



THE TEMPSFORD AIRFIELD BARN CEREMONY



9 NOVEMBER 2014

*WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF
THE COUNTESS OF ERROLL*

GUESTS

W/CDR LEONARD RATCLIFF DSO, DFC*, AFC, LD'H, CDEG
COMMANDING OFFICER 161 SQUADRON &
STATION COMMANDER, RAF TEMPSFORD

MR MICHAEL GIBBONS DFM
VETERAN 138 SQN

MR KENNETH HAZELWOOD
VETERAN 161 SQN

F/LT MARGARET BELL RAFVR(T) HQAC

OFFICIATING MINISTER

REVEREND MARGARET MARSHALL

READER

F/S ADNITT

BUGLER

MARK STAFFERTON





ORDER OF CEREMONY



READING

F/S Adnitt ATC will read a poem written by
R W Gilbert

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE ADDRESS AND PRAYERS Led by Reverend Margaret Marshall

The sounding of the Last Post
~ The Silence ~

Following the sounding of Reveille,
wreaths and tributes will be laid
in the following order:





Bob Body laid a wreath on behalf of the Tempsford Veterans and Relatives Association.



Cdt T Hart laid a wreath on behalf of W/Cdr Leonard Ratcliff, in memory of the aircrews of 138 and 161 Squadrons who lost their lives in the fight for freedom.

Peter Green laid a wreath in memory of the crew of Whitley Z9275 NF-G.

Derek Eliot laid a wreath in memory of the crew of Hudson FK790, 161 Squadron.

Judith Smith laid a wreath in memory of her father, F/O A G Maskall, DFM and the crew and agents of Hudson V9155 of 161 Squadron shot down over Holland on 1 June 1944.

David Briggs laid a wreath on behalf of his mother, Jessica Briggs - WAAF driver 138 Sqn, in memory of her husband, David's father, F/O George Briggs (navigator 138 Sqn) and the rest of the crew of G-George.

Ginny Lipscombe laid a poppy cross in memory of her father F/O George Witt 161 Squadron.

Simon Rymills laid a wreath in memory of his father, S/Ldr F.E (Bunny) Rymills DFC, DFM, 138 & 161 Sqns.

Steve Stokes laid a wreath in memory of F/Sgt Arthur Stokes DFM.

Bill Lee laid a wreath in memory of his cousin Sgt R L Lee W/op/AG of 138 SD Squadron KIA in July 1944.

Cdt A Dailert laid a poppy cross in memory of F/Sgt Roy Watts 161 Sqn.



Cdt D Cannon laid a poppy cross in memory of Sgt Ellis Markson & the crew of Halifax LL358 161 Sqn.





Jim Skipper laid a wreath in remembrance of his uncle, Sgt James Whalley of 138 Squadron.



Fred Owen laid a wreath in memory of his brother F/Sgt John Owen & the crew of Whitley Z9282 138 Sqn. Lost in Vire, France, 26th July 1942.

Nyah Chamberlain laid a wreath in memory of her great, great uncle, Sgt George Partridge Croad, and the crew of Halifax LL356, 138 Squadron.

Scott Gibbons laid a wreath on behalf of his grandfather, Mike Gibbons, in memory of his fallen comrades of 138 Sqn.

Yvette Pitt laid a wreath in memory of Yvonne Cormeau, code name "Annette", who was parachuted into South West France to work as a radio operator for SOE, which she did successfully for 13 months.

Nigel Atkins laid a wreath in memory of F/Lt Brian Henry Atkins and the crew of Halifax BB378 138 Squadron.

Susan Kells laid a wreath on behalf of her father, Tom Vincent, in memory of his brother, F/Sgt J.K.R.Vincent, and the crews of LW280 NF-K and LL307 NF-J, 138 Sqn.

Barbara Cronk laid a wreath in memory of SOE Agent, Lilian Vera Rolfe.

F/Lt Margaret Bell laid a wreath on behalf of the RAF.

Cdt S Rogers laid the RAF Memorial Cross.

Cdt E Hickling laid the Tempsford Cross.



Closing Prayer by Reverend Margaret Marshall





REQUIEM FOR AN AIR GUNNER

The pain has stopped,
For I am dead,
My time on Earth is done.
But in a hundred years from now,
I'll still be twenty-one.

My brief sweet life is over,
My eyes no longer see,
No summer walks,
No Christmas trees,
No pretty girls for me.

I've got the chop, I've had it,
My nightly ops are done,
Yet in another hundred years,
I'll still be twenty-one

R W Gilbert





***THE GUARD OF HONOUR IS FORMED BY
MEMBERS OF 2500 ATC SQUADRON (ST NEOTS)***

F/Sgt Teija Adnitt
Cdt Georgia Webster
Cdt Charlotte Webb-Walton
Cdt Sophie Wilson
Cdt Emma Hickling
Cdt Tom Hart
Cdt Sean Rogers
Cdt Deklan Cannon
Cdt Amy Dailert
Cdt Ryan Graham

