THE BROADSHEET

Issue No.29
Autumn 2016

THE TRIANNUAL VOICE OF THE FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

2016 - ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR

Without over-indulging in self-praise what a great year 2016 has been for the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. One could have been excused for thinking that after 8 years interest in the cemetery and the enthusiasm of the Friends may have abated somewhat but such a notion is far from the truth.

The list of achievements is impressive. A full programme of both Saturday and Sunday tours has been completed with over 500 participating members of the public attracted to the cemetery. Five new booklets were published, each one being informative and illustrated. In total book sales during the year amounted to over £577 (gross). The refreshment business has been booming and a separate feature applauds the efforts made in this area with gross takings amounting to a staggering £335, almost doubling the gross take in 2015. Donations to the Friends also exceeded £300 during the accounting period!

New large format signs were designed, procured and erected to assist visitors with the navigation of the cemetery. Hundreds of hours of research were undertaken to populate the booklets. Local children were directly involved for the first time in guiding the main tour during our successful Open Day and in this special year of commemoration military tours were very well attended. Private tours were willingly provided by the Friends 'on request' and much assistance was given in finding the graves of the long lost relatives for members of the general public. There was much flower planting and on the whole monthly cemetery maintenance sessions were very well attended.

The annual turnover was in excess of £1487 and income exceeded expenditure by over £359, notwithstanding the hire of a Portaloo for our Open Day! Membership slowly increased during 2016, ending the year just shy of 100 members. Three issues of the BROADSHEET were issued and publicity was all positive. There was plenty of other activity in many different areas and overall 2016 was a very, very good and encouraging year.

[Photo: A seasonal cemetery visitor by Mary Pickett – all non-credited photos by your Editor]



2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At a well attended Annual General Meeting elections were held for all of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery committee posts and the following officers were proposed, seconded and duly elected by a unanimous block vote.

CHAIRMAN :	**Debra Hillman**
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :	**Sally Roberts**
SECRETARY :	**Paul Holden**
TREASURER :	**John Vaughan**
CIVIL RESEARCH :	**Sue Nea**
MILITARY RESEARCH :	**John Stepney**
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY :	**Mary Pickett**
MAGAZINE EDITOR :	**John Vaughan**
MEDIA OFFICER :	**Paul Holden**
MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR :	**Paul Robards**

There were 28 attendees at the AGM and the meeting followed the pre-prepared agenda. After the election of officers reports were made by all committee postholders and the detailed content will eventually be recorded in the minutes. Of general interest and to be fully described detailed in the Spring 2017 issue of The BROADSHEET, due to be published during the first week of April, was the provisional proposal to hold 7 Saturday and 3 Sunday cemetery tours next year.

It was decided that the annual subscription rate should remain at £3 per annum, for the ninth year running. A date for a Christmas Drinks celebration was agreed and is reported elsewhere, just to confirm that the event will be held at the Cricketers Public House in Broadwater at **19.00 on Tuesday 13 December 2016.** It was noted that the green display boards in the chapel store, which are used on our tour dates, were going mouldy and needed dry secure storage. Requests are going to be made for the Dog Warden to visit the cemetery four times a year in view of the number of dogs seen 'off lead'.

Perhaps the major decision was to commission a pane of stained glass on Worthing Pier, as promoted by Paul Holden, Editor of the Worthing Journal and our Secretary, commemorating 'our' cemetery, which was and still is a major historical site in the formation of the town, and also recognising the efforts and achievements accomplished by the Friends during the past 8 years. The cost will be in the region of £500. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

2016 LATE SUMMER TOURS

A comprehensive review of our 2016 Saturday and Sunday cemetery tours up to and including our Open Day in August was included in the last issue of the BROADSHEET; No.28 Summer 2016. However two further Saturday tours and two more Sunday tours were included in our comprehensive programme and these are reviewed here in words and pictures.

On Sunday 14 August Sally Roberts was the tour guide for an 'Overseas Connections' tour. The weather was extremely kind and the sunshine was enjoyed by all. A good crowd of visitors turned out to hear Sally's well researched delivery and here we see the attentive crowd listening to her every word, except, it would appear, the two dogs!

[Photos: Mary Pickett]





On Saturday 3 September 2016 the FBWC 'Upstairs/Downstairs' tour was conducted by Pauline Reed. Again the Friends were fortunate with the weather, indeed the latter months of the season were, on the whole, very fine indeed. The tour centred on the differences in the social classes about a century ago but the tour also included an example whereby a trusted and faithful servant was buried immediately adjacent to her employers. Below we see Pauline in summer attire and in full flow to our wonderful crowd of 72 attendees, with a gross 'take' of over £100, notwithstanding that all of our tours are free! The scene is at the Horwood grave where, only a few days previous, the Friends had persuaded the Worthing Fire Brigade to help turn a massive headstone especially for the tour (see separate feature on Page 10).



On Sunday 11 September 2016 another Sunday tour was run with the fascinating title of 'Royal Connections'. On this occasion it was Mary McKeown who led the tour and a fascinating tour it turned out to be. Again the climate was kind and a reasonable crowd turned out for the occasion. Below left, Mary is seen entertaining the group of visitors.



On 1 October 2016 our good fortune finally ran out and our 'Medical Profession' tour was held in pouring rain. The conditions were diabolical but our tour guide, Chairman, Debra Hillman supported by Deputy Chairman Sally Roberts gritted their teeth, gave out umbrellas, and proceeded to conduct the entire tour in a true British spirit. There were 24 hardy participants and our thanks go to those visiting stalwarts for their support. The image below clearly illustrates the climatic conditions.

[Photo: Mary Pickett]



Over the year tours were very well attended and a grand total in excess of 500 participants enjoyed the fruits of the research team's labours and of course our expert guides.

PRIVATE TOURS

Over the year a number of private tours were arranged for specific and disparate groups. On 29 October 2016 our Chairman Debra Hillman had the pleasure of taking a group from the Offington Park Residents Association on a tour of the cemetery. She selected some of her favourite stories from those used on FBWC tours, after telling them something of the history of the cemetery. It was also a monthly clearance morning and so the participants could see the Friends hard at work. The tour went well and the feedback was very positive, the group making a £25 donation to FBWC funds. The OPRA are hoping to arrange another tour in the spring. Below, Debra and the group are seen amongst the tints of autumn.



CANCELLED TOUR

For the first time in our 8 years of existence one of our scheduled cemetery tours was cancelled, for good reason. A tour titled 'Remembrance Tour' to be conducted on 12 November 2016 was cancelled by our tour guide and Secretary Paul Holden. In what has undeniably been a year full of various historical military events and commemorations there was a danger of overkill and it was very wisely decided to cancel the event, at least for this year. However as usual and on the same day of the envisaged tour the annual Remembrance Service was held in the cemetery at the Cross of Sacrifice. A report of that event follows.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

On Saturday 12 November 2016 at 11.00 sharp the annual Service of Remembrance was held in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery before the Cross of Sacrifice. Father Keith Smith took the service, which was attended by members of the British Legion, the 2nd Durrington Sea Scouts, representatives of the armed services, civil dignitaries, members of the public and Friends of the cemetery. The sober occasion was held on a very damp day. Our Chairman Debra Hillman placed a small wooden cross beneath the Cross of Sacrifice, see photograph at the foot of the page. Below are illustrations of the event. [Photography: by Denise McGrath]







FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE ON TARGET

Our Treasurer John Vaughan has completed the FWBC account for the financial year ended 21 October 2016. He has reported that our financial performance was excellent and within the parameters specified by legislation concerning small unincorporated organisations. The full accounts are available for inspection by all Friends and copies were made available at our Annual General Meeting on 25 November 2016.

The highlights were as follows. At £1487.93 our turnover was up on the previous year by 12.5%. Book sales were up by 1.5% at £577.64 and membership fees were up by 24%, although that figure includes some carry forward items from the previous year. Donations were at an acceptable level at £320.98, although 15% down on the previous year. Larger 'one-off' donations are capable of making this source of income somewhat volatile. However the most dramatic aspect of our income chain was the increase in our gross sales in respect of refreshments, which year on year increased by a remarkable 96%, at £335.31. A hearty "well done" to Carole Manning and her helpers plus the Sunday team (see Pages 1 and 8).

Overall our income exceeded expenditure by £359.61, a fall of 29% on the previous year. This was attributable to the procurement of two large illustrated directional signboards, the hire of an Open Day 'Portaloo', (extraordinarily) prizes for children participation in the Open Day tour and the acquisition of certain equipment and plants. During the financial year 2015/16 the total cash assets of the FBWC increased by 7% and at year end amounted to £5,478.57 of which £63.80 was held in cash floats. During the past 4 years our cash assets have increased by 48.5%; up from £3,688. In the current year it might be wise to revisit the FBWC 'wish list' to identify further expenditure for items that would **directly benefit the cemetery** and to procure the same. [Below: hopefully not wishful thinking!]



[Photo: Mary Pickett]

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Our hard working Membership Secretary (and Booklet compiler and production Manager) Mary Pickett has kept track of and perpetually updated our membership list and collected dues and deleted any defaulters, and she reports that for the year 2015/16 fully paid up membership numbers increased slightly and hovered at or just below the magic figure of 100 members. At the date of publication of the BROADSHEET membership fees for 2017 were still being received and it would not be possible to accurately report current membership numbers. **With the annual fee remaining at just £3** there is plenty of incentive to renew, especially as that sum includes three free issues of the BROADSHEET! Those who haven't paid receive a final reminder before being excommunicated!! **HAVE YOU PAID YET?**

NOBODY MAKES TEA LIKE THE FBWC!!

As mentioned on Pages 1 and 7 the performance of our refreshments team has been nothing short of remarkable this year. In addition to Carole Manning our sincere thanks go to Norman Manning, Karen Foster, Madeline Jupp (not only for refreshments but for public relations activities) and Gill Heasman. The 'menu' has been expanded and during 2016 we saw the greatest array of delicious cakes on sale, made by Carole, Karen and Gill, which obviously attracted our tour visitors in considerable numbers. The Saturday refreshments team under the direction of our catering supremo Carole Manning and her helping colleagues worked tirelessly in promoting their wares and bearing in mind that all income is via donations, without any fixed prices, the (dare I say it!) 'profit' was extraordinary. Not to be forgotten was the provision of refreshments on some Sunday tours and the facility was organised by deputy Chairman Sally Roberts, contributing further to our funds. Well done to all.

Mind you the performance might not have been so good had the general public seen the methods used by the FBWC team to squeeze tea bags in the tea urn, see photograph below!



MAJOR XMAS EVENT FOR YOUR DIARY

Other than for our tour dates, maintenance days and the eight general meetings p.a. at the Gordon Rooms at Worthing Town Hall, the annual Christmas celebration is the main social opportunity for the Friends to get together and to reflect upon the past year, the achievements and above all the Festive Season. We do not go in for three course Xmas meals and a load of expensive formality, just a drink or two and a chuckle or two. Normally between a dozen and 18 attend and this year the event will take place at:-

The Cricketers Public House, Tuesday, 13 December at 19.00.

Put the date in your diary NOW - it will be great to see you there.

Also please note that the next general meeting will be held at the Gordon Rooms at 18.00 on Friday 27 January 2017. The next general Maintenance and clearance day will be held from 10.00 until 12.00 on Saturday 31 December 2016, New Year's Eve!!

NATIONAL NEWS

A warning to all Friends groups was given by the National Federation of Cemetery Friends when thieves used welding gear to burn off padlocks in order to gain entry to the storage shed at All Saints Church in West Bromwich, 5 miles north west of Birmingham. They snatched £4,500 worth of tools and equipment, including strimmers, a generator and a lawn mower. The equipment had been purchased by public donation.

The burial ground of the former Mendip Hospital at Wells, Somerset was taken over by a Friends group in 2000. Volunteers maintain the site as a nature reserve. The grass is cut in early autumn to encourage seeds to set and wild flowers to flourish as well as plentiful varieties of grasses and shrubs, which attract insects, butterflies and birds.

On the same theme Mill Road Cemetery in the middle of Cambridge, which has been closed to new burials since 1955, is being similarly run by a Friends group with the support of the Diocese of Ely and the City Council. Over 8 acres of land harbours more than 110 types of plants and grasses, 42 varieties of bird, 9 mammals including bats, weasels and dormice, and 23 species of butterflies plus plenty of lichen and diptera. The RSPB have emphasised the importance of cemeteries as vital habitats for wildlife – and of course the FBWC have made similar efforts in many areas of 'our' cemetery.

The NFCF has a new web address: https://www.cemeteryfriends.com/

There has been a remarkable find near the village of Great Ryburgh, Norfolk adjacent to the River Wensum. Archaeologists say that six plank lined graves, believed to be the oldest of their kind, were discovered on a waterlogged site in a river valley alongside 81 coffins made from hollowed tree trunks. It is thought that the graves were part of an early Christian community dating from between the 7th and 9th centuries. Tree ring dating and carbon dating tests are taking place to establish a precise age. Although much of the human remains have been crushed under many centuries of soil deposits many bones and skulls have been recovered and they should be capable of providing a wealth of evidence about who the people were, what they died of and where they came from. Unlike Roman and prehistoric graves there were no goods or valuables buried with the dead suggesting they were Christians.



One for our 'Bug Hunt': the Lava of a ladybird seen on a headstone in 'our' cemetery.

GET THE FIRE BRIGADE!

By Sue Nea

No, this is not one of those romantic stories about uniformed men or a maiden in distress, it is the story of the FBWC 'heavy gang' failing and our strong local fire service being very fit for purpose and succeeding! Something to do with weight and equipment, not age, I understand!

On Saturday 3 September 2016 we held our 'Upstairs Downstairs' tour prior to which we checked the graves of those that were to be included on the tour to see if any additional maintenance was needed. One grave that stood out was that of Charles and Harriet Horwood at C9-24-2. It was obvious that this had once been a large and impressive cross standing on a large plinth but at some time it had fallen and broken, subsequently being covered with brambles, weeds and soil. A week or so before the tour I showed Frank Ffitch the grave and asked for his help to clear and tidy this same, which he did with the assistance of Mark Caveney and Michael Kelly. They all worked extremely hard to reveal the cross and plinth, which had unfortunately fallen face down and so we were unable to read the inscription on it.

We were so pleased with the difference the cleaning of the grave had made and when I showed Friend, Karen Foster, she said jokingly "What a shame that one of the firemen can't jump over the wall and help us move the large stone to its correct position so that we can read the inscription". The grave is positioned near the north wall of the cemetery, the other side to Worthing Fire Brigade premises. Well one thing led to another and knowing that our Secretary Paul Holden knew Roy Barraclough, Worthing's Fire Chief, we asked Paul to contact Ray to see if the brigade could offer us any assistance. Next morning I received a message from Paul to say that Roy would meet us at 17.00 hours that afternoon.



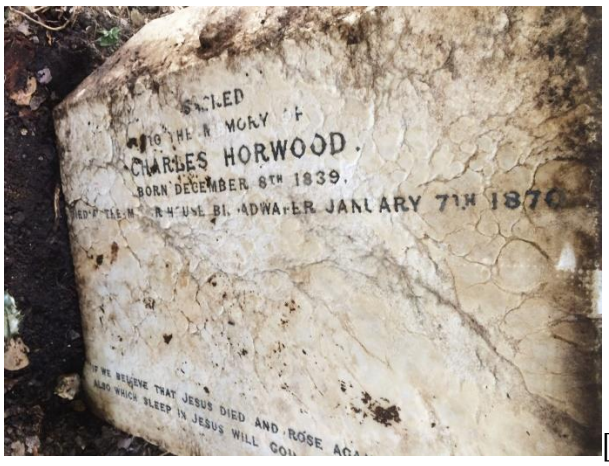
[Photo: Sue Nea]

Karen, Frank and I met Roy and showed him the grave; he was sure that his lads would be able to help. Roy radioed through to 'C' Watch but they were out on minor calls but would soon return. After a short wait four men from 'C' Watch arrived to help and after discussion they decided to call for some hydraulic lifting equipment, which duly arrived. It was amazing to see the huge stone being lifted with ease but with great skill. Within a few minutes the stone had been lifted enabling us to read the inscription.

We were so grateful to those firemen of 'C' Watch and of course their chief, Roy Barraclough for showing such a great example of community spirit at its best. Thank you to the brigade.



.[The grave on tour day. Photo: Sue Nea]



[Visible at last. Photo: Sally Roberts]

THE ANCIENT CHAPEL KEY FOUND

There was great excitement at the Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery on 3 September 2016 when a dog, having a root around beside the Ralli Mausoleum, unearthed a very large 6 inch long and heavily rusted key. The Friends established that the key fitted the north chapel door, although due to its condition they stopped short of fully testing that theory. John Stepney framed this fascinating relic, describing the circumstances of its discovery by way of a printed caption, mounted inside the frame (see below).





[Above Photo: Mary Pickett]

FRIENDS CAROLE AND NORMAN MANNING VISIT RICHEBOURG

By Carole Manning

I wrote to Richebourg Town Hall in France about a visit to this famous First World War location and was contacted by Guy Warein, the Deputy Mayor, and we arranged for a suitable time and date to meet. Arriving in Richebourg we first viewed the display of photographic boards alongside the church, depicting scenes of the area in 1914-18.

On mentioning to Paul Holden that we were planning to visit Richebourg on our forthcoming visit to France he asked if I would take a copy of the August issue of the *Worthing Journal,* which covered the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Boar's Head (part of Battle of the Somme), known by some as 'The Day Sussex Died'. We made our way to the Town Hall, where we were welcomed by Guy, who was pleased to receive copies of the Journal, along with the FBWC booklet 'The Day Sussex Died'. [Below Carole Manning at Richebourg.]



[Photo: N Manning]

Guy then took us to the Cinder Path, the track alongside the battlefield where the soldiers of the Royal Sussex Regiment advanced. Hanging from the fences we saw the metal tools used to lay barbed wire, which had been unearthed by the local farmers. From here we drove to the Indian Cemetery, where we met a group of firemen from Buckinghamshire who were on the penultimate day of a cycle ride of the Western Front. Close to that is the Portuguese Cemetery which was our next stop and then to the St Vaast Post Military Cemetery. More than 70 men of the South Downs Old Pals Battalion are buried there including some from Worthing. Here I found the grave of Leonard Blaker. We were then taken to see the new school where the road to it is named *Alle de Worthing*.

Returning to the Town hall we were offered refreshments and given some tourist guides. Going into another room we saw a cabinet of various artefacts including previous copies of the Journal, booklets compiled by the Friends and mementoes of the visit to Worthing, donated by the people of Richebourg. We had a most interesting afternoon, all conducted in French, and were made very welcome. Guy told us that every week visitors come from all over the world, visitors from Worthing being especially welcome.

WILLIAM TIDEY Jnr. (b.Worthing 1817)

By Humphrey Palmer

This is the story of an upwardly mobile blaggard and thief from the early 1800s; William Tidey Junior. Born in 1817 he was the son of William Tidey Snr and his wife Ann (nee Jackson) and he was baptised at St Mary's Church Broadwater in August of the same year.

William's father and grandfather were both blacksmiths. William Snr had married in 1810 and the family lived in 'BoPeep', now Winton Place, just off North Street, where he had his own smithy. It was thought that William Tidey Jnr would follow in his father's footsteps and by the age of 21 he has been trained as a blacksmith. In that year he confessed to stealing 2lbs of beef from one George Cortis and he was sentenced to be imprisoned at Petworth prison with hard labour for a period of one month. This was to be the start of a life of crime.

Petworth Jail had one of the most dreaded punishments that had become synonymous with the words Tread Mill. It was designed by Mr Mance who became Governor in 1826 and the device was known as 'The Treadwheel'. The wheel served no useful purpose except as a method of punishment. Treading the wheel was similar to climbing a flight of stairs but a prisoner was expected to remain at the wheel for 10 hours in the summer and 7 hours in winter. During that period of time it was apparently the equivalent to climbing Mount Snowden (3,650ft) 3 times per day 6 days a week. This punishment was banned in 1898 [no televisions and pool tables in those days – Ed.]. Below [Photo: The grim Petworth Jail]



On his release he courted and later married Ann Ball from Heene Parish on 7 February 1842 but before the year was out, on 22 August, he stole 3lbs of lead, the property of Joseph Curl, a blacksmith in New Street, Worthing. At a Quarter Sessions trial at Chichester in October 1842 he was sentenced to 6 months hard labour. He was released having served his time and subsequently fathered two daughters, Margaret in 1845 followed by a sister named Mary.

William Tidey Jnr was forever in trouble and on 15 April 1845 at the Quarter Sessions in Horsham he was accused of stealing a copper kettle, the property of Ayling Sheperd Ford, the wife of a brick maker. He was given bail in the assurance of £10, paid for by his father. The case was heard on 20 October 1845. Defended by his father William Ayling senior, his son was found to be guilty and he was sentenced to be transported for a term of 10 years. For the record the cost of the trial was £1.7.6!

William Ayling Jnr was held in custody for some 3 years and it was not until 25 July 1848 that he was one of 250 convicts who boarded the ship *Ratcliffe of Spithead*, which arrived in Van Dieman's Land on 12 November 1848. In 1856 Van Dieman's Land became Tasmania.


[A prison hulk of the era. Courtesy Humphrey Palmer.]

Once in Tasmania William Ayling continued to be a loose cannon, always being in trouble and a record of his activities and misdemeanours makes fascinating reading:

March 1849- reported absent from his authorised residence – reprimanded.
July 1849 - misconduct leaving the district without a pass – reprimanded.
August 1849 - assaulting a constable in the execution of his duty – fined 5 shillings.
November 1849 – being absent from his authorised residence – 7 days solitary confinement.
December 1849 – being in premises under suspicious circumstances – 10 days solitary.
January 1851 – in Hobart being absent without leave – 1 month in prison plus hard labour.
November 1852 – in premises under suspicious circumstances – 9 months plus hard labour.

The trail eventually goes cold and one wonders whatever happened to William Ayling Junior and one may ask whether the punishment fitted the crime but clearly he was a petty criminal and an anti-establishment figure. He does not seem to have been influenced in his behaviour by the Victorian legal and prison system. He also had two alias; William Chambers and James Tidey. It has not been possible to trace the cause or date of William Ayling Jnr's death. His grandparents are buried in St Mary's churchyard in Broadwater and his parents and brother are buried in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery.

FACEBOOK UPDATE and 2017 CEMETERY TOURS

The use of the Facebook page for the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery has increased and membership has now risen to 93. However the site does need to be used more often and comments, news and photographs concerning the cemetery need to be posted with greater frequency in order to maintain the required level of interest.

As regards cemetery tours for next year, the Research Committee have met and decided on various themes that are presently being researched. However the full details have yet to be finalised and will not be available until the New Year. Full details will be published in the next edition of The BROADSHEET on or about 1 April 2017. As usual Saturday tours will take place on the first Saturday of the month from April to October inclusive. There will also be Sunday tours and details will also be announced in the next issue. It is unlikely that there will be an Open Day by name in 2017 however there will certainly be an August event.

CHRISTMAS 1916 – DOVER CASTLE

By Rosemary Pearson

My uncle, Charles Leslie Paine (Charlie), and four of his brothers, including my father, Reginald, all served in World War 1. Charlie, being the only one married at the time, was the last to be called up. In his memoirs he describes his first Christmas away from his family.

Charlie had married Florence Norton in her home town of Wells, Somerset, in August 1912. By the time Charlie received advance notice of his call-up in May 1916, Florence was in the early stages of a difficult pregnancy. This was not helped by them having to give up their home in Richmond and moving-in with Charlie's eldest brother, Ernest, and his wife Annie in Worthing. However Florence bore the upheaval well and, with Annie's good care, was feeling better by the time Charlie left for Dover to join the Royal Garrison Artillery in June.

Margaret Winifred Paine (Peggy) was born at 'Seabrook Nursing Home', Worthing on 4 October 1917 and three weeks later Charlie was able to get leave to see Florence and their new daughter. Naturally he wanted to see them as much as possible before being posted abroad but things did not always go according to plan. Leave scheduled for a month later had to be postponed when Charlie found himself in hospital with 'flu. Luckily he did manage to spend a weekend in Worthing shortly before the men received the news that all leave was cancelled, as the railways, being short staffed, could no longer cope.

Early in December Florence travelled to Wells, and Charlie was looking forward to joining them for Christmas. He was to be disappointed as only 5% of the men in the company were able to get away. Charlie and three of his friends were not among them, so they decided to make the best of things, as Charlie writes in his memoirs.



[Charles Leslie Paine (Charlie). Photo: courtesy Rosemary Pearson]

"We tried to think of a plan whereby we could enjoy the festive occasion and the only conclusion we could come to was to find a room in the town for a few days. The Tipperary Tea Rooms, where we had been in the habit of frequenting for teas and suppers, came to our aid and Mrs Sergeant Walker of the Women's Volunteer Reserve gave us an address at 15 Snargate Street whereupon investigating found it just as we wanted. Miss Monger was willing to take us on for a week and allow us the use of her drawing room for the consideration of 15/- (75p) per week – dinners (if any), teas and supper extra – and so Robby, Stoney, Hollie and myself wended our way down there as the opportunity permitted as soon as drills and duty was over each day.

Christmas dinner for the troops at the Castle was a great affair – quite a sumptuous spread was laid before the men – roast pork, apple sauce – vegetables of all sorts – blancmange – jelly and the time honoured Christmas pudding – washed down with ales, stout and mineral waters – the messmarker did his duty well and the men had a great sufficiency of everything."

It would be several years before Charlie and those of his friends who survived would enjoy such a spread again. Months later Charlie was able to visit Wells to see his wife and child and he managed a second visit a few days before he set off for France at the end of May 1917.

After spending months in hospital later that year, after being gassed, Charlie returned to the Front for the remainder of the war. Sadly, despite surviving, the war had taken a toll on his health and he died while on a visit to his brothers in Worthing, at the age of 52. He was buried in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery with his parents, Walter and Catherine, in C17-3-4 on 22 June 1933.

FINGERS CROSSED NO MORE GRAFFITI

Your Editor is delighted to report that since the events reported and illustrated in the last issue of The BROADSHEET there have been no repeat graffiti attacks by the same deranged individual, who it is believed lives near to the cemetery. Police involvement, vigilante visits by the Friends and vigilance by the dog walking members of the general public seem to have had the desired effect, although that statement is made without a grain of complacency. Also we now have a lady guardian who has a certain ‘presence’ and who obviously has experience of crime scene investigation. Although not forthcoming on the subject it would appear that Friend Gill Heasman (below) has had experience with the New York Police Department. Here Gill shows us her uniform, which is normally kept ‘under wraps’.



Adjacent to our main cemetery but wholly located within the boundary walls is the Jefferies Memorial Garden, which has produced a wonderful display of poppies in recent years and 2016 was no exception. Below is the view from the memorial bench within the garden.

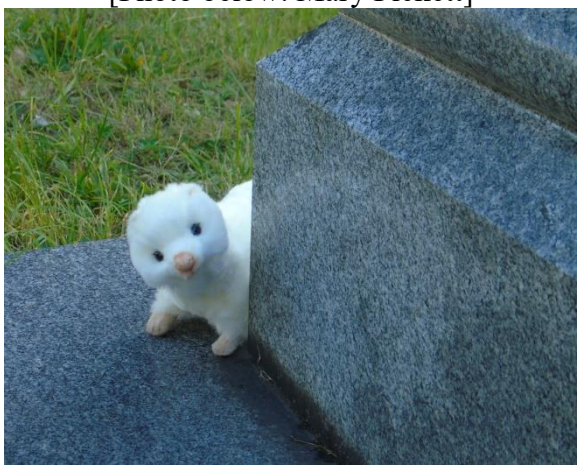


GRAVE MATTERS: CEMETERY WILDLIFE

There have been more sightings of wildlife in the cemetery, albeit in the soft toy category. These little critters seem to pop-up everywhere and there is considerable speculation whether they are children's toys that have been dropped, stuffed animals used by dogs as toys that have been thrown and 'lost' or whether they have been strategically placed by mischief-makers. Below are a pair of images that capture typical examples; one appearing to be a beetle type 'bug' (left) and another looking remarkably like a ferret. Membership Secretary Mary Pickett has confirmed that the light coloured animal (right) is indeed a ferret and not a weasel! Friends need to keep their eyes open!

[Photo below: Mary Pickett]





FLOWERS AND FUNGI

There has been plenty of natural colour in the cemetery this past summer, partly attributable to the policies adopted by the Friends in cooperation with the local council. However the Friends also contributed to the aesthetic appeal of the cemetery and below left we see the plants and flowers surrounding the Typhoid Memorial planted by Mary McKeown earlier in the year, taking root and in bloom (see Issue 28 Summer 2016, Page 17). Climatic conditions resulted in an abnormal growth of fungi in the cemetery and below right we see the extraordinary growth surrounding the Sarah Broadhurst, Salvation Army, commemorative plaque and memorial tree.





THE SAD STORY OF ELLIS FULLER

By Mary Connaughton

Ellis Fuller was my Grandfather's uncle and may well have been his Godfather too, as my grandfather, Ellis Fuller Lisher, born in Sompting on 21 June 1878, was named after him. Ellis Fuller was baptised in Thakeham Parish Church on 7 October 1821. His mother was Ruth Fuller, native of Washington, aged 23 years and his (putative) father was Philip Best, born 1800 in Upper Beeding. Philip later moved to Buckinghamshire and on 8 June 1823 married Ann Norris in St Laurence's Church, Upton-cum-Chalvey.

Ellis was four months short of his fourth birthday when his mother, Ruth Fuller, pregnant once more, married William Slaughter by licence in St Mary's Church, Sompting, on 11 June 1825. The couple – my great great grandparents – had three children; Ann (b.1825), George (b.1833) and Frances (b.1835), all born in Cokeham, where William may have been employed as an agricultural labourer on Halewick Farm. In the 1841 census, William, Ruth, George and Frances were living in Sompting Street. Ann had flown the nest and no sign of Ellis either, until 31 May 1846 that is. On that date he married Jane Nottingham in St Mary's Church, Broadwater, although Jane was a native of Sompting.

In 1851 Ellis and Jane Fuller were living in Sompting within the vicinity of Upton Farm, where Ellis may have been employed. They had no children. However, by 1861 they had moved further east into the village, not far from the Marquis of Granby. Ellis and his neighbour James Hill were both gardeners. When the 1871 census was taken, on the night of 7 April, the couple were residing in Anchor Lane (now Lyndhurst Road), Worthing, where Ellis had set himself up as a gardener. His neighbour was William Howard, a victualler, who was the landlord of the Alexandra Tavern, where in 1885, the inquest into Ellis's death, would be held. Below are two images of the site of the grave of Ellis Fuller at A5-5-11; the inscription reads 'In Memory of Ellis Fuller, Died March 14th 1885 Aged 64 years, also His Wife Died July 4th 1901 Aged 74 Years - At Rest'. [Photos: Mary Connaughton]





In 1881 Ellis and Jane Fuller's address was noted as Milton Cottage, next door to Reydon Villa in Lyndhurst Road. By this time Ellis was almost 60 years of age and Jane 54. Ellis's mother Ruth Slaughter, after ten years of widowhood, had died in Shoreham Workhouse, three years previously. The next to be heard of Ellis Fuller is an article in The Worthing Gazette of 19 March 1885, which I find to be a very tragic and moving account. **A summary** of the account follows on the next page.

"An enquiry was held at the Alexandra Tavern before the Coroner, relative to the death of Ellis Fuller, who was found dead in his greenhouse on Saturday afternoon.

A witness said she had last seen him at one o'clock on Saturday. For some time past he had been complaining that his business was not doing well. He had made losses and had other debts. He appeared very low spirited. His crops had been awfully bad and the witness believed that had worried him. In the last few weeks he had been 'very much troubled' remarking that everything was against him.

William Slaughter, market gardener said that he found the deceased about twenty-five minutes past two on Saturday afternoon. He went into the deceased's greenhouse and saw him with his feet on the ground, bending forward, his knees and breast touching the ground and his head about a foot from it. He saw a rope around his neck. When he cut the rope the deceased looked at him and gasped. The surgeon was called but upon arrival he found Ellis Fuller 'quite dead', his larynx having been fractured. This being the whole evidence the jury returned as their verdict that the deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity."

Ellis and Jane Fuller are buried in 'our' cemetery in Section A5, Row 5, Grave 11.

MICHAEL ALBERT NALDRETT
- FBWC FRIENDS - THE 'GRAVEFINDERS' -
By Sue Nea and Gill Heasman

Gillian Smithers was one of the 30 visitors who joined Bryan Day on his 'Flora and Fauna' tour at Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery on 10 July 2016. After the tour Gillian approached cemetery Friends Gill Heasman and Sally Roberts to enquire about the grave of Michael Albert Naldrett, a 13 year old boy who had died from meningitis in 1942.

As Gillian already had the relevant grave reference (B7-6-3) Gill Heasman offered to show her where that section was and help her look for the grave. Michael had been a childhood friend of Gillian's 87 year old father, Ronald Smithers; the boys had been neighbours in Fletcher Road, Broadwater and had attended the same school. Michael had been an only child and lived at 5 Fletcher Road with his parents Albert and Elsie Naldrett, whilst Ronald lived nearby at No.19, with his parents William and Amelia Smithers and his three brothers.

Initially when Gill and Gillian found the grave they were disappointed not to find a headstone, the grave being unmarked. However, Gillian said that they would return with Ronald to show him the spot where his chum, Michael, lay. It played on Gill's mind that they hadn't been able to find a headstone and she had a suspicion that they may have looked in the wrong place; she consulted the burial records and noted the names and positions of surrounding graves. The following week, accompanied by her granddaughter Cydney, Gill returned to the cemetery armed with additional information.

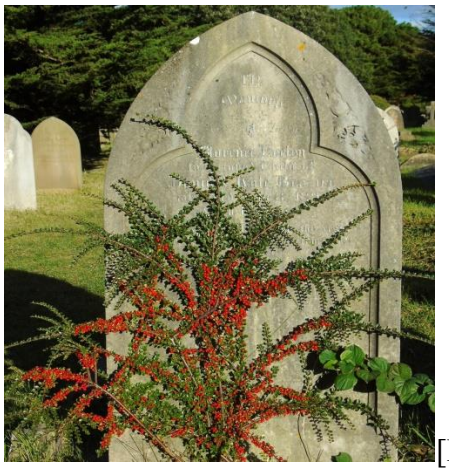
Gill discovered that they had previously miscalculated the position of Michael's grave and that it was in fact in the next row to the one they had been looking at. Much to Gill's delight she found a headstone for Michael who was buried with his parents. Cydney managed to clear away the mud to reveal Michael's name. The grave was in need of some special attention and on the Friend's next clearance morning Frank Ffitch and Mark Caveney worked very hard to clear the grave and clean the stone.

However, sadly, Gillian had not left any contact details and Gill was at a loss about how she might get in touch with her to let her know the correct position. Later, whilst looking through some photographs of the tour Gill found an image with Gillian included in it and she posted this onto the Friend's Facebook page, with a plea "does anyone know this lady?"

Luckily another Friend, Paul Robards, saw the photograph and contacted Gill saying that he recognised Gillian and in fact had her e-mail address. At last Gill was able to contact Gillian with the good news and arranged a time to meet her and her father at the cemetery. A few weeks later such a meeting took place when Friends Gill and Sue met Gillian and Ronald and took them to Michael's grave for a touching re-union of childhood friends. The photo below shows Gillian Smithers and her father Ronald at Michael's grave. [Photo: Sue Nea]



Ronald reminisced about their childhood and also brought along some old photographs of him as a child and his childhood home in Fletcher Road but unfortunately he did not have a photograph of Michael. Ronald said how happy he was to be able to visit Michael's grave and to say a proper 'goodbye' to him after 74 years and he thanked all of the Friends for their help in making the re-union of the two pals possible.


[Photo: More cemetery colour. Mary Pickett]

CLEARANCE AND MAINTENANCE

Our Maintenance Coordinator, Paul Robards, has done a great job in overseeing the Friends maintenance effort within Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. Sometimes it has been a difficult balance between keeping the cemetery in a presentable state, especially with an eye on the large number of visitors we receive and hopefully entertain, and in managing flora and fauna, as well as all kinds of wildlife. Paul has however an ambition to achieve optimum performance with the resources available. He has therefore made plans to meet and consult with experts in the field who have great experience of cemetery management. In addition he is having discussions with the Sussex Butterfly Conservation group and the Sussex Wildlife Trust. Paul is also planning to meet certain Worthing Borough Council Rangers.

[Below are two colourful and technically superb butterfly images captured by Paul Robards. On the left is a Meadow Brown and right, and right a Painted Lady both in 'our' cemetery].





The focus has been on managing cemetery grass cuts, which includes the oversight and preservation of dedicated preservation areas and ensuring that they are not interfered with or cut by accident, in the interests of encouraging plant and flower life and promoting wildlife.

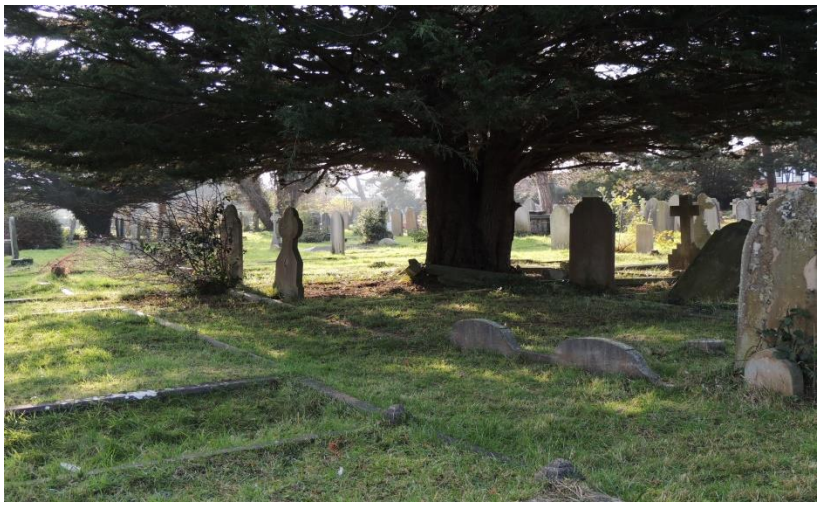
There have been encouraging turnouts of Friends at our monthly maintenance sessions and much clearance has been achieved. Paul has thanked all those who have helped. Next year the Friends are looking to construct a couple of large composting bins in which to place the huge amount of green waste that is generated by the Friends maintenance activities.



[Stalwarts Mike and Mo Bailey in action]



[Frank Ffitch, Paul Robards and Richard Cossey on the 26 November 2016 clearance day.]



[Lower branches removed and cleared by Frank Ffitch and John Vaughan – look at the view!]

OTHER CEMETERIES

Here we see the spectacular cemetery of St Materiana at Tintagel, Port Isaac Bay, Cornwall.





Railfan cemetery? Old Linslade Cemetery near Leighton Buzzard. [Photo: Gavin Morrison]



International scene! Lone Star Cemetery, Rocky, Oklahoma, U.S.A. [Photo: Chris Davis]

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Well, it has been an amazing summer and there has been plenty of activity to report on. In fact people I know, who have nothing to do with the cemetery, are truly amazed that over 20 pages of news and pictures can be produced three times a year that relate largely to the activities within a single Victorian cemetery. I have explained that we are busy people!

As I have always said this is YOUR magazine and this issue is brimming with articles and features that have been submitted to your Editor for consideration. In fact after 8 years this past 4 months has seen a record input by the Friends. Well done and keep those items coming.

Finally, I personally wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

John Vaughan **Editor**