



THE TEMPSFORD AIRFIELD BARN CEREMONY

10 NOVEMBER 2013



*WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF
THE COUNTESS OF ERROLL*

GUESTS

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

MR MICHAEL GIBBONS DFM
VETERAN 138 SQUADRON

MR BOB LARGE DFC, LD'H
VETERAN 161 SQUADRON

MR TOMMY THOMAS LD'H
VETERAN 161 SQUADRON

FLIGHT LIEUTENANT MARGARET BELL

CORPORAL SMITH

SENIOR AIRCRAFTWOMAN LOOKER

OFFICIATING MINISTER

REVEREND MARGARET MARSHALL

READER

CORPORAL ADNITT

BUGLER

MARK STAFFERTON





ORDER OF CEREMONY

READINGS

Corporal Adnitt

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 were laid
in the following order:





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



Cadet Cannon laid a wreath on behalf of Wing Commander Leonard Ratcliff, in memory of the aircrews of 138 and 161 Squadrons who lost their lives in the fight for freedom.

Pam Smith laid a wreath in memory of Flying Officer Kenneth Bunney and the crew of Hudson FK790, 161 Squadron.

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

Hamish Ross laid a wreath in memory of Flight Sergeant A W Reimer RCAF, 138 Squadron.

Cadet Dailert will lay a wreath on behalf of 2500 Squadron ATC.

Cadet Hickling will lay a poppy cross in memory of Flight Sergeant Roy Watts, 161 Squadron.

Cadet Rogers laid a poppy cross in memory of Sergeant Ellis Markson and the crew of Halifax LL358, 138 Squadron.

Fred Greyer laid a wreath in memory of his father, Dominique Edgard Potier (M19).

William Lee laid a wreath in memory of his cousin, Sergeant Ray Lee, 138 Squadron.

Gordon Franklin laid a wreath in memory of his uncle, Sergeant Ronald Franklin, 161 Squadron.





Bob Large laid a wreath in memory of his good friend, Flight Lieutenant Bill Taylor, 161 Squadron.



Nigel Atkins laid a wreath in memory of his father, Flight Sergeant Brian Henry Atkins, 138 Squadron.

A Norwegian Officer
laid a wreath on behalf of
The Royal Norwegian Air Force.

Ella Morgan laid a wreath in memory of her Great, Great uncle, Flight Sergeant John Vincent and the crews of Halifaxes LW280 and LL307, 138 Squadron.

David Briggs laid a wreath in memory of his father, Flying Officer George Briggs, and the crew of G - George, 138 Squadron.

Patricia Simmonds laid a wreath in memory of Warrant Officer Frederick Mahoney, 161 Squadron.

Virginia Lipscomb laid a poppy cross in memory of her father, Flying Officer George Witt, 161 Squadron.

Rob Sellars laid a poppy cross on behalf of Olive Barrett, in memory of her brother, Flight Lieutenant Robert Hawkins, 161 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Margaret Bell laid a wreath on behalf of the RAF.

Cadet Williams laid the RAF Memorial Cross.

Corporal Adnitt laid the Tempsford Cross.

Closing messages

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

