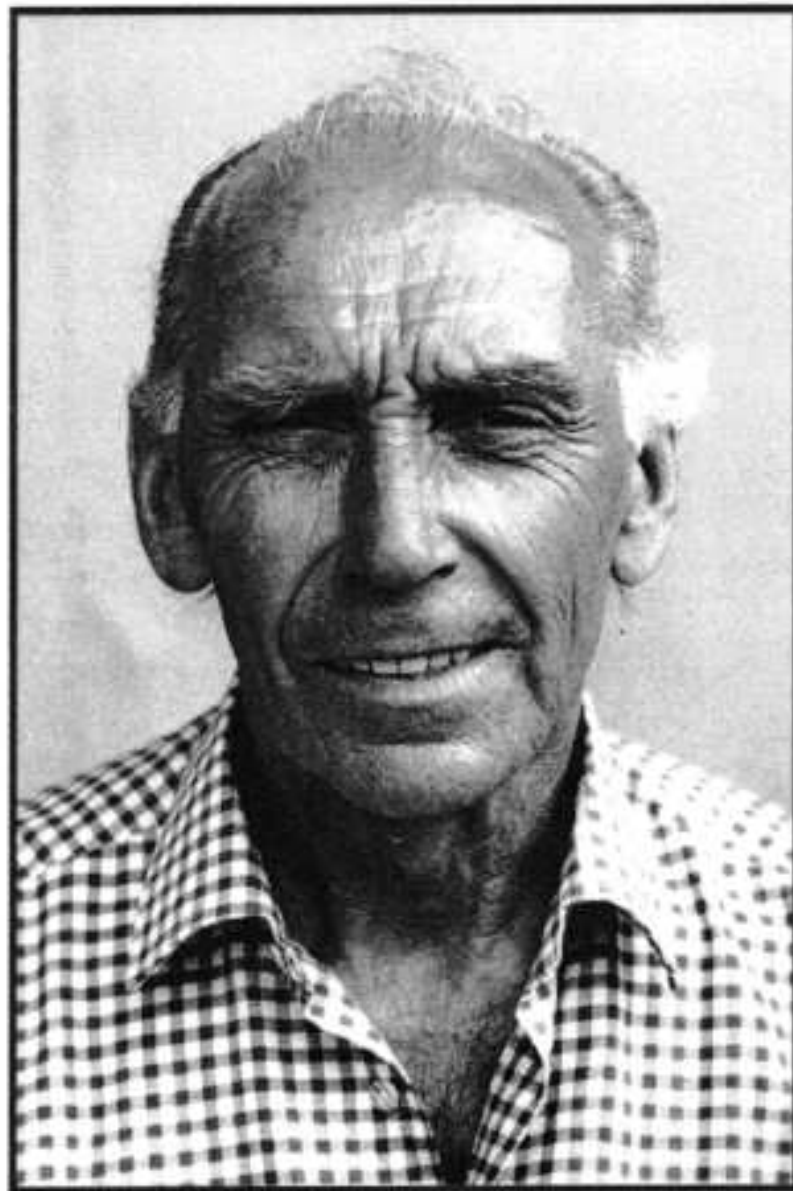


A Celebration  
for the Life  
of  
**Les Simmons**



1926 – 2009

*“Les was as much of a Watford legend as those who put on the shirt and played on his pitch.”*

A tribute published on the Watford Observer website from 'Steve'.

**Thursday, 7th January 2010**  
**West Herts Crematorium. Hertfordshire.**

**Processional**  
Fields of Gold (Eva Cassidy)

**Welcome & Eulogy**  
from David Perry

**Love Never Disappears (St Augustine)**  
Read by Rosana Ali

*Love never disappears for death is a non-event.  
I have merely retired to the room next door.  
You and I are the same; what we were for each other, we still are.  
Speak to me as you always have,  
do not use a different tone, do not be sad.  
Continue to laugh at what made us laugh.  
Smile and think of me.  
Life means what it has always meant.  
The link is not severed.  
Why should I be out of your soul if I am out of your sight?  
I will wait for you, I am not here,  
but just on the other side of this path.  
You see, all is well.*

**Comments on a Life**  
from Graham Taylor, OBE

## **Morning Has Broken** (Cat Stevens)

*Morning has broken, like the first morning.  
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
Praise for them springing fresh from The Word.*

*Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlight from heaven.  
Like the first dewfall, on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning.  
Born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning;  
God's recreation of the new day.*

*Morning has broken, like the first morning.  
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
Praise for them springing fresh from The Word.*

## **A Few Words for Les** from Traci Ali

**Commendation & Committal**  
Somewhere Over the Rainbow (Eva Cassidy)

**Recessional**  
Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Goodbye (Vera Lynn)

*"I always put the quality of the pitch  
down to his greyhounds who had the run of the place."*

**A tribute published on the Watford Observer website from 'Adam'.**

*"I was saddened to hear of Les' passing, a truly great character.  
One pre-season when the ground was looking at its best,  
he once said to me, look at that pitch – perfect.  
Then what do they do, go and play football and spoil it."*

**A tribute published on the Watford Observer website.**

*"I hope we can do a minute's silence at the next home game for such a great,  
genuine servant of our club, the very least we could do to say 'Thank You Les'.  
I'd love to be able to follow that with the whole crowd singing his name,  
as we do it without question for players who are often only with us for  
a couple of years, but here we have a man who has given 50 years to the club,  
a Legend in the true sense of the word."*

*Rest in peace and 'Thank You Les', my thoughts are with your family and friends  
and I hope they can gain some small comfort from knowing you will  
never be forgotten by Watford supporters and the fond memories we have  
of the fantastic pitch we used to have when cared for by you."*

**A tribute published on the BBC 5 Live website.**

*"A true Hornet."*

**A tribute published on the Watford Observer website from 'Jason'.**



*The family would like to thank everyone  
for their kindness and support  
and for joining them here today  
to help celebrate Les' life.*

**As a thanksgiving for Les' life there will be a retiring collection for  
The Retired Greyound Trust & The Peace Hospice (Watford).**

*Alternatively please send your donations c/o. J&S Funeral Service,  
5 Katherine Place, College Road, Abbots Langley, Herts. WD5 0BT*