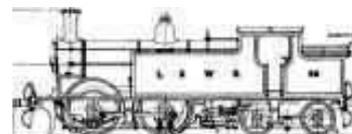


The Brookwood Express

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Cemetery Society



Editor: Margaret Hobbs
75 Ranelagh Crescent, Ascot, Berks, SL5 8LQ
☎ 01344 891041
email: meghobbs@ascot75.fsnet.co.uk
www.tbcs.org.uk email: info@tbcs.org



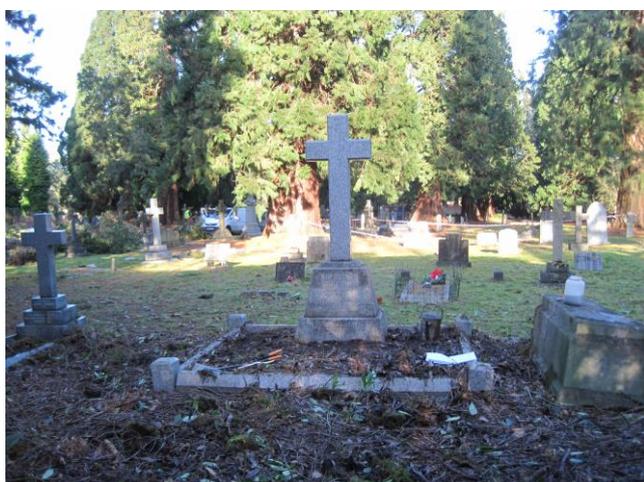
❧ **No. 104: MAY 2016** ❧

CEMETERY UPDATE

Clearance Work

A vast amount of clearance has been carried out within the Cemetery in the last months, by the Management. This has been aided by members of "Barnabas Fresh Start", which is scheme for the long termed unemployed.

"Barnabas Fresh Start" commenced work on Plot 76 in January, and during the clearance many interesting memorials were revealed, that had not been visible for many years. Work has been continued in Plots 86 - 90. The change is quite remarkable as you walk up St Andrew's Avenue and the enthusiasm of



Work in progress in Plot 76

the clearance team is infectious.

The clearance work has also continued in Plot 57a, which is featured on page 5.

There is also a specialised programme of clearance on the South side of the Cemetery, of the invasive non - native Rhododendron ponticum, by South Buck Tree Surgeons Ltd and overseen by the Surrey Wild Life Trust. This work will help the natural habitat to grow and prevent the encroachment of the Rhododendron onto the graves.

The New Lodge

The new lodge arrived in the middle of March, but as yet to be fully commissioned. The building includes the much needed toilet facilities and looks very smart. It will be given a coat of dark preservative as required by the planning permission.

The lodge will be available for use by the Society as a base, as agreed with Woking Borough Council, and the Society will contribute to the cost of the structure.

It is situated on the edge of the left hand side of the Glades of Remembrance car park.

The New Lodge



Service at the Turkish Airmen's Plot

On the morning of the Friday 18th March there was a Service of Remembrance for the members of the Turkish Air Force, who died in the UK learning to fly during WWII. The staff of the American Military Cemetery provide power for the sound system. Attending the service were Turkish and local dignitaries, the Management of the different Civilian and Military Cemeteries; with Kim Lowe representing the Society.

Society News

Walks 2016

The first of this year's monthly walks clashed with Mothering Sunday and the Committee suspected that the attendance would be poor; but we could not have been more wrong, with over thirty- five visitors attending, on a very chilly day. April's walk was even better attended with over 50 visitors. **Because of this increase interest in the Cemetery is there any member who could help once a month with teas or on the Sales Stand?**

There has been a rush of requests for private walks, for the coming months. These started on 14th March with a group from Sandhurst led by Margaret Hobbs and Ed Evans. Then on the morning of

the March 16th, Kim Lowe and Margaret Hobbs led eighteen Chinese visitors around the Military Section with the aid of an interpreter. The visitors all work in military cemeteries in different provinces of China and were very interested in the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. After lunch in the Old Catholic Chapel they made a short visit to the old Anglican Section.

Kim has given several talks about the Society and the Cemetery over the winter months. This has led to requests from some members of the audience, for information on grave locations of relatives, and more general interest in the Cemetery.

Vacant Committee Positions

There will be two vacant positions on the Committee from June.

Rose Falkner has sadly decided to stand down in June as the Society Treasurer, and the committee feel sure all members would like to thank her for all the wonderful work of the last four years.

Gail Naughton has also decided to stand down as Secretary and again the Society would like to thank her for her support.

It is vital that these two positions are filled for the continuing successful running of the Society. The Committee usually has six committee meetings per year and at present are held before a monthly walk.

If any local member feel that they could take on one of these roles or would like to discuss the duties of either of them, please could they contact Kim or Margaret, before the Annual General Meeting in June.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES:

WALKS & OTHER EVENTS

All walks now start from the Cemetery Office entrance, off Cemetery Pales. A donation would be most welcome. **We look forward to meeting you. Walks start at 2pm unless otherwise stated.**

Sunday May 1st 2016: Geology Walk led by Di Smith. By popular request, Di Smith will return to explain the Geology of the Cemetery, and the various stones used in the many diverse memorials.

Sunday 29th May 2016: Memorial Day at the American Military Cemetery., Brookwood. The service starts at 3pm.

Sunday June 5th: Military Walk: led by Kim Lowe and Margaret Hobbs. This walk will include the Corps of Commissioners, the Czech Annex and the CWGC Cemetery.

WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE at 7.30PM BROOKWOOD CEMETERY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING."

An agenda is enclosed with this edition.

Sunday July 3rd: Artist Walk led by Jenny Mukerji. Learn about the prominent artists buried in the Cemetery.

Sunday August 7th: Metropolitan Re-interments Walk led by Barry Devonshire. This walk will visit the large re-interment sites of the London parishes within the Cemetery.

The views expressed by contributors to this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the editor and the society.

Nunhead Cemetery Annual Open Day



21st May 2016 11am – 5pm
Admission free

Spring is on its way so come and enjoy its arrival at Nunhead Cemetery. A Victorian jewel and a green oasis in the heart of urban life. Music in the ruined chapel. Free tours, plant stall, children's Bug Hunt, homemade refreshments and many other stalls TBC. Limited parking. Nunhead rail station, P12 bus. www.fonc.org.uk

National Federation of Cemetery Friends

AGM 2016, Newbury

Saturday 11th June 2016

The Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery, Newbury, will be this year's hosts who will welcome you not only for the AGM day but offer a celebratory weekend

For further information: www.cemeteryfriends.com

National Federation of Cemetery Friends
42 Chestnut Grove
South Croydon, London CR2 7LH
United Kingdom

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

REMINDER 2016-2017

Member if your renewal is still outstanding, please do not forget that this will be the last newsletter you will receive.

A reminder form is enclosed with this newsletter.

The continuing story of the Lewis Family: Part II by Jenny Mukerji

Joseph Robert Lewis (1869-1937)

In the previous issue of the Brookwood Express we looked at Joseph Lewis who was the manager of Woking Public Hall and is buried in the Woking Ground (plots 43 & 44) in the Anglican Section of Brookwood Cemetery.

This time we will look at his elder son, Joseph Robert Lewis, known as Joe. Joe was born in Hammersmith where his father was a theatre manager. He was educated at the Old Brompton Church School and, like his father, took to the stage as a profession. He sang in the church choir and then joined repertory companies along with his father. Using the name Robert Lewis, his early appearances were at the Old Vic and the Lyric, Hammersmith. At the age of 20 he went on tour with the famous actor and later film star George Arliss (1868-1946).

Joe also appeared in *The Sign of the Cross* at Woking's Public Hall soon after it opened and again in 1899 in *Monte Cristo* with other members of his family. After performing at the St James' Theatre and touring with the Sir Ben

Greet Company, Joe gave up the stage after the start of the First World War and managed cinemas in Western Road, Brighton; the Hippodrome, Reigate; Charlton and Portslade. He returned to Woking in 1919 where he worked for the Records Office and later for Woking Borough Council.

Joe married Alice Maud James in 1893 and they had three sons and five daughters. Joseph was living in the Kingsway, Woking at when he died on 16 July 1937 in Warren Road Hospital, Guildford. His sons and one of his daughter had emigrated to South Africa and it was there that Joe's wife, Alice died in 1950.

James Henry Lewis (1871-1932)

James Henry Lewis was the brother of Joseph Robert Lewis. He lies with his wife, Violet Aileen in an unmarked grave in the Woking Ground (Plot 44) in the Anglican Ground of Brookwood Cemetery. Born in Bayswater where his father was a theatre manager, James started his career as an actor at an early age. He went on to perform at the Coliseum, Wyndhams, the Prince of Wales and the Old Strand Theatre and even before royalty.

In later years he worked in the film industry, making films in Walton, Esher, Walthamstow and Catford.

James met his wife, the actress Violet Aileen Morley when they were on tour together. She was the second daughter of Lt Col Morley of the Cameron Highlanders and had been born in Ireland. The couple were married in Lancashire in 1899. The couple were on tour together right up until the birth of their first son, Lionel Morley Lewis in Aberdeen in the summer of 1900.

When James died, he was living at 1

Royal Oak Road, Woking. He left a widow, three sons and a daughter. Another daughter had died as a small child in 1909. Violet died in 1950.

Two of James's sons are buried in Brookwood and there will be more about them in a later issue of the Brookwood Express.

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The Re-burials in Plot 57a from Holy Trinity Church Hounslow

In March, Plot 57a, a wooded area off St Philip's Avenue was cleared of undergrowth by "Barnabas Fresh Start". This work has revealed neat rows of flat memorials and a heap of broken memorial stones; and it was unclear where the latter originated from.

This plot is the site of the re-burial of 461 sets of human remains, of which 181 could be identified, from the graveyard of **Holy Trinity Church Hounslow, Middlesex.**

The churchyard, by a special Act of Parliament, was cleared in the late 1950's and the work completed by 1960.

The original Chapel was completed in 1829, and in 1836 it became the main church for Hounslow Town, with a chancel added in 1856. Holy Trinity Church was burnt down in 1943 by arsonists and a temporary church erected. In 1953, the building of a new church was considered, but the Parish had insufficient funds. It was therefore decided that the only option was to clear the graveyard, and sell the land for redevelopment to raise the deficit. A new church was built and was consecrated in 1963.

The West Middlesex Family History Society have kindly given our Society and the Cemetery Office copies of the list of

names of those re-buried at Brookwood Cemetery.

From this list it can be confirmed that the memorials do come from the churchyard, and have been laid in rows in the woodland, as can be seen in the picture below. It is unclear if these stones mark the actual graves of individuals. There is no marker for the unidentified remains

Other memorials have sadly been deposited in a disorderly heap near the front of the area; in this heap there are good examples of granite crosses and two grey granite chest tombs. On some stones, inscriptions are visible and these are being recorded.



A view of Plot 57a

The West Middlesex Family History Society was unaware that memorials from the churchyard had survived and the Secretary of this Society has already visited Plot 57a.

The inscriptions so far recorded, indicate that the broken and discarded memorials are from Holy Trinity Church, Hounslow. One of the granite chest tomb stones is to the memory of Ralph Allen Frogley, an eminent surgeon who had practised and lived in Hounslow.

The members "Barnabas Fresh Start" are planning to move the discarded stones into a circle and make a garden in remembrance of the parishioners of Holy Trinity, Hounslow.

Ralph Allen Frogley MRCS. FRCS 1793-1864



Ralph Allen Frogley was born in Hounslow and christened at St Leonard's Church, Heston, on July 6th 1793; the son of a successful surgeon,

Henry Frogley (1751-1818) and his wife Anne.

Frogley studied at Windmill St. School, Westminster Hospital and St George's Hospital. On completion of his studies he



***The lower part of
Ralph Allen Frogley's Memorial with the
inscription at one end.***

immediately joined his father's practice, at Croxby House, High Street, Hounslow. After his father's death in 1818, Ralph for some years carried on the practice alone, but later went into partnership with Christopher Emmott a doctor from Egham. On Emmott's retirement, Frogley was associated with Thomas Warburton Benfield and between 1849-1854 with Alfred Hall.

In 1826 at Heston he married Mary Harriet Georgina Freeman (1811-1883), the daughter of the Rev. John Neville Freeman. She appears from records to be hardly 16 years old.

During the time Frogley practiced at Hounslow, he was at different times Medical Officer to the Parishes of Feltham, Bedfont, Norwood, Hanworth, Heston, Cranford, and Harlington. He was also Medical Officer to the School of St George's and St Giles's Bloomsbury, at Heston; he was also Surgeon to the 'T' Division of Police, and to Curtis and Harvey's gunpowder mills at Hounslow Heath.

There is also a reference in the Lancet Volume 1 of 1840, of his work under the Vaccination Act for the Brentford Union. He supported a motion of a meeting of General Practitioners, in October 1840 at Brentford, in that the payment offered of 18 pence per case was insufficient, and that they would be willing to carry out vaccinations for two shillings and six pence a case.

He was a skilled surgeon in amputation, the removal of stones and in childbirth. He was made a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1812 and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1852.

He owned and ran a large farm and was influential in the obtaining the site and building of Hounslow Town Hall. Frogley was an able, hardworking and liked man. He died in Brighton in 1864 aged 71 years and was originally buried at Holy Trinity Church, Hounslow, but now re-interred at Brookwood Cemetery.

His widow Mary married again in 1865 to George Morley Dowdeswell and died in 1883 and does not appear to have been buried at Hounslow.

I would like to thank Roland Bostock for all his help with information for this article.

Margaret Hobbs

Sources:

Ancestry

Parrs Lives

West Middlesex Family History Society

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Review

Muslim Burial Ground Peace Garden Woking

This article by Tony McClenaghan, was published this Spring in the Durbar, the Journal of the Indian History Society.

In this much illustrated article, Mr. McClenaghan gives the history behind the need for a place of burial for Muslims, fighting for the Allies during WWI. This resulted in the Muslim Burial Ground at Horsell Common, Woking, and the article gives details of the purchase, marking out of the ground and the building of the perimeter wall.

Mr. McClenaghan then continues the history of the site from 1916 to the present day restoration. He covers the reasons for the removal and re-interring of the bodies to Brookwood Military Cemetery in 1969.



The Muslim Graves at Brookwood Military Cemetery

Another very interesting section in this publication is about the burial of the Sepoys in the existing Muslim Cemetery at Brookwood, before the Woking ground was purchased and completed. The original plan was to move these bodies to the



The Sepoy Burial Plot at Brookwood Cemetery

Woking site but this never happened. The Sepoy graves are now maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

This article is very interesting and informative; if any member would like a paper or electronic copy could you contact Margaret Hobbs.

Source: Durbar Spring 2016 Volume 33 Number 1

Emmeline Ballard (nee Halse) (c1836-1923) and Emmeline Halse (1853-1930).

On page 92 of John Clarke's *London Necropolis* book of 2004, he writes that Edward Ballard (1820-1897), in plot 36, married, for the second time, "the artist Emmeline Halse (died 1923). She designed the unusual memorial to *Henri van Laun."

Although a Emmeline Halse designed the memorial, she is not the Emmeline Halse who married Edward Ballard.

Edward Ballard MD of Compton Terrace, Islington, married Emmeline, the youngest daughter of John Halse at Acton Church on 4 May 1868. She had been born in St James's Palace where her father was a Royal Page to William IV.

John Halse and his wife Clarissa had twelve children and one of Emmeline's siblings was George Frederic Halse (1826-1895). He was a sculptor and writer whilst working as a clerk for Drummond's Bank. In 1849 George Halse married Matilda Lydia Davis, whose father Thomas had been adjutant of William IV's royal bodyguard at St James's Palace. They had four children, one of whom was Emmeline (1853-1930). This makes the sculptor Emmeline Halse the niece of Mrs Emmeline Ballard.

George Halse's widow Matilda died just 3 months after her husband and their gravestone in Kensington Cemetery was decorated with an angel sculpted by their daughter Emmeline. She had studied with her father at the Royal Academy Schools and trained in Paris under Frederic Louis Desire Bogino. One of her most interesting works being the memorial to Henri van Laun (1819-1896) in plot 80 in Brookwood Cemetery.

Emmeline Ballard was living as a widow at 8 Portsdown Avenue, Golders Green when she died on 20 March 1923, aged "89". Emmeline Halse was living at Twin Gables, Vache Lane, Chalfont St Giles when she died on 6 February 1930, aged 74. She was buried in Chalfont St Giles.

With over a quarter of a million internments in Brookwood it is easy to confuse people with the same names.

Jenny Mukerji

*Henri Van Laun (1820-1896) was a writer, teacher and translator of French and is buried in plot 80 and his memorial is Grade II listed.



SOCIETY CONTACTS & COMMITTEE

(1) Committee members

Kim Lowe (Chairperson) ☎

Gail Naughton (Secretary) ☎

Rose Falkner (Treasurer) ☎

Lynne Cowley (Publicity) ☎

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Barry Devonshire ☎

Margaret Hobbs ☎

+++++

(2) Other Contacts

Jo Toogood (Membership Secretary)

Rose Falkner (Publications by Mail Order) ☎

Sarah Burt (Auditor) ☎

Margaret Hobbs Newsletter / Necropolis News Editor ☎

(The Newsletter exists to promote contact between all members about all things regarding the Society. Margaret welcomes short personal contributions and aims to keep the content of the Newsletter current, varied and informative.)



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Surrey KT1 1DN Tel 020 8547 1547