THE BROADSHEET

Issue No.36
SPRING 2019

THE TRIANNUAL VOICE OF THE FRIENDS OF BROADWATER AND WORTHING CEMETERY

WINTER AND SPRING MAINTENANCE

In the last issue of the BROADSHEET, Pages 11 – 16, we featured the second half of our successful 2018 cemetery tour season but that is not where the work stops. In fact the work of the Friends continues throughout every season of the year, including the depths of winter. On the last Saturday of every calendar month Friends gather by the chapels at 10.00 for a two hour maintenance session. Between 10 and 20 of our 100 members normally attend and a very rewarding time is had by all. The teamwork, the friendly banter and the job satisfaction make it all worthwhile and the exercise is beneficial, while making a contribution to the general community. Below we see a happy band of extroverts beside the Ralli tomb on the February 2019 clearance morning. From left to right and in 'informal' pose are our Maintenance and Clearance Coordinator Paul Robards, John Whittington, Mary Pickett, Karen Foster and Joss Lambourne. Many others were working elsewhere in the cemetery.



[All photographs by the Editor unless otherwise credited]

Every week our Coordinator 'walks the cemetery' and identifies areas that are in the greatest need of some care and attention and then working parties are guided to those locations on Maintenance and Clearance days. Some Friends bring their own tools and equipment but the FBWC have a comprehensive collection of working implements in their chapel store for all to use. Everybody works at their own pace with many working in groups but if preferred helpers are free to work on their own. There is no pressure and there is a happy atmosphere so if you don't already attend you are encouraged to do so. You will be made welcome!

MORE CEMETERY FINDS

Over the past decades on our special Maintenance and Clearance days there have many interesting 'finds' behind bushes or in the undergrowth. The highlight was of course the jewellery heist discovered in the centre of a large shrub almost exactly a year ago. However while they might not be so spectacular discoveries continue to be made. In January 2019 a group of Friends were working on the eastern boundary of the cemetery when they discovered a large number of what looked like plastic rectangular credit cards. The cards were exactly the same size as a credit or debit card but they were in fact Worthing Co-oP Superstore Customer Privilege Cards. There was a huge block of them, many dozens in total. They were in good if soiled condition and they seemed to date back to the mid-1990s. How such a large block of them had ended up in the cemetery is of course not known but one assumes they had been stolen and that there could have been some financial advantage by way of shopper's discount if used. Below we see a selection of the Co-oP cards and another with Friend Mary Pickett posing beside them.





There was yet another find at the end of February when Karen Foster, John Whittington (photographed) and others found a variety of balls of various shapes and sizes, which was not unique, as reported in previous BROADSHEETs, however what was novel was an accompanying Rounders bat, which Karen is holding, or should I say threatening the Editor with? The discovery caused a pause in the working morning and some merriment.



Of course it is not just the discovery of 'foreign' objects that creates interest and one of the primary objectives of our maintenance days is to unearth and discover headstones that have been lost to the world for many decades and what follows is a series of images that show the friends clearing sometimes dense undergrowth to reveal a long lost memorial to a loved one, which has unfortunately been lost in the mist of time. In the series of photographs that follow we see the clearance of thicket and the cut-back of trees, saplings and brambles enabling various headstones and tributes to be seen again by the world at large. Below Gill Heasman rakes back some pruned ivy and small branches to reveal two Edwardian headstones.



Below is another old headstone unearthed by the Friends that has not seen 'the light of day' for many decades. Although dating back 'only' 112 years the cross is unfortunately made of sandstone, which has started to deteriorate, making the inscription barely legible. Also there has been some subsidence, which the Friends might be able to at least partially rectify.



Sometimes the work of the Friends enforces, shall we say, cooperative working, and in this view Paul Robards and Mary Pickett are seen deep in the undergrowth. The Editor is pleased to report that they did eventually both re-emerge but for a few seconds tongues were wagging! The huge volume of cuttings arising from Maintenance and Clearance days has been causing problems but our Chairman has made all the necessary arrangements for disposal thereof. This includes shredding and at the moment there is a resulting pile of wood chips available for cemetery use, including some grave infilling where there has been subsidence. We will return to the subject of maintenance later in this issue.



CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Well, what can I say about the last year? More successful Saturday and Sunday tours, more booklets, delicious refreshments, productive clearance sessions, financial stability, a new bench, a newsletter to be proud of and many people who have helped to find information about their ancestors and those interred within the cemetery as contributions to our tours and booklets; our researchers. None of these would have been possible without your hard work and support. I would like to thank every member and Friend for their contribution throughout the year and special thanks goes to my fellow committee members without whom none of this would have happened. We've even managed to have fun along the way!

There were of course some negatives, including damage by vandals to one of the cemetery benches, but overall I think it has been a good year and I don't intend to dwell on those.

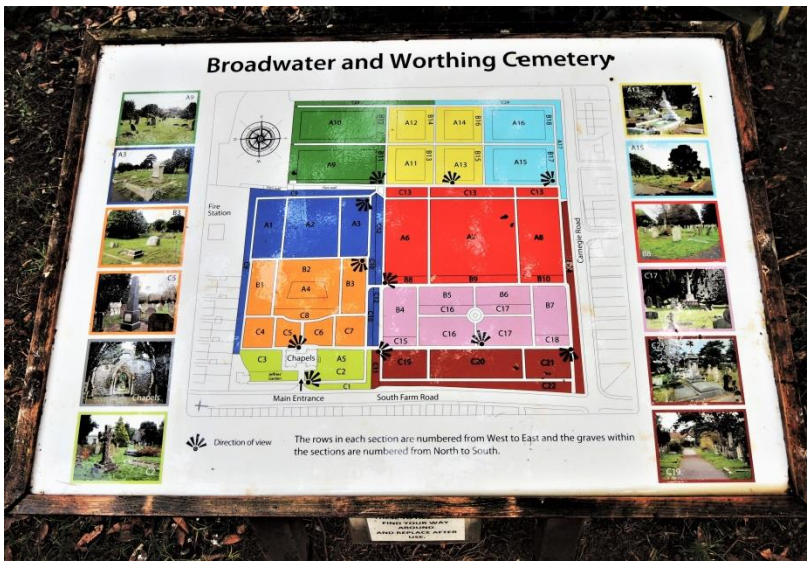
I believe we benefit from being part of other social networks, like the Worthing Heritage Alliance and the Adur & Worthing Green Space Partnership and I will look to strengthen our links with them next (now this) year. Please take advantage of these links; take a look at their websites/Facebook pages and see what events they are running. I'm sure you will find items of interest across their broad spectrum of members.

As a group we have contributed thousands of volunteer hours in maintaining and promoting the cemetery, meeting, and in some cases exceeding, those objectives laid down 10 years ago when the Friends group was formed. Every year you come up trumps and continue to make this valuable contribution to the local community. Again, thank you.

It is a pleasure to work with people who are prepared to use their initiative, take on tasks and run with them, work hard and deliver great results. I am hopeful and optimistic that the forthcoming year of 2019 will be equally successful.

Debra Hillman

Below, the Chapel direction board - cleaned of bird droppings etc. by your Editor.



2019 CEMETERY TOUR PROGRAMME

Following months of thought and researching our team, under the guidance of Karen Foster, have now finalised the Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery Saturday tours programme for the 2019 season. The tours will as usual be thematic and the relevant dates, titles and tour guides are detailed in the list below. All of these tours are held on the first Saturday of the month from April until October. As Friends we would like you to attend as many as possible. All tours start by the cemetery chapels at 11.00 and normally last between 1 and 1.5 hours. There are sales stands, featuring our booklets and a choice of refreshment available for a donation to the funds of the Friends, which are channelled towards cemetery improvement.

FBWC 2019 SATURDAY CEMETERY TOURS

6 April 2019 'Upstairs Downstairs' Debra Hillman

4 May 2019 'Residents of Ambrose Place' Pauline Reed

1 June 2019 'Men of the Sea' Karen Foster

6 July 2019 'Children Bringing More History Alive' Various

3 August 2019 'Interesting Inquests' Debra Hillman

7 September 2019 'Epitaphs Etched for Eternity' Pauline Reed

5 October 2019 'Centenarians' John Vaughan

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY NOW

FBWC 2019 SUNDAY CEMETERY TOURS

It is intended to run three Sunday tours during the 2019 season but we regret that requested details were not made available by the publication deadline for inclusion in this issue. Please refer to the FBWC website at a future date for information and details.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Some new artificial roses are being purchased as markers for the graves to be included on cemetery tours. Book tokens will be given to the children participating in the July cemetery tour, see above. Thought is being given to the procurement of a secure metal storage shed to be used by the FBWC and located to the north of the chapels, subject to council approval. Enquiries are being made about the restoration of the Hudson grave, which needs attention. Our web-site has been updated by our Chairman and it is well worth a re-visit

OUR NEW BENCH APPRECIATED

Since its installation the Friends new cemetery bench has been a popular and well used facility, which enhances the cemetery as a green space, an oasis in a world of concrete, bricks and tarmac. In this typical and welcome scene a lady rests awhile, reading her book, with her faithful four legged companion by her side; just as it should be and what we envisaged.



MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE

Our Membership Secretary has reported that following the annual round of membership renewals the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery are presently just hovering around the 100 mark with the usual small post-renewal turnover of members, plus a few new faces and with a few moving on for a variety of reasons. Overall we have a healthy and thriving membership and no doubt some of our summer visitors will want to join the organisation. At the time of publication of this issue of The BROADSHEET the total net worth of the FBWC is £5705.86 at bank and the sum of £46.32 held in cash floats resulting in a total net worth of £5752.18. All assets have a written down value of nil. There are a handful of minor items of expenditure 'in the pipeline' but nothing of great consequence as in total they would not exceed £100 in value. The FBWC is in a healthy state financially.



A little cemetery friend!

A SHORT TRUMPET BLAST !

Nothing more has been heard from the company who were trying to extort money from the Friends for using a cartoon in The BROADSHEET, which they claimed a client company held the copyright for. My letter caused a re-action and the following were unsolicited comments received:

CD: “Your letter is worth framing ……”

SB: “Your reply to the copyright scammers is a masterclass in dealing with such people…..”

Also, below please find responses to the actual content of Issue No.35 of the magazine:

PR: “Many thanks for the latest edition…”
AE: “A very informative read, as usual……”
CM: “Well up to its usual high standard……”
JS: “Many thanks for another wonderful read ….”
SN: “I have had a good read of the Broadsheet, as usual a great read and very informative…”

I have never published feedback before but thank you to those who took the trouble. To be honest there was only a single negative comment about one aspect of the magazine but as they say “there’s always one” and “you can’t please all of the people all of the time”, so be it.

CEMETERY HUMOUR

The Sussex Party Shop is located in Broadwater, just opposite the church. Friend John Maskell was in the churchyard when an advertising flag blew across part of the shop name. The quick-witted John took the picture below; what would the deceased say at the prospect?



[Photo: John Maskell]

THE RAPE OF THE DEAD: HS2 RAILWAY

By John Vaughan

The BROADSHEET has never been political in any way and never will be but the construction of the first phase of the new High Speed rail line between London and Birmingham will be disturbing the graves of over 80,000 deceased folk. At a staggering cost of £60 Billion (original estimate £32.7 Billion, or £105 Million per mile), businessmen will be able to save a whole 21 minutes based on existing schedules between Britain's first and second cities. This follows the 9 months late £15 Billion Crossrail project in London, the construction of which has disturbed the graves of an estimated 3,000 souls at the Bedlam Hospital graveyard site plus a number of plague pits of considerable age.

The comments that follow are written by your Editor, who is an avid rail fan, and they raise a number of issues and questions. Most express trains running on primary main lines in the UK have a top service speed of 125mph, except for the HS1 (High Speed 1) line from St Pancras International to the Channel Tunnel, where the maximum speed is 186mph. HS2 speeds are thought to be in the region of 200mph. HS2 has been built to increase capacity and to offer higher speed travel from London Euston and Old Oak Common to Birmingham by 2026 and onwards to Manchester and Leeds by 2032. Massive multi-million pound building projects have already commenced but back in August 2018 the highly respected National Audit Office were very critical of the project accusing the government and contractors of bad planning, wasting money and making 'fundamental mistakes'.

There has to be a prioritisation process in government finance but it does seem bizarre to be spending what will be well over £100 Billion on a railway line when there are long waiting lists of up to a year or more for certain types of surgery and when sick and elderly people in the large population of the greater Worthing area must go to Brighton and beyond for treatment. Something is clearly wrong.

However the purpose of this piece is to highlight the desecration of graves on a monumental scale. The 'Stop HS2' group have called the project 'environmental vandalism'. In the London area alone over 100 century old trees have been felled and along the route over 60 historical and archaeological sites are going to be disturbed. Land acquisition costs have escalated from £1 Billion to over £5 Billion already. However what is truly criminal is the need to exhume over 60,000 body remains at St James Gardens near Euston station in London and 18,000 bodies in Park Street Cemetery and St Martin's churchyard in Birmingham. St Mary's Church at Stoke Mandeville and Old Heath churchyard will also be impacted.

Admittedly these cemeteries have not been in use for over 100 years and HS2 officials have stated that the bodies (skeletons) will be treated with 'dignity and respect' and then re-buried in consecrated ground, precise location to be determined, but in the writer's opinion the words 'final resting place' and 'rest in peace' should mean just that. To 'undertake' the gruesome task HS2 have employed archaeologists, forensic archaeologists, osteologists and exhumation specialists. There are many other examples of new build railways disturbing the resting places of the dead, such as St Pancras Cemetery when the HS1 rail route was constructed.

Below is an example of a new generation of Intercity Express Trains (IET – designed by Hitachi) seen at York two weeks ago. This type of train, while representative of the modern era, will not be the same type of train that will work on HS2 lines.



There is little doubt that the HS2 rail line will run late and if capacity is an issue then the old Great Western Railway route to Birmingham via Banbury could be better exploited, new trains and signalling systems could increase capacity and in any event the government's track record on major projects is appalling. In fact under what the press are calling the Minister for Transport, 'Failing Grayling', many projects have been altered or postponed because they are way over budget or running very late, such as the electrification of the western end of the Great Western Railway main line. Grayling oversaw the railway timetable debacle in May 2018, not to mention the disastrous 'Brexit' shipping contract when recently the Department of Transport paid Eurotunnel the sum of £33 Million of taxpayer's money in settlement of legal action in what the press described as 'A further Brexit humiliation'. Another disaster for Grayling (and the taxpayer) was the 'bail out' of the East Coast Main Line operators (Virgin and Stagecoach) last year, an unsustainable £200 Million jail maintenance contract, the disastrous privatisation of the prison and probation services and a number of other debacles, such as the Gatwick Airport drone scare. It all gives little confidence that HS2 will be delivered on time (if at all) and it is already hugely over budget.

It would be a tragedy if the resting place of over 80,000 souls had been disturbed for no reason at all, unless of course, if HS2 is built, that the business traveller makes good use of the 21 minutes he or she will save. To be fair there have been many other examples of what critics call 'grave robbery'. The City of London Cemetery have, disgracefully, been re-using graves for years, Camberwell Old Cemetery authorities, under the auspices of Southwark Council, have in cavalier fashion ridden roughshod over the local community by building over CWGC war graves and re-using others without consulting or even informing relatives. Cherry Lane Cemetery is likely to disappear so that a dual carriageway road to Heathrow Airport can be built. The desecration goes on and on but it shouldn't be necessary. If space in cemeteries is running out then my message is "go buy a field", wherever it might be. Much more sensitivity and decency should be the order of the day.

SEEING THE LIGHT

Over the decades a number of memorials have fallen to the ground and this is attributable to a number of reasons, ranging from the original materials used, wind and storms and vandalism. Some of these memorials fall 'face down' and so the inscriptions cannot be read and unless rectified never will be. Within the physical limitations of maintainers, sometimes called the 'heavy gang' (not that your Editor is calling any lady Friends 'heavy'!), the Friends often try to invert these headstones as seen here. Below friends Paul Robards, John Whittington, Karen Foster and Mary Pickett tackle the memorial to the Box family now visible to all; see below.





ADUR & WORTHING COUNCIL AT WORK

Friend Mary Pickett happened to be passing 'our' cemetery on 27 February 2019 when she noticed Council workers indulging in some hedge trimming on the South Farm Road boundary of our 14.5 acre cemetery site. The workers are using a board across the back of their vehicle as a working platform in order to reach parts that others cannot.



[Photo: Mary Pickett]

CHAPEL BLACKBOARD MISUSED!

Our blackboard at the cemetery chapels is for noting wild life observations but there appears to be too many comedians about as it would seem that a ghoul, a zombie with the munchies, 15 ghosts and some young people smoking on graves have also been seen and noted!



[Photo: Mary Pickett]

THE 'HILLMAN' PAGE

Although featured in previous editions of the BROADSHEET Jeff Hillman ably supported (at times!) by wife Debra (our Hon. Chairman) have cleared large sections of our cemetery consuming in total hundreds of hours of his/their time. It's hard work and Jeff is seen below with an overloaded barrow of cuttings. Also seen are an 'after' shot of an area cleared and finally a third image of Jeff at work with wife Debra. Well done guys, a great manicure.





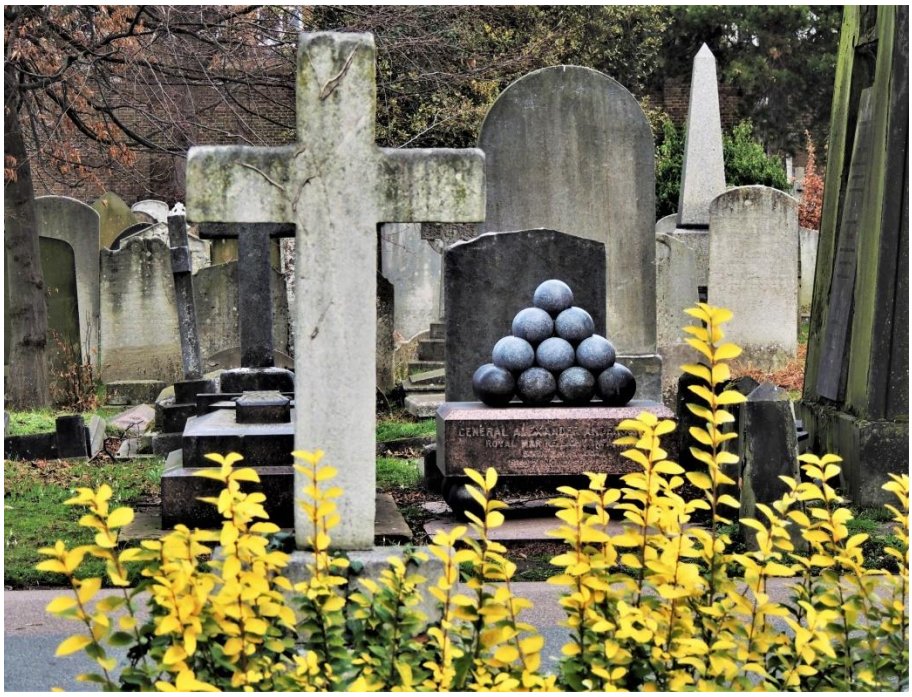


OTHER CEMETERIES

In our regular feature this month we include a diverse selection of sites. Below is part of the cemetery surrounding 14th Century (rebuild date) St Nicholas Church at Arundel.



There is an association of ideas in this unique memorial at Brompton Cemetery in West London. The grave is the resting place of a General Alexander Anderson of the Royal Marines, who is buried beneath these symbolic cannon balls!



St James' Cemetery near Wakefield is hardly the place to 'Rest in Peace' as a constant stream of passenger and heavy freight train go rumbling by. This might be an ideal resting place for railway enthusiasts and train spotters though! [Photo courtesy of: Chris Davis]



Our Clearance and Maintenance Coordinator Paul Robards is ahead of the national game by preserving (in the sense of roping off) sections of the cemetery for the benefit of both wild flowers and the insects that thrive in such areas. He has sown flower seeds in abundance. This example of such an area was seen in St Faith's churchyard at Havant, Hampshire.



PAUL'S CEMETERY BUTTERFLIES

Our cemetery Maintenance and Clearance Coordinator, Paul Robards has always been keen to promote a habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. He knew that Spring wasn't far away when a yellow Brimstone butterfly was noted in the cemetery on 24 February 2019. Paul delights in photographing cemetery wild life and here is a tiny example of his work. Below are gatekeeper and common blue butterflies.







CEMETERY LINK WITH JANE AUSTEN

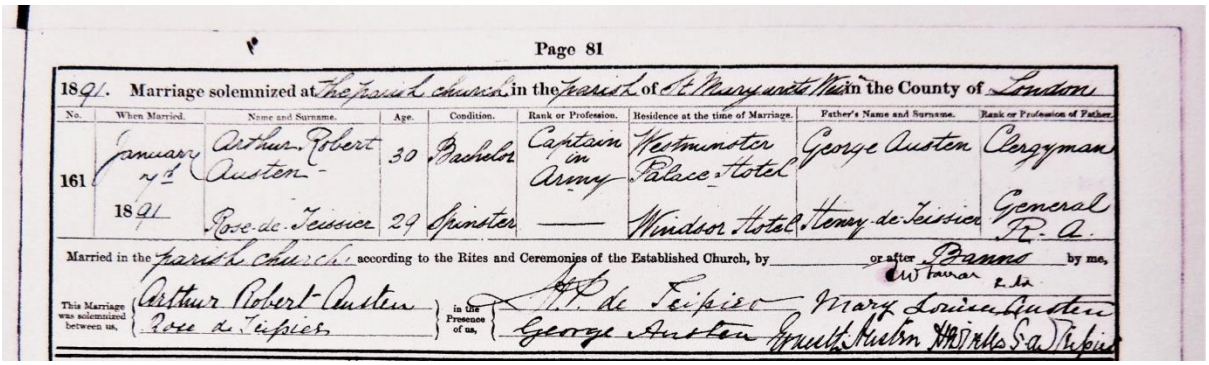
By Humphrey Palmer

Alice Palmer (nee Lane) 1860 – 1935 is buried at grave C23-1-19 in Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. She was the great granddaughter of Henry Pontyz Lane and the grandniece of Louisa and Henrietta Lane, who were sisters of her grandfather Henry Snaith Lane who was born in Worthing in 1800. She was the 2nd cousin to Jane Austen's nephew Arthur Robert Austen.

Louisa Lane married Thomas Heathcote Tragett in 1825, who was the son of the butler to Sir Thomas Freeman Heathcote living at Embley Park, Hampshire, the future home of Florence Nightingale. Sir Thomas's father was Sir William Heathcote, 3rd Baronet of Hursley. The estate of Hursley was bought by Sir William's grandfather from Richard Cromwell's estate after his death, who was the son of Oliver and for a very short period of time from 1658 to 1659 Hursley was the seat of the ruler of England. [I hope you are paying attention – Ed.]

Sir Thomas was childless and he educated and nurtured Thomas Tragett, sending him to university where he attained an M.A. He was living at Timsbury, Hampshire on the death of Sir Thomas in 1825. Thomas (2) inherited Awbridge Danes, which had been added to the estate of Embley and this was the home of the Tragetts until 1923. Thomas and Louisa's eldest daughter named Louisa Lane born in 1828 married George Heathcote Austen in 1851, who was the 4th child off Francis William Austen and Mary Gibson. He was the elder brother of **Jane Austen.**

The 1881 census shows Alice Lane was a visitor at the home of George Heathcote Austen who was the rector St John's Redhill, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire, her cousin Louisa Lane was away at the census count and staying with her father at Awbridge Danes. Henrietta Lane married James De Teissier from an old Huguenot family who came to London because of the revoking of The Edict of Nantes [worth Googling – Ed.] by Louis XIV in 1685. The marriage took place in 1814. Louis XV111 wanted to honour the English De Teisser family by conferring the title of Baron de France for all their efforts of helping French emigrants during the French Revolution this required special dispensation from the crown, George 111. Consequently the Prince Regent conferred his honour on James de Teissier in 1819.



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1891. Marriage solemnized at the parish church in the parish of St Mary wrets Wis in the County of London

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
161	January 7th	Arthur Robert Austen	30	Bachelor	Captain in Army	Westminster Palace Hotel	George Austen	Clergyman
	1891	Rose de Teissier	29	Spinster	—	Windsor Hotel	Henry de Teissier	General R. A.

Married in the parish church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, [illegible]

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Arthur Robert Austen, Rose de Teissier in the Presence of us, H. P. de Teissier, Mary Louisa Austen, George Austen, Gynett Austen, [illegible]

Above the Marriage Certificate of Austen and Teissier dated 1891.

James and Henrietta had five sons who survived into adulthood, the third son Henry Price De Tessier who had been born at Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey, which is now owned by the

Royal Automobile Club, with golf courses, sports facilities and where events are held. The park was purchased by Henry Price's grandfather in 1787 and which remained in the family until 1885. Henry Price De Tessier had a military career becoming Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery in Bengal. He married Mary Shirley Miller in 1855 at Fort William, Bengal. They had four children all born in India, their youngest daughter Rose Price being born in 1861 and had returned to England by 1871 for her education. She married Arthur Robert Austen, the 5th child of George Heathcote Austen at St Margaret's Westminster in January 1891. The wedding certificate (above) includes four members of the Austen family.

Note: [This article links to Pages 22-25 in the 2016 FBWC booklet No.35 'Upstairs - Downstairs' on the Rev. Palmer. It was his wife Alice who is related to Jane Austen.]

CASUAL MAINTENANCE SCENES

Below left: A little cameo of our good friend Sue Nea stopping Frank Ffitch working on the January 2019 Clearance day. Joking aside, Sue is a valuable Friend who gives much of her time to the FBWC and is general overseer of our Facebook system and pages. Below right, it can be a dirty business this cemetery maintenance! Bottom: Joss Lambourne and colleague tackle the undergrowth, also photographed at the January 2019 maintenance session.

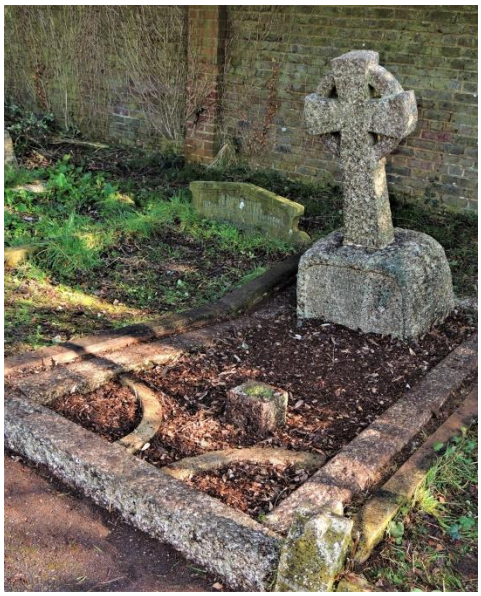






EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

It is always a pleasure to receive donations to help swell the coffers of the Friends of Broadwater Cemetery and we have already been extremely fortunate this year, having received donations totalling £185.00 Peter Clifford very kindly donated the sum of £150.00 in appreciation of the help he had received in tracing past relatives, Debra Hillman gave a talk to the folks at Goring Methodist Church and received a cheque for £25 and Andrew and Marylin Russell from Alton, Hampshire donated £10 towards an FBWC booklet. As a consequence the Friends cleaned-up, trimmed grasses and removed weeds from the family grave in C2 of Dr John Sydenham Nodes, who is in our 'Doctors and Surgeons' booklet. He owned one of the first motor cars in Worthing. The finished product is photographed below.



We can all look forward to a scintillating summer season. There will be plenty of work going on behind the scenes. We ask all Friends to 'spread the word' about our tours and encourage folks to attend. All committee members have been working hard in their specialist areas and there has been considerable proactivity. Many projects are progressing and the Editor intends to give our new cemetery seat a coat of wood preservative. As previously said, The BROADSHEET does not try to compete with our Secretary's minutes of meetings, which should be read as an up to date report as to what is currently happening within the FBWC.

There has been only a single contribution received in the editorial office for this issue, which is disappointing. Items of interest in the form of cemetery related news, articles about our cemetery or those buried within, or even informed opinions are welcome. Enjoy the 2019 summer, participate if you are able but above all else please continue your support by simply being a member of the Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery. The next issue of The BROADSHEET should appear in the late July/early August period.

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