THE BROADSHEET

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THE TRIANNUAL VOICE OF THE FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

ANNUAL CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS - FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR 2017 –

2016 was another good year for the group and a successful one for the tours of the cemetery; Saturday, Sunday and private tours alike. The weather was again very kind to us for most of the tour programme and the occasional wet day did not discourage our visitors, who on such occasions showed typical British stiff upper lip! Our Open Day was, of course, the first time that a tour had been presented by local children. This was very well received and has provided our research team with quite a challenge for this year to maintain or exceed our visitor's expectations. This novel approach was mentioned in the latest National Federation of Cemetery Friends newsletter (see Page 2). Preparations for our 2017 tours are now in full swing and I am looking forward to welcoming our first group of visitors on 1 April for a second opportunity to visit some unusual gravestones.

In the last year our links with Worthing Borough Council have been strengthened through our involvement with the Green Space Partnership, as WBC also sends representatives to the regular meetings. This is a useful forum to share information and discuss issues with other local groups. I have already had a couple of very productive meetings with WBC and the Community Park Rangers this year. The area in the corner of area A9 has now been cleared in preparation for the building of proper compost bays and we are working with the Rangers to obtain suitable materials to complete the project. If everything goes to plan we will have the bays up and running by June 2017. The Rangers are proving to be a valuable resource and are providing great support. We need to make good use of this resource and the expertise they can offer us.

[Below: Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery in the Spring of 2017 with primroses covering the ground. All photographs by the Editor unless otherwise credited].



I'm sorry to report that the spray painting on graves was again a low point last year [as reported in BROADSHEET Issue 29, Page 16 – Ed.]. This time we did involve the police. There has been no further graffiti attacks and the traces of red paint used on the headstones, left behind after the council cleaned off as much as they could, is slowly fading as the weather works it magic.

Many volunteer groups are set up for a wide variety of different causes but when a group has been in existence for a few years it can be difficult to maintain momentum and retain a membership base and a resilient core of active members. We are very fortunate in this respect and my thanks, as always, go to everyone who contributes to the group. Your input, however small, is greatly appreciated and without your support the group could not exist. It is the enthusiasm and efforts of you all as individuals that is responsible for the group's success.

Thank you. **Debra Hillman Chairman**

OPEN DAY IN THE NATIONAL NEWS

As mentioned in our Chairman's address our novel 2016 Open Day tour that was presented by eleven local children was not only well received locally with over 100 visitors attending but the item made the national cemetery news and was published in the Newsletter of the National Federation of Cemetery Friends; a copy of the feature is shown below. Also mentioned was our pioneering use of a Facebook page to promote the activities of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery.

There is no doubt that our pro-active group approach to all that we do and undertake is at the forefront of the various Friends groups nationwide, as we all seek to perpetually improve all that we do in an effort to meet our objectives and aspirations, in accordance with our Constitution. We have just renewed our membership to the national organisation; the NFCF.

'Children Bringing History Alive' at Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery

The Friends took a novel approach for their Annual Open Day in August. They engaged the help of ten younger members of the community to read the narrative at each of the graves featured on the cemetery tour. Introduced as 'Children bringing history alive', each youngster was dressed in the style of clothes or uniform appropriate to the occupation or profession of the deceased person. Each were given a certificate and a £10 Amazon gift voucher.



The ten young presenters Photograph courtesy of John Vaughan

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FBWC EXCITING TOUR LIST 2017

Over eight years have passed since the formation of the Friends and yet a series of brand new and exciting tours (and a small number of modified retold tours) have been researched and scheduled for the 2017 season, which this year extends form 1 April until 7 October, a period of over 6 months. Between 1 April and 7 October 2017 a grand total of 10 thematic cemetery tours have been planned. These tours need YOUR support as well as that of the general public and so DIARISE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DATES AND TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS! Remember all of the FBWC tours are free but donations towards the cost of our work are welcome. Souvenir booklets will be available at our sales stand, priced at a mere £1.

SATURDAY TOURS – all start at 11.00AM

1 April : Unusual Gravestones – Debra Hillman

6 May : Equine Matters (Horse Related) – Frank Ffitch

3 June : Fatal Accidents – Pauline Reed

1 July : Relatively Speaking – Various Friends

5 August : Past Residents of Park Crescent – Debra Hillman

2 September : By Their Own Hand (Suicides) – John Vaughan

7 October : The Feminine Touch – Pauline Reed

SUNDAY TOURS – all start at 14.00 hours (2pm)

16 July : Victorian Tour of Worthing – Sally Roberts

20 August : Nature: Flora and Fauna – Paul Robards and Guest

24 September : General Cemetery Tour – Mary McKeown

All visitors and participants should meet at the cemetery chapels in South Farm Road, Worthing at 15 minutes before the start of every tour. Refreshments will be available on all Saturday tour dates and it is hoped that similar arrangements can also be made on Sunday tours. As mentioned above, a series of special booklets are being prepared for most tours, based on the discoveries by our professional Research Team, all priced at a very modest £1.

NEW NOTICE BOARD ON THE SEAFRONT

A new notice board/cabinet measuring 40in x 40in previously used for military matters has been made available to the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. The board is situated in a prominent position on the Worthing promenade. Friends, including Sue Nea and Mary Pickett, have been busy preparing material for populating the cabinet, which will include a list of all of our cemetery tours, see copy of a laminated A2 sized poster below. A little bird has told your Editor that another 'eye-catching' A2 sized poster and other attractive contents, many designed and produced by Mary Pickett, will be incorporated in the display cabinets, with other FBWC material. See photos in the next issue of the BROADSHEET.



Friends of
Broadwater & Worthing Cemetery

Public Tour Dates for your diary in 2017

We invite you to join us for our themed tours* of the cemetery on the first Saturday of the month April - October 2017 (unless otherwise stated) at 11.00am and selected Sundays July-September at 2pm

*Themed tours may vary slightly depending on the tour guide on the day. Tours are subject to change due to tour guides availability so if you want to attend a specific tour please contact us nearer the time to confirm the programme. For more information check our website www.fbwc.co.uk or contact us on 07932687315

APRIL 1st	**11.00**	**Unusual Gravestones** (retold) Tour guide: Debra Hillman
MAY 6th	**11.00**	**Equine Matters** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: Frank Ffitch
JUNE 3rd	**11.00**	**Fatal Accidents** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: Pauline Reed
JULY 1st	**11.00**	**Relatively Speaking** New tour for 2017. Relatives, young and old, tell the stories of their ancestors buried in the cemetery
JULY 16th SUNDAY TOUR	**14.00**	**Victorian Tour of Worthing** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: Sally Roberts
AUGUST 5th	**11.00**	**Park Crescent Residents** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: Debra Hillman
AUGUST 20th SUNDAY TOUR	**14.00**	**Nature, Flora & Fauna** Tour guide: Paul Robards and guest guide
SEPTEMBER 2nd	**11.00**	**By Their Own Hand** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: John Vaughan
SEPTEMBER 24th SUNDAY TOUR	**14.00**	**General Tour** Tour guide: Mary Mckeown
OCTOBER 7th	**11.00**	**The Feminine Touch** New tour for 2017 Tour guide: Pauline Reed

Tours are free of charge, no need to book in advance. Meet by the Chapels at the main entrance in South Farm Road.

Private tours for groups can be arranged on request.

FBWC 2016 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

There was a reasonable 'double figure' attendance at the Friends Christmas drink celebrations at The Cricketers public house in Broadwater, even though the 13 December date clashed with a major theatrical show in Worthing. As usual the event was good humoured and a good time was had by all. Many of the ladies present entered 'into the spirit' of the occasion by wearing seasonal sweaters, which in the Editors view were marginally ostentatious! If you missed it make sure that you attend this year's 'do'; date to be announced. The image below shows a small part of the FBWC group posing for the camera.



FBWC VOTE TO PROCURE PIER WINDOW

At a general meeting of Friends at the end of January 2017 attendees voted unanimously to avail the group of the opportunity of procuring a rectangular stained glass panel to commemorate Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery and the work of the Friends for placement on Worthing Pier, as part of an initiative promoted by the Worthing Journal and its Editor, Paul Holden. There were no votes against but the FBWC Treasurer, John Vaughan, abstained on the grounds that although the £500 expenditure involved did "Increase public awareness of the cemetery" in accordance with the Constitution, such expenditure would be unlikely to pass a 'benefits versus cost' test and that the money involved would perhaps be better spent in other ways. He would however, in view of the democratic vote, be prepared to sign the cheque at the appropriate time and he confirmed the purchase was affordable.

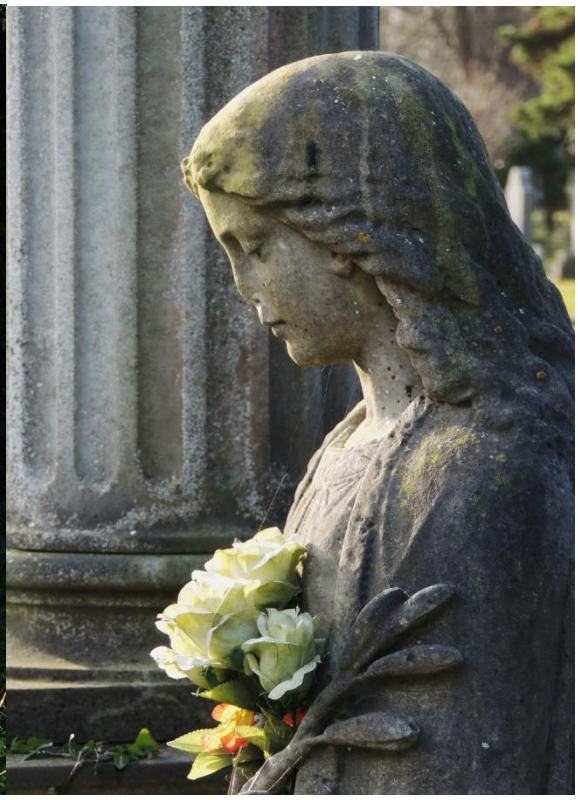
Chairman Debra Hillman, Deputy Chairman Sally Roberts and Maintenance Coordinator Paul Robards would spearhead the project. It was envisaged that the window would comprise a simple design incorporating the archway between the 'chapels' logo, used on all of our FBWC booklets and other publications. A meeting was held on 14 March 2017 with Siobhan Jones to discuss design options, with two or three designs being made available for consideration by April and a deposit of £100 was paid. It is now a question of watching 'this space'. The panel will be installed by the local authority free of charge and hopefully there will be a modicum of local publicity for the cemetery following such installation.

FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Following the receipt of all membership dues from those joining and re-joining the Friends and having paid a number of bills and subscriptions to other organisations the FBWC has £5,498.77 deposited with HSBC bank and £39.10 held in our two cash floats, resulting in a total net worth of £5,537.87. It must be recorded here by the Treasurer that he abhors the decision by HSBC to close their Goring Road, Goring by Sea branch (a retrograde policy adopted by many 'High Street' banks with a focus on costs and not customers), which will make the depositing of FBWC cheques far more inconvenient. HSBC's 'Human Resources' section ('Establishments Section' in English) for all UK staff is now based in Sri Lanka! So much for globalisation!

There has been a slight decline in FBWC membership, despite the annual subscription having been held at £3 for the past eight years and our membership Secretary, Mary Pickett, reports at the date of publication of this magazine we had a total of 87 fully paid up members. Below are two pleasant images recorded recently within Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery.





MAD MARCH MISCELLANY

It appears that there is a strong possibility that in future the Friends may have to pay to hire the Gordon Rooms at the Town Hall for their meetings. In view of the immense effort expended by the Friends in maintaining a 14.5 acre Council property, viz. the cemetery, it is hoped that such charges may, through discussion, be avoided. The gremlins crept into Humphrey Palmer's excellent article in the last issue of the BROADSHEET (Pages 13/14) and the surname of his primary subject 'William Tidey' became 'William Ayling' part way through. Your Editor apologises to Humphrey for this inexplicable and hopefully rare error.

NEW PUBLIC HOUSE PLAN REJECTED

FBWC Friend Humphrey Palmer drew your Editor's attention to the rejection of a planning application by the local authority, courtesy of an item in the 'Worthing Journal'. A plan was lodged to construct a brand new public house on the corner of Wiston Avenue and South Farm Road, with the proposed name being 'The Wiston'. The police objected to 'The 'Wiston' on the grounds that it would have been situated opposite Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. Humphrey has suggested that the real reason was that there would have simply been too many 'spirits' in the area [groan – Ed.]. Oh! Before you write to your Member of Parliament this happened back in 1935!! We like to bring you the latest news.

NEW SIGNS FOR DOG WALKERS

Some dog walkers are our greatest friends and allies but a few are also our enemies. With the continuing Worthing urban sprawl, with even back gardens being sold off for housing, there is less 'green' space for local residents to walk their dogs. We welcome dog walkers PROVIDED they keep their mutts on leads and 'pick-up' afterwards. In a way they keep an eye on the site and no mischief-maker or would-be vandal can be sure that there is simply nobody else in the cemetery. However like most things in life there is a minority of totally ignorant brain challenged folk who ignore all of our warning signs, let the dogs run riot and never pick up their dog's poo! More new signs have recently appeared, as seen below.



[Below: our cemetery in bloom: Mary Pickett]



SEXIST BUT TRUE

Your editor has no intention of the prestigious BROADSHEET magazine/newsletter joining the gutter press associated with certain tabloid products but they say a picture never lies, well that is until the advent of digital photography. Having observed the activities at recent maintenance sessions the male attendees seem to be a serious, hard working bunch of guys, witness the photograph that is faithfully reproduced immediately below. In this posed but realistic image a studious Paul Robards, Frank Ffitch, John Vaughan and Richard Cossey take a welcome break from their heavy and arduous labours.



However there seems little doubt that there is a high degree of insincerity and 'high jinks' in the female camp as Pat Parrot, Joss Lambourne, Karen Foster, Mary Pickett and Janet Green show a more light hearted approach to their apparently lighter tasks. It would appear that some primitive tribal fertility dance is in progress. Whatever is happening their maintenance efforts are much appreciated and to be honest their builder's sack of cuttings is full!



FOREVER ON THE LOOKOUT

Our maintenance Coordinator Paul Robards is forever on the lookout for photographic opportunities within the boundary of our cemetery and he is, and has been, in contact with a number of organisations about the total cemetery environment with particular focus on insect and animal life and the fauna and flora that can be found within. There will be a special tour held on 20 August, see Page 3 of this issue. Below are a couple of examples of Paul's work.





…and still doing well is the Mulberry Tree planted in the Jefferies Garden to the left of the main South Farm Road cemetery entrance, although the plaque is looking rather weathered.



A GREAT START TO THE NEW YEAR

Questions were asked as to whether there would be a maintenance session on 31 December 2016, which fell on the last Saturday of the month! Our maintenance sessions ARE ALWAYS HELD ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH. To the surprise of some just above everybody agreed that it would a great opportunity to get together and to work-off some of the Christmas excesses and there was a really good turnout. In addition to mountains of material accumulated from cutting, pruning and strimming activities being disposed of, there was time for celebrations seeing out the old year and welcoming in the New Year. This included the lighting of sparklers, which was great juvenile fun. Below is a circle of hands for a 'communal lighting' of the sparklers.



There was plenty of work done on 31 December 2016 as this photograph shows.



The photograph below shows a happy group of cemetery maintainers on the New Year's Eve maintenance session; a splendid winter's day that was cold but with plenty of sunshine. From left to right are Joss Lambourne, Sue Nea, Frank Ffitch, Karen Foster, Janet Green, Gill Heasman, Debra Hillman, Jeff Hillman and Paul Robards. It should be added that many other maintainers were busy elsewhere in the cemetery.



Earlier in the session assistant cemetery photographer Mary Pickett was lurking behind cemetery trees looking for the master shot! Unbeknown to the workers she caught your Editor (left) and stalwart Frank Ffitch in action removing low branches from a very large tree.



ALL TIME RECORD ATTENDANCE!

On Saturday 28 January 2017 there was an all-time record attendance at the monthly maintenance session. For a cold winter's day the turn-out was truly remarkable. Those attending, in no particular order were: Paul Robards, Janet Green, Anne Powell, Gill Heasman, Frank Ffitch, Mary Pickett, John Vaughan, Sue Nea, Mike Bailey, Michael Kelly, Karen Foster, Joss Lambourne, Sally Roberts, Lulu Gurr, Lolly Gurr, Kelly Collimore, Madison Collimore, Mark Caveney, Richard Cossey, Jeff Hillman, Debra Hillman and Norman Manning. The number of people on site was really encouraging and there was a wonderful ***espirit de corps***. Below are some random snapshots of various participants.





Above left, Mary Pickett claims to have found the longest bramble ever, above right, Janet Green is on the verge of changing her religion, below left Gill Heasman looks pretty in pink and below right, 'earthmover' Jeff Hillman is seen hard at work moving heaven and earth.



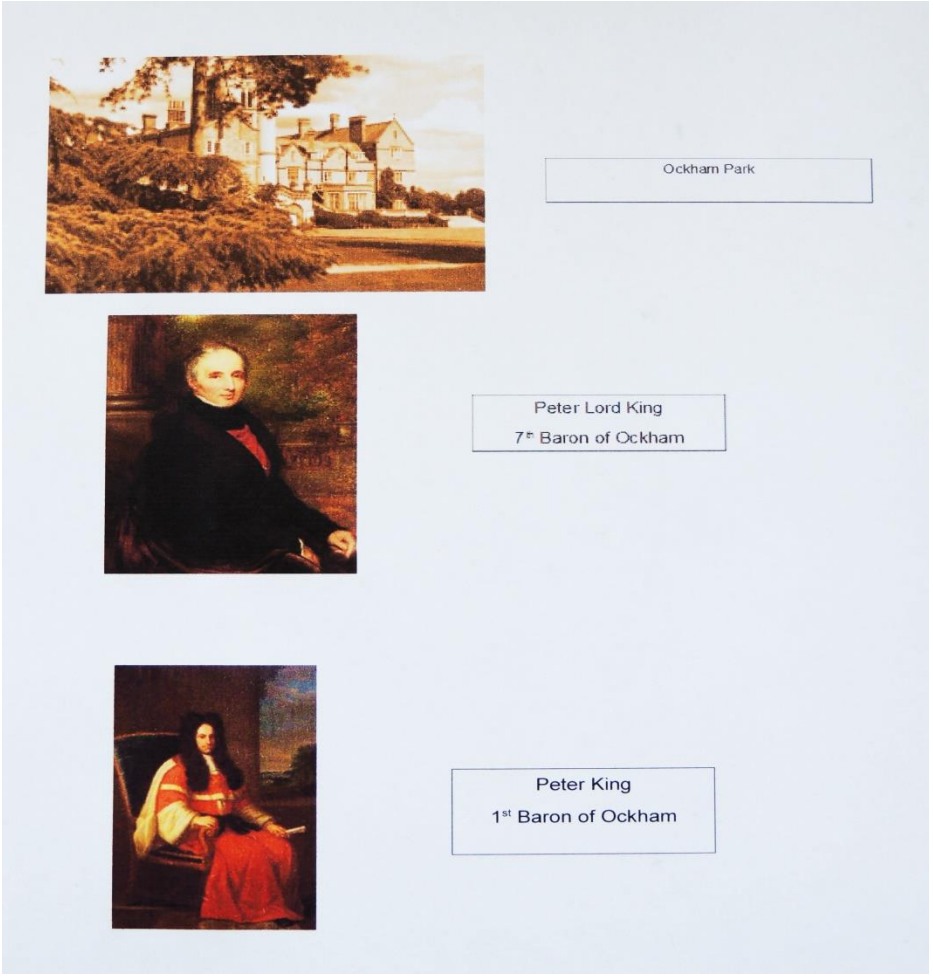


BARONS, BYRON, BABBAGE & BROOKLANDS

By Mary Pickett

Just past the impressive tomb of Ann Thwaytes, slightly to the north of the chapels in our cemetery, is a rather unimposing grave bearing the inscription 'Hon Emily King, Died November 26th 1872, Aged 65 years'. I have been intrigued by this for some time and wondered whether she might be a candidate to include in the tour later this year titled 'The Feminine Touch'. Research into her life and background however showed nothing of great significance, although she did have several relations and connections worthy of mention.

Anne Emily King was born on 20 December 1807 in the parish of Ockham in Surrey, one of five children born to Peter Lord King, 7th Baron of Ockham, and his wife, Lady Hester Fortescue. The family home was Ockham Park, Hurst Green.



The property, built in around 1638 was substantially altered in 1729 for Lord King, 1st Baron of Ockham, shown above, who also held the post of Lord Chancellor from 1725 to 1733.

He hailed from relatively humble beginnings, being the son of a grocer from Exeter. As a young man he showed great interest in early church history and as a result of the influence of his cousin, John Locke, the renowned philosopher, he was sent to the University of Leiden in Holland. On his return, he was called to the bar and then entered the Middle Temple in 1698,

was raised to the peerage in 1725 as a Lord Justice and then became Speaker of the House of Lords. He was one of the pallbearers at the funeral of Sir Isaac Newton.

Ockham Park was altered in 1729 by the renowned architect, Nicholas Hawksmoor who also worked on St Paul's Cathedral and Castle Howard. It was further altered in the 1830s by Lord Peter's son, William King Noel, 8th Baron of Ockham, who was raised to the peerage in 1838, becoming the 1st Earl of Lovelace. William married Ada Byron, only legitimate daughter of the poet Byron. Ada Byron was an important figure in her own right being a mathematician and a writer. She worked alongside Charles Babbage (1791 to 1871) as he developed the first digital programmable computer and she is widely regarded as having been the first computer programmer. Emily King's brother, Peter John Locke King, died in 1885 leaving an estate of around £266,000. His son, Hugh Fortescue Locke King, Emily's nephew, purchased the Brooklands estate in Surrey, and in 1906, he funded the building of the first banked motor racing circuit at a cost of around £150,000 (£14 million pounds today). Brooklands was the home of British motor racing until 1939. In the grounds of Brooklands, well hidden from public view, is an obelisk memorial to Hugh's father, Lord Peter King.

Emily King led a fairly unremarkable life. In both the censuses of 1851 and 1861, she was living off her own means and, for maybe reasons of her own, she told the enumerators that she didn't know where she had been born. She lived in South Street, Worthing and then Warwick Place. Her ladies maid, Maria Wardle, who was in her service for over twenty years, was the sole beneficiary and executor of her will when she died; leaving an estate with affects under £100. Emily was buried in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery on 30 November 1872 in C4-1-5.

LARGE 'WALTER BELL' HEADSTONE RECOVERED BY THE FBWC HEAVY GANG

Very near to the Cross of Sacrifice was a large, almost buried, headstone that had probably been knocked over by a huge falling tree branch and buried in the ground during the great and violent extratropical cyclone of October 1987, when hurricane force winds were experienced. Just the tip of the stone was above the ground but our maintenance coordinator Paul Robards was very keen to recover the headstone. Enter stage left the FBWC 'Heavy Gang'. The view below shows the largely buried memorial (bottom right).



Firstly the soil and rock had to be removed from around the heavy stone. This was not easy because the ground contained some very large flints that were difficult to shift. After tests it became clear that the stone could not be physically lifted, even by five men. Two crow bars were used to move the stone but the only way of shifting it laterally was by sliding the stone rather than lifting it. A nylon rope proved to be of little use. Eventually it was possible to slide the headstone out of the hole that had been created and to drop it onto its back. Then with five men tugging and pushing it was possible to swivel the stone through 180 degrees. Infilling the hole was not easy and in the fullness of time there is no doubt the infilling will sink. However it was possible to position the stone in the correct direction and to clean the face to expose the inscription. Caption: left to right, John Vaughan, Mark Caveney, Paul Robards, Frank Ffitch and Richard Cossey attempt to slide the huge stone. [Photo: Mary Pickett]



The grave and therefore headstone was that of one Walter Bell who was born in Cambridge and who died at Broadwater in 1911 and his wife Isabel Forbes Bell. The final inscription reads ‘Peace Perfect Peace’. Nobody has seen the inscription for at least 30 years. We all wondered what sort of person he was. The ‘Heavy Gang’ strikes again!

BRIDGE CITY, LOUISIANA, USA

What an awful place to be buried – 11 miles from New Orleans – but at least heavy Union Pacific freight trains pass-by, like this triple header! [Photo: Chris Davis]



SOMEBODY STILL CARES!

With a cemetery that is over 150 years old the majority of graves are not lovingly maintained because in the overwhelming number of cases generations will have moved-on and there will either be no surviving relatives and certainly nobody' about' who actually knew the deceased personally. Fortunately there are exceptions and below two such examples are illustrated.



Above is the grave of Edith Lowe. She died in 1920.



Above is the grave of Annie Fifield who died in 1931.



Above is our Typhoid Memorial, cared for by the Friends.

CEMETERY HUMOUR

In this issue perhaps ‘Cemetery Humour’ should be called ‘Undertaker’s Visual Humour’ and perhaps one has to have a strange sense of humour to experience mirth from the images below. However sometimes it is necessary to laugh at life and certainly these signs made your Editor chuckle.

The first photograph was snapped in Winchester a few days ago, suggesting that should ladies overdo the fitness in a ’30 minute workout’ and damage their health then there is a one-stop-shop right next door! The second illustration by Chris Davis shows a recent view of an undertaker’s establishment in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. Clearly somebody had a sense of humour when sitting around a table discussing what to call their new business!





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“He lived with his wife for 50 years and died in the confident hope of a better life!”

“She always said that her feet were killing her but nobody believed her!”

SPRING MAINTENANCE DELIGHT

This is a 'stop press' item and illustrates a most wonderful maintenance session held is superb sunny conditions on 25 March 2017. Fun was had by all, with plenty of amusing banter while 15 Friends helped to maintain the cemetery. If you weren't there you really missed something special. The next session will be on 29 April 2017 – the last Saturday of the month - every month. We hope to see you there – there are plenty of 'light' duties if you prefer and the 2 hour session is not only fun but good exercise with plenty of job satisfaction.

Below, Anne Powell and Mary Pickett get 'stuck in' and below that, Sue Nea and Treena Hobbs are seen between headstones.





You might even see a slow worm. [Photo: Janet Green].



EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Having had a really successful 2016 we go into the start of our 2017 season knowing that everything possible has been done to produce an attractive programme. Much of our success depends on the Friends of which you are one. We need all Friends to, in turn, tell their friends about our work, tour dates and other activities and effectively to 'spread the gospel'. Research, write-ups, tour routes, booklet production, tour guides, refreshments, sales stands, find a grave folks, display boards, even uniforms for a certain tour have all been planned and put in place. All of this hard work deserves your support.

We are also going to be developing a further wish list. We have the use of a seafront display case, a window on the pier will be procured in 2017 and all of these activities will be reported in the BROADSHEET. The next issue will be published on or about 1 August 2017 and contributions are welcome. Only two items were forwarded to the Editor for this issue. I hope you have a great summer and we hope to see you participating in as many events as you can. NEXT MEETING FRIDAY **31 MARCH** AT 18.00 – NEXT TOUR **1 APRIL** SEE BELOW.



Finally, as we enter the 9th year of our FBWC existence this is the 30th issue of the BROADSHEET that I have prepared, edited and published; a minor milestone!

Cheers for now! **EDITOR John Vaughan**