THE BROADSHEET

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THE TRIANNUAL VOICE OF THE FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS HEAD A SERIES OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Since the last edition of THE BROADSHEET was published in late March there has been a bewildering series of events that have all been important in their own right and the order in which they are reported within these pages is largely random. Perhaps the most significant gathering was on Saturday 11 May 2013 when the 150th Anniversary of the opening of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery was celebrated in a novel and, for the relatively conservative Friends, somewhat extravagant fashion. The weather was again kind, which although blustery provided sunny periods rather than the promised showers. The turnout was extremely rewarding after all of the hard work involved in organising the event.

One of the highlights was the provision of a black horse drawn hearse headed by two splendid black stallions adorned with black plumed headdresses. They looked truly magnificent standing just outside of the South Farm Road entrance. At the other end of the scale was an amusing precedent, a hired-for-the-day portaloo, a first for the FBWC! Refreshments were provided for the gathered crowds by Carole and Norman Manning, there were family history stalls, information boards superbly populated by the Friends, including Sue Nea and Mary Pickett, and they (and others) provided a 'help find a grave or ancestor' service. Other stalls filled the entrance area, including the Worthing Journal, CWGC and Worthing Pubs. The day was enhanced by Salvation Army commemorations (see next para.).



The 150th Anniversary celebrations were shared with members of the local Salvation Army who were present in some numbers. The Sally Army band were in good form as Commanding Officers, Majors David and Janet Howarth, led a service in memory of Captain Sarah Broadhurst, who died aged 43 of injuries received in the so called 'Salvation Army Riots' in Victorian times. She was hailed a martyr. A commemorative plaque was placed beneath a newly planted rowan tree within the cemetery grounds. The Salvation Army group moved on to another commemoration within the cemetery for an infant named PJ Carrington-

Moule, who died in 1958 without a memorial stone, a wrong put right on 11 May.

A number of Friends and a handful of the many visitors dressed in Victorian costumes for the occasion and very attractive they looked too. After the Salvation Army service the crowds were invited to participate in two guided tours conducted by your Editor. The background data for the tour had been collated by our wonderful Civilian Researchers, with of course the occasional *ad lib.* There were about 65 attendees on the first of the Anniversary tours and a further 25 on the second tour. The tours centred around the early history of the cemetery, such as the builders, land owners, local clergy, the first buried, both rich and poor and the first females and children buried on the site. The Chairman said that the tour guide looked 'dapper' but with his top hat in place he confirmed that he felt more like a 'plonker'! Thanks goes to Mr Stepney who wryly asked whether it was a wedding or a funeral that the tour guide was attending. The overall attendance was well into three figures. The occasion was, in all respects, a resounding success due to the efforts of many Friends, not all of whom have been 'mentioned in despatches'.







Above left, the Salvation Army band gets into its stride under their fluttering flag. [Photo Paul Robards]. To the left the top-hatted tour guide is seen molesting the Victorian flower lady! [All non-credited photos by your Editor]



The Friends sold no less than 130 booklets and 3 Military Guides, with £35 collected by way of donations and £24 received for our refreshments, totalling a really impressive £204 on the day. Our thanks also go to Frank Ffitch for overseeing all of the Salvation Army arrangements and for acting as liaison officer. Thanks must be recorded to Ian Hart and the Heritage Horse Drawn Carriage Masters of Essex, to Paul Holden for making the arrangements, Sir Peter Bottomley MP and the Sussex Coin Company for donations and to our Chairman Debra Hillman for 'topping up the pot'. We also again welcomed the lads from the Worthing Pubs history group. It was a fun day enjoyed by all and certainly something to remember for some considerable time. There is so much more that could be said about the day, by way of example, the painstaking research that went into the special 150th Anniversary booklet, which sold well, the maintenance team that cut the grass on the graves to be included in the tours, those that placed special flower and flag markers on each and every grave during the tour, John Stepney for the memorial crosses and markers he made especially for the occasion, our successful and persuasive book sellers; the list goes on and on.



The efforts of the FBWC were given plenty of column inches in the local press, which hopefully somebody will read about when researching local history in 100 years' time.

Top, is the suitably embellished FBWC notice by the cemetery entrance informing the public of the special event. Above, Carole Manning looks great in Victorian garb as she caters for the crowds. Below, a passing artisan is sandwiched between two Victorian ladies of quality.



[Photos top and left from Paul Robards]

PUBLIC RESPOND TO CEMETERY MAINTENANCE CALL

After considerable publicity was given to our call for the general public to help with maintenance there was a really encouraging turnout to assist the Friends on Saturday 6 April 2013. Including Friends there were no fewer than 42 attendees at the cemetery, including a large number of 'new' faces. Several of the voluntary helpers joined-up to become Friends. This was an innovative move with Sue Nea and Paul Robards hiding from any credit offered for the original idea. A considerable amount was achieved with both the remote and chapel tipping areas looking rather full. Well done to all concerned. It restored some faith in human nature, making a pleasant change from the usual public apathy that is so commonplace.



Here we see a picture of our 'urn. No, not the name of our willing maintenance helper, but of the delightful pot he is holding, which was found in the brambles and undergrowth visible in the background. A number of headstones in undergrowth were re-discovered while the heavy gang managed to turn a couple of monster memorials with the help of crowbars. Below the crowd assembles by the chapels with a famous orange wheelbarrow full of tools visible in the foreground.



TYPHOID EPIDEMIC COMMEMORATED

Adding to an impressive list of special events on Saturday 6 July 2013 was another tremendous occasion where the seemingly never ending initiatives of the Friends came nearer fruition. A special polished granite memorial commemorating the disastrous 1893 Worthing Typhoid Epidemic was unveiled by the Deputy Mayor of Worthing, Councillor Vic Walker. One of the prime movers for the event was Friend Mary McKeown and our combined thanks go to her. A special 'Typhoid Epidemic 2 – 120th Anniversary' booklet was produced for the occasion by Mary and Civilian Researchers, which sold like hot cakes.

The commemorative stone was generously sponsored by Cooperative Funeralcare and no expense was spared in terms of the size and quality of the stone or the engraving. The company was represented by Andy Wieczorek, Chris Sarson, Ian Mason and Amie Hopper and their photograph appears overleaf.

Yet again the weather was kind and the sun shone. The Worthing Herald, Worthing Journal and The Broadsheet competed for pictures as our Chairman gave a background and welcoming speech to the assembled masses in front of the South Farm Road chapels. The Deputy Mayor and his Lady were both enthusiastic about the day and the project and he gave a knowledgeable and hearty speech about the troubled times past, while recognising the work done by the Friends. His presence was most welcome, especially in view of the lack of local dignitaries at the successful 150th Anniversary event in May. Below, our Chairman Debra Hillman makes her introductory speech, while the crowd and the Deputy Mayor (left) look-on. The unveiled memorial is surrounded by flowers planted by the Friends.





The cemetery cat enjoys the proceedings and a scratch!



Above, the Deputy Mayor of Worthing is seen making his well-informed speech, much to the delight of the Friends and our sponsors. Chairman Debra Hillman and tour guide Mary McKeown are in the left background, seen just before the unveiling. Below the representatives of Cooperative Funeralcare pose for the camera behind the impressive and beautifully engraved Typhoid Epidemic memorial stone, installed at last, some 120 years after a shocking episode in Worthing's history.

The subsequent tour of several graves of Typhoid Epidemic victims buried in the cemetery was conducted by Mary McKeown. Many Friends abandoned their maintenance Saturday to join the tour and there was good representation from the general public. In total 67 people and one dog enjoyed the 1 hour and 20 minute tour. Sally Roberts gave a fully justified vote of thanks to Mary at the end of the tour. On the day £50 was collected on behalf of the Water Aid charity. **The Typhoid Memorial was donated by the Co-Operative Funeralcare as part of their commitment to the local community.**



Below are some additional photographs of the Typoid Epidemic event. Top, the image shows just part of the crowd of 67 tour participants. It was a pleasure to see three families attending whose distant relatives succumbed to the ‘fever’ 120 years ago and who are buried in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. Middle, Mary our guide is lost in the long grass! Below, is another view of the large crowd with, in the foreground, an unusually shaped grave ‘unearthed’ by Frank Ffitch just days before the tour.







A CEMETERY OASIS

During our tour days there are a number of Friends to thank for their efforts and they do not always get a specific mention. The Typhoid Epidemic tour was run in some of the hottest conditions we have yet encountered but fortunately the Allchin family rallied to the cause by cleverly anticipating such conditions and by supplying ice cold water for all of our guests and Friends. The low water temperature was maintained by using a Cricket Club storage vessel, thirsts being quenched by pouring the welcome and gratuitous water into small plastic cups. Well done Antony and Angie for your kind thoughts and gesture. The happy couple are featured below with their plastic trays.



SUPERB LIBRARY DISPLAY

At the beginning of May 2013 the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery populated a wonderful display case in the main entrance of Worthing Public Library, which was full of cemetery artefacts and ephemera. There was considerable public interest during the two week exhibition. A vote of thanks to Debra Hillman, Sue Nea and Mary Pickett for a job well done and to Angie and Antony Allchin for display board transportation. Items were kindly loaned for exhibit by Pam Stepney, Angela Butler and Barbara Ayres.



NEW MILITARY TOUR LAUNCHED

Friend John Stepney and associates spent a considerable time in detailed research and planning with the objective of producing a further military booklet and a new commensurate cemetery tour for the 2013 programme. Although an earlier tour had been successful and the Friends had published Chris Green's book, there was ample scope for a further project.

On 1 May 2013 the new tour took place with John sharing the tour guide work with Colin Reid. This pair of gentlemen enthralled a reasonable crowd of 25 with stories and anecdotes of times past, leaving an impression on the writer's mind of what an appalling waste of life occurred during those dark war years and also how many lives were sacrificed not only in fighting the enemy but as a result of some totally incompetent decisions by our senior officers. In the writer's mind this was one of the more sobering tours; 'they' must never be forgotten and certainly the FBWC have not forgotten. Next year is of course the centenary of the start of the First World War and we can expect more military 'action' in our activity list.



Evening Despatch

6-30 CITY

INVASION GOING WELL: TANKS ASHORE

ALLIES HAVE FOOTHOLD: SLASHING INLAND

Churchill reveals ALL TO PLAN—AND WHAT A PLAN

11,000 planes and 4,000 ships engaged

DAWN FOR GREATEST EVER ARMADA

Our invasion is "proceeding to plan—and what a plan." This is what a confident Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons to-day in a brief review of the landings in Northern France which began soon after dawn.

AN IMMENSE ARMADA OF "UPWARDS" OF 4,000 SHIPS, WITH SEVERAL THOUSAND SMALLER CRAFT, HAVE CROSSED THE CHANNEL, SUSTAINED BY ABOUT 11,000 FIRST-LINE AIRCRAFT, DISCLOSED THE PREMIER.

Landings on Guernsey, Jersey

THE KING TO BROADCAST

Luftwaffe kept a

The exhibit above demonstrates the effort that John Stepney went to in order to locate items for public display. Below, John and Colin's tour in progress on yet another sunny day.





Colin Reid is seen making an animated point to the Military tour participants on 1 June 2013.

CEMETERY HUMOUR

Saint Peter is waiting by the Pearly Gates when two hoodies arrive. Peter doesn't like the look of them and asks them to wait a while. He goes to see God and tells him who has arrived at the gates to the Kingdom.

God says to Peter "How many times have I told you, we do not discriminate here. All are loved and we are all brothers. Go back and let them in."

Saint Peter returns to the gates, looks around and sighs heavily. He returns to God and says "They've gone." God says "Who, the hoodies?" "No" says Peter "the Pearly Gates"!

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Married couple Bob and Marion make a deal that whoever 'goes first' will come back and tell their surviving partner if there is an afterlife and if there is sex or 'hanky- panky' after death.

Poor old Bob dies first and after a while he contacts Marion. "Is that you Bob" she says. "Yes, I've come back as we agreed" says Bob. "Well what's it like?" says Marion.

"Well, I get up in the morning and have hanky- panky, and then I go off to the golf course and have breakfast. I have hanky- panky again and then sunbathe for a while before lunch. Then it's time for more hanky- panky. I go back to the golf course for supper and then have more hanky- panky. I have hanky- panky before I go to bed for some well-earned sleep".

"Oh Bob" says Marion "are you in heaven?" "No" says Bob "I am a rabbit at Hill Barn"!

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Headstone: HERE RESTS PANCRAZIO JUVENALES

1968 TO 1993

He was a good husband and a wonderful father but a bad electrician.

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Headstone: LAWRENCE L COOK JNR

1934 TO 2004

Ma loves Pa. Pa loves women. Ma caught Pa with two in swimmin'. Here lies Pa.

FRIEND TOM - THE GOOD SAMARITAN

"Last night I received a telephone call from a Mrs Beale in Croydon informing me that relations of a person buried in our cemetery were attending a funeral in Croydon and they wanted to travel down to visit the grave in Worthing. Given that the family had travelled from Portugal, France, Italy and Canada and they were about to go home time was short. I gave them my 'phone number and told them to give me a ring when they were near Worthing (they did not know what time the funeral would end). About 4pm they telephoned to say that they were about five minutes away from the cemetery and I agreed to meet them. To do this I had to leave my grandson's birthday party! On arriving at the cemetery I was able to take them to the right area and proceeded to count the graves down to number 40. I then said that their father is somewhere near here. Would you believe it, one of them looked down and said "Here it is, I'm standing on him"! Five very happy people were delighted that their trip had been worthwhile and that the grave had been found so quickly. It was my good deed for the day. The name of the family was Brookes and the grave at C13/2/40, pictured below.



[Photo Tom Wye]

BANK AND BODS

Your Editor is delighted to report, courtesy of Alan Rice and Mary Pickett, that the FBWC bank balance now stands at just over £4,000 and membership has risen to 95 Friends. The weather wiped-out the optimistic plans for a 'Party on the Prom' and a possible FBWC stand.

STRANGE HAPPENINGS AT SOUTHEND

It was reported in the national press on Thursday 13 June 2013 that there had been a strange invasion of the main Southend-on-Sea cemetery. The culprits were millions of caterpillars that suddenly 'arrived' on the trees and headstones in the cemetery. The scene resembled a ghost film, or perhaps the scene after a snow fall, as the larvae of the bird cherry ermine moth eerily appeared.

Our Chairman Debra Hillman represented the National Federation of Cemetery Friends at a Crimestoppers Meeting at Haywards Heath to discuss rural crime and crime in historic environments, including cemeteries. The National Farmers Union, Sussex Police and English Heritage were amongst those present.

CREEPY CRAWLIES IN CEMETERIES

A rare species of orb weaver spider has been discovered in Egyptian Avenue in Highgate Cemetery as a result of a survey by the Wildlife Trust. Commonly known as the cave spider and less commonly as *meta bourneti* it is over 30mm in size and it is thought the population could now amount to about 100 examples. Meanwhile, in the Metropolis Cemetery in Glasgow, a form of the black widow spider, *rugathodes sexpunctatu,* has been discovered, the first sighting in the UK. Mainly found in North America it was spotted in some ivy. This species is apparently harmless.

PAUL AND HIS PINKIES

It seems that in every issue of THE BROADSHEET I report some wheeler-dealing by Paul Robards on some unsuspecting nursery or garden centre owner. Well this time he has amusingly topped the lot. Paul noticed that plastic watering cans in green and blue colours were selling like hot cakes at £6 each but that nobody was buying pink ones. So, bearing in mind we needed some cans for watering our new plants, see picture below, he managed to buy **three** pink watering cans for £6, that's only £2 each! So, if you see Paul or Friends with pink cans there is nothing 'wrong' with them – it was simply a matter of price. Paul also managed to purchase 144 plants for just £32 at the Findon Garden Centre. Next time any Friend wants to buy a new car I suggest they take Paul along. You may save up to £3,000 if you don't mind driving a pink car! Below, Debra Hillman, Linda and Paul Robards and Rosemary Westlake are busy planting flowers by the Typhoid Memorial.



[Photo Mary McKeown]

THE BROADSHEET GOES TRIANNUAL

As a result of a unanimous vote by Friends in favour of a motion by your Editor it was agreed by attendees at the April monthly meeting that THE BROADSHEET will be produced three times, rather than four times, per annum; on or about 1 April, 1 August and 1 December. The proposal was based on a low contribution rate from Friends, 'green' credentials, fewer future events of exceptional note and a logical tie-in with our activities and events calendar.

FLOWERS THRIVE IN FLOWER BED!



After many weeks of hard graft in clearing a rocky area of ground in order to plant mixed flowers, the results have come to fruition in a spectacular way. At the beginning of the year some backbreaking work by Jeff Hillman and A N Other had prepared the ground in a section of area A9. After the ground was prepared Debra and her Ma Rosemary planted the seeds, watered them and protected them from the elements by a large fleece (see above picture). Sue Nea was in the cemetery last week and took the photograph below showing to advantage the wonderful blooms, adding a splash of colour to the parched cemetery. This is yet another initiative by the Friends that has clearly been successful.



[Photo Sue Nea]

E-BOOK PROGRESS

At the time of going to press ‘Jimmy’ at ‘worthingpubs.com’ has completed the creation of an e-book that combines two of our famous booklets, appropriately ‘Publicans and Hoteliers Parts 1 and 2’. The book is titled “Dead Important”, which appeals to your Editor’s sense of humour. It is early days but it will be interesting to see the response to the project and any future developments that may occur. Chairman Debra Hillman has offered instructions on how to access the e-book but your Editor’s PC cannot open a MOBI file (“no relevant file”!).

CLEARANCE AND MAINTENANCE

Paul Robards has reported that a gap in the perimeter hedge in South Farm Road will be repaired to prevent intruders. As reported elsewhere there was a rare case of criminal damage this month when spray paint was applied to one memorial, so all Friends need to 'pop-in' to the cemetery from time to time to conduct a spot check for undesirables.

A large number of flowering plants have been purchased since the last BROADSHEET was published and most were used to adorn new memorials and tree plantings. These were all acquired by Paul, mostly at hugely discounted rates courtesy of local garden centres and nurseries. Other sundry items of equipment have also been procured.

There is every chance that Waitrose Supermarket might field a team to help with cemetery maintenance. Other corporate bodies may also make similar contributions to the local community. A large yellow warning sign regarding safety around cemetery memorials has been relocated to the cemetery side of the chapels, where it is less obtrusive. It cannot of course be hidden because the whole purpose of the exercise is for it to be seen by visiting members of the public.

The public/Friends clearance morning in April was a resounding success. A total of 42 people turned up, there was a general talk by Paul, cleaning demonstration by Frank Ffitch, refreshments provided by Carole and Norman Manning, new members were recruited and a great deal of clearance work was accomplished.

A special clearance day was also arranged one week before our 150th Anniversary Open Day, ensuring that the cemetery was presented in the best possible light. Special attention was given to paths and locations where visitors might congregate. A general grass cut and strim was arranged with the new Council contractors. A couple of large stones were turned by the Heavy Gang and some large overhanging tree branches were removed. French marigolds were provided by Findon Garden Centre with the blessing of Martin Raiment, the Plant Manager.

Mary Pickett spotted a wheatear in the cemetery on 14 April, an early arrival from Africa. Large numbers of starlings were also noted plus goldfinches and the usual blackbirds and sparrows. During early July the cemetery grass was again being cut but recent growth has been so prolific that considerable amounts of straw/hay have been strewn across the cemetery. Finally thanks to all who have helped maintain the cemetery. There are too many to name but you all know who you are. We thought we would never see the day but recently our 'rain' umbrellas have been used as parasols! Below, starlings gather on one of 'our' headstones.



Parts of the cemetery have been a sheer delight in terms of fauna and flora, as seen in the colourful view of flowering cherry trees on the next page. Also illustrated is the lovely memorial made by John Stepney for the 150th Anniversary Open Day and tours, to show the resting place of the first children to be buried in the cemetery Less pretty but worth recording for posteriors, er that should be posterity, is the first ever portaloo to be hired by the Friends for our Open Day. One visitor said it was all "very convenient"!







EDITORS RAMBLINGS

With so much happening during the first half of our summer season and in the absence of any input there is, regrettably, no Research Corner feature in this issue.

We are looking for a large turnout of Friends for our forthcoming **UNUSUAL DEATHS tour, at 11am on Saturday 3 August 2013.** Give our tour guide Sonia Hawke your support and how about helping with some maintenance on the same date, assuming it is not 90F!

What a wonderful year it has been so far for the Friends and the cemetery. Significant milestones and events have taken place and all have been hugely successful.

The next issue of THE BROADSHEET will appear on or about 1 December 2013. There is plenty of time for YOU to contribute; otherwise you will have to put-up with your Editor's efforts. There will be no fee for your published features but think of the international reputation you might gain for your literary efforts! Have a great summer.

John Vaughan - Editor **16 July 2013**