is shown emerging from the inner Sanctum. Note the bells sewn to the hem of his garment which signals his approach.



Samuel Coope born 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1826 – died 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1895 – interred 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1895. He was a much respected member of the congregation- for several years Churchwarden and Treasurer of the Christmas Tree Fund.

Question; What is depicted in the R.H. Light?



**22) MEMORIAL WINDOW - 1958**



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
CHARLES EVERETT WATERHOUSE -



- AND ALICE HIS WIFE.  
THE GIFT OF HER SISTERS, 1958

The left hand window shows our Patron Saint, Saint John with his eagle and his open book depicting the Gospel written by him. He was the only clean shaven Disciple of the twelve.

The right hand window shows our Risen Christ and symbols of Holy Communion and also this Church of Saint John the Evangelist as it is today. (1958)



## 23) MEMORIAL WINDOW



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY

OF RICHARD PICKERING 1832 - 1908



RICHARD PICKERING FROM AN ACTUAL PHOTOGRAPH



LITTLE  
LOVE  
AN -

CHILDREN  
ONE  
- OTHER

### THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Nine years after the building of the Church in 1826, Church Schools were erected in Church Lane (Road) and they were built by Gideon Coope. In 1873, the Rev. W.H. Burns applied to the Lords of his Majesty's Treasury for permission to use the Sunday School (built in 1835) and also for a grant from the National Society to use the Sunday School Premises as a Day School. Permission was eventually granted on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1837 on condition that there should not be two separate schools, a Sunday School and a Day School, but one, a Daily and Sunday School, and a Daily School was started.

Mr. Pickering, to whom the window above is dedicated was the sixth Headmaster to be appointed and he was appointed in June 1858.

He is shown in his roll of Headmaster as he welcomes children brought to him to be educated.



## 29) MEMORIAL WINDOW – June 1885



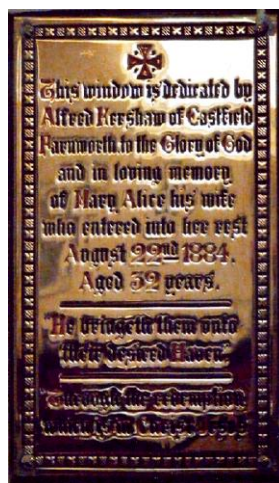
SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME  
AND FORBID THEM NOT

THUS IT BECOMETH US TO FULFIL ALL RIGHTEOUSNES

We see in the left hand window, children being greeted by Jesus. In the right hand window, Jesus is being baptised in the River Jordan by John the Baptist and it shows the Holy Spirit descending on Him in the form of a Dove.

### The Wall Plaque states:-

This window is dedicated by  
Alfred Kershaw of Eastfield  
Farnworth, to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory  
of Mary Alice his wife  
who entered into her rest  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1884.  
Aged 32 years.  
He bringeth them unto  
Their desired Haven.  
through the redemption  
which is in Christ Jesus.





### 30) MEMORIAL WINDOW

WHO WENT ABOUT DOING GOOD  
FOR GOD WAS WITH HIM

BLEASED IS THE MAN WHOSE STRENGTH IS  
IN THEE, AND WHOSE HEART ARE THY WAYS



TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN MOST LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF ALFRED KERSHAW A BELOVED PHYSICIAN WHO AFTER A LIFETIME OF SINGULAR DEVOTION IN THE SERVICE OF GOD AND OF HIS FELLOW MEN WAS CALLED HOME ON SEPT 2<sup>ND</sup> 1925, IN HIS 74<sup>TH</sup> YEAR.

#### A Beloved Physician.

An impressive service was held in the Farnworth Parish Church on Sunday morning, when a window, erected by his family to the memory of the late Doctor A. Kershaw, was unveiled by his daughter, Mrs. Wood, and dedicated by Rev. C.W.W. Bramley, Vicar. The occasion was the annual sermons of the Church Army Mission, Cross Street, in which Doctor Kershaw took a great interest from its formation. The preacher was the Reverend T.W. Thurwell O.B.E., who is associated with the Church Army Mission. The hymns "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds" "Soldiers of Christ arise" and "How bright this glorious spirit shines" were sung, and the choir rendered a special anthem. The preacher took for his text, the words "The greatest of these is Love". He paid a high tribute to the deceased and said but for his efforts and loving service, so long and faithfully rendered, there might not have been a Church Army at the present time in Farnworth. He might be truly termed its pioneer or founder. The window is placed under the gallery on the north side of the church, a short distance away from the pew which the deceased occupied for many years and next to the window which he placed in church "in memory of Mary Alice, his wife" some 40 years since. Erected by Messrs George Wragge Ltd., of London and Manchester, it has two lights. The left one represents the Good Samaritan and on the right is a representation of Christ giving sight to the blind, with the corner windows containing the heads of Cherubs with wings. The inscription on the windows are:- "Who went about doing good, for God was with him". "Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee and in whose heart are thy ways" and "To the Glory of God and in loving remembrance of singular devotion in the service of God and of his fellow men" *Farnworth Journal*

#### Memorial to Doctor Kershaw.

Alfred Kershaw. - a beloved Physician, who, after a lifetime was called home on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1923 in his 74<sup>th</sup> year. Mrs Wood, his daughter, placed wreaths of flowers on the brass underneath the memorial window to her mother and on the Eagle Lectern which the doctor presented in 1893 in memory of his daughter.

#### Footnote

In 1999, Mr. A.C. Wood and his wife visited this Church to view and take pictures of these windows – they had travelled from Australia. Mr A.C. Wood is the grandson of Mrs Wood referred to in the newspaper article and great grandson of Doctor Kershaw.



#### 44) MEMORIAL WINDOW – 5<sup>th</sup>. March 2006

MARY SUMNER Founder of the Mothers Union



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF ..... GLADYS LEES ..... MOTHER OF PATRICIA AND PETER, AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE MOTHERS UNION AND OF THIS CHURCH. BORN 1913. DIED 2003.

**“Theme is the world and unity among men” – “something she would have very much agreed with.”**

A parishioner who worshipped in the same church for more than 60 years has had a stained glass window installed in her memory. Gladys Lees had been a congregation stalwart at St. John's in Church Street, Farnworth, since she was married there in 1936.

She died in 2003 at the age of 89 and a close friend, Lord Ballyedmond, a peer in the House of Lords, pledged £10,000 to the church so the congregation could create something to remember her by.

After nearly three years of work and planning, the window – which cost £8,000 and measures 10ft by 3ft – has been dedicated in a special ceremony.

The vicar, the Rev Cherry Vann, said: "We are delighted with the window. It is a piece of modern art which offers light and warmth. It is a beautiful piece of work which really enhances this place of worship and is a fitting tribute to Gladys."

Mrs Lees moved to Bolton when she was just one-year-old because her father had been appointed head barman at the Pack Horse Hotel in Bolton. One of nine children, she lived in Minster Road, Bolton, until she was married at this church on Christmas Day in 1936.

After that day, she was a regular in the congregation and a member of the Mothers Union. After Mrs Lees died, Lord Ballyedmond, a friend of her son Peter, contacted the church and offered to donate money for a tribute in her memory.

After months of intricate work the window, designed and made by a Chorley based company, arrived at the church.

Mrs Lees' family attended the ceremony earlier this month. The window is in the north wall of the church.

Her son, Peter, aged 65, who lives in St Albans; Hertfordshire, said: "In many ways she was just a very ordinary parishioner. She would worship at the church twice a week, and has now been recognised through the window."

Harold Lees her husband is mentioned on the 1939 – 1945 War Memorial Plaque.



### 31) MEMORIAL WINDOW – 23<sup>RD</sup> October 1949



TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF CHARLES FREDRICK HOWARD 1856 – 1939



A VERY GOOD LIKENESS  
OF Mr. HOWARD

*Extract from The Church Magazine of October 1949.*

It is just a month short of ten years since an appeal was launched for subscriptions to erect a suitable Memorial to the late Mr. C. F. Howard. A great deal of water has flowed under the bridges since that time, and the greatest war in history has been largely responsible for a good deal of delay. During the last two years, however, things have moved more quickly, and at long last this memorial is about to be erected, and the place which Mr. Howard won for himself in the hearts of those who knew him, and in the annals of the parish, is to be permanently recorded.

Messrs. Shrigley and Hunt, of Lancaster, have designed and executed a beautiful window in stained glass, portraying the Sower sowing his seed—without doubt a most appropriate design for the memorial of one who gave the whole of his life to the sowing of the seed of Christian knowledge in the minds of many hundreds of school-children in Farnworth & Kearsley. This will be set in the north wall of the Church; as near as possible to the seat in which he sat, and which is still occupied by members of his family.

The window will be unveiled and dedicated at a special service which is to be held on Sunday, October 23rd, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The dedication will be performed and the sermon preached by the Rev. W. E. Davis-Winstone, M.A., late Vicar of this Parish, and now Rector of Keymer and Rural Dean of Hurstpierpoint, who is coming up from Sussex specially for the occasion.



## Charles Fredrick Howard

Charles Frederick Howard was born on the 26th August 1856, and began a long association with the Church and School when he was appointed an assistant teacher in May, 1881, which only ceased with his death at the age of 82.

In 1887 he was appointed Headmaster and watched over the destinies of the school for 38 years up to his retirement in 1921. During these years, the numbers attending the school rose from 270 to 450, and, owing in no small measure to his efforts, the present building was erected to house them. Mr. Howard did not spare himself in his efforts either for the mental or physical well being of his pupils; he inaugurated special classes for "half-timers" so that they and the other scholars could derive the greatest benefit from their education and he secured the inclusion of swimming in the school curriculum.

In Church affairs Mr. Howard gave to the full of his great gifts and among the offices which he held were those of Sunday School teacher and Superintendent, Vicar's and People's Warden, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and original member of the Church Council, chorister and choir-master. Many who have now grown up will remember how he trained and lead them as Singers at the Sermons, while his work with the M.I.S. (Mutual Improvement Society) made him known to a far wider circle than that of the Parish.

But Mr. Howard did not confine himself to parochial matters. For fifteen years, up to 1928, he was a member of the Kearsley Urban District Council, being Chairman from 1922 to 1926, and served on many of its committees. Amongst others, he was the first Chairman of the Housing Committee and Chairman of the Finance Committee. For some years he was a member of the Kearsley Area Education Committee, occupying the Chair for several years prior to his death.

When the Farnworth Teachers' Association was formed about 1890, he was appointed its Secretary and later three times its President and Vice-President.

The culminating point in his civic life was reached when he was appointed a County Magistrate in December 1926.

Mr. Howard served the Parish and the Community loyally during the time of eight Vicars, and brought to a close a long and full life on March 20th 1939.

### Footnote.

The writer of this footnote (Gordon Isherwood), as a nine years old choir boy in 1934, still has a very clear memory of the choir boys trip to Southport which was lead by Mr. Howard who, although he was 77 years of age, was still quite capable of keeping a lively group of boys in order for a whole day. The respect which we had for him, this gentleman with the white beard whose life had begun in 1856, was generated by his very bearing and concern for our welfare. He was indeed, a true gentleman. His face, depicted in the window above is a very good likeness.

A choir boy of the 1930's.



### 34) MEMORIAL WINDOW – Easter April 14<sup>th</sup> 1895



HER CHILDREN ARISE UP AND CALL HER BLESSED

HUNGRY AND YE FED ME, NAKED AND YE CLOTHED ME

The window on the left shows a mother's care for her children.

The right hand window shows care extended to charity for others.

*Extract from The Church Magazine for June 1895.*

Another stained glass window has been added to the Church. It is to the memory of Mrs. George Coope. It consists of two lights which bear the following legends.

- (1) – Her children arise up and call her blessed.
- (2) – Hungry and ye fed me; naked and ye clothed me.

And beneath is a brass tablet on black marble with the inscription – To the glory of God and in memory of Mary Coope, a loving wife and mother, this window was erected by her sons, Easter, 1895.

Mary Coope born 12<sup>th</sup> October 1826 died June 13<sup>th</sup> 1891 aged 64 years.



Brass plaque states :- To the Glory of God and in Memory of Mary Coope a loving wife and mother.



