

FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET

MEMORIAL PARK INCORPORATED

PO BOX 12 426, WELLINGTON, 6144, NEW ZEALAND http://www.boltoncemetery.org.nz

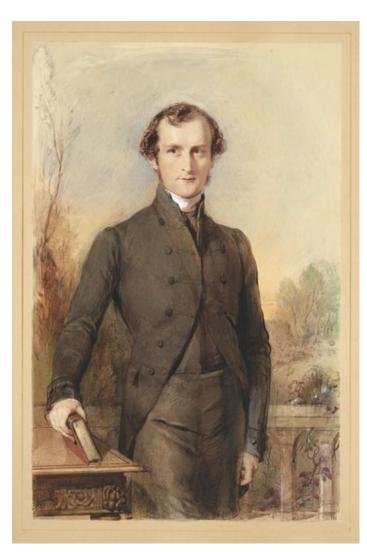
NEWSLETTER No 77 JUNE 2014

Editor: David Dunsheath

NOTICE OF 38TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 5.45pm Monday 7 July 2014 (with refreshments from 5.15pm) AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, 30 THE TERRACE

The new hall now has disabled access and other excellent facilities. Please bring this newsletter with you as it contains essential information for the AGM.

Following the meeting, Kate and Priscilla will show their recently prepared power point presentation about the cemetery's history and memorials.



Included in this presentation is Bishop George Augustus Selwyn (1809-1878), who played a large part in the cemetery's early history.

Bishop Selwyn (left) at the time of his Consecration, 1841.

(Portrait by George Richmond, C-162-003, Alexander Turnbull Library)

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AGENDA FOR AGM

The agenda for the 38th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park Incorporated (see cover for date and time)

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Minutes of the 37th AGM (see page 7 of this newsletter)
- 3. Matters arising from Minutes
- 4. President's report (see page 3 of this newsletter)
- 5. Report by the Manager of the Botanic Gardens, Wellington City Council
- 6. Treasurer's report and financial statements (see page 10 of this newsletter)
- 7. Election of Committee (see page 11 for current committee)
- 8. Appointment of Auditor
- 9. Proposed Name Change (see Notice of Motion below)
- 10. General business

NOTICE OF MOTION

That in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of the Society, Rule 1 be amended to change the name of the Society to "Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery Incorporated".

Explanation

Item 10 of the previous minutes (see page 9 of this newsletter) gives the background to this proposal and reasons for it. Since then the Wellington City Council has processed the idea through the consultative process of the Management Plan. There has been no opposition to it so far as we are aware, and a supportive letter has been received from the Mayor. It is therefore appropriate for our society to make the name change at this stage and ahead of the commissioning of the new Memorial Park in Buckle St in 2015.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The Friends have been most grateful to ProCopy for its fully sponsored printing of our newsletters for the last three years to 2013. With changing technological trends reducing the demand for printed copy, ProCopy has now closed its printing business.

Newsletters have been an integral part of the Society's output since it was established in 1977 and have gradually been upgraded in length and quality of production. Many voluntary societies are now turning to electronic newsletters as a faster and considerably cheaper way of communicating with members. This is an option we need to consider but with reluctance. The AGM may provide an appropriate opportunity to discuss this matter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013 - 14

Normally my report covers the year's activities, but this time I wish to focus particularly on the Management Plan for the Cemetery. This plan, approved and administered by the Wellington City Council (WCC), is a key tool for the area's development and guides our policies and practices. It is being updated this year and will shortly be considered by the Council.

Gazetted as a Historic Reserve in 1980, the cemetery falls under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 which specifies the requirement for a management plan as a working document. The first Plan for the cemetery was issued in 1990 and its 20 pages are a clear coverage of its history and the policies which were to govern it. The next Management Plan, issued in 2002, was a considerably more ambitious effort, weaving together three adjacent areas under one plan - the Botanic Garden, Anderson Park and the Bolton St Memorial Park. In my view this longer (97 pages) document was much less successful and has not been an easy guide to follow. Our society therefore has been looking forward to the next iteration, finally issued in April as the "Botanic Gardens of Wellington Draft Management Plan, 2014".

At almost 200 pages this draft covers not just the three contiguous areas in Kelburn but also Otari-Wilton's Bush and Truby King Park (in Melrose). We note with relief that in this edition there is a separate chapter on each of the gardens and also a separate appendix giving historic outlines for each area. The Cemetery is somewhat different from the other gardens in this grouping in that its primary importance is the historical memorials it contains. Thus it is equally a museum as much as a garden and in other circumstances might conceivably be placed within the museum sector of the Council's overall structure. However as it is adjacent to the main Botanic Garden and under its general care, the garden grouping makes practical sense, provided that the built heritage is given its due weight in the context of the natural environment. This on the whole is achieved by the draft Plan and particularly in one key policy which is worth quoting in full: "Vegetation around graves and monuments shall be managed to protect the graves and monuments from damage and to maintain adequate visual and physical access".

Submissions are invited on the draft Plan by 3 June before hearings in August. The Friends have provided a detailed submission, concentrating on matters specific to the cemetery as the more general chapters on the natural environment have limited relevance to our society's aims. Nor have we attempted to pick up all mistakes in the Plan - at this stage it is an imperfect document which needs rigorous editing. Our concentration has been on the policies to ensure they are clear, practical and helpful.

There are ones we strongly support, most obviously that relating to the name change. This will once again be a subject for discussion at the AGM. Other policies on which we are commenting relate to the following:

■ Heritage roses. We propose that there be a clearer commitment by the WCC to building up a heritage rose collection of national significance

- Repair of existing memorials. This is a contentious issue which is perhaps the reason why the policies presented are in part unclear and contradictory. We have suggested greater clarity and better referencing to the relative heritage guidelines.
- We feel it is unrealistic for the Council to try to trace next of kin to pay for repairs given the age of these memorials.
- While the policies relating to burial records are satisfactory, we point out that their implementation has been poor. Our society does the main work on the burial records but the Council has the final legislative responsibility for ensuring accurate entry.
- We propose better protection for unmarked graves.
- We have had some input into the history section but have serious concerns about other material that has been inserted.

One issue worth singling out is the use to which the Sexton's cottage is put. This is an important heritage building, listed as Category 1 by Heritage New Zealand (formerly Historic Places Trust). The Management Plan proposes that it continue to be used for short-term accommodation and thus remain closed to the public. Only one other sexton's cottage is on the heritage inventory; this is in the Northern Cemetery, Dunedin. The Southern Heritage Trust, which promotes the appreciation and protection of Otago's social, cultural, architectural and industrial heritage, uses this cottage by arrangement with the Dunedin City Council in return for the trust maintaining an information centre and website on the cemetery. The Wellington Sexton's cottage is even more suitable for such a role, being centrally placed and alongside the Chapel Information Centre. For example, it could be used as a base for those organisations working on heritage issues within the Wellington region and like the Dunedin cottage be opened to the public on an occasional basis in order to assist with heritage, history and genealogical queries. There may be other ideas of interest to the Council that could be explored which would make the cottage and chapel cluster a more attractive tourist destination. We have proposed that the policy be reworded to open up such possibilities rather than saying it should be used for rental accommodation.

We have asked to make an oral submission also and the final plan is expected to go to the Council in September this year. We shall report in the next newsletter on the outcome of our submissions.

The rhythm of work for the Committee has continued otherwise as in former years with working bees over the warmer months, tours during the Spring Festival and on request for groups, answering a flow of questions especially through the website about ancestors buried in the cemetery, improving the website and agonising over the best way to stretch



Oreste Paolini new plaque

Photo: Priscilla Williams

limited finances to cover the cost of expensive repairs. In my last report I described one new initiative to be funded by the Friends, namely memorial tablets for a few unmarked graves. Two have now been installed, one of which is shown on page 4. You will note they are in keeping with the majority of the Victorian memorials in the cemetery, being made of white marble with lead lettering.

It continues to be a pleasure to work with David Sole and his team. Special mention should be made of the work done over the year in the cemetery by gardener Tim Harkness. Your committee has done sterling work in dealing with a variety of issues and I look forward to seeing as many members as possible who are able to come to our AGM this year.

Priscilla Williams (President)

DINOSAUR & MOA CONNECTIONS WITH BOLTON STREET

Poor sanitation and lack of safe water supplies no doubt caused the deaths by typhoid of Mary Sarah Mantell aged 29 and her visiting niece, Ellen Bell aged 15, within 6 days of each other in March 1873. They were initially buried in plot 4710 of the Church of England Cemetery at Bolton Street and later disinterred for the motorway in the late 1960s. Their reinstated headstone (grid reference C13 01) is near the Easdale Street entrance to the Park.

Born Mary Sarah Prince in 1845, she married Walter Baldock Durrant Mantell, the son of Gideon Mantell, in 1869. Gideon was famous for his, or maybe his wife's, discovery in England of a fossil tooth he identified as being like that of an iguana but 20 times larger. From this first evidence of dinosaurs Gideon established the concept of dinosaurs and named the tooth 'Iguanodon' (iguana-toothed).

Walter left England for Wellington in 1839, settling on Town Acres numbers 502 and 503 on Sydney St he had bought. Town Acre 502 bordered with land that became the Public Cemetery, well before the formation of Bowen St through these Town Acres. This boundary led to on-going disputes by Walter with the Public Cemetery authorities (Council and Trustees), especially about some burials made on his land that resulted in compensatory boundary changes.

Another Sydney Street neighbour of the Mantells was James Hector and his Colonial Museum. James and Walter were friends, and Walter loaned the original Iguanodon tooth that he had inherited, for display in the Colonial Museum. This is now a prized specimen at Te Papa, and is one of the World's most significant fossils, having been donated by the Mantell family in the 1930s.

Walter was a very keen amateur naturalist, and is arguably the man who revealed the former existence of the moa to the World. He sent bones to Richard Owen and co-operated with him, despite the fact that Owen was a rival of his father and caused his ruin by claiming to be the discoverer of dinosaurs himself.

Although Walter could have asked to be buried with his first wife, Mary Sarah in Bolton Street Cemetery, instead he was buried at Karori Cemetery in 1895 with his second wife Jane (died 1906), and son Walter Godfrey in 1927.

Nick Perrin

HERITAGE ROSES IN AN OLD CEMETERY

Bolton Street Memorial Park (BSMP) is a registered Heritage Rose site containing a collection of about 150 different roses.

'Heritage roses' are <u>either</u> wild or species roses found in countries all around the Northern Hemisphere but unknown in the Southern Hemisphere, <u>or</u> roses which have been bred before 1900.

Some of the roses in BSMP arrived with the early settlers to Wellington in the 1840s, and were planted on or around graves in the cemetery. Some of the early plantings still present today are: R banksiae 'Alba Plena'; R 'Indica Major'; R 'Félicité et Perpetué'; and R 'Cécile Brunner'.

Other plantings by family members (when visiting graves) were new roses or cuttings from existing roses.

From 1982 roses have been added by Wellington City Council (WCC), Wellington Heritage Rose Society, public donations and seed donations from Europe. WCC maintain the roses with the help of volunteers, and record, number and label them.

In 2013 the Friends of Bolton St Memorial Park (FoBSMP) were granted some funding from The Friends of the Botanic Gardens to buy more roses for the cemetery and to cover their labelling costs. The following were chosen: 'Alister Stella Grey', Noisette 1894; 'Archduke Charles', China, 1840; 'Blanche Moreau', Moss, 1880;



General Gallieni rose Photo: Judy Bale

'Duc De Cambridge', Damask, 1848; 'General Gallieni' Tea rose 1899; 'Celestial', Alba (unknown date but very old); and 'Cardinal De Richelieu', Gallica 1840.

These roses were all planted in the lower cemetery and are doing very well. Even 'Archduke Charles' who had his top accidentally trimmed off by a weed eater survived and put up a new flower. 'General Gallieni' had a very good first six months as is shown in this photo.

In the last three years improvements have been made to the collection which had become overgrown in parts and a little neglected. Thirty-five new roses have been planted in the last two years. Some of these are replacements for dead roses and some are cuttings which were taken from removed roses. The Heritage Rose Society and FoBSMP donated roses. It will be exciting this spring to see many of these roses flowering for the first time.

There is an important species collection which is currently being upgraded by tree clearing to allow more light in and some sympathetic landscaping.

One recent addition is the 'Harris Rose'. Sophia Harris was a young woman who immigrated to New Zealand in the 1840s aboard the *Bolton*, an early sailing vessel. She bought with her a rose cutting from home which survived the journey in a potato. The Harris family settled in the Hutt Valley where she planted this rose which still survives, propagated from cuttings made by her descendants. When the Bolton Hotel was built the owners were aware of the rose and asked the Botanic gardens to plant it in a small garden near the hotel. At that time the cutting was not available so 'Bloomfield Abundance' was planted instead as it was very similar. The hotel provided a plaque explaining the history and significance of the rose. Eighteen months ago a Harris descendant, Mary Stevens approached the



Harris Rose.

Photo: Judy Bale

FoBSMP and the Botanic Gardens to offer to take cuttings from one of her relation's plants and grow them on. In April 2104 Mary provided some large plants of the Harris Rose which can now replace the Bloomfield Abundance.

All are welcome to attend the official planting beside the plaque (corner of Bolton and Mowbray Streets) at 2 pm on Saturday 19 July 2014.

Mary also planted a Harris Rose at Christ Church, Taita, where Sophia Harris is buried. It is one of the wonderful stories which accompany many of the roses in the BSMP. The best time to see the roses in flower is during November and December.

There will be a tour of the cemetery roses on Sunday November 16th 2014. Details will be published on the WCC events website and facebook.

Judy Bale

MINUTES OF THE 37TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 10 July 2013, 5.45pm at Wellington Museum of City and Sea.

1 Present

31 members were present. Chair: Priscilla Williams, President.

2 Apologies

John and Avenal McKinnon, Caroline McDonald, Alan Martin, Jocelyn and Terry Brandon, Angela Hill, Ann Trotter, Rhiannon McKinnon.

3 Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting

There were no corrections requested.

Moved (Sheila Williams/Kate Fortune) that Minutes of 36th Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2012 be approved as a true and correct record. *CARRIED*

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

No one had matters to raise under this item.

5 President's Report

The President referred members to her published report. The President noted the following:

- This is the first AGM without Margaret Alington, who has been of such importance in the work of the Friends and development of the cemetery.
- The Sexton's Cottage which was previously a deficient registration in the Historic Places Trust register is now formally registered as Category 1.
- Terry Brandon is standing down from the Committee. Priscilla noted her appreciation and that of the Committee for his work as a Committee member.

Moved (Priscilla Williams/David Dunsheath) that the President's report be adopted.

CARRIED

6 Report by Manager of the Botanic Gardens, Wellington City Council

David Sole, Manager of the Botanic Gardens, Wellington City Council presented his report to the meeting (*published in Newsletter No. 76*). Priscilla thanked David and his team and invited any questions on his report.

David Dunsheath asked whether funds for BSMP would stay in place following the wind-up of the Early Settlers' Fund. David Sole advised that this could be the subject of a submission during the consultation process on the long-term management plan.

7 Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

Kate Fortune presented the Treasurer's Report and referred to the financial statements published in Newsletter No 75 of June 2013. Kate invited questions on the Report and Financial Statements. There were no questions from the floor.

Moved (Kate Fortune/Jane Aim) that the Treasurer's report be received. CARRIED

8 Election of Committee

The following people, having been nominated for office, were elected:

Priscilla Williams, President
 David Dunsheath, Vice-President
 N. Perrin / K. Adair
 K. Adair / J. Robinson

■ Kate Fortune, Treasurer and Membership Secretary

N. Perrin / J. Robinson

■ Karen Adair, Secretary K. Fortune, N. Perrin

Nick Perrin, Judy Bale, Jennifer Robinson, Ian Jolly P Williams / K. Fortune

9 Appointment of Auditor

On behalf of the Friends, Kate thanked David Underwood for the voluntary work he does in auditing the accounts. **Moved** (Kate Fortune/Sheila Williams) that David Underwood be re-appointed as auditor. *CARRIED*

10 General Business –

a) Name Change: A paper was given to all members at the meeting about a proposed name change from "Memorial Park" to "Cemetery". This gave the background to the current name, reasons for the proposal and the following draft resolution, recommended by the Committee:

Moved (Priscilla Williams/Kate Fortune) that the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park agree:

- To recommend to the Wellington City Council that the name of Bolton Street Memorial Park be changed to Bolton Street Cemetery
- That the name of the Friends' society be changed to Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery should the Wellington City Council agree to the name change.

Priscilla noted the following reasons for the proposal:

- There is a serious risk of confusion with the new Memorial Park now being constructed in Wellington and due to be opened in 2015. Marketing that park (and our cemetery) to visitors requires distinctive names.
- The word "cemetery" reflects more closely the history and significance of the area. Although it is a closed burial ground, it continues to be a cemetery because human remains are interred there. It is unusual in New Zealand for a burial ground not to be described as a cemetery.
- The customary usage is to refer to it as Bolton Street Cemetery despite the previous name change.
- Website searches use the term "cemetery" (which is why we use it for our website address).
- Revision of the Management Plan provides a good opportunity to make this name change

The following points were raised in discussion:

- Karl Bale asked about the position of WCC on the proposal.
- David Sole commented that the Friends could use the long-term management plan process for the consultative process needed for a change in name. If this was agreed he thought a new name could be adopted at next year's AGM.
- Rachel Underwood asked about the relationship between the name used by the Friends and the name used by the WCC. Priscilla said that while the two names were usually in tandem, this was not always the case. For example while the WCC used the term Memorial Park from around 1989, the Friends did not change from "Friends of the Bolton Street Cemetery" until July 1995, some six years later.
- Joy Dunsheath asked about the process and Priscilla noted that the matter would be pursued as David Sole had suggested and any proposal for a name change would be put to a later AGM.
- Nick Perrin noted that Margaret Alington had been supportive of the name Bolton Street Memorial Park at the time that name was adopted.

The motion was unanimously *CARRIED*

b) There being no other business, Priscilla declared the meeting closed at 6.15pm.

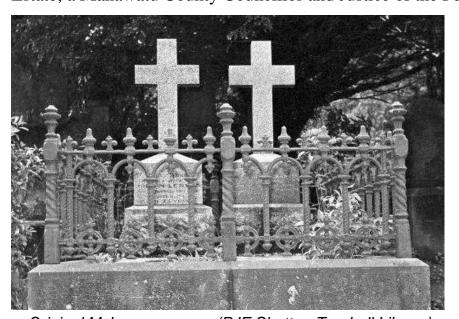
Following the Annual General Meeting, Brett Mason, Director of the Museum of Wellington City and Sea, spoke about the proposed expansion plans for the Museum.

| STATE | EMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMAN | CE AT 31 | MARCH | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| | Please note: subject to audit. | <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> | |
| Income | Book sales | 40 | | |
| | Donations & tours | 2,320 | 2,232 | |
| | Interest | 130 | 116 | |
| | Subscriptions – current + arrears | <u>1,850</u> | <u>1,635</u> | |
| | Total Income | \$4,340 | \$3,983 | |
| LESS Exp | enses | | | |
| | Annual General Meeting | 237 | 97 | |
| | Cleaning products | 171 | 259 | |
| | Library and images purchases | 50 | 250 | |
| | Membership HCCTNZ | 90 | 90 | |
| | Membership Heritage Promotion Council | 25 | 25 | |
| | Membership Volunteer Wellington | 45 | 45 | |
| | Postage | 0 | 120 | |
| | P O Box rental | 52 | 52 | |
| | Printing, stationery, copying | 5 | 37 | |
| | Project: Memorial Trail (extra tiles) | 0 | 288 | |
| | Project: Plaques | 3,458 | 0 | |
| | Website, incl. Burial list inscriptions | 369 | 218 | |
| | Total Expenses | \$4,442 | <u>\$1,481</u> | |
| | Surplus (deficit) for the year | (102) | 2,502 | |
| STATE | MENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY A | AT 31 MA | RCH 2014 | |
| Accumulated Funds – at start of year | | 16,182 | 13,680 | |
| | us (Less Deficit) for the year | (102) | 2,502 | |
| Accumulated Funds – at end of year | | \$16,080 | \$16,182 | |
| STAT | EMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT | Γ 31 MAR | CH 2014 | |
| Accumula | ted Funds | \$16,080 | \$16,182 | |
| | ed By: Current Assets | <u> </u> | 410,101 | |
| - | estpac Trust Banking Corporation – Current | 2,317 | 4,768 | |
| | - Savings | 14,058 | 11,789 | |
| | ~ 4 1 1 2 8 2 | 16,375 | 16,557 | |
| | | | | |
| PLUS Sun | dry Debtors | 0 | 0 | |
| | Total Current Assets | <u>16,375</u> | <u>16,557</u> | |
| | rent Liabilities | | - 4 0 | |
| Unpresented cheques | | <u>210</u> | <u>310</u> | |
| Subscriptions in advance | | <u>85</u> | <u>65</u> | |
| | Total Current Liabilities | <u>295</u> | <u>375</u> | |
| Net Assets | s and Working Capital | \$16,080 | \$ <u>16,182</u> | |
| Kate Fortune (Treasurer) 26 May 20 | | | | |
| | | | | |

| COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2014 | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Priscilla Williams | President, Policy & strategies, Historical research, Heritage WP database, Guide | priscilla.williams@paradise.net.nz Tel (04) 977 4667 | | |
| David Dunsheath | Vice President, Works programme, Newsletter editor | davidd@bcpl.co.nz Tel (04) 472 8405 | | |
| Kate Fortune | Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Guide | kate.fortune@paradise.net.nz Tel (04) 970 0024 | | |
| Karen Adair | Mount Street Cemetery liaison | karen.adair@xtra.co.nz Tel (04) 473 1778 | | |
| Nick Perrin | Biographical & Burial research, Guide | n.perrin@xtra.co.nz Tel (04) 472 3767 | | |
| Judy Bale | Tours coordinator, Heritage roses, Publicity, Guide | judybale@paradise.net.nz Tel (04) 499 8588 | | |
| Jennifer Robinson | Working bees coordinator | jennifer.robinson@ccdhb.org.nz Tel (04) 973 8137 | | |
| lan Jolly | Minutes secretary, Wooden repairs | ianjolly@xtra.co.nz Tel (04) 527 4222 | | |

JOHN McLENNAN'S TRAGIC VISIT TO WELLINGTON

While most of those buried in Bolton Street Memorial Park are former residents of Wellington, a surprising number are visitors to the area who intended to stay but a short time and ended up remaining for eternity. One such individual was John McLennan, a prominent settler; farmer and owner of 11,000 acres Oroua Downs Estate; a Manawatu County Councillor and Justice of the Peace.



Original McLennan grave (PJE Shotter, Turnbull Library)

He and his wife, Mary Anne, had arrived in town in November 1891 to attend the Wellington Show. After purchasing some rams on Friday 20th he complained of feeling unwell and returned to the Occidental Hotel. Early the following day his condition worsened, and John McLennan passed away that afternoon. He was buried in the Public Cemetery on Monday

23rd November 1891, but eventually reunited with his wife when she died at Palmerston North in July 1912. John & Mary Anne McLennan were reinterred in the mass grave during the motorway extension.

Continued next page



The relocated McLennan crosses.

Photo: Ian Jolly

Their relocated headstones pictured here are found (at grid ref J11-09) on Hart Path near the top of the motorway footbridge. Comparison with the original grave, pictured on page 11, reveals the extent to which the inscriptions are buried. *Ian Jolly*

Many <u>relocated</u> monuments within BSMP suffer from partial burial of their inscriptions. Physical redress remains a low priority for the limited funds available when compared with safeguarding the unique heritage qualities of many <u>original</u> graves. Fortunately, full inscriptions have been recorded and are now 'going digital' – see below. *Ed*

BURIAL LIST NOW ENHANCED WITH INSCRIPTIONS

The Burial List on our website www.boltoncemetery.org.nz is being steadily improved by the addition of photos and inscriptions providing easy access for family

history research at home. Headstone inscriptions were recorded Margaret Alington and a team of volunteers in hand-written notes, later typed up and stored. These files are now digitised and we have begun them website. adding to the Photographs, brief biographies, and descriptions of the headstones and/or the graves are slowly being added as well, together with the text of more recently added plaques, e.g. when ashes are added to family plots.

Do take an opportunity to look at some of the completed entries in the



Collins monument (ID 101530) – soon to be added to the Burial List Photo: Kate Fortune

Burial List on our website. Enter the following ID numbers to get an idea of how much more information this project is providing about people buried in the cemetery:

- 102009 DUFF Edith Fanny
- 102559 FUTTER James
- 102560 FUTTER James
- 104484 LIY Shang
- 104930 MILLER Clarence
- 105943 PLIMMER John
- 105945 PLIMMER John Alfred
- 106236 RENNER Frederick William Simmonds

Kate Fortune