

Violette Szabó GC

A special peel of bells to be rung at Much Dewchurch Church at 7pm on Saturday 25th June to herald in her 90th birthday!!



A very sincere
Welcome to Everyone to celebrate
Violette's Eleventh Annual
Memorial Gathering with Happy
Birthday Memories to Violette.

May the afternoon
be blest with Friendship,
Happiness & Sunshine
on Sunday 26th June 2011
at 2.30pm

A very special tribute to Derek Smith
and his wonderful wife Phyllis, Violette's great artist!



It is with very special pleasure that I extend to Derek so many grateful thanks for all his marvellous help in Violette's garden, over the last 9 years, I now look forward to a future of happy and interesting years with both of them.

I know that Derek still wishes to care for Violette's rose bed of 23 red roses!

Order of Service

Directed by the Revd. John Wilson

Music – Shirley Coates

Parade Marshall – Mr Mick Manton

The Parade to leave Park Hall, Wormelow at 1.45pm

Celia Brown will lead the singing.

One minute's silence

For past friends now with Violette, R.I.P., and also for friends now too frail to make the journey, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The Surprise

I feel sure that this guest will be of great interest to everyone, especially Virginia, as they have not met for over 50 years!

Hymn – Praise my soul the King of Heaven

(From the Queen's Golden Jubilee Service)

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransom'd, heal'd, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father like, He tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels in the height, adore Him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Saints triumphant, bow before Him,

Gather'd in from every race;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise us with the God of grace.

Amen

Happy Birthday To You

For Violette and those with birthdays among us.

Welcome

Rosemary E. Rigby MBE reading Maurice Hart's poem *Violette*

Much Birch Brownies to sing a Happy Song for Violette

The Countess of Darnley, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire will kindly say a few words.

Mr Geoff Pattison to deliver a statement from Ravensbrück Memorial Museum by Dr Insa Eschebach, the Curator.

The Sculpture

Raymond Petit, Overseas Committee Member representing Luxembourg at the "Special Forces Club" speaking of his visit to the War Memorial at Valencay in France on 6th May 2011.

Hymn – Jerusalem

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England's mountains green?

And was the holy Lamb of God
on England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?

And was Jerusalem builded here
among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!

Bring me my arrows of desire!

Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!

Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,

till we have built Jerusalem
in England's green and pleasant land.

My School Hymn! The Willows School, Market Harborough, my Headmistress Miss Marjorie Cork was a great inspiration to girls in her care. Happy days!

An Address
by The Revd. John Wilson

Baroness Crawley of Edgbaston, who mentioned Violette, the Musem and me, in a debate on 6th June in the House of Lords regarding the quality of memorials to SOE women.

Miss Carey Godwin,
President of the Soroptimist International Club of Hereford

Carol Blackburn
reciting her poem *Ladies of the 13 Poppies*
The Mayor of Hereford Councillor Julie Woodward
speaking on behalf of the guests

The Poem
“The Life That I Have” – Virginia McKenna OBE

People – The Lords Prayer

Last Post – Charlie Barrett (age 12)

Exhortations – Mr Peter Davies

Silence

Reveille – Charlie Barrett

The Blessing

The National Anthem

God save our gracious Queen
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen;
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On her be pleased to pour;
Long may she reign;
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen.

Please support the raffle most generously – lots of prizes!
Ablly organised by my cousin Ann, but unfortunately without Grace,
her granddaughter.

Phyllis Smith, Violette's Lady Artist is very kindly giving a special
donation from the sale of a painting to add to the total of the raffle.

Also present Mrs Angie Brown and her special grandson Zach, with her
Tombola Stall, do hope you may all be lucky winners!!



On Sale Here Today



Squadron Leader
Beryl E. Escott's
book *The Heroines
of SOE F-Section*
– *Britain's Secret
Women in France*



A lovely greeting
card of *Arisaig
House,*
Invernesshire –
where Violette
trained.



A beautiful card of
Wood Cottage,
Wormelow,
Herefordshire
printed specially to
recognise that had Violette
lived, she would have been 90
on 26th June 2011.

**Special Limited Edition
Bookmarks** courtesy of Mr
Chas Long

**The Violette Szabó GC
unique Cloth Badges**

Virginia McKenna's special
book *The Life in My Years*

Violets at Valencay, France
cards courtesy of Jan and
Stephen Whitmore

Tania Szabó's new book about
her mother Violette –
Young, Brave and Beautiful

A great book by Peter Davies –
World War 2 and Me

Violette Szabó T-Shirts

Special congratulations to the Royal British Legion
celebrating its 90th Anniversary during 2011

Please sign the Visitors Book in the green and white tent.

To the wonderful ladies organising the refreshment marquee,
most special thanks!!

Many thanks to Mr Mel Williams, Master of the South Hereford Hunt,
for kindly allowing Violette's guests to park in his lovely big field!!

Most grateful thanks to the Ewyas Harold Air Force Cadets for their
wonderful help with parking the cars over so many years!

“Violette's 2012 Memorial Gathering” will D.V. be on Saturday 23rd June at
2pm. I hope this will be another super Party for Violette.

Please make sure you all come!

Please note – Vera Atkins Memorial Seat dedication Saturday 24th September
2011 at 2.30pm at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Many special thanks to Mr Ray Hill for his wonderful P.A. System.

To Mark Marendaz for all his special help in the garden and caring for
Violette's Museum Door, Window, Seat etc.

And to my many wonderful friends for all the great help
with the marquees!

Also the Kingstone Girl Guides helping with their pretty trays.

Thank you for attending – a happy and safe journey home.

Rosemary E. Rigby MBE

The Violette Szabó GC Museum, Wormelow,
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www.violetteszabomuseum.org.uk