

Winifred Mabel Wildman (1865-1948)

Character in the Sherborne Pageant:

Britannia (Singer of the National Anthem), Finale.

Finale:

The entire crowd in the arena, to the accompaniment of the Massed Bands, and together with the audience now burst into the first verse of 'The Hundredth Psalm' and that changes into 'The National Anthem', the second verse of this being sung by an Alto Soloist in appropriate costume in front of the pedestal. At the beginning of the last verse all banners are unfurled and waved and all the crowd on the arena toss a shower of roses at the figure of Sherborne. The figure of Sherborne now descends from her pedestal, clasps her daughter's hand, and with her, leads a well organised procession of all the performers, the choruses, the crowds, etc., out by the left corner of the ruins, and so as quickly as possible, yet without indecent haste out of sight. Music must not cease until the last Yeoman has disappeared.



Winifred Mabel Spens Black was born on 30 December 1865, the youngest child of James Spens Black (1816-1867), a merchant of Craigmaddie House, Baldernock, Stirlingshire, and Mary Jane Hattersley Sands (1827-1913).

On 30 December 1886 at St John's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, Winifred married William Beauchamp Wildman (1852-1922), a schoolmaster at Sherborne School in Dorset. The wedding was attended by a fellow Sherborne schoolmaster, Henry Robinson King, who wrote in his diary '*Wedding went off satisfactorily. Pleasant dinner party evening. The new Mrs W will find Sherborne society rather slow.*'

Winifred and William Wildman had two sons, Thomas Beauchamp Wildman (1888-1965) and Arthur Henry Wildman (1890-1915). Arthur joined the India Army in 1910, becoming a Lieutenant in the 130th Baluchis. He was killed at Maktau, East Africa, on the 14th September 1915 and is commemorated in the Sherborne School Chapel and on the Sherborne town war memorial.

After William's retirement in 1919, the Wildman's moved to La Palmas, 30 Hawkwood Road, Boscombe, Hampshire, where William died in 1922.

Winifred died on 2 January 1948 at the Grove House Nursing Home in Ludwell, Wiltshire.