



FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET CEMETERY INCORPORATED

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<http://www.boltoncemetery.org.nz>

NEWSLETTER No 82 NOVEMBER 2016

Editors: David Dunsheath & Kate Fortune

As final edits were made to this newsletter, we learned of at least two headstones that have fallen and broken in the November earthquakes. *See page 2 and photo on page 6.*



Progress with Garden for 'Unknown' Memorials (story page 2)

Photo: Kate Fortune

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GARDEN FOR THE 'UNKNOWN' MEMORIALS

For a long time, the Friends of the Cemetery have been advocating for a garden to contain the pieces of memorials which were removed from their original location during the construction of the motorway in the 1960s and then became unidentifiable in the relocation process. We have also been concerned about the minimal design of the mass grave behind the chapel, where 3,693 people were reinterred during the same project, because the grass lawn gives the impression of a play area rather than a burial ground. Our solution to both these problems has been a sculpture garden to be constructed precisely over the grave site and containing these 'unknown' headstones, bases and other fixtures.

To our delight this project is now under way with funding from the Wellington City Council's budget. A better outline of the mass grave has been made from raised bricks, and about thirty unidentified pieces have been moved to the site. This was no easy undertaking given the size and weight of some marble items. They include bases which have been sitting at the far reaches of the Karori Cemetery for many decades, plus other pieces scattered under the trees on Glenbervie Ridge. Our cover-page photograph shows progress to date. Some of the unidentified fencing is being included to show the different styles and materials contained in the cemetery and to give greater definition to the grave area. Explanatory signage will eventually complete this garden project.

The Friends are hoping to follow this with another project in the Memorial Lawn area. Over the history of the cemetery, many graves have remained unmarked by memorials or tangible grave markers, some original markers made of wood have not survived, while other markers have been lost or misplaced during the motorway process. We spend considerable time, especially in response to descendants' requests, trying to locate and name burial plots; but the deficiencies of the old burial records defeat us in many instances. Of the 8,679 people on our burial list (and this also is deficient for similar reasons) at least 3,028 or about one third have unknown burial sites.

Occasionally people ask for some way to provide a more tangible memorial for those buried in unknown plots other than the listing in the chapel book and on line. One solution might be to allow such enquirers to provide heritage-style plaques that can be put on the stone wall near the mass grave. We are still working through the details of this idea and the approvals needed.

Priscilla Williams

STOP PRESS: EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE IN THE CEMETERY!

HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR URGENT REPAIR WORK:

Recent damage caused by earthquakes on 14 November will require expensive repair work (*see photo on page 6*). We're launching a membership drive to get more members and make our work in the Cemetery even more effective.

- ✦ We need more members: encourage your families and friends to join the Friends.
- ✦ Invite neighbours and those living nearby to become involved with the Cemetery.
- ✦ Tell others to learn about and enjoy this significant piece of Wellington's history.

Please contact Kate Fortune for Membership Application forms.

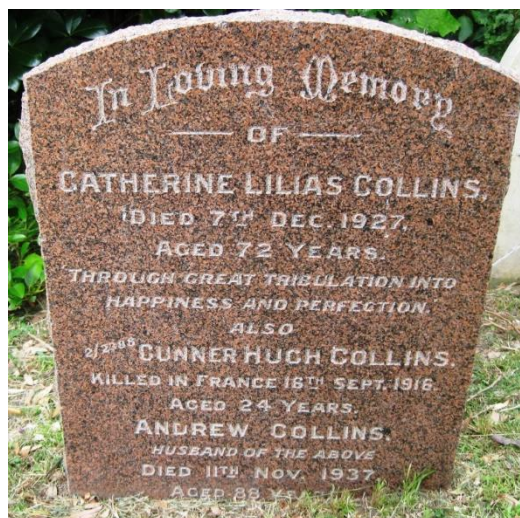
LADS WHO NEVER CAME HOME

Gunner Hugh Christie Ambrose (Nip) COLLINS, 8th Artillery, NZ Field Artillery.

Hugh was born at Wellington on 14 July 1892 to Andrew and Catherine Collins of 'Kenmont', 39 Melbourne Road, Island Bay, Wellington. Andrew Collins had settled in Wellington in 1872 and was a founding member and leading figure in the trade union movement in this country for many years.

Prior to enlisting on 23 August 1915, Hugh was employed as an accountant with Messrs G. H. Smales & Co, shipping agents. He did his training at Trentham Camp and embarked from Wellington 13 November 1915 for Suez. After several months in that region he departed for France in April 1916. Hugh was killed in action on the Somme on 16 September 1916. His brother Richard was wounded in the same engagement.

Gunner Collins has no known grave. His name is recorded on the Caterpillar Valley (New Zealand) Memorial, Longueval, Somme, France; and in Wellington, on the 'Longueval' bell donated by his father to the National War Memorial Carillon and in Bolton Street Cemetery on his parents' gravestone (Robertson Way, grid reference I05 04).



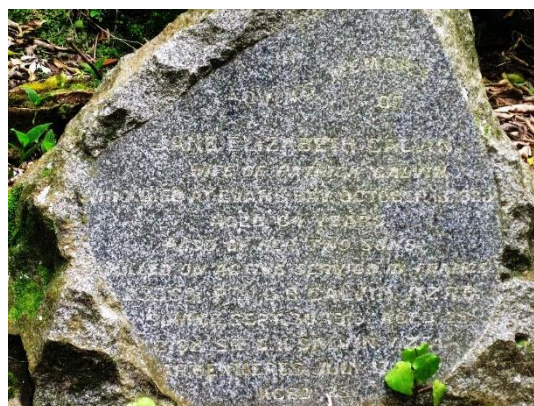
Photos: Kate Fortune

Private Gerald Bartley GALVIN, 7th reinforcements NZ Rifle Brigade.

Gerald was born at Wellington on 5 January 1887. He was educated at the Terrace School. Prior to enlisting on 7 February 1916, he was employed as a surfaceman for New Zealand Railways.

On 27 May 1916 he embarked at Wellington for England, arriving there in late July. On 12 August he arrived in France and was reported missing on 30 September 1916, believed killed in action on the Somme.

Private Galvin has no known grave. His name is on the Caterpillar Valley Cemetery Memorial at Longueval, France, and in Bolton Street Cemetery, together with his brother, on their mother's headstone (Powles Path, E11 11).



Gerald was the son of Patrick Galvin and Elizabeth Galvin (née Brown) of Raukawa, 500 Evans Bay Road, Hataitai. His father was a journalist who had worked on newspapers in both Australia and New Zealand. For a time he had also been employed by the New Zealand Mines Department where he rose through the ranks to become Secretary of Mines.

Ian Jolly

FROM RAMP PATH TO EUROPE LANE

The European Union Delegation to New Zealand suggested this year that the ramp path that runs alongside the motorway between Aurora Terrace and Bowen Street be named Europe Lane. This would be in recognition of the flourishing relationship between the European Union and New Zealand, a relationship which began formally 50 years ago, and it would *inter alia* recognise the longstanding historical links between the people of Wellington and Europe which date back to the first European arrivals in 1840.

The strip of land which is traversed by this path was part of the cemetery until the 1960s when the graves in that area were removed to allow for a motorway on-ramp connecting from Bowen Street. This plan was subsequently dropped but by then the graves had been needlessly destroyed. The area has since been planted with trees dedicated to environmentalists. This winter 18 holm oaks (*Quercus ilex*) have also been planted at the Bowen Street end.

The EU proposal was accepted by the City Council and the formal naming ceremony took place on 19 September. The Mayor, Celia Wade-Brown, and the EU Chargé d’Affaires, Eva Tvarožková, officiated, gave speeches and planted an oak tree (*pictured, right*). Priscilla Williams was invited to say some words on behalf of the Friends of the Cemetery. The path, which now has signs at each end, is a popular and attractive walk though rather noisy because of the adjacent motorway.



Photos: Kate Fortune



This ceremony marked the end of Celia Wade-Brown’s formal connection with the cemetery. Throughout her tenure as mayor she has taken a close, sympathetic interest in the work of the Friends, recognising the importance of the area as a central city asset.

Priscilla Williams

BOOST FOR MOUNT STREET CEMETERY REPAIRS

The repair programme at this nearby historic cemetery, Wellington’s first Roman Catholic cemetery consecrated in 1841 by Bishop Pompallier, has just received a generous grant from the Lottery Grants Board. This will enable the repair of eight historic headstones.

Meanwhile the Friends of Mount Street Cemetery continue to focus on repairs to heritage assets and maintenance of the landscape. For more information visit www.mountstreetcemetery.org.nz.

Karen Adair (FoBSC committee member and President of Friends of Mount Street)

‘ORIGINAL GANGSTERS’ TOUR

Museums Wellington programme developer Ati Teepa organised this tour on 12 March starting at 10am at the Cable Car Museum, then through Bolton Street Cemetery and onward to Parliament before ending at Thorndon’s Thistle Inn. He enlisted the help of committee member Nick Perrin to uncover stories of famous (and infamous) people buried in the cemetery.



Ati Teepa in Bolton Street Cemetery

Photo: ©Fairfax NZ Ltd

‘I wanted to attract a different audience and relate to the shadier side of the movers and shakers of early Wellington,’ he said. ‘From the Wakefields to the formidable Te Rauparaha, the legacy of Wellington’s original old boys club is recalled by street names and landmarks, but some stories remain untold.’

Though the name of the walk alludes to lawless mobsters, Ati Teepa does not want the event to be disrespectful. ‘I don’t want it to be a character assassination. I just thought it was an interesting take on history. The scandalous are usually the most daring people.’

The tour was very well attended with 50 participants.

David Dunsheath (sourced from The Wellingtonian, 3 March 2016)

SPRING FESTIVAL TOUR

This year's Spring Festival tour '*The Good, the Bad, and the Unfortunate*' was held on 13 September. We were lucky to have a beautiful spring evening with sun and light winds to the enjoyment of guides and the 42 participants. Nick, Jennifer, Priscilla and Judy guided while David took care of organising groups and taking donations. Many comments were received by the guides about how interesting their tours were and how much they were enjoyed.



We had the extra bonus of a wonderful display of daffodils and other spring bulbs which have been planted in the last three years and are now enhancing the area.

Many thanks to David Sole, Raydeen and Alyson from the Botanic Gardens who work with us for Spring Festival Tours, providing very much appreciated assistance with publicity and bookings.

Judy Bale (Tours Organiser)

Photos: David Dunsheath

RECENT EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE

As noted on page 2, recent earthquake damage will require expensive repair work. This photo is the Whitehouse family grave (grid reference M09 07) on Benjamin Smith Path. The headstone has broken into several pieces. The Friends will be revising the repair programme list as we review priorities for the coming year.

Photo: Stuart Allen



WORKING BEES

On 31 August we were once again pleased to welcome a group of volunteer workers from the BNZ as part of the bank's 'Closed for Good' community programme. We were very fortunate to have a sunny day with only a light breeze, ideal for working in the cemetery.

Stuart Allen, recently appointed Curator Heritage Gardens, had planned the programme of work for the day and assisted by Rachel Solomon and Dale Such, oversaw a team of 17 which included some Friends committee members as well as the BNZ staff under their leader Nick Chapman.



Photos: Kate Fortune

Having a team of young and energetic volunteers meant that the scope of work carried out was more ambitious than at our usual Sunday morning working bees and included digging a trench so that an irrigation system could be extended down to the area around Morva William's Garden. This will be of great benefit to the Botanic Garden's staff as well as future working bees. In the past getting water for cleaning around that area involved getting permission from a neighbour to run a long hose from their garden and over their back fence into the cemetery. Other tasks carried out included weeding and trimming around pathways as well as headstone cleaning and grave weeding in the area below the footbridge and near the mass grave.



This was the seventh year that we have been included as an option on the 'Closed for Good' day and we are very grateful to those who came along. Special mention must go to the two BNZ staff who came all the way from the Wairarapa to take part.

With more settled weather we will be resuming our Sunday morning working bees in late November and it would be great to have some more Friends (and friends of Friends) join

the small but enthusiastic group. If you do not already receive my emails advising details of the working bees please send me an email address and you can be included in future.

Jennifer Robinson

REPORT FROM THE BOTANIC GARDEN MANAGER

At our AGM on 12 July 2016, David Sole presented his Report to the Friends on behalf of Council and the Botanic Gardens Team. He commented on the retirement of Neil Christensen and the changes arising from the staff review (*see story below*).

Noting the successful propagation of a number of heritage roses throughout the cemetery, he said Rachel Solomon's skills were recognised last year when she was invited to travel to Alexandra to help identify a number of unknown roses.

David advised that Anneke Mace has been appointed as educator to set up teaching programmes for the Children's garden and for Otari and the Botanic Garden. He said they would look at integrating heritage learning into programmes that might include the Cemetery in curriculum-related school visits.

Acknowledging the Friends' disappointment at the postponement of the construction of the 'Unknown Memorials' project, David said it would get under way this year (*see story on page 2*). Commenting on the repairs programme, which saw the completion of a number of small repairs and total restoration of the significantly damaged Cassells grave, David thanked the Friends for funding the restoration of the wooden surround of the Jackson grave.

In conclusion, David acknowledged the Friends for their work and support for the Cemetery in maintenance, guided walks, repair programmes and advocacy. He said there were more than 6500 voluntary hours across the four gardens 'without which we could not offer the events we do', and he thanked Jenny Button for her leadership of the Friends.

Kate Fortune

BOTANIC GARDEN STAFF CHANGES

Neil Christensen, the Operations and Assets Officer, retired in June after 42 years of service in the Gardens. Over recent years he has been our main point of contact for the Memorials Repairs programme. While puzzled at times by our obsession over heritage details, he has been a cheerful and extremely cooperative liaison person whom we shall miss. His replacement is Karl Noldan.

Another appointment of interest to us is that of Curator – Heritage Gardens, a new position which covers the cemetery, Otari/Wilton and the Truby King garden in Melrose. Stuart Allen took up this position in April, coming from the private sector and a background in graphic design as well as horticulture. We are enjoying his input into the development of the cemetery.

Finally we are sorry that Dave Murphy, groundsperson, has left. While doing the necessary but mundane tasks of clearing paths in the cemetery he always took a special interest in our common goal of enhancing the cemetery.

Priscilla Williams

A TALE OF TWO PLOTS AND SIX MONUMENTS:

The convoluted story of the former graves of the King and Rhodes families



William Barnard RHODES (1807-1878), known as Wellington's richest man, buried his first wife Sarah (died 3 August 1862) with her parents in the Church of England Cemetery, plot 0408. This wooden monument was reinstated to the Carr Path (grid reference M14 04) following construction of the motorway. The now illegible transcript from the original wooden monument, apparently read: –

Sacred to the memory of Sarah Mary, wife of Mr John KING, solicitor, died 12 November 1856 aged 58, and John KING, died 5 June 1862 aged 54, and also Sarah, the daughter of the above and the beloved wife of William Barnard RHODES, died 3 August 1862 aged 28.

In 1864 W B Rhodes had a new monument placed on their grave. This monument is reinstated adjacent to the above (grid reference M14 02), and reads: –

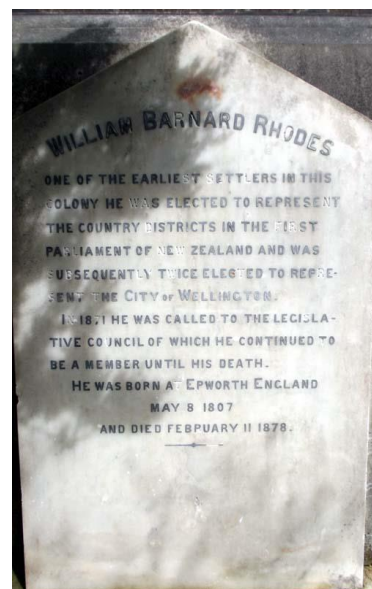
Sacred to the memory of Sarah, the beloved wife of William Barnard RHODES, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and member of the House of Representatives, died 3 August 1862 aged 28. Also to the memory of John KING Esq., solicitor, died 5 June 1862 aged 54, and Sarah, his wife, died 12 November 1856 aged 58, parents of the above Sarah RHODES. Their end was peace. Erected by M B [sic] RHODES, Wellington, 1864.



W B Rhodes remarried in 1869 to another Sarah (Sarah Anne Moorhouse) and when he died on 11 February 1878, she had him buried in the Church of England Cemetery, plot 5312, upon which the largest monument in the cemetery was placed. This memorial is now reinstated on Carr Path (pictured left, M14 03).

Just eleven days after his death, Sarah Anne also had to contend with the death of her sister Elizabeth while she was visiting. Elizabeth's death notice reads: –

'22 Feb, at The Grange, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late William MOORHOUSE Esq., Knottingly, Yorkshire.' (Note: The Grange was the Rhodes



family's mansion at Highland Park, Wadestown)



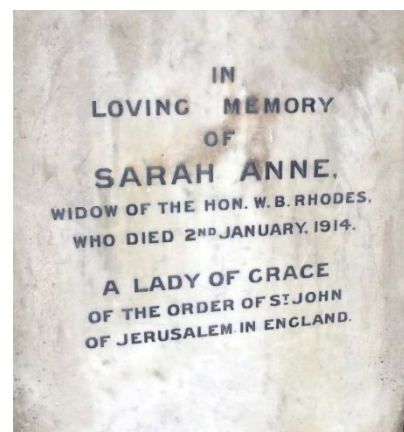
Moorhouse memorial stone

Elizabeth Moorhouse was buried adjacent to W B Rhodes, but her own monument is now reinstated on the edge of the Memorial Lawn (grid reference I15 01). When Sarah Anne died in February 1914 she was buried with her late husband and her sister, and recorded on their monument (see above) as follows: –

*In loving memory of Sarah Anne,
widow of the Hon. W.B. RHODES,*

*who died 2nd January 1914. A Lady of Grace of the Order
of St John of Jerusalem in England.*

After the motorway was completed, the reinstated King and Rhodes monuments were placed together, despite their original locations being originally some distance apart. However, Elizabeth Moorhouse seems to have been overlooked and reinstated elsewhere, as were the headstones of two sisters of Sarah Rhodes (née King) who had been buried in plot 0408, namely Maria WRIGHT (died 1911) and Catherine WEMYSS (died 1912), which are reinstated side by side on Buxton Path (grid references C14 26 and C14 27).



Article and photos: Nick Perrin

COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2016 - 17

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JANE AIM'S ADDRESS TO THE AGM

A highlight of the 2016 AGM was a lively talk by Jane Aim QSM about her family links with Old St Paul's and the Bolton Street Cemetery. Jane is the third daughter of the third daughter of Richard John Seddon (Premier 1893-1906) and his wife, Louisa, while on her father's side she is a descendant of Charles Decimus Barraud, the well-known artist.

In speaking of the Bolton Street Cemetery, Jane noted, 'All four branches of my family were either buried here or now rest here.... I well remember walking up Bolton Street to 9 Wesley Road (more recently the home of Jocelyn and the late Terry Brandon), with my Dad, Barry Blundell, to visit his mother, Ivy. She was the eldest daughter of C D Barraud's second son, Sidney, and I do remember taking flowers from Granny's garden to the Barraud plot in the Bolton Street Cemetery. I don't remember having visited the grave of the Blundell family – but may have.'

It was interesting to learn that the long family association with Old St Paul's (known as such for the last 50 years) commenced with Charles Barraud, a devoted parishioner and a Church Warden. In 1883 he gifted to the church the wonderful texts written on kauri boards in medieval style which still remain high above the nave.



Jane Aim QSM

Photo: Kate Fortune

Speaking of her Seddon forebears, Jane commented, 'The resting place for Mum's side of the family is more visible. Great-grandfather's memorial is hard to miss. [See story on page 12.] As well as the tombs of her great-grandparents and one of their daughters, Mary Stuart Hay, there are caskets from the 1950s of Seddon daughters and two sons, and others, so it is still in use.' Her great-grandparents were also members of the Old St Paul's congregation.

Jane highlighted the importance of the Bolton Street Cemetery, 'Close at hand to the growing town and used by religious folk and those with no religion at all.'

She pointed out that many of the St Paul's parishioners left Mulgrave Street for their final resting place in Bolton Street, such as Charles Pharazyn, treasurer of the group who raised money to build St Paul's, the Levin family, George Moore, W H Quick, Dr Mark Kebbell and Dr W B Harvey. She also noted that many people are marked by brass memorial plaques in the church, several of which honour those who died in war but are not buried locally though commemorated on gravestones.

We thank Jane for her fascinating account and for happily offering to take us inside the Seddon Memorial. On Friday 4 November, a small group of us were delighted to take up her invitation.

Jenny Button

VISIT TO SEDDON MONUMENT

Recently a small group of Friends were very pleased to be able to go inside the vault under the large Seddon Memorial located adjacent to the Kinross Street entrance. The visit was arranged by Jane Aim, who is a direct descendant of Premier Richard John Seddon and who does a great and ongoing job keeping the vault clean and tidy. As we approached the steps to the vault Jane pointed out the discolouration on the south side of the monument. It is thought this may be caused by damp and rust in the reinforcing rods inside the column. The Ministry for Culture and Heritage apparently have a restoration project on their agenda but no timetable is confirmed as yet. Botanic Garden staff also plan to upgrade the surrounding pathway and garden but this will not be done until any restoration work on the monument is complete.

Inside the vault most of the space is taken up by the two large marble tombs for Premier Seddon and his wife Louisa. A small simple cross on the back wall commemorates their son Richard John Spotswood Seddon who was killed in action in France in August 1918. There are alcoves on each side of the vault: one contains the marble tomb of Mary Stuart Hay (a daughter) and a plaque in memory



Tour group with Jenny Button and Jane Aim at far right

Photo: Amanda Valster

of three descendants who are buried elsewhere; in the other alcove are caskets containing the ashes of other family members and a small wooden commemorative plaque. Another slightly larger unmarked box in this alcove intrigued us, but Jane explained that it was not a memorial but a container for cleaning materials.

Jane told us several stories about various family members as well as providing details of the family history. It was a very interesting and enjoyable visit and we are grateful to Jane for guiding us. I will certainly look at the monument with a new appreciation from now on.

Jennifer Robinson