# THE BROADSHEET

### Issue No.41 Autumn 2020

THE TRIANNUAL VOICE OF THE FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

# WE NEVER CLOSED!

No, the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery have not taken over the erstwhile Windmill Theatre in Great Windmill Street in London and we are certainly not interested in *tableaux vivants* but what we can relate to is the post-World War 2 slogan adopted by that establishment in claiming that throughout the war the theatre kept its doors open (except for compulsory closure between 4-16 September 1939). During the blitz cast members, showgirls and stage crew moved into the underground floors for safety but the theatre remained open.

With the arrival of this wretched Coronavirus all of our meetings, cemetery tours and other social and promotional functions have had to be cancelled, not only in terms of the Friends taking the utmost care during the pandemic, but also in accordance with Government edict. Work and activities have still been going on behind the scenes (see our Chairman's review – Page 5) but inevitably many of our major projects and 'wish-list' items have had to be put on the back burner because they have been impossible to progress, with a couple exceptions.

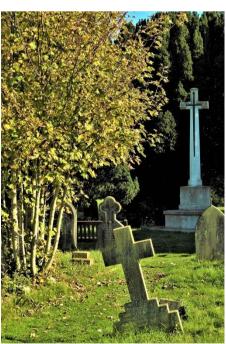
Without naming the Committee members involved, we have maintained contact with the Council on a range of issues, overseen and accounted for donations made in lieu of membership fees, had fallen trees and branches removed from the cemetery, undertaken a modicum of research items, carried out maintenance functions, albeit on a reduced scale, arranged for the installation of hedgehog houses, taken delivery of a first tranche of our little prickly friends and produced our annual accounts of 'trading'. Oh yes, and prepared the 41<sup>st</sup> issue of The Broadsheet. Per the headline 'We Never Closed', your Committee are determined to organise a full programme of events in 2021, subject to Government advice. Below is an autumnal photograph of our delightful cemetery. Welcome to this only slightly 'thinner' edition of the Broadsheet! [Photos: by your Editor unless otherwise credited].



# 2020 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

Unfortunately the annual Remembrance Service at the cross of Sacrifice in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery had to be cancelled this year in accordance with social gatherings and social distancing rules. However a number of personal tributes were made, including a large wreath from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Durrington Sea Scouts, who have been long associated with the event, which normally sees service representatives, the Mayor and Council officials, the Scouts, Friends and members of the public attending, overseen by the clergy. Below are images of 2020 Remembrance items placed around the Cross of Sacrifice. We will all be back next year.





# **MEMBERSHIP: OVER THE MAGIC 'TON'**

With free membership being offered for the 2020/2021 accounting year it is not perhaps surprising that we can proudly boast that we still have over 100 members, or 'Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery' as we prefer to call you all. The Committee thanks you all for 'belonging' and we sincerely hope that the lack of public events and headline grabbing activities will not cause you to lose interest in our mission and that you will fully participate or at least support all that we do in the future.

Our membership Secretary, Mary Pickett, has confirmed that there has been a response to our scheme to make voluntary donations in lieu of a membership fee, not only by cash or cheque but for the first time by bank transfer or similar. At the date of publication we have received the sum of £78.00 from Friends, which will support all of the projects we have in the pipeline and which will be progressed as soon as possible. Our Membership Secretary issued an email/circular on the subject via our Secretary Fran Dingwall a few months ago.

# FBWC ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The accounting year 2019/2020 has been extraordinary in every respect, which has been entirely attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic and the ramifications of the cancellation of all of our cemetery tours and other meetings and events. Just to give you some idea of the radical impact Coronavirus has had, during the accounting period booklet sales plummeted from £447 last year to just £33! Donations were down by £300, or 262% and membership fees were also down. Income from refreshments would have been 'nil' but fortunately last year's takings were incorporated in the 2019/2020 accounting year, adding £252.77 to our coffers.

With restricted activities expenditure was also down and for example the cost of producing booklets fell from nearly £198 to just short of £38. Other items and heads of expenditure were also down, including postage and fees, although the purchase of six hedgehog houses saw expenditure on maintenance and materials increase by 13% over the year.

Overall our turnover was down from £1,102.72 to £725.77 and our overall excess of income over expenditure ('profit') was down from £498.76 to £339.22. In all of the circumstances I can report, in the capacity of Treasurer, a very sound and satisfactory financial performance for the accounting year 2019/2020. At the close of the account we had £6,345.13 at bank and cash floats of £15.13, giving a total net worth of £6,360.26 compared with £6,021.04 the previous year. Copies of our accounts are normally provided to view at our Annual General Meeting but as that event had to be cancelled the Certified Accounts appear on the next page.

I should add that our 'profit' is well within the limits imposed by HMRC on Unincorporated Organisations before we would become liable to pay Corporation Tax. The rule is that we will not pay tax if any liability is £100 or less, which at 19% standard rate would mean that provided our excess of income over expenditure does not exceed just over £600 that there would be no liability to tax. It is one of your Treasurer's responsibilities to ensure that such limits are not exceeded. If anybody has any queries regarding the accounts then please address them to the Treasurer (your Editor!).

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#### ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

# FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY 22 OCTOBER 2019 TO 21 OCTOBER 2020

Income and Expenditure Account

INCOME		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Book Sales	33.00	Printing	and Stationery	37.82
Membership Fees	256.00	Postage		17.97
Refreshments [Ne	et] 252.77	Hall Hire		46.00
Donations	184.00	Subscriptions and Fees		30.00
	Equipment		64.76	
Maintenance and Materia		ce and Materials	190.00	
Iı		come/Expenditure Surplus		339.22
TOTALS	725.77			725.77
Balance at Bank 22 October 2019 Cash in Hand 22 October 2019		5991.14 29.90	Total	6021.04
2019/2020 <b>Surpl</b> u	IS			339.22
Balance at bank 22 Cash in Hand 22	1 October 2020 1 October 2020	6345.13 15.13	Total	6360.26

We declare, as duly elected officers of the FBWC, that these accounts represent a true and accurate record of the financial activities of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery in respect of the above accounting period. Signed:

Mrs D Hillman (Chairman) Mr J A M V

Mr J A M Vaughan (Treasurer)

#### 31/10/2020

[Please note: The impact of the Covid-19 virus and pandemic, plus the cancellation of our 2020 tour programme has had a significant impact on the FBWC 2019/2020 accounts – ditto for 2020/2021.]

#### **CHAIRMAN'S 2020 UPDATE**

Although we have had no tours and very few clearance sessions at the cemetery this year some things have continued as normal. We have continued to receive requests and help people to find the final resting places of their relatives, some clearance work has been undertaken, although this was dramatically reduced due to lock-down, research for the tours and booklet preparation went ahead at the beginning of the year (now ready for use next year) and, of course, our Editor has continued to provide us with our Broadsheet magazine.

Inevitably other projects have not been able to be progressed as quickly as we had hoped. The two main ones being the repair work to William Hudson's grave and the improvements to the Typhoid Memorial Garden. The situation with the Hudson grave is that the Bereavement Services team need to establish ownership of the grave to authorise the work to commence. I have been in contact with the RSPB (residuary legatees in Hudson's will) to see if they have any records in their archive regarding the transfer of responsibility for the grave maintenance to Worthing Corporation. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions they are currently unable to access their archives but they will contact me as soon as they are able to check.

There is no progress on the typhoid memorial garden to report but I am still working on finding a horticultural expert who can help us design and plant up the area in a sustainable, easily maintained manner. It WILL happen! We have had a couple of trees/large branches come down in the cemetery this year and the council did a good job of cutting back the damaged sections and removing the waste, leaving the areas tidy. The large amount of waste by the chapels was eventually taken away (after over a year) but new arrangements need to be agreed with the council for the ongoing collection of the green waste that cannot be composted. The new general waste bins promised by the council were installed at the beginning of the year and a small area of tarmac path was repaired. The council have also agreed to erect signs at the cemetery to warn visitors when the gates will be locked and to provide contact details should anyone be locked in. This is in response us reporting several incidences where dog walkers were locked in (two involving me going to let them out.)

The committee are also working on finding cost effective public liability insurance for our group. I was informed by the council this year that we are covered for our clearance work under the council's policy but not for running our tours. This came as quite a surprise since we had been led to believe that we were covered for all of our activities since the inception of the group in 2008. Further updates on this will follow in the new year. Unfortunately our point of contact in Bereavement Services, Sam Gritt, has recently moved to a new position with the council so yet again we have a change of personnel. I will update you on this when I know more.

I hope 2021 will see us back to having our regular clearance days, monthly tours and meetings but until then I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy (and safe) New Year.

#### Debra



Smoking hoodies, Cemetery 2020!

# AND AGAIN! - ANOTHER TREE FALL

During August 2020 there was yet another tree (or rather major branch) fall within the cemetery. It seems that every issue of The Broadsheet highlights yet another similar event, which could in certain circumstances be extremely dangerous. The Friends have called on the Council on more than one occasion to conduct a professional survey of the condition of major trees within the cemetery and to apply surgery as necessary. Discussions are continuing. On the positive side the Council were 'on the ball' when it came to removing the fallen branch and generally tidying-up. The pictures below illustrate the incident and show how lucky a couple of headstones were in terms of (just) avoiding damage, or indeed total destruction.





# **OTHER CEMETERIES: HEENE**

It was refreshing to see our colleagues at Heene Cemetery attracting some good publicity recently. The main driver for the publicity was the setting-up and implementation of a dedicated Website. The ever-growing site is adding biographical notes based on research of those interred therein, as well as information about flora and fauna plus relevant articles and other items of interest. Heene Cemetery attracted a Green Flag Community Award in October with judges commending the efforts of the volunteers. During 2020 Heene Cemetery Friends have of course been in the same position as the FBWC in not being able to conduct tours etc.

# AMMAN CEMETERY – JORDAN

If you receive The Broadsheet you really don't need to read The Times Educational supplement! Amman is the Capital of Jordan. It has a population of just over 4 million. It is located a mere 45 miles from Jerusalem as the crow flies but by the recommended road route is nearly 140 miles and almost 4 hours away. A Yorkshire based colleague of the Editor, **Stephen R Batty**, travelled to Jordan back in 2007 in order to photograph steam trains, while trying to avoid begging children who all claimed that their name was Mohamed!.

Below is a photograph of such a train leaving a squalid looking Amman and on the right is the local cemetery. Situated on rocky ground and clearly not cared for, he speculated whether in the individuals, centre foreground, were grave diggers or grave robbers! Whoever they are the site is certainly far removed from our green and (largely) pleasant land. Having studied the subject the writer is of the opinion that there is an urgent need for the establishment of a Friends group! One would have thought those who were religiously inclined would do something to improve the site, with just a modicum of tender loving care! [Photo: S. Batty]



# THOUGHTS ABOUT THE FUTURE

### By Carole Manning

In times gone by cemeteries were generally places for quiet reverence and a place where the departed were buried; those who could afford it, erecting some form of memorial, ranging from a stone cross to a vast mausoleum. The grounds were well cared for, offering a place for quiet reflection for the bereaved. Times have changed and nowadays there are far fewer burials, churchyards and cemeteries are running out of space and the cost of burial greatly exceeds the cost of cremation, although it is not uncommon for cremated remains to be interred in a family grave. In 1885 there were 522,700 death and 3 cremations whereas in 2019 there were a similar 533,031 deaths but a staggering 428,000 cremations were recorded.



('Our' cemetery in Edwardian times)

Many cemeteries are now overgrown and ill kempt, the custom of visiting and tending a grave of a long lost loved one has gone out of fashion. But thanks to a rise in 'tombstone tourism' attributed to the rising fascination with family and local history; witness the growth of such companies as 'Ancestry'. An awareness of cemeteries as places which are tantamount to oasis of calm and pleasant traffic-free places to walk has increased. This has been particularly noticeable this year whilst looking for somewhere to walk whilst maintaining social distancing. When it is possible to read inscriptions on tombstones a wealth of information can be determined. Furthermore there are many birds, butterflies and small animals to be seen plus a changing display of fauna and flora. Many cemeteries, including 'ours', have benefitted from National Lottery Heritage Fund awards to support such places, deemed to be vital places for urban nature and as recreational green spaces.

Many cemeteries, including Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery, have benefitted from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, who since the year 1999 has worked "to promote their value as social history archives, vital places for urban nature and as recreational green spaces". Many conduct tours and offer refreshments; some have opened cafes, built museums and hosted film screenings. Bristol's Arnos Vale cemetery was one of the first to be renovated and now makes more money from weddings than funerals! Is this the way forward? Also how does it fit-in with the basic laws of conduct of the 1977 Local Authorities order forbidding creating a disturbance in a churchyard, committing a nuisance, wilfully interfering with burials or graves, or playing games or sport, all of which are finable offences. Despite some incidences of drug use, dealing and vandalism our cemetery has given hours of pleasure to so many people over the last year, how much do we wish to see these changes implemented?

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# A CHARMING DONATION

This was not some earth-shattering gesture but a minor but sincere act of generosity. One of our regular passers-by, who reads the messages on our FBWC chalk board attached to the north chapel had noticed that our piece of chalk was getting shorter by the day and simply made a donation of a packet of assorted chalks by the board for our use. Thank you person unknown! [Photo: Paul Robards.]



WILLIAM HUMPHREY [A8 18 18]
By Colin Reid



[William Humphrey 1833 - 1899]

#### How it all started - William Humphrey

#### AS 18 18

In the Spring of 1987, an article appeared in the Worthing Guardian that was to change my life. A cousin in New Zealand by the name of Pauline Fitchett was enquiring after descendants of a Mr Humphrey who had become a Railway Signalman at Hardham Junction near Pulborough. A number of us locally responded and Pauline went on to publish two books: 'My Dear Brother' and 'My Dear Cousins'. These inspired me to publish my own book of family history based around my maternal grandparents with the title: 'My Dear Clarice', but more of that later.

Taking a look at William Humphrey: He had been born in Hellingly in East Sussex circa 1833 – the third of eight children to William (a grocer in Horsebridge) and Mary (nee Wenham). William started to follow in his father's footsteps as Grocer and Draper; and he married his first wife, Jane Dann, in 1855 at the parish church of S S Peter and Paul. By then, he had taken the role of licensed victualler at the Horse and Groom in Polegate. Around 1861, William took employ with the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway; and ascended through the ranks very quickly from Porter & Head Porter at Haywards Heath Station to Nightman at Horsham Station and Relief Signalman at Brighton. In the Summer of 1863 – just two years after joining L B & S C R – William was promoted to First Signalman at Hardham Junction and he continued in that until ill health forced his retirement in 1899.

Meanwhile, William and Jane were blessed with three children: William John, Katharine Jane and Clara Elizabeth (my great grandmother). After the demise of Jane, William remained a widower for just three years before marrying a widow called Mary Elizabeth Rockwell Cook. Between 1883 and 1887, William and Mary had five children: Violet Ruth, Alexander Wallace, Gertrude Louisa, Major John George and Victoria Maude.

Widowed for a second time in 1892, William was supported in the care of his younger children by my great grandmother; and it was to her that he moved when ill health struck in 1899. By then, Clara Elizabeth had married a Worthing Baker (Duke Field) and they had started a family at 43, Grafton Road. It was there, aged 67 years, William died in the November and he was buried in Broadwater Cemetery five days later in an unmarked grave.

William's younger brother, Henry, emigrated to New Zealand in 1876; and two of William's children: Major John George and Alexander Wallace followed in 1912 and 1924 respectively. Their stories were the basis for the two books published by Pauline Fitchett. My own book, 'My Dear Clarice', was published in March this year. In charting the ancestry of my maternal grandparents, Edward Charles and Clarice Maude Payne, it adds to the story depicted by Pauline and includes accounts of the lives of many of my more than fifty forbears buried in Broadwater Cemetery. [Payne, Field, Humphrey, Botting, Hills, Cook, Rood and Vollans]

Copies of 'My Dear Clarice' [192 pages and 273 illustrations] are available from the author at £14.99. Please e-mail at <a href="mailto:halfscottish1@zen.co.uk">halfscottish1@zen.co.uk</a>. Copies can be delivered locally.

Colin Reid

# THE HEDGEHOG STORY SO FAR

### By Paul Robards

There has been a gradual decline in hedgehog numbers since the 1950s and sadly this decline is rapidly accelerating. We have lost 30% of our remaining hedgehogs due to higher volumes of traffic, pesticides and a loss of habitat through unsympathetic development. Our gardens and cemeteries are the ideal safe location but the hedgehogs do need to explore neighbouring gardens with suitable exit pathways being provided. The average hedgehog roams some two kilometres in a single night. A simple gap provided under a fence will suffice and a quieter unkempt area to nestle down in for hibernation purposes is ideal. Hedgehogs need to build themselves up before they start hibernation and at such times about 30% of their body weight is fat so that they can survive the winter. Another danger at this time of year is fireworks and bonfires and everybody should look out for hibernating hedgehogs before lighting an accumulated woodpile.

In the Spring hedgehogs like to eat snails and slugs, enhanced by their keen sense of smell. In the summer the supply of food is plentiful with plants, fruits and berries all available. In autumn hedgehogs eat as much as they can to build-up body fat for the winter, as mentioned above. In winter hedgehogs, like many other animals, fall into a deep sleep known as hibernation. In Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery we have been planning for some time as to how we might be able to help the local hedgehog population. Contact was made with the local charity Wadars who were running an animal release programme. As FBWC Wildlife Coordinator I contacted them in March 2020, just before the first Coronavirus lock-down. We were advised that we would need to procure some hedgehog houses and that these were made by a charity workshop in Burgess Hill. Below is a photograph of the workshop where our houses were made. [Photo: Paul Robards]



The workshop in Burgess Hill is run by UK Sheds. This is a community led initiative supported by local authorities, health agencies and charities, which are helping people overcome loneliness, social isolation and exclusion. Three hedgehog houses were ordered. Finally in October 2020 all conditions were satisfied and we were successful and adoption was complete when three hedgehogs requiring a new safe home were delivered to 'our' cemetery. We were asked to leave food for the 'new' hedgehogs for several days.

The hedgehogs have been placed in a quiet area of the cemetery and will now be left alone to hibernate. Hopefully in the Spring they will venture out and appreciate their new surroundings and stay with us to breed and have their young. I have purchased three further houses from the same workshop. They will be placed in the cemetery shortly to weather-in, ready for some further occupants hopefully in the New Year. We can really make a difference to the fortunes of these animals we once took for granted. Below our hedgehog houses are featured. Also featured is one of our well-hidden houses! [Photos: Paul Robards and Editor]





Below we see images of Paul's hedgehog house modifications to help keep the roof on and also the moment of delivery of the first three baby hedgehogs courtesy of the Waders charity, an image that includes Paul and our lovely lady from Wadars. [Photo: Louise Robards] .





# PAUL'S PAGES

Our Wildlife and Maintenance Coordinator Paul Robards continues his informed series of images and information about fauna and flora to be found within our cemetery. All text has been prepared and all photographs taken by Paul.

#### YELLOW HOLLY



Most people are familiar with the red berry holly; we have some of these in the cemetery, but we also have the yellow berry variety named Bacciflava, the common name being yellow fruited holly. It is an evergreen shrub with spiny green leaves and which has yellow berries in the autumn and winter months.

#### **ROSEHIPS**



The Dog Rose (Rosa Canina) so named, according to one source, because the word 'dog' was meant in a derogatory sense, implying that Dog Rose was of little use in the garden. Another source suggests that the name was due to the belief that it cured the bite of rabid dogs. All rosehips are edible; the 'Hip' being the actual fruit of the rose.

#### **IVY**



Not many native plants flower in the autumn but the ivy is an exception and provides an abundance of pollen and nectar for bees, wasps, butterflies (particularly the red admiral) and hoverflies. Known as Hedera Helix the common ivy is an evergreen climbing shrub clinging by aerial roots. Ingestion may cause severe discomfort.

#### VIBURNUM LANTANA



Viburnum Lantana is commonly grown as an ornamental plant/shrub for its flowers and berries. The shrub grows best in alkaline soils and has yellow leaves in Spring and red berries in Autumn and Winter months. It is pretty to look at but the fruit is mildly toxic and may cause vomiting and diarrhoea if consumed in large quantities.

#### **HOLLY** [for information]

Holly is the king of evergreens, with handsome foliage that shines in winter combined with bright red berries. Not all holly bushes have berries. They are dioecious, meaning that they need male and female plants to produce seeds; so only female bushes will have red berries.

# SQUIRRELS, PIGEONS, BUTTERFLIES

In the absence of FBWC tours and meetings your Editor's camera has focussed on what are, arguably, the most numerous inhabitants within the boundaries of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery; squirrels, pigeons and butterflies, which seem to be ever present and everywhere one looks. There are of course many other 'residents'. [Red Admiral photo: Paul Robards.]







# **COVID AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Your Editor has no intention of delving deeply into the complicated statistics relating to UK deaths or the criteria in determining whether any death is attributable to the Covid-19 virus or not. However and strange to relate that the **5 year moving average** for deaths in the UK for the week ending 30 October 2020 (week 44) is 9,891 whereas the number of deaths in the same week this year was 10,887; 996 deaths or 10.1% higher. In total 12.7% of the current year deaths were attributable to the Covid-19 virus.

Therefore funeral directors should be in the region of 10% busier than they would normally have been; some might think 'a nice little earner'. However that seems not to be the case! It is estimated that there are about 4,000 funeral directors offering their services in the UK but the profession is unregulated and anybody can enter it! One of the larger companies is Dignity and surprisingly they have just blamed Covid-19 for a FALL in profits.

The company have stated that although the number of deaths nationally had increased as a result of the virus, prevailing government rules and regulations (for details see Page 15 of the last Broadsheet – Issue 40 Summer 2020) had prevented it from offering lucrative optional extras. The company have had to withdraw their limousines until plastic segregation screens had been installed and customers were deferring the purchase of memorials because many cremation grounds were closed. Their operating profits fell by 8% to £44.2m in the 9 months to the end of September 2020. What a strange old world we live in!

# **FACEBOOK**

All Friends of the cemetery who use the Facebook modern media mode are reminded that at regular intervals news items, photographs and comments are added for the benefit of the community at large. Sue Nea seems to have become the FBWC Facebook queen and she does all she can to promote the cemetery via that medium. Don't forget, keep looking for FBWC!

# **MORE COVID-19 BAD NEWS**

For the first time since the incorporation of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery in 2008 \*\*\* there will be no Christmas gathering at the Cricketers public house in Broadwater this year. This will be the first time such a thing has happened \*\*\*. There could be some relaxation in Government rules and regulations but as the existing status continues into the month of December and the Friends normally meet in early December it has been decided to abandon this year's gathering.

Although at the present time our monthly cemetery maintenance sessions have been suspended it is hoped that in the near future some form of maintenance programme can be undertaken, with due regard to social distancing and other common sense measures. Our Secretary will notify all Friends of the situation immediately restrictions, as we know them today, change. No doubt all of us want 'things' to return to normal as soon as possible but without risk. We remain positive and as pro-active as we are able to be.

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# **EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS**

Well, we are all certainly living through strange times with nobody on the planet being able to accurately predict when our lives will all return to normal, if they ever do! The local area has the lowest rates of infection in West Sussex (71.4 per 100,000) but none of us can afford to be complacent. In the circumstances our decision to cancel our normally comprehensive programme for 2020 proved to be the right one; while keeping our fingers crossed for 2021.

What is most important is that we all maintain our interest in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery and fully support, in numbers, all that we do when we get the 'green light'. At the moment we are finding it difficult to progress our 'wish list' with seemingly everybody using the Covid-19 pandemic as a reason for doing nothing (justified in some cases, see Page 5).

A wander around the cemetery recently found that overall the site didn't look too bad but it is a great shame we cannot restart group maintenance. There have been no further reports of people being locked into the cemetery but its use as a meeting place for the good and the bad, who are not on cemetery business, seems to be increasing; inevitable with travel being discouraged by the Government. The site's use by responsible dog walkers is remarkable but there have, thankfully, been no reports of any further serious vandalism.

Baby hedgehogs have found a new home but we are not 'spreading the word' to give the little guys a chance of survival. It is regrettable that after over a decade of a celebratory Christmas get-togethers that this year's event has been cancelled as have all meetings for the foreseeable future. After many years of dedicated service we are sorry to see John Stepney 'step-down' from his Military Research post but sincerely thank him and his wife Pam for all that they have done and achieved. John will of course remain a Friend of the cemetery. All other Committee members will continue in post until at least the 2021 AGM, one year from now.

I hope you all enjoy the Festive Season as best you can. I am sorry that this Broadsheet edition is a little slimmer than normal but I have done my best, without events to report and illustrate. Look out for the Spring edition in April and remember, per Page 1; **WE NEVER CLOSED!** I end with a seasonal picture of the Ralli tomb, photographed in 2013.



John Vaughan

**Editor** 

jamv@ntlworld.com