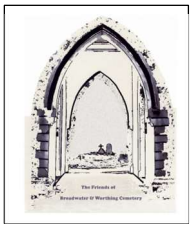
THE FRIENDS OF

BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

NEWSLETTER **Issue 48, Autumn 2024**



The Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery, http://www.fbwc.co.uk/

FBWC 2024 Review

By Sally Roberts, Vice Chair
On behalf of our Chair Debra Hillman

This last year has, as always, been a really busy one for the members/'Friends' of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery (FBWC).

Every year, we give the public seven chances (one every month between April and October) to have a free guided tour of this wonderful cemetery. Our tours offer visitors an insight into Victorian times and social history. When we conduct our tours, they often attract up to 100 people.



First tour of the year in April 2024
(Photo courtesy of Gavin Hobbs)

Some of our tour visitors have relatives buried in the cemetery, and some have an interest in social history. For others, it may be the first time they have ventured into the cemetery. Whatever their reason for showing up, we hope our visitors always leave satisfied and happy, for we also offer, for a very small donation, tea, coffee, and home-made cakes, which are provided by Carole (see page 7) and Karen (see Newsletter 47). Anne, Rosemary, and Gill sell the booklets that accompany our tours – as do our Duke of Edinburgh candidates, Lillie and Jake.

We also give talks about our cemetery: our most recent talk was to students at The MET College (Broadwater campus) who have offered to help with clearance during the coming year.

At the start of this year, Colin and Mary (with others) produced a book about the typhoid epidemic called *Fever! The Day Worthing Died.* They have worked incredibly hard to sell this amazing book by giving talks to local groups (see photo below and page 16) and manning a stall on our tour days.



Colin giving a talk to local group
West Sussex Writers in Goring
(Photo courtesy of Mary Mckeown)

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They have nearly sold out of their first and only print, so to get yourself a copy of this one-off book you'll need to be quick! Please contact Mary or Colin on worthingtyphoid@gmail.com to purchase your own copy of *Fever!* at just £14.99.

In addition to our tours, our clearance group, run by Paul Robards, meet every month to primarily tidy the graves that feature in the tours, but they also tackle overgrown areas on a regular basis. The cemetery is so big that without the help of the council, it's an impossible task. The council have, as agreed, cut the official paths this year, and they started well clearing the back area of the cemetery at the start of the year. We also have a promise that a large area at the front of the cemetery will be cleared this winter. This will help those trying to locate family graves. Council cuts, however, have made it impossible to have the four cuts a year we used to get. In addition, Paul Robards works regularly on his own at clearance, as does Jeff Hillman. They both do a sterling job.

Paul also maintains wildlife areas to encourage the growth of flora and fauna in the cemetery, and these flourish and prove very popular with our visitors.

What is so good is that we have a wealth of different people using the cemetery. People use it for a walk, a picnic, a tea break, a meet up with a friend, or to walk their dog. All our visitors make our work worthwhile and it's just so nice to have all our hard work in public and behind the scenes appreciated. We have research meetings, committee meetings, ad hoc meetings and numerous trips to the post office to bank our takings, which this year have included old pound coins, foreign coins, and even an old sixpence! Broadwater Post Office staff are amazing in how they help us bank our cash locally.

If you haven't ventured into this cemetery yet, do try and pop in during 2025. I guarantee you a warm welcome as a visitor, or better still by becoming an active member.

We always need help with research and with clearance, and our lovely editor Anita always loves receiving articles and photos for our newsletter too.

I look forward to seeing you all in 2025 – either for the first time or as a returner.

Sally



(Photo courtesy of Paul Robards)

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Useful Dates 2024	29th November at 18:00	AGM Gordon Room, Worthing Town Hall

Tour themes for 2025

We are currently finalising our tour themes for 2025. Please check our website or Facebook page for details nearer the time.

Tours are conducted on the first Saturday of each month (April through to October) unless stated otherwise.

Ideas welcome for future tours

We'd love to hear any ideas you may have for a future tour. Please get in touch with us via our Facebook page. All ideas welcome!

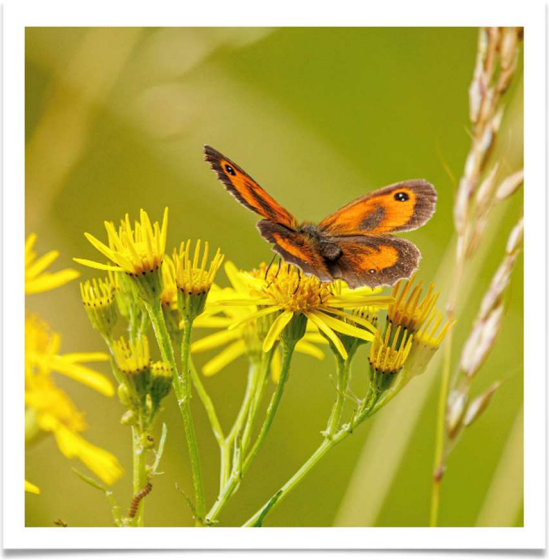
Tour refreshments 2025

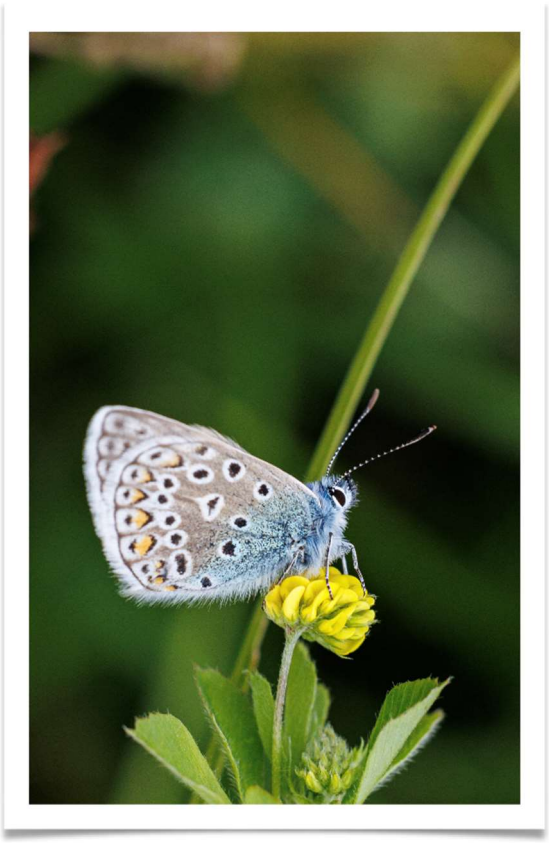
Just a reminder that we are unable to provide our refreshments in polystyrene cups. Please bring your own cup with you when ordering a tea or coffee from our refreshment stand. Thank you for your support.

The hidden details of Broadwater Cemetery: my photographic journey (part four)

By R E Barry Chidlow







As we approach the final months of this year, we find ourselves realising that the summer is passing quickly and autumn is upon us. The temperature is beginning to drop and the nights are drawing in.

Macro photography (taking close-ups of small subjects) is a favourite genre of mine, which I hope to develop further, so on my walks through the cemetery I look really hard to find the very small things in life. Sometimes you have to look really hard to find something of interest, but the cemetery never fails to deliver!



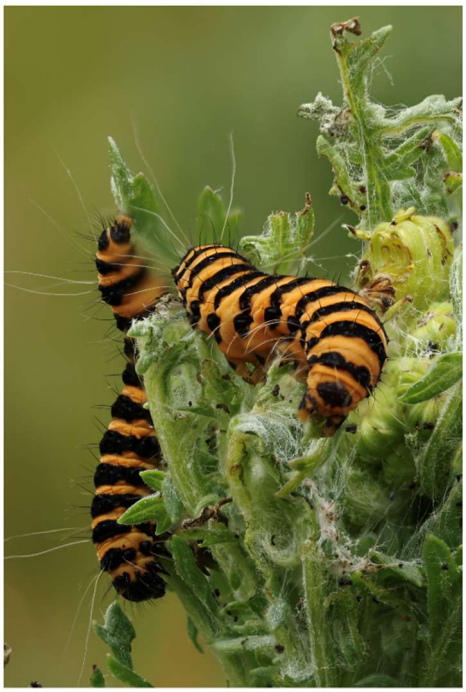
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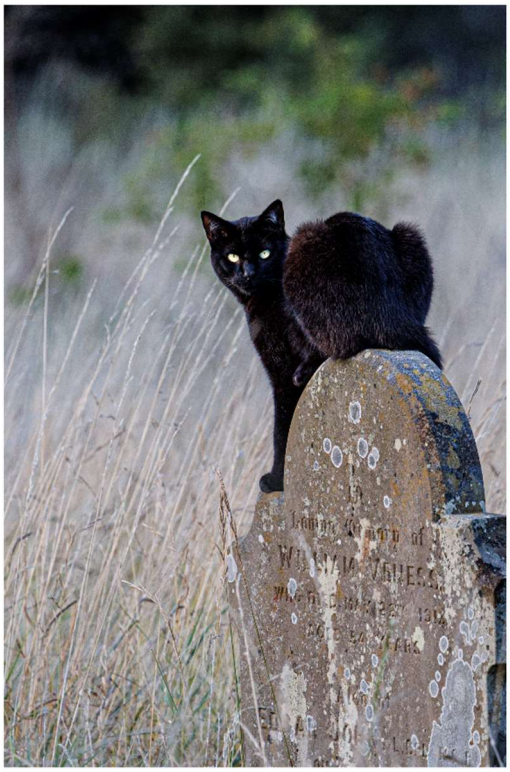








Admittedly, my last image is of one that is not so small, but one I know that many of you will recognise…



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… our resident cat!

It would be lovely to know his name and where he comes from. Either way, he makes a great subject so I could not leave him out. He is just so handsome! Check out those eyes!

I hope that these photographs may inspire you to look that little bit harder next time you take a walk in this precious place. I also realise now that there are many of you out there taking some great photographs of what you have seen in the cemetery. Perhaps you have been inspired by my images, at least I would like to think so. From what I have seen, I think I will have to up my game to keep up with you all!

I really hope that you have enjoyed following my journey in our wonderful cemetery. I hope you also find it a calming and mindful place to spend time in and that it gives you as much pleasure as it does me.

As always, great thanks must always go to all those FBWC volunteers who continue to keep this open and available to us, so that we can discover and enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of this place. No matter how many times I visit the cemetery, I continually find something different to observe and photograph. Until next time.

Barry

Some more macro photography…



(These photos are courtesy of Paul Robards)

Meet one of our volunteers…

Carole Manning



(Photo supplied by Carole Manning)

By Carole Manning

I have been married to Norman for 59 years and have a daughter and a son, five grandchildren, and in July we were delighted to become great grandparents to Poppy.

My occupation in life was nursing, but because of chronic back problems I had to take early retirement.

In 2010, I began researching my family tree. To my surprise, I discovered there were several members of my family buried in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery – including my great grandparents. Although I have lived in Worthing all my life, I don't remember having visited the cemetery. However, for the last 14 years I have spent many hours there. My husband, who had been involved in a Green Gym project and was keen to find something similar, joined the cemetery's maintenance team and at times I joined him, later progressing to recording the memorial inscriptions (many of which I uploaded later).

When the research group decided to start having themed tours, I learnt how to research the lives of some of the people featured. After some of these tours, I suggested offering, for a donation, tea, coffee, and biscuits. These were well received, so I started to offer cake as well. My friend Karen soon joined me and together we baked cakes for tour days, which were very popular. We received a variety of donations, some people being very generous, so we were able donate the proceeds to the funds. Some days we enjoyed the sunshine, but other days we huddled under the arch while it rained and the wind blew.

I have learned so much about the town and its history and met so many interesting people. Plus, I have made some really good supportive friends. They have been there for me during some difficult times and are also there when it's time to go out for a cream tea!

Sadly, because of failing health and mobility, we have now moved from Worthing to live nearer our son in Weymouth, an area we love and we have been visiting for the past 27 years since he moved there. Although I feel we know Weymouth well, I miss my Worthing friends. However, as some of them are planning to visit soon, I am hoping I may be able to do some research for the next season.

If you want to make friends, learn some local history and give a little back to the community, become a Friend of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery.

Carole

THANK YOU, CAROLE!

On behalf of all the Friends, we'd like to say a big thank you, Carole, for all the baking and time you've given over the years. We have very much appreciated all your hard work and dedication. Thank you! We wish you all the very best in Weymouth with your family.

Volunteer news...

Lillie, one of our Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) volunteers, has now completed her silver D of E award. Congratulations, Lillie!

If you would like to volunteer, please see our Facebook page for ways to contact us. (Please also see opposite for specialist volunteering roles.)

Corporate volunteering days

We appreciate all offers of help, and corporate volunteering days are a great way to help us achieve a lot in a very short space of time.

If your business would like to help us, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch with us via our Facebook page.

Join us! Become a volunteer

We welcome anyone who would like to volunteer with us. There are plenty of ways you can help, plus we also have some specialised volunteering roles that we're eager to fill:

'Adopt a grave' volunteers

We're after volunteers who would like to 'adopt a grave' from our list of graves that need some tender loving care. This role involves general grave maintenance.

Volunteer for wildlife areas

We're looking for help managing our wildlife areas. This involves preparing and strimming certain areas, plus sowing plants ready for next spring.

Volunteer photographer

We're looking for a photographer to take photos of our tour days and then upload the photos onto our Facebook page.

Volunteer researchers

We're seeking researchers to come and join our team who are interested in exploring family and local history, and who have access to online sources.

Volunteer tour-booklet producer(s)

We're looking for help with the production – both compiling and printing – of our tour booklets.

If you're interested in any of these roles please get in touch via our Facebook page. Thank you!

Work that we've done over the last few months...

- Tour planning and research
- Light clearance work
- Council cut back trees and shrubs overhanging pathways
- Council cut grass throughout the cemetery
- Council cleared green waste from the chapels
- Brownie litter pick (July)
- Private tour for a local U3A group (August)
- Some grass paths reinstated
- Publicising of typhoid book
- Supervising Duke of Edinburgh volunteers
- Investigating the Green Flag Award
- Working on a new website
- Preparing ground by the North School boundary (volunteers needed!)
- Purchased tree loppers, garden secateurs, and (hazardous) marker flags

And what work still needs to be done...

- Ongoing cemetery maintenance
- Website
- Planning of Nature Ramble
- Planning nature photography sessions
- The sowing of wildflower seeds by the North School boundary
- Planning of 2025 tours

CAN YOU HELP?

We need various items to carry out our work at the cemetery. If you can donate any of the following, please get in touch via our Facebook page. Thank you!

- Garden shears
- Wooden bird boxes
- Wildflower seeds

Join us!

Become a Friend

As a Friend

You will receive a twice-yearly newsletter, and you can have a say in how we manage the cemetery by attending and voting at our AGM in November.

Membership

Membership costs just £5 per year (and runs from January to December).

Membership fees can be paid via a bank transfer or a Standing Order (Lloyds, Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery, sort code 30-99-50, account number 65378260).

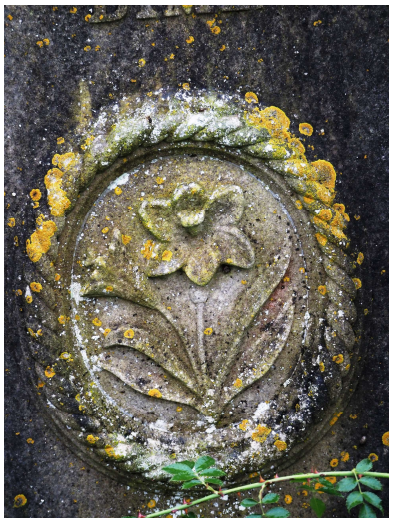
Please reference your surname with your payment if you are paying by bank transfer or Standing Order.

Cheques to the value of £5 – made payable to 'Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery' – are also welcome.

Membership forms

Membership forms are available from our tables on tour days.

Some photos taken in the cemetery...





(Photos courtesy of Paul Robards)

Paul's corner



By Paul Robards
Wildlife & Clearance Co-Ordinator

This year's highlights:

The flowers in the cemetery are doing really well. Being given the chance to go to seed allows them to spread further, which creates greater diversity.

We have a much larger area of the quite rare grass vetchling now established. This is possibly due to the grass cutters not doing much cutting this year.

We do get the odd public complaint* about the cemetery grass not being cut, but it does have its advantages:



We have had some pyramidal orchids appear this year, earlier than usual, but not as many as previous years. This could be because the grass was too long in July!



This year, we've had very large numbers of Cinnabar moth caterpillars in the cemetery. While some people were saying that they had not seen so many around this year, we had large numbers on the ragwort flowers. Ragwort is not loved by everyone, but it is very important for this species of moth to succeed. Hopefully, this pattern will continue. Again, our large numbers could be because the grass was not cut, which allowed the ragwort to flourish.



Cinnabar moth caterpillars

*If there is as complaint regarding a certain grave not being accessible, I offer to clear that particular grave. As we do for the tour graves. ▶

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Cinnabar moth

The cemetery presently has lots of mostly red berries out on display, which adds colour to otherwise damp, drab days.



Plans for next year:

Although the Nature Ramble was well attended this year, I would like to change the format next year. It was difficult walking around the cemetery with over 30 interested people and hold their attention. Next year, I plan to have a Nature Day with hourly slots. If interested people were to book a time (say, 11am, 12pm, 1pm etc.), there may only be six to eight people per hour, making it much more manageable. It will also be more personal, allowing for more interaction. We can always ask our tour visitors for their opinion ahead of this at one of the tours.



Paul Robards and Barbara Shaw as tour guides for the 2024 Nature Ramble (Photo courtesy of Anita Hobbs)

I am also planning (along with two others) some nature photography sessions. At present, the plan is to have six interested people go with one of us to photograph nature in the cemetery. Those interested will bring their own camera and look for suitable nature subjects. We will probably advertise this on Facebook to see what interest there is.

This year, there has been a trickle of interested and supportive volunteers attending the clearance days. The work that is done is satisfying, but, as always, we could achieve so much more with a greater number of volunteers.

Paul

A past life: Emily Burling

Death in the workhouse

By Rosemary Pearson

Occasionally, information comes to light too late for an article to be included in one of our themed tours. The story of Emily Burling (née Moore) is one such example. Born into a respected local family who ran a once successful business in Worthing, a series of misfortunes throughout her life meant that she was forced to spend the final years of her life in East Preston workhouse.

Elizabeth Emily Moore, known as Emily, was baptised at St Mary's, Broadwater, on 3rd August 1828. She was the eldest of three daughters of Thomas Moore junior, a baker, and his wife, Elizabeth, and was brought up in Chapel Street (Portland Road) with her two younger sisters, Julia, who was born in 1833, and Sarah Ann, born in 1835. Her father was the only son of Thomas Moore senior, a master baker and confectioner, whose premises were just round the corner in Montague Street.

'At the time, Worthing was an up-and-coming resort'

Emily's grandparents had arrived in Worthing in the early 1800s with their three eldest children, including Emily's father, Thomas junior, and her two elder aunts, Sarah Matilda and Ann. Her youngest aunt, Mary, was born shortly afterwards. At the time, the town was an up-and-coming resort and her grandfather soon built up a successful business in the heart of the town. He also purchased a parcel of land a short distance away on which he built a windmill, known as the Cross Street or Worthing Mill, and a miller's cottage, which he rented out. Sadly, these good times were not to last.

The currently unexplained death of Emily's eldest aunt, Sarah Matilda, in 1832, barely two years after her marriage to George Rich, was the first in a series of tragedies to befall the family. However, it was probably the death of Emily's four-year-old sister, Sarah Ann, in 1839, when Emily was eleven years old, that was to have a greater effect on her.

'The number of visitors to the town had fallen'

The death of Emily's grandfather, Thomas Moore senior, on the 26th January 1845, was not unexpected, as his health had been failing for some time. By now, Worthing, like much of the country, was in the grip of a prolonged recession. The number of visitors to the town had fallen and the mill had been sold some years previously. Her father took over the running of the bakery, and the family moved round the corner to live in the Montague Street premises, where they joined Emily's grandmother, Sarah, her aunt, Ann Moore, and Ann's teenage daughter, Isabel.

But things were about to get worse.

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Several local businesses were going bankrupt, including the previously thriving auctioneering business of Duke Paine, husband of Emily's youngest aunt, Mary. Despite auctioning off all their belongings, thus leaving his family virtually penniless, just before Christmas 1848, Duke was summoned to appear before the Court of Bankruptcy in London on 30th December. The following day, Emily's aunt, Ann Moore, died suddenly of a fever. This led to a further tragedy for the family a few months later, with the suicide of Emily's grandmother, Sarah. Already suffering from failing health, and now convinced their business was also about to become bankrupt, Sarah drowned herself in the drainage pit by the bakery's water pump in the early hours of 9th September 1849.

'Conditions locally gradually improved, and prospects were looking promising for Emily'

Despite this terrible shock for the whole family, Emily's father kept the business going, and by 1851, along with assistance from the family, he was now employing a man and two boys. Conditions locally gradually improved, and by 1866, after the previous challenging years, prospects were looking promising for Emily and her sister, Julia.

On 11th July 1866, Julia married John Charman, a waiter, at St Mary's, Broadwater, then, on 5th August, Emily married Alfred William Burling, a tailor, at St Andrew's, Hove. Julia's husband soon became involved with the bakery, and by 1871, after Thomas and Elizabeth Moore had retired and moved to Bath Place to run a lodging house, John Charman took over the family bakery business.

'By 1871, Emily was living at Bath Place with her parents'

Sadly, things did not turn out so well for Emily. By 1871, she was living at Bath Place with her parents, apparently having been abandoned by her husband (who later turned up in Australia). Following the death of Thomas Moore junior, Emily and Julia's father, in December 1880, Julia and her husband moved to Bath Place, where they supported Emily and Julia's mother, Elizabeth Moore, until her death. Emily now had to leave to support herself, and in 1881, she was recorded as Emily Burling, a widow, employed as a domestic servant at 22 Graham Road.

After Elizabeth Moore's death in 1885, the Charmans moved to 70 Marine Parade, where they ran another lodging house. John Charman died there in March 1891, and the census shows his widow, Julia, as head of the household, along with a housemaid. Emily, now known as Emily Moore, single woman, is recorded as her general servant.

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Julia herself died in 1892 and was buried in Broadwater Cemetery on 6th October. Since neither of the sisters had any children, Emily was now alone.

It is not known whether Emily had kept in contact with Isabel or any of her surviving Paine cousins, or when she entered the East Preston workhouse, as she has not been traced on the 1901 Census under any of her various aliases. However, she was recorded there in 1911, as Emily Burling, and she is likely to have remained there until her death in 1914 at the age of 84. She was buried in Broadwater Cemetery in plot A9-9-3 on 10th March 1914. Like her parents and the Charmans, Emily lies in an unmarked grave, a sad ending for someone from a once highly respected family.

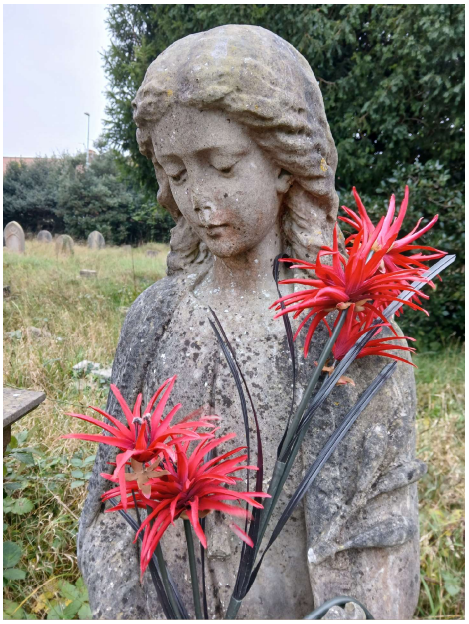


Emily's youngest aunt, Mary, was buried in an unmarked grave but was later remembered on the headstone of her son, Charles Paine, in C20-5-16.
(Photo courtesy of Rosemary Pearson)

Footnote:

Further information on the Moore family can be found in tour booklet 31, Businessmen and Shopkeepers part 4, although this section is now due for an update.

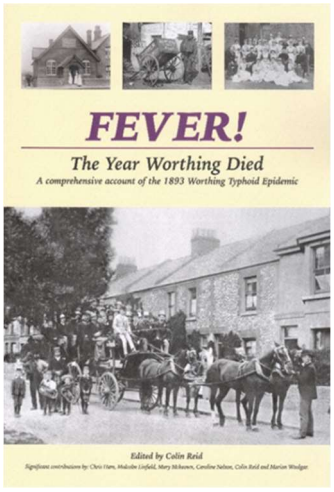
Some photos taken in the cemetery…





(Photos courtesy of Paul Robards)

Friends' publication update



Promoting sales of *FEVER! The Year Worthing Died*

By Mary Mckeown

In the 12 months since the publication of *FEVER! The Year Worthing Died*, the editor (Colin Reid) has now been involved in six promotional events of the book and it is pleasing to say it has been possible to fully reimburse the individual who provided a substantial bridging loan that made the publication possible in 2023.

The last two promotional events occurred in October 2024:

On 10th October, Colin spoke to a gathering of 19 members of the West Sussex Writers Group (WSWG) at Goring Methodist Church. His presentation used *My Dear Clarice* (*MDC*), Colin's own book about his family's history, and *FEVER! The Year Worthing Died*, to illustrate the comparisons and contrasts involved in publishing non-fiction books, both as a sole author (*MDC*) and as an editor and co-author with five others (*FEVER!*). One copy of *FEVER! The Year Worthing Died* was funded by WSWG as a raffle prize. Before the next WSWG meeting, Colin Reid and Mary Mckeown will be marking members' 'homework' set by Colin.



Colin giving a talk to local group West Sussex Writers in Goring (Photo courtesy of Mary Mckeown)

On 25th October, Colin spoke to an enthusiastic audience of some 60 individuals at Findon Valley Free Church under the auspices of Findon Valley Local History Group. His Powerpoint presentation about *FEVER! The Year Worthing Died* was very well received and fed into a good Q & A session. Mary Mckeown was on hand to sell five copies of *FEVER!*



Colin presenting at Findon Valley Free Church (Photo courtesy of Mary Mckeown)

Blackboard observations

Our blackboard is located through the main entrance gates, and on the inside of the archway on the left.

We welcome anyone spending time in the cemetery to note down their observations and comments. We share a few of them here.

(Observations recorded by Paul Robards and Anita Hobbs.)



Please do keep making observations and comments about what you're seeing in the cemetery.

We really value your support, so please feel free to keep in touch with us via our Facebook page.

Thank you!